United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2013 No. 8

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

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

God of Heaven and Earth, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask Your blessing upon the Members of the people's House during these opening days of the first session of the 113th Congress.

Bless the Members of this assembly with wisdom; inspire them to act with justice; and empower them to work toward legislative solutions to the many challenges facing our Nation.

Bless all the people of our Nation as they return to their homes following the celebrations of the past few days. May the work of their hands issue forth to the betterment of their own lives and the strength and vitality of their communities.

And may all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. 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.

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

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

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. COFFMAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COFFMAN 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. Emerson), the whole number of the House is now 432.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

ENDING THE CONGRESSIONAL PENSION

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

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I'm introducing legislation to put an end to the defined benefit retirement plan currently available to Members of Congress.

These are extremely difficult economic times. We are in a debt crisis that will require sacrifices on the part of all Americans. I served in both the U.S. Army and Marine Corps, and I was taught that leaders should never ask others to do anything that they themselves would be unwilling to do. Congress needs to set an example and lead the way for the country. I think ending the congressional pension system is a good start.

My legislation will honor any retirement benefits accrued prior to the passage of this bill and will keep Social Security and the Thrift Savings Plan in place for Members of Congress.

I believe that Members of Congress should feel the same economic pressures the rest of society does, and I firmly believe that the current effort to reduce spending and constrain the size and scope of government requires that all possible solutions be taken, including cuts to the congressional budget.

I urge the passage of this bill.

IN HONOR OF PAT COLLINS

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

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a dedicated educator, a true Miami treasure, a man who inspired me and many others, Mr. Pat Collins.

Mr. Collins has been a social studies teacher and a department head at Belen Jesuit Preparatory School since 1971. Currently teaching AP U.S. Government and Politics and U.S. Government, Mr. Collins moderates Belen's chapter of Amnesty International. Pat is instrumental in the success of Belen Jesuit's model United Nations program, founded the overseas study program in 1994, and teaches civic responsibility to his students.

A charter member of the U.S. Historical Society, Pat has received numerous awards, including the Cornell University Outstanding Educator and the Close Up Foundation's Linda Myers Chozen Award for teaching excellence in civics.

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Mr. Collins has inspired and educated many thousands of students, many who serve in public service like myself.

HONORING THE 16TH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH BOMBING VICTIMS

(Mr. BACHUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, let me rise to announce bipartisan legislation that my good friend and colleague, TERRI SEWELL, and I are introducing today to honor the four little girls that were killed in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham with the Congressional Gold Medal.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of this pivotal event in the history of the civil rights movement, which less than a year later resulted in the passage of the Civil Rights Act. We know today that the evil that occurred in this place of God on September 15, 1963, galvanized the conscience of the Nation and led to the passage of laws to ensure equal rights for every American.

The innocent young children killed in the bombing—Addie Mae Collins, Carole Robertson, Cynthia Wesley, and Denise McNair—were eulogized as martyred heroines by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and it is fitting and proper that this Congress recognize the historic significance of their lives.

Ironically, they were studying about the love and forgiveness of God at the time of their death. Let us be mindful that despite this act of violence and the killing of a young 16-year-old black boy and 14-year-old black boy the same day, the civil rights leaders were committed to nonviolence, and they kept true to that commitment.

Despite the violence done to them, they showed forgiveness against the people, and our colleague JOHN LEWIS and others helped us avoid, by their commitment to nonviolence, the calamities and replaying of grievances that have destroyed the fabric of many other countries. To them, we should be eternally grateful.

In closing, let this legislation bring us together. I commend your support for it, and I ask for your cosponsorship.

□ 0910

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

(Ms. ESHOO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, consider the following: if the United States had an adopted policy of equal pay, it would put $200 billion more into the economy every year. That comes out to about $137 for every white woman per paycheck and to approximately $300 for every woman of color, who is doubly discriminated against. These women are not going to put their money into a Cayman Islands bank account. Instead, they'll spend it; and this will boost our economy, create jobs and help families.

With a record number of women in the workforce, wage discrimination hurts the majority of American families both in terms of their economic security today and their retirement security tomorrow. The Institute for Women's Policy Research found that wage disparity will cost women anywhere from $400,000 to $2 million over a lifetime of lost wages. That means fewer resources to pay the mortgage, to send kids to college, or to have a decent retirement. Also, due to rising employment rates, an unprecedented number of women are now the family breadwinners, making pay equity even more critical, not simply to family economic security but also to the Nation's economic recovery.

As we look for ways to create more jobs and grow the economy, it is astounding to me that Congress has not yet passed legislation ensuring equal pay for equal work. It is a powerful policy with what would be powerful and positive economic outcomes. That is why I support the Paycheck Fairness Act. It ensures that employers who try to justify paying a man more than a woman for the same job must show that the disparity is not sex-based, but job-related and necessary. It prohibits employers from retaliating against employees who discuss or disclose their own salary information with their coworkers, and it strengthens the remedies available to wronged employees.

Pay inequity due to gender discrimination is real, and it should not be tolerated. The House of Representatives should address this issue.

NO BUDGET, NO PAY

(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, the primary reason the government is in economic turmoil and is destroying jobs is due to a lack of fiscal responsibility.

The House has fulfilled the most basic responsibility of governing and passing a budget. On the other hand, the liberal-controlled Senate has failed to complete a budget for nearly 4 years. Hardworking American families and small businesses plan to spend within their means and abide by a budget. The Federal Government should do so as well.

Today, House Republicans will consider legislation aimed at putting this fiscal irresponsibility to a halt by voting on the No Budget, No Pay Act. This bill will raise the debt ceiling for 3 months with the provision that both Houses of Congress must pass a budget. If either body fails to achieve the task, the Members' pay will be withheld.

It is past time to hold the President and the liberal-controlled Senate accountable for out-of-control spending. If hardworking Americans strive to succeed in their jobs, the Senate must do so as well.

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

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the landmark Supreme Court decision that formally recognized a woman's right to make decisions regarding her own reproductive health care.

On January 22, 1973, this monumental decision came as a result of decades of relentless activism and litigation on the part of great women advocates; but today, there are still those who would prefer to roll back these fundamental rights and turn the clock back on women's health care. We've seen them use the same tactics over and over again during the last 40 years. In fact, according to the Guttmacher Institute, more than 40 laws were passed to restrict access to abortion in 19 States just this past year.

That's why, as we commemorate the 40th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, it is more important than ever to commit ourselves to protecting these basic rights and to ensure that women across our country have full control over their personal well-being and health and that they retain access to any health care services they require.

NO BUDGET, NO PAY

(Mr. MCCLINTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, the House is poised to pass H.R. 325 today. I respect the sincerity of its supporters, but I must firmly dissent.

This bill accommodates spending at ruinous levels far beyond the limits set by the House budget. It sets a terrible precedent by abolishing the debt limit for nearly 4 months, giving an unlimited credit card to this administration. I think Members will be stunned by the borrowing that this moratorium makes possible. Certainly, thousands of dollars of new debt will be heaped on every household in America.

House Republicans have passed two budget plans that put our Nation back on a path toward fiscal solvency. If the debt limit were increased within that trajectory at 2-month intervals, it would require only small and incremental reforms each time. That would both avert default now and the fiscal crisis that we are fast approaching. I believe that it is achievable and far preferable to the bill to be voted on today.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

(Ms. SEWELL of Alabama asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 50th commemoration of the city of Birmingham's pivotal role in the civil rights movement. We are declaring 2013 as the Year of Birmingham in order to honor the historic events that occurred in our city in 1963. The city of Birmingham serves as a reminder to the rest of the world that, out of despair, there is hope and that justice does, indeed, prevail.

My good friend Congressman SPENCER BACHUS and I, along with the entire Alabama delegation, plan to ask this august body to bestow, on a bipartisan basis, its highest civilian honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, to the four little girls who tragically lost their lives during the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church. We believe it is befitting that during this year, 2013, we posthumously pay tribute to Addie Mae Collins, Cynthia Wesley, Carole Robertson, and Denise McNair, for they have truly paid the ultimate sacrifice.

They are, indeed, emblematic of so many citizens of Birmingham who lost their lives for the cause of freedom. They represent all of those citizens and all of those who fought so hard and courageously, black and white, to make sure that we in this Nation hold up its ideals of equality for all.

I ask that this august body work with SPENCER BACHUS and the entire Alabama delegation to bipartisanly support and bestow upon them the Congressional Medal of Honor.

NO BUDGET, NO PAY

(Mrs. BLACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, as a charter member of the Fix Congress Now Caucus and as an early supporter of No Budget, No Pay, I am very excited that this legislation will be voted on in the House later today.

We on the House Budget Committee work hard to pass a responsible budget each year, but the Democrat-controlled Senate refuses to do the same. In fact, it has been nearly 4 years since the Senate has passed a budget. Since that time, the Federal Government has racked up annual deficits exceeding $1 trillion; and, in total, more than $5 trillion has been added to our national debt in just 4 years. If we stay on our current path of record deficits, big government and unfunded entitlement programs, Greece's present will be America's future.

A massive debt crisis is surely not the future we want for our children or our grandchildren. Fiscal responsibility and accountability in the Halls of Congress cannot wait. Today, we will take an important step in the House to force the Senate to either do its job or face the consequences. It's simple: no budget, no pay.

GUN CONTROL

(Mr. YARMUTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, after the massacre of 20 children and six educators in Connecticut, we've heard the predictable rantings of people who are convinced beyond all reason and evidence that the Federal Government intends to take their guns away.

I am sad that they have succumbed to the fear-mongering of the National Rifle Association and others who really only want to sell more guns. It's more than sad. Frankly, it's dangerous when a government leader stoops to the same fear-mongering for political purposes.

Last week, Senate Minority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL's campaign sent out an email titled, ''Watch out. They're Coming for Your Guns.'' Among the email's dishonest claims was this blatant distortion:

> President Obama is spelling out the 23 different executive orders he will take to get your guns.

Those 23 executive actions are so modest that even gun rights activists have said they have no problem with them. In fact, many of them reflect proposals made by the NRA.

Even if we give Senator MCCONNELL the benefit of the doubt as to whether he actually knew what his campaign manager was putting out, he is responsible, as we all are, for what our employees do in our name. I call on Senator MCCONNELL to apologize to his supporters, some of whom are my constituents, for stoking totally irrational and unjustifiable fear.

□ 0920

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 325, NO BUDGET, NO PAY ACT OF 2013

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 39 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 39

Resolved, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 325) to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until May 19, 2013, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill, as amended, and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration; and (2) one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK). The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my friend, the gentleman from Worcester, Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. All time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 39.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SESSIONS. Today's debate is about one very simple but profoundly important goal, Mr. Speaker, and that is restoring our vibrant economy by reducing the crippling weight of the growing debt caused by our Federal Government.

In the coming months, we face a string of deadlines that will force Congress and the administration to address the fundamental challenge of our trillion-dollar deficit and its mounting effect on our economy and jobs in America. We've already exceeded $16 trillion in debt, and Republicans find this debt level absolutely unacceptable and that is why we are here today. By contrast, President Obama seems to be perfectly comfortable with the idea of reaching $23 trillion, which is where we'll be at the end of his second term if we continue his policies in that direction.

While $16 trillion in debt is stifling our economy, $23 trillion would crush it. It would crush the dreams and hopes and aspirations of our great Nation and the people who will certainly follow us, our children and our grandchildren. That's why, today, we're considering this rule and the underlying bill in order to reverse this course. Our great Speaker, JOHN BOEHNER, and our majority leader, ERIC CANTOR, are pleased that this bill is on the floor today to discuss not just this important activity with our Members of Congress, but to let the American people know we are serious about what needs to be done to save this country from this crippling debt.

We will use the upcoming weeks and the looming deadlines before us as a means to enacting a more meaningful and lasting reform so that we can begin to grapple with this skyrocketing debt. At the same time, today's rule and the underlying bill will allow us to turn up pressure on the Senate to join the

House in offering real solutions. Together, these actions will help to reignite our engines to grow our economy and to restore discipline and accountability to our Federal budget.

The first of the looming deadlines we face is the debt ceiling limit. The underlying bill would temporarily suspend this limit so that we have the opportunity to craft comprehensive reforms without risking default on the debt that our Nation has incurred. Risking default would be counterproductive to our Republican agenda of restoring economic growth, getting our fiscal house in order, and ensuring that we do not burden future generations with intolerable debt.

We will not risk the full faith and credit of the United States, but neither will we compromise a long-term extension of this debt ceiling without slashing wasteful Federal spending, enacting meaningful entitlement reform, and ending the era of trillion-dollar deficits. By taking this temporary action, we are keeping the focus where it needs to be: resolving the coming debates on sequestration, the expiring continuing resolution, and the fiscal year 2014 budget through fiscal discipline and entitlement reform. Suspending the debt ceiling until May 19 provides the House and the Senate with much-needed time to pass a budget and then consider how best to deal with the sequester.

The underlying bill also takes action to ensure that the Senate becomes an active partner, which we want and need and the American people, I think, expect, in our efforts to reform Federal spending. For nearly 4 years, the Senate has failed to meet its most basic obligation: passing a budget. During this time, the Senate has collected its own paychecks despite being derelict in its most important duty.

In the private sector, there are consequences for failing to do one's job. This resolution will impose the same accountability on Members of Congress that private sector workers face. Oh, yes, and we're putting that same obligation on the House as we would want them to accept in the Senate. That is, if you don't get your work done, you don't get paid.

The power of the purse is the most fundamental duty the Constitution places upon Congress. For far too long, this power has not been wielded with the discipline and accountability necessary to do so responsibly and sustainably. There are a host of challenges that must be addressed, but the entire process begins with a joint budget resolution. As long as the Senate is unwilling or unable to do its job, our efforts in the House to deliver real solutions to the American people will continue to be impeded.

Some have questioned whether the action we are taking is constitutional. The 27th Amendment of the Constitution prohibits legislation that varies the salary of Members of the current Congress. This provision was intended to prevent Members of the House and the Senate from giving themselves a pay raise without first standing before the voters.

This bill upholds both the letter and the spirit of the 27th Amendment. It would not change a Member's rate of compensation in any way; they just don't get to collect it until they do their jobs. And until they get their work done, we simply cannot adopt a permanent extension to that debt ceiling.

This body will work to ensure that the Senate performs the most basic of tasks to pass a budget, and we'll do our job also. We will continue to work for meaningful entitlement and spending reforms to take us beyond our current cycle of crisis and deadlines in favor of long-term solutions. As we do all of this in order to invigorate our economy and put our Nation back to prosperity for ourselves and for future generations, I urge my colleagues to support this rule and the underlying legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas, the new chairman of the Rules Committee, Mr. SESSIONS, for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

I yield myself such time as I may consume.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me say to my colleagues, both Democratic and Republican colleagues, that they ought to vote against this rule. The bill before us today was not the product of deliberation in either the Ways and Means Committee or the House Administration Committee. There were no hearings. It was brought before the Rules Committee last night, and not a single amendment was made in order. This is a closed rule.

□ 0930

So if my friend from Texas wants to usher in a new policy of openness in this Congress, we should have had this rule open so that Members could have an opportunity to express themselves and to have their viewpoints made known. But, again, it is a completely closed rule.

So this rule should be defeated. It should go back to the Rules Committee. We ought to come back with something that allows this Chamber to be able to do its deliberation.

And Mr. Speaker, we ought to be here today to raise the debt ceiling, not because we like the idea of raising the debt ceiling, but because that's the right thing to do. It is the right thing to do for our country and for our economy.

It is the right thing to do for the businesses of this country, so that they have some certainty that we will not default on our debts. And if they had that certainty, they would then invest in our economy and help create more jobs and help create more opportunity for people.

You know, one of the things I have heard from Republicans and Democrats who I've bumped into at all types of occasions, they may have differences on our tax policy, they may have differences on our economic policy, but the one thing that everybody seems to agree on is that Congress ought to provide certainty. And this is anything but certainty, because what we are doing today, thanks to the Republican leadership, is to bring a short-term extension of the debt ceiling to the floor, which means that they have decided, once again, to play partisan politics with the debt ceiling.

This is a bad idea. This is not the way a mature governing body ought to behave. We ought to do our job.

Next month the United States will hit the debt ceiling and, without action, the United States will default on its debts. Now, the last time the Republican leadership played this dangerous game of economic Russian roulette, they threatened the full faith and credit of the United States for the first time in our history. For some reason they seem hell-bent on doing it again.

We need to be clear about one thing. The debt limit is not about new spending, it's not about increasing the deficit. The debt limit is simply the way Congress pays for things that we have already bought, things like the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, by the way, that my friends on the other side continue to insist that we don't pay for; it just goes on a credit card. Things like the Medicare prescription drug benefit that was not paid forward that my friends on the other side of the aisle championed, things that the Republicans have voted for over and over and over again.

Now, we can and we should have an open and thoughtful debate about our spending priorities and our deficit. That is what we're supposed to do. But playing games with the debt limit, threatening to default, should not be an option. But that's just what the bill before us does. It, once again, kicks the can down the road.

Now, instead of passing a clean, long-term debt ceiling bill, one that could ensure that America doesn't default on its debt and obligations, the Republicans have chosen to bring a bill up that would put us right back in the same place that we're in now in May, 3 months from now.

So what's next, Mr. Speaker? A 3-week extension of the debt ceiling? Three days? Three hours?

My Republican friends go on and on about how the business community needs and deserves certainty from Washington, but treating the full faith and credit of the United States like just another political talking point is no way to create certainty.

How ironic, Mr. Speaker, that the Republican Party, the party that took

a record surplus and turned it into a record deficit, the party that put two major wars on the Nation's credit card, the party that refused to pay for two rounds of tax cuts and a massive, expansive prescription drug benefit, now wants to pay its bills. Now wants to pay its bills.

The same group of people that got us into this mess are now telling us that they want to get us out of this mess. The fact is, on the issue of the deficit and on the issue of the debt, my friends on the other side of the aisle, I do not believe, have any credibility.

You know, there's an old show business saying, Mr. Speaker: you got to have a gimmick. And my Republican friends never cease to disappoint me. They always have a gimmick. They believe in government by gimmicks. And this No Budget, No Pay bill is another gimmick.

Let's kind of play this out. What their bill says is if the House doesn't pass a budget bill by April 15, we don't get paid. If the Senate doesn't pass a budget bill by April 15, they don't get paid.

Now, I have no doubt that they have the votes to ram whatever they want through the House of Representatives, and I expect that they will bring us yet another budget bill that has the same extreme, excessive spending cuts in programs that benefit the middle class and poor that they brought before us last year. So I think they will bring a bill to the floor.

And let's say the Senate does bring a budget bill to the floor and they pass it. This bill does not require that there be a conference report that is voted on by both the House and the Senate as a condition of whether or not Members get paid.

So, again, this is not a solution. What this is just more political gamesmanship. You pass something in the House that may be totally irreconcilable, something that will never be able to be conferenced with the Senate. Senate, you pass whatever you want, it doesn't have to be conferenceable with the House, and there we are. And there we are, 3 months from now, in the same position that we are in now.

You know, the way this should be done, and I know this is a radical idea, but the way this should be done is the leadership of the Republican side should speak with the leadership of the Democratic side, and let's see if we can kind of agree on a way to proceed. There ought to be serious discussions.

I'll also point out for my colleagues and for those who are watching, there were a couple of occasions over the last year and a half where Speaker BOEHNER came very close to coming to agreement with the White House on a bigger deal. And on those two occasions the Speaker walked away and said no after he came very close to saying yes.

Why did he say no?

It had nothing to do with the Senate not having passed a budget resolution. It had everything to do with the fact that when the Speaker came back and talked to his Republican rank-and-file Members, they all said no. They said no. It doesn't cut Medicare enough. It doesn't cut Social Security enough. It doesn't cut food stamps enough. It doesn't cut education enough. It doesn't cut job creation enough.

There are people on the other side of the aisle, Mr. Speaker, who are using this not as an opportunity to balance our budget, but they're using this as an opportunity to gut government, to end the public sector. They see this as their opportunity. And as a result, we have this uncertainty. And as a result, the American people pay the price. As a result, this economy is not recovering as quickly as it needs to be.

I would urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' on this rule, this closed rule. This is not the way we should begin this session.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, enough of the gimmicks. It's time to get serious about doing the people's business, and this is not doing the people's business.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I will insert into the RECORD an article from The Washington Post dated January 22, 2013.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to now discuss, if I can, this Washington Post article which is out today, which says the Senate Majority Leader HARRY REID praised House leaders for moving ahead with a bill that would give the government borrowing authority into the future.

He further said that he not only is very glad that we're going to send a clean debt ceiling bill, but that he felt like it would be good for the Senate to be able to take up this action.

Well, Mr. Speaker, what we're trying to do is to empower those things that we know this institution, the House and the Senate—where we work closer together, where we both do our work.

And yesterday, the gentleman representing the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. RYAN, who's also PAUL RYAN, the chairman of the House Budget Committee, in testimony said that he intended to make sure that he would produce a bill exactly supporting what we are trying to do here today, and would bring that to the floor, and would be faithful in doing that.

Look, maybe people are upset that we're putting their pay at risk. Maybe people are upset because it wasn't their idea. But the bottom line is that PAUL RYAN, JOHN BOEHNER, ERIC CANTOR, the Rules Committee, yesterday said we think it's a good bill, and we were joined by HARRY REID, the Senate Majority Leader.

When the Senate Majority Leader can agree with Republicans about a great direction to go that will empower the Senate and join with them in trying to make sure that we get our job done, I think that's a rare day. I think that's a good day when we can work together, when we can bring legislation that the Senate openly welcomes and, might I add, the President of the United States, President Obama, would sign this legislation. And he said so in the Statement of Administration Policy.

I reserve the balance of my time.

[From the Washington Post, Jan. 22, 2013]

REID SAY'S HE'S PLEASED WITH HOUSE GOP'S 'CLEAN DEBT CEILING BILL'

(By Rosalind S. Helderman)

Senate Majority Leader Harry M. Reid (D–Nev.) praised House leaders Tuesday for moving ahead with a bill that would give the government borrowing authority into May, without demanding deep spending cuts in return.

He said Democrats will discuss in coming days how to deal with a House provision, attached to the bill, that would require the Senate to adopt a budget for the first time in four years or see their pay docked. He said he would be meeting with the Senate Budget Committee Chairwoman Patty Murray (D–Wash.) to discuss the Republicans' ''no budget, no pay provision.''

''I'm very glad that they're going to send us a clean debt ceiling bill,'' Reid told reporters. ''The other stuff on it, we'll approach that when we need to. But I'm glad we're not facing crisis here in the matter of a few days.''

The government hit the $16.4 trillion debt ceiling in December. The Treasury Department has been using extraordinary measures to extend the limit but has said that if Congress doesn't act to raise the limit by the end of February, the United States will be unable to meet its spending obligations and will default.

Republicans had been threatening to refuse to raise the limit unless Democrats offered deep entitlement cuts in return. They announced a new strategy Monday: Suspend the debt ceiling until May 19, while pressuring the Senate to adopt a budget. The House will vote on the temporary lifting of the debt ceiling on Wednesday.

Reid stopped short of saying the Senate would adopt the measure without changes if it passes the House on Wednesday. But by characterizing the House bill as a ''clean'' increase in the nation's borrowing limit—a longtime demand of the White House and Democrats—he suggested its passage in the Senate will not be difficult.

''I'm happy they sent us a debt ceiling not tied to entitlement cuts and dollar-for-dollar [cuts],'' Reid said. ''That's a big step in the right direction. The other stuff on it, Sen. Murray is going to be the spokesperson on that for the next 24 hours or so. We'll see how she wants to proceed.''

The result of the House action, he said, was to buy time: ''We have many months to work through this,'' he said.

Reid's review was far more positive than that of House Minority Whip Steny Hoyer (D–Md.), who blasted the GOP measure as a diversion tactic to reporters Tuesday. If House Speaker John A. Boehner (R–Ohio) has support from fellow Republicans, however, he can pass the bill Wednesday without the votes of House Democrats.

□ 0940

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

I'm glad the gentleman from Texas agrees with HARRY REID. I hope he agrees with HARRY REID on more things in the future. But the fact of the matter is this show business before us does nothing other than postpone this

debate on the debt ceiling for 3 months. It doesn't require a finished product. It does not require that we actually have something that amounts to a deal that goes to the President's desk. The House will pass their extreme budget, like they always do. The Senate will probably do something. And then nothing else is required. There's no requirement for a deal in order to get your pay.

This is show business. And what we should be doing is providing certainty to the business community that we're not going to default on our obligations in 3 months. And we ought to come together and figure out a way to be able to get this budget in balance without destroying the social safety net in this country. Again, the problem has always been—and let's be clear about this—as much as I get frustrated with the Senate, the problem on this is not the Senate. The problem is the rank-and-file Republicans in the House Republican Conference who, every time the Speaker of the House goes to them with a deal, they say, No. They always say it doesn't cut deep enough, it doesn't eliminate programs that help the poor, it doesn't eliminate programs that help the middle class, it doesn't eliminate programs that help create jobs. Because the ultimate goal of so many on the other side is not about a balanced budget. They don't care about balanced budgets. They're the ones who took this balanced budget that Bill Clinton had and turned it into one of the worst deficits and debt in our country. They don't care about that. They care about eliminating the public sector. That's what this is about. Three months? Please. Three months? What kind of certainty is that?

I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), the distinguished ranking member of the Rules Committee.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. I thank my colleague for yielding to me. And I want to continue what he was saying, despite the fact I've got a greet speech here. But it's terribly important, I think, that we try to make the point one more time that process here is turned upside down and is totally meaningless. So JOHN BOEHNER and PAUL RYAN and HARRY REID and the Rules Committee all agree. That leaves out about 500 more people who have been sent here from the districts to represent what the people who live there think.

This is not the first time this has happened. A couple of weeks ago, on the fiscal cliff, we had a thing that came up from nowhere called Plan B. JOHN BOEHNER liked that. I guess PAUL RYAN liked that. I'm not sure what HARRY REID thought about that. The Rules Committee thought it was okay. But the fact of the matter is that that bill was written while the Rules Committee was in session. There are 13 of us on the Rules Committee. We love the enormous power that we've got. But I don't believe any of us ever suspected that the Rules Committee was going to supersede all of the committees in the House of Representatives. There's been no committee action on any of this.

In addition, I want to make the point, again, that despite what we tried to do, we said, Nobody's talked about this. There's been no discussion on this. Let's have an open rule. Let's let not just the people on our side but the people on the Republican side who've had no input here as well, let's open it up and have a real debate and see what's going on here.

What is going on here? What's going on here, as my colleague points out, is a circus of dubious constitutional validity, frankly. Some people may say what they're doing is okay. Other people say, Absolutely not. We certainly should have had that decision before we got this far. What will the Senate do with it? Heavens to Betsy, I don't know. They have to have 60 votes over there before they can get to anything. It is the only legislative body in the world where 60 is the majority, not 51, as it is in every other legislature.

So we've just reached, I think, a new low today. I am very depressed by the fact that the Constitution of the United States, which is very specific, that the rules of the Congress, which are extremely specific, are meaningless here. We have all these people on the committees, people with expertise, and wonderful staff. We can draw on resources from all over probably the world, not just America. But we've got plenty of them here just a block away. All the people we can talk to, all the people we can ask, What is the meaning of this? What will it do to the economy of the United States of America? Are we on the right track? Should we be doing something different? Do we need a debt limit law?

What are we doing? Why can't we have those kinds of discussions in this Congress ever again? It's as though if we give them time to think about it and everybody has a chance to weigh in on it, then maybe we won't be able to move this the way we would like to and play another ''gotcha'' game, which is really what it comes down to.

I don't care if The Washington Post loves it. They're probably so pleased to see the fact that people believe there's something in the fact that HARRY REID said he liked it, which is not anything that's been heard here lately, and that they thought they would like it as well. But I don't know what it is, and I don't think any of the rest of my Members did. And we certainly did not yesterday in the Rules Committee. We did not have the benefit of the knowledge of any of the other Members of the Congress or the committee process, which could have answered the questions for us that came up yesterday.

In fact, all of us know where this came from. Charles Krauthammer wrote a column in The Washington Post. They maybe like that a whole lot, as well. That's where this came from. He said, Hey, there's a good idea. Instead of going to the committees of the Congress of the United States, where people of knowledge are seated, they decided let's just throw it together over the weekend at a retreat and we'll take it back next week. We're only going to work a couple of days so let's rush it through and get it through and maybe by the time we get to 3 months, something will have straightened out. Or, more likely, Mr. Speaker, in 3 months we will have thought of another way that we can kick the can down the road.

Now it's important to note that this is not an extension of debt limit. It is a suspension of debt limit. That makes a difference, I think, as well, but we didn't get a chance to discuss that part of it either. We did away with all notions of regular order. I really thought the Plan B, as I'd said earlier—and I don't want anybody to miss this—that bill was being written while the Rules Committee was meeting. I know that all students of government, all the colleges and universities in this country, they're out there teaching people how America runs, how carefully and wonderfully put together it was by the Founding Fathers, how our Constitution is our guiding light. We just celebrated that. Because without doubt, the President's inaugural speech, based so closely on the Declaration of Independence and talking about the Constitution, made us understand that that is what we are here to uphold. And indeed we all held up our hands and swore we would uphold it.

But when it comes to a piece of legislation like this—and this is the same as I said last night in the Rules Committee—it's just lurching around and jerking around and coming up with any kind of crazy gimmick we can think of and making smart remarks. But I will tell you that kicking the can down the road for 3 more months is not a solution. It gives us some breathing room. But I don't have any reason in the world to believe from past performance that the future is going to be any clearer for us.

Until the leaders of the House can start to include the fellow Members in the majority—because they have been cut out as well—and the minority in the legislative process, the regular order will be little more than a dream. And today's bill drops the majority's insistence that increasing the debt limit be matched by cuts to Medicare or reductions to education funding. That's a step forward. But it doesn't answer our questions.

My Democrat colleagues and I are eager to participate in the legislative process for which we came to Washington. And the American people are certainly eager—if not eager, maybe desperate would be a better word—to see an end to the dysfunction in this Congress. I hope that at some point the majority will realize that a completely partisan approach, which is what we've

had, is a dead end. That meaningful solutions can only come from negotiation and compromise with those on the other side of the aisle who do have some good ideas. And when the majority comes to that realization, my Democrat colleagues and I will happily join in the effort to craft the serious legislative answers our country needs, our constituents deserve, and the world expects of us.

The bill before us today isn't a serious solution—it is a gimmick of dubious constitutional validity. The legislation is the product of a weekend retreat, and contains all the seriousness one would expect from such origins.

For the last year, the majority has alternatively taken the full faith and credit of our Nation hostage and put forth extreme proposals that do nothing to reduce our deficit in a balanced way.

In the process they have done away with any notion of regular order. Just weeks ago, a so-called "Plan B" to the fiscal cliff was being written at the same time the Rules Committee was meeting—thus forcing us to debate a bill no one had ever seen.

Now we meet to debate a bill that failed to go through a single committee hearing before landing on the Rules Committee desk yesterday afternoon.

Under the process forged by the majority, the Rules Committee has become the place where legislation is unveiled by the majority and brought to the floor 24 hours later, with no input from their colleagues on the other side of the aisle.

This is about as far away from regular order as it gets. Until the leaders of the House start including their fellow members of the majority and minority in the legislative process, regular order will be little more than a dream.

Mr. Speaker, today's bill drops the majority's insistence that any increase in the debt limit be matched by cuts to Medicare or reductions to education funding. This is certainly a noteworthy step forward.

But kicking the can down the road for three months is not the solution that the American people deserve. If today's legislation had been crafted in the halls of Congress, with input from both sides of the aisle, I believe that we could be voting on a serious measure to prevent a debt-limit crisis and reduce our deficit starting today.

My Democratic colleagues and I are eager to participate in the legislative process, and the American people are eager to see an end to the dysfunction in Congress.

I hope that at some point the majority will realize that a completely partisan approach is a dead end. Meaningful solutions can only come from negotiation and compromise with those on the other side of the aisle.

When the majority comes to that realization, my Democratic colleagues and I will happily join in the effort to craft the serious legislative answers that our country needs and our constituents deserve.

□ 0950

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentlewoman, the ranking member of the committee, who was very faithful and sat through not only the hearing yesterday, but offered her feedback to our speakers who came to the Rules Committee representing the House Administration Committee and representing the Ways and Means Committee. I thought that her questions and her tone were very appropriate.

I think that yesterday the two Republican lead Representatives—the gentlewoman from Michigan, CANDICE MILLER, representing the House Administration Committee; and the gentleman from the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. RYAN—adequately not only spoke about, Mr. Speaker, a five-page bill—five pages that we could not only understand, but offer the idea, regardless of who came up with the idea, that represents what I hope will be and believe will be more than 218 votes and I think will be bipartisan. These ideas don't just belong to somebody and we can't share them—they belong to the American people—about a way to move forward, avoiding conflict, working together, coming up with ideas that you can express with great confidence that we believe will work.

Yesterday, during the hearing, we also had some thoughtful conversation.

I'd like to yield 5 minutes to the Rules Committee designee to Chairman RYAN and the Budget Committee, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL).

Mr. WOODALL. I thank my chairman for yielding.

I used to come to this podium, Mr. Speaker, and say I'm just a House freshman, but this is what I think about things. I'm now a House sophomore. It's been 2 years and 1 month since I arrived here; and if you told me 2 years ago when I arrived that we were going to be bringing five-page pieces of legislation to this floor for up-or-down votes by this body, I wouldn't have believed it because I've watched the way this House has operated for over a decade.

I see these bills—and Mr. Speaker, you've seen them too—these bills that folks have to carry down here on a dolly, those bills that they drop them down here on the rostrum with just a thump. Folks can't read those bills; folks can't analyze those bills; folks can't digest those bills. But this one that we have today deals with an incredibly complicated topic, the debt ceiling, an incredibly controversial topic—how it is that the House and the Senate get their business done—and yet we bring it in five pages that every Member of this body has had a chance to read and digest, every Member of this body.

We had a hearing on it in the Rules Committee yesterday. And here on the floor today we're going to debate this bill not just with one committee of jurisdiction, with the Ways and Means Committee getting time, but with two committees of jurisdiction, the Ways and Means Committee getting time and the House Administration Committee getting time.

You know, it's unusual, Mr. Speaker, that we have a bill that the Speaker of the House has decided to bring forward, that the majority leader of the Senate has praised the Speaker for bringing forward, and that the White House has said it doesn't have any objection to. That's unusual. Candidly, it makes me a little suspicious. That's the way it's been around here. I think my colleagues on the Rules Committee would agree. So often we get so used to the controversy that if we can't fight about something, we start to wonder what's wrong, what's wrong that we can't fight about something. I'll tell you, Mr. Speaker, we're going to have that opportunity to fight. We don't have that roadmap yet. Of course, the House has laid out its budget roadmap year after year after year after year. Certainly, the 2 years I've been here, the House has done its job—much to the credit of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle—and passed a budget. This year, rumor has it the Senate is going to do the same thing.

This bill certainly puts an incentive in place for both the House and the Senate to get their job done, but how is it that we're going to tackle those tough decisions that my friend from New York, the ranking member of the Rules Committee, talked about, those really difficult financial decisions, talking about those obligations we have in the future that we have absolutely no plan or means to pay for. How are we going to grapple with those decisions? Well, I'll tell you, I wish we had gotten a big deal in the debt ceiling debate of August of 2011. We got a step in the right direction, but we didn't get it all done. I wish we had gotten it in the Joint Select Committee. We didn't get it done. I wish we had gotten it in the fiscal cliff debate of last year. We didn't get it done.

But I believe—maybe it's just a hope, Mr. Speaker—but I believe that if the Senate has the courage to lay out its path for America—its path for America's budget and dealing with America's obligations—and if the House has the courage to lay out its vision for America, its vision of dealing with America's obligations, that we're going to find that opportunity to come together to make those decisions that have to happen.

Now, I hope I'm not speaking out of school, Mr. Speaker, but I had a chance for some constituents in town—some of my business leaders, some of the great entrepreneurs from my district, they're in town. I took them by to meet with Speaker JOHN BOEHNER. I'll tell you, I come from one of the most conservative districts in the United States of America; Speaker JOHN BOEHNER is not always the most popular name in my district. But I brought them by to meet him because I wanted them to hear from him directly and he said this to them, he said: We have real opportunities in divided government, real opportunities to come together and do the big things that matter; that only in divided government can you bring together the best ideas from both sides and put everybody's fingerprint and stamp of approval on them and do

those things that really make a difference for America. And my goal is to do those things while I'm leading this, the people's House.

I take him at his word, Mr. Speaker. And if giving this 90-day extension so that budgets can be passed gives him that opportunity, I'll do it.

A colleague of mine yesterday said, ''That stuck with me.'' He said, ''I've had people I respect a whole lot less ask me for a whole lot more.''

I have great respect for our Budget Committee chairman, PAUL RYAN. I have great respect for our Rules Committee chairman, PETE SESSIONS. I have great respect for the Speaker of the House. If they tell me another 90 days is going to give us that opportunity to do those big things I think we on both sides of the aisle want to do, I'm there.

I support this resolution, Mr. Speaker, and I hope folks will support the underlying bill.

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

I want to tell the gentleman from Georgia that I appreciate his many, many, many, many years working here in Washington, not only as a Member of Congress, but his many years as a congressional aide. So you have a perspective here based on many, many years of service in Washington. But I would just say that if someone were to tell me that the Republican leadership were to bring yet another closed rule to the floor, I'm sad to say that I'd respond: I'm not surprised.

This is a closed rule. This is a bill—whether it's five pages or a hundred pages, it doesn't make any difference—that did not come out of a committee process. The Ways and Means Committee didn't hold hearings or a markup. The House Administration Committee didn't hold hearings or a markup. This did, as my colleague from New York said, basically come out of your retreat, and you hand a bill to all of us here. What's even more startling is that you do not allow anybody, Democrats or Republicans, to amend it. Completely closed. Completely closed.

Look, I would say to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle—especially the freshmen who campaigned on the platform of openness and transparency—you vote for this rule, you're the problem. You're the problem if you vote for this rule. So I would again urge my colleagues, just on the process alone, this is not the way that we should proceed.

The other thing I would remind my friends who are saying that somehow this is going to produce a result, this doesn't require a result. This requires the House to once again pass its budget—which, as we all know from last year's experience, represents the extreme of the extreme; I mean, it's irreconcilable with the Senate—and the Senate can pass whatever they want, but it doesn't require a finished product. What the American people want is a finished product, not a gimmick to kick the can down the road for 3 months. Yeah, everybody is happy we're not going to default today. But 3 months, that's it? I mean, I think we can do a heck of a lot better than this.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker and Members of the House, at the end of the day when we vote today, we will simply be voting to kick the can down the road—which every Member of this House has told their constituents they no longer wanted to do—but we will kick the can down the road on the question of the debt limit of the United States and whether or not the full faith and credit of the United States will stand behind the bills that we owe the rest of the world, the businesses and our companies, individuals, people's retirement plans. That's all this bill does. Under some sort of camouflage about withholding pay, what have you, they kick the can down the road.

You know, Americans are starting to realize that the economy is starting to recover after the devastation of the housing scandals, of the Wall Street scandals. Small businesses are starting to hire; spending over Christmas was reasonably good; the stock market is at a 5-year high; the housing market is coming back; builders are in fact building new homes because of the demand in housing.

□ 1000

All of a sudden, enter the Congress of the United States and it says that we're going to put the full faith and credit of the United States of America on a 90-day leash. We're going to take the greatest economy in the greatest country with the greatest responsibility in the world and we're going to put them on a 90-day leash.

How does a great country respond on a 90-day leash? We know how it responded last time the world saw this happen. We got downgraded in the credit rating. That drove up the borrowing cost of the United States. That drove up the borrowing cost of corporations. That drove up the borrowing cost of counties and cities—the counties and the cities that we represent. And we're told again that should we falter on the credit debt of the United States, that we can expect a downgrade and we can expect a further downgrade in cities and counties all over the country, and somehow we're supposed to believe that this is a good plan.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. What this plan does is hold the jobs of America's families and working people all across this country hostage. It holds them hostage to the passage of this legislation, and it holds them hostage 90 days from now.

This bill says if you don't vote for the Ryan budget—because we know the votes are on the other side of the aisle to pass the Ryan budget—then we go back to putting the credit of the United States at risk. The last time the American people looked at the Ryan budget they rejected it overwhelmingly. Do you remember the election of November, just a couple of months ago? They rejected those cuts in Medicare, those cuts in Medicaid, and the tax cuts for the wealthy.

Yet all of this is being put back on the table by holding the debt limit hostage, holding the credit hostage, and holding American jobs hostage. So if you don't vote for that budget, then they get to play with the debt limit again. They get to play with the debt limit again.

We have got big lifts to make between now and then, folks. We have sequestration, we have tax reform, and we have a budget to write. Let's just get down to business and do it. Just do it. Don't play with the credit of this country. Don't play with people's pension plans. Don't play with the interest rates that corporations have to pay to borrow. Don't play with the interest rates that your local municipalities have to pay to borrow for projects in their districts.

This has got to stop. If you really believe that America is a great country, if you really believe that we're an international power, then we ought to start acting like one, and the Congress of the United States ought to start acting like it. And 90-day extensions on the creditworthiness of the United States is not the picture you paint when you're an international power.

It has to stop. It has to stop. We cannot continue to go through this and put all of this at risk and put this recovery that is, in fact, happening at risk because of the actions of the majority here in this House, once again, to fool with the credit.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Do you want to shut down the government? Have at it. I was here when it happened before. You'll find all your constituents up close and personal. You'll get to know them. That's a lot different. That's a lot different action. You want to go off with sequestration? You don't like the cuts that come up with its substitute? Fine. We voted for sequestration. You told the American people with your votes you were prepared to have sequestration if we didn't do the job. So you've got a lot of tough votes to make. Don't try to avoid them by holding the creditworthiness of the United States at risk.

It has got to stop, and it should stop today on the floor of the House of Representatives. We should say to the world that we are prepared to have this country pay the bills. The deficits have been incurred by our actions. It has got to stop today with a ''no'' vote against this legislation.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, as always, this floor is open to people who have ideas. I'd like to say to the American people and to my colleagues that are listening that the Republican leadership has decided to bring this bill to the floor today. We have no clue exactly what date the United States actually needs to make sure that we pass this bill to avoid not paying our bills. The Secretary of the Treasury is in active notification with our leadership and the leadership of the Senate and perhaps all Members because of his openness to speak about this in the press.

We don't know when that day is, and because we don't know when that day is, that's a good reason to begin working on ideas to see whether we can even pass this bill. I think we're going to. I think it's going to be a bipartisan bill. I don't think everybody necessarily has the same concerns that the gentleman from California spoke of, but what we're trying to do is work together. Conservative Republicans in our party do support this bill. I support this bill as a conservative Republican. Our Speaker, as a conservative Republican, supports this bill.

What it's about is avoiding the problems of chaos, avoiding the problems of doing things at the last minute, avoiding the problems of not addressing the issue, and avoiding the problems where the marketplace loses confidence in what we're doing.

Chairman PAUL RYAN, chairman of our Budget Committee, a bright young leader for our country, forthrightly brought this idea to our conference and has sold it. It's the right thing to do. We are trying to do here today the right thing, talking with the American people, letting people see that we're moving forward to avoid conflict and avoid problems.

So it was accomplished with this 5-page bill, a 5-page bill which we will then have two committee chairmen, PAUL RYAN representing the Ways and Means committee, perhaps DAVE CAMP, the chairman of the committee, and CANDICE MILLER of House Administration, work through meticulous, thoughtful ideas that really are not difficult to get because it's a 5-page bill.

We think we're doing the right thing, we think we've got the votes, and we think it's going to provide this country and the Senate and this administration, us all working together, the right thing. So if you want to oppose it, I get that. I can understand the positions held. But passing the bill will be a positive thing. It will offer working-together relationships with the Senate. It is supported and not opposed by the President, and I think that gives us an opportunity to put a good foot forward in this new Congress rather than one where we're fighting, disagreeing, and can't get our act together.

The American people demand that we get things done. The American people are asking, hey, when possible, can you guys work together? Yes, we can. Today is the day where we can say, Mr. Speaker, people from Nebraska, people from Texas, people from Ohio, people from all over this country, can you work together? We're trying to find a way, and I'm proud of that. And with great respect to anybody who would disagree with that, we're going to stand behind our product today with a money-back guarantee—a money-back guarantee: if we don't get our job done, we're not going to take the pay.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds. Let's be clear. This House is not open to new ideas. If it was, we would not be coming to the floor with a bill that is a completely closed rule so that Members cannot offer their ideas in the form of amendments.

Secondly, their gimmick even has a gimmick to it. They say that if the Senate doesn't act or the House doesn't act on a budget, they don't get paid. Really what they do is they get paid at the end of the year. So their pay is not taken away.

This is show business. Instead of show business and instead of gimmicks, we ought to be coming to the House floor in a bipartisan way trying to figure out how to solve some of these budgetary problems. I regret very much that this is the best we can do, kicking the can down the road for 3 months.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. BERA).

□ 1010

Mr. BERA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address Congress' failure to pass a responsible budget.

As an original cosponsor of H.R. 310, the standalone and original No Budget, No Pay Act, I'm pleased to see the 113th Congress begin to address our core obligations to pass a responsible budget that not only honors the promises that we have made to our parents and grandparents, but also secures a prosperous future for our children and grandchildren.

We can do this, but we must do so in a bipartisan way. The great Speaker of the House, the Honorable Tip O'Neill, was able to work with President Ronald Reagan to revamp our Tax Code and strengthen Social Security. The Honorable Speaker Newt Gingrich was able to work with President Bill Clinton to not only balance our budget, but to create a budget surplus.

We can do this, but we must do so in a bipartisan fashion, taking the best ideas from both sides of the aisle, finding common ground, and moving forward.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I thank the gentleman very much from Massachusetts, and I thank my friend from Texas.

I would hope that all of us would commit to doing our job. And I know that my good friend recognizes that the Constitution in article I, section 8, requires the Congress to have the power to collect taxes and duties and to pay the debts, but also to be concerned about the general welfare.

Really what the administration says is that they support a long-term increase in the debt ceiling. And the reason why the people of the United States have not heard of this controversy is because the normal course of business constitutionally is for the Congress to consult with the Treasury, the Treasury to consult with the Congress, and the debt ceiling is raised in a manner that protects the general welfare of the American people.

But now we have a proposal that is driven by polling and brinksmanship. This is not the way to run a country. I heard a comedian some years ago say, What a great country. We are a great country. I love America. The Constitution emphasizes the greatness of this Nation, but we don't play politics with something that is the ordinary course of business.

Spending cuts is the responsible way to govern, but it is to govern in a way that we sit at the table of reconciliation and we don't break the backs of seniors who utilize Medicare and Social Security and veterans benefits. What we do is we sit at the table and we understand how to deal with the oncoming issue of the deficit. How do we do that? We do it with growth. But the Constitution has nothing in here that suggests, under this article, that we are to do brinksmanship and do 2 weeks or 3 weeks or to May. What happens in May, a crisis where we can't pay our military? The debt ceiling is paying the debt, and I am troubled by the fact that we would use this tactic.

I want bipartisanship. In fact, someone who raises issues about the vulnerable, like myself, has worked with my Republican friends. I look forward to do it. I'm an American. I believe in the Constitution, but you do not raise the debt ceiling in increments. The administration says, We won't stop it, but we want a long-term increase so that we can begin the rebuilding of this Nation.

Growth, the Constitution, that's what we should be talking about, making America better.

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

The gentlewoman from Houston, Texas, is absolutely correct. We do need long-term growth of our economy. We need jobs. We need job creation. We need to be able to reduce the debt of this country.

The President is well aware, we're well aware here in Congress that each

of the years that the President has been our President he increased spending. He wants a massive tax increase, and we have a deficit. We have a deficit of $1.3 trillion each of these years.

We're trying to work together. We're trying to, as the President said as he addressed a luncheon just an hour after he was sworn in, that he wants to learn from some of the things that he's done and he wants to do better. Some of doing that better is a chance to perhaps reassess: Did I do the right thing the first time? Did I do the right thing when I continue to raise taxes and demand that we do that?

Higher taxes diminish jobs and opportunity and growth in this country, and that's why we are trying to suggest openly, Mr. President, let's grow some jobs. Let's do the things I think that are more in line with what President George W. Bush did, who is referred to as No. 43 in Dallas, Texas. No. 43 had 60 straight months of economic growth, with the underpinning of reducing taxes so that Americans would go and work harder and see the incentive for creating jobs and would want to buy into the philosophy that the harder that we work, our country benefits. The underpinnings of Social Security, of Medicare, of Medicaid, systems that are very important to our country; reducing the number of people who have to receive government assistance is what happens when you have job growth; protecting the long-term interests of this country and growing the American Dream.

The gentlewoman from Houston is absolutely correct. And the methodology towards getting there is not higher taxes, and it is not higher spending. It is giving more freedom and opportunity. It is having a reduced size of government, not a bigger government. It is giving people an opportunity to have fewer rules and regulations, not more rules and regulations.

So the process that the Republican Party believes in deeply is the rights of individuals, freedom and opportunity, and reducing the size of government, which gives more people opportunities to empower their freedom and opportunity for their American Dream.

It's part of what we're doing here today. I think we believe and I think it works. Look at Texas and you will see where we have job growth, job creation, a healthier economy than other places in the country, and an opportunity to say we want more of it for all of America.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). The gentleman from Massachusetts has 2 minutes remaining.

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

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

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I doubt very much that anyone in America is sitting around today saying, I hope Congress sets up another fiscal cliff; I hope they put us in a position again where no one knows what's going to happen the next couple of months.

We ought to listen, but that's what we are doing with this bill. We should listen to the President who said this:

> Unfortunately, Congress consistently brings the government to the edge of default before facing its responsibility. This brinksmanship threatens the holders of government bonds, those who rely on Social Security and veterans benefits. Interest rates would skyrocket, instability would occur in financial markets, and the Federal deficit would soar. The United States has a special responsibility to itself and the world to meet its obligations.

We should listen to this President.

Ronald Reagan said this in 1986. In 1986, the Congress listened to him, extended the debt ceiling, and acted responsibly. So should we. This legislation sets up another fiscal cliff, another financial nightmare, another problem for the American people that we should avoid.

I urge all Members to vote ''no.''

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time, as I have no additional speakers.

Mr. MCGOVERN. We have a gimmick before us that withholds pay if we don't pass a budget, but not if you don't get a deal. It doesn't matter whether the budget is irreconcilable or partisan. Here is the other gimmick. It doesn't really withhold anybody's pay. It just delays when you get the check.

The problem is not the United States Senate, I want to tell my friends. It is my friends on the other side of the aisle who do not want a deal, who want instead to basically annihilate and eviscerate the public sector. I say to my friends, if you want to balance the budget, pay for your wars, pay for your tax cuts, pay for your giveaways to the very wealthy in this country. What is before us is not a solution.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no,'' to not kick the can down the road, to deal with the problems as we see them right now. And I also urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, those especially who call for transparency, vote ''no'' on this closed rule. This is a closed rule. Nobody has an opportunity to offer any other ideas. This is not the way we should be dealing with budget issues. Vote ''no'' on this closed rule.

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

□ 1020

Mr. SESSIONS. I yield myself the balance of my time.

I appreciate my colleagues—the gentleman, Mr. MCGOVERN; the ranking member of the committee, Ms. SLAUGHTER; and those Democrat Members who came down to express themselves. I also appreciate the Republicans who came down to talk about this important issue.

Mr. Speaker, what we're doing is debating a bill, H.R. 325, that ensures that the obligations of the United States are taken care of. We're not trying to stand in the way. Even the United States Senate majority leader said, Great job, House. Thank you very much. We can work with this bill. We can work with you.

Members of my party have said we think this is a responsible way to begin the process to avoid having to make difficult decisions at the very end. We've laid out a process. Yesterday, the gentleman from Wisconsin, our young leader, PAUL RYAN, who is the chairman of the House Budget Committee, was asked in testimony, Will you produce your end of the bargain that is in here? Will you take care of your part with the knowledge that we're counting on that?

The Senate has said, as to their part of the bargain, whether they pass this bill or not, they can step up to the responsibility. Those leaders have said, Yes, we think we can.

It's not perfect. By golly, I'm not sure what ''perfect'' is anymore because ''perfect'' may not get passed in this House, but the fair and proper way to handle things is so the American people have confidence in what we're doing, so the markets have confidence in what we're doing, and so the budget is handled. All of these things are placed in a systematic order so that our Members, the Members of this body, can go home and communicate with people as to here is what we think is going to happen next.

Avoiding problems is what Speaker BOEHNER and our great majority leader, ERIC CANTOR, are trying to do. They are bringing legislation to this floor that adequately begins the process before we get in trouble. It's a 5-page bill. It's ordered up exactly as the doctor would have wanted—in English, where you can understand it, where it doesn't take a legal degree or for you to have to be in the House for 30 years to figure out what we're trying to say.

What we're trying to say is right here, and that is for the House and the Senate to work together. We do a budget. We lay out to the American people what we're trying to do. We work with the President, and we tell this administration and the government what we're doing. The American people can have confidence in this.

I support this. In fact, as chairman of the Rules Committee, I am asking for our Members and all Members of this body to please see this as a responsible way to deal with the problems that are immediately in front of us but before it becomes a crisis, before it becomes something that we cannot deal with as effectively, and bringing the American people along.

I also want to thank the President of the United States, President Obama, because President Obama said he could live with this.

I want to congratulate Senator HARRY REID, the Senate majority leader. Yes, I'll say that here on the floor because he says it's the right thing to

do, and thank you for passing us a clean bill that will give them the authority and the responsibility to do what they really want to do—not playing hardball, not throwing rocks. As a matter of fact, Senator HARRY REID said, A clean bill—a good thing. Now it's up to them. It's up to them to take up their activities that are for us, and it's up to this House of Representatives.

So, as we finish this, PAUL RYAN, the young leader of the Ways and Means Committee, DAVE CAMP, and others will be here debating these ideas. Immediately after that, you will see that CANDICE MILLER, the House Administration chairwoman, will come and talk with this House and the American people about the responsibility that she has to ensure that what we do is correct and proper. Then this body will have a chance to vote ''yes'' or ''no,'' and that will be an authority and a responsibility once again for PAUL RYAN, as the chairman of our Budget Committee, and for those members of the committee, Republicans and Democrats, to do their work, get it done and to produce a bill. We will then comply, but if we don't: no work, no pay. That's something the American people can understand. It's simple. It goes back to 1607: no work, no food.

Members of Congress need to understand we've got to get our job done, so I'm proud of what we're doing here today. I can stand behind this product and proudly say that I think this will pass the smell test of the American people and that it's something they can understand and something they will look forward to. Watch us as we do our job.

I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his inquiry.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, isn't it true that no matter what happens with this bill that Members will get paid no matter what?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair cannot respond to that. It is not a proper parliamentary inquiry.

The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on ordering the previous question will be followed by 5-minute votes on adoption of House Resolution 39, if ordered, and approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 232, nays 193, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 26]

YEAS—232

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peters (CA)
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—193

Andrews
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—6

Cárdenas
DeLauro
Huffman
Rohrabacher
Rush
Young (AK)

□ 1050

Messrs. HOLT and RUIZ changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. BACHUS, WILSON of South Carolina, and WHITFIELD changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 234, noes 190, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 27]

AYES—234

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy

Chabot
Chaffetz
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Maffei
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peterson
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—190

Andrews
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—7

Cárdenas
Davis, Danny
DeLauro
Rush
Vargas
Webster (FL)
Young (AK)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1059

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 27, I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote on H. Res. 39 providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 325). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 291, nays 129, answered "present" 2, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 28]

YEAS—291

Aderholt
Alexander
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Beatty
Becerra
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cartwright
Cassidy
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chu
Cicilline
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Cramer
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeGette
DelBene
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Eshoo
Esty
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Franks (AZ)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Grayson
Griffith (VA)
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanabusa
Harper
Harris
Hastings (WA)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hurt
Issa
Jackson Lee
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, Sam
Kaptur
Kelly
Kildee
Kilmer
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Levin
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Maffei
Maloney, Sean
Marino
Massie
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Palazzo
Pascrell
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (CA)
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pittenger
Pitts
Pocan
Polis
Pompeo
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Scalise
Schiff
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Upton
Van Hollen
Vargas
Vela
Wagner
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wolf
Womack
Yarmuth
Yoho
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—129

Amash	Hastings (FL)	Neal
Andrews	Heck (NV)	Negrete McLeod
Bass	Herrera Beutler	Nolan
Benishek	Higgins	Pallone
Bishop (NY)	Holt	Pastor (AZ)
Brady (PA)	Honda	Paulsen
Burgess	Horsford	Pelosi
Capuano	Hoyer	Peters (MI)
Castor (FL)	Hudson	Peterson
Clarke	Huelskamp	Poe (TX)
Cleaver	Huffman	Posey
Coffman	Hunter	Price (GA)
Conaway	Israel	Radel
Costa	Jeffries	Rahall
Cotton	Jenkins	Reed
Courtney	Johnson (OH)	Reichert
Crawford	Johnson, E. B.	Renacci
Crowley	Jordan	Ribble
Cuellar	Joyce	Rigell
Cummings	Keating	Roybal-Allard
Davis, Rodney	Kennedy	Ryan (OH)
DeFazio	Lance	Sánchez, Linda T.
Delaney	Langevin	Sanchez, Loretta
Denham	Latham	Sarbanes
Dent	Latta	Schakowsky
Deutch	Lee (CA)	Sewell (AL)
Dingell	Lewis	Sinema
Duffy	LoBiondo	Sires
Edwards	Lowey	Slaughter
Enyart	Lynch	Terry
Fincher	Maloney, Carolyn	Thompson (CA)
Fitzpatrick	Marchant	Thompson (MS)
Foxx	Markey	Turner
Gardner	Matsui	Valadao
Gibson	McCollum	Veasey
Graves (GA)	McDermott	Velázquez
Graves (MO)	McGovern	Visclosky
Green, Al	Meehan	Walberg
Green, Gene	Meeks	Wittman
Griffin (AR)	Miller, George	Woodall
Grimm	Moore	Yoder
Gutierrez	Murphy (PA)	Young (AK)
Hanna	Napolitano	
Hartzler		

ANSWERED ''PRESENT''—2

Gohmert Owens

NOT VOTING—9

Brooks (AL)	DeLauro	Jones
Cárdenas	Frelinghuysen	Kind
Conyers	Grijalva	Rush

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1107

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

NO BUDGET, NO PAY ACT OF 2013

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 39, I call up the bill (H.R. 325) to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until May 19, 2013, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 39, the amendment printed in House Report 113–2 is considered adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 325

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 ''No Budget, No Pay Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF DEBT CEILING.

(a) SUSPENSION.—Section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, shall not apply for the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on May 18, 2013.

(b) SPECIAL RULE RELATING TO OBLIGATIONS ISSUED DURING SUSPENSION PERIOD.—Effective May 19, 2013, the limitation in section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, as increased by section 3101A of such title, is increased to the extent that—

(1) the face amount of obligations issued under chapter 31 of such title and the face amount of obligations whose principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States Government (except guaranteed obligations held by the Secretary of the Treasury) outstanding on May 19, 2013, exceeds

(2) the face amount of such obligations outstanding on the date of the enactment of this Act.

An obligation shall not be taken into account under paragraph (1) unless the issuance of such obligation was necessary to fund a commitment incurred by the Federal Government that required payment before May 19, 2013.

SEC. 3. HOLDING SALARIES OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS IN ESCROW UPON FAILURE TO AGREE TO BUDGET RESOLUTION.

(a) HOLDING SALARIES IN ESCROW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If by April 15, 2013, a House of Congress has not agreed to a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2014 pursuant to section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, during the period described in paragraph (2) the payroll administrator of that House of Congress shall deposit in an escrow account all payments otherwise required to be made during such period for the compensation of Members of Congress who serve in that House of Congress, and shall release such payments to such Members only upon the expiration of such period.

(2) PERIOD DESCRIBED.—With respect to a House of Congress, the period described in this paragraph is the period which begins on April 16, 2013, and ends on the earlier of—

(A) the day on which the House of Congress agrees to a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2014 pursuant to section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974; or

(B) the last day of the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress.

(3) WITHHOLDING AND REMITTANCE OF AMOUNTS FROM PAYMENTS HELD IN ESCROW.—The payroll administrator shall provide for the same withholding and remittance with respect to a payment deposited in an escrow account under paragraph (1) that would apply to the payment if the payment were not subject to paragraph (1).

(4) RELEASE OF AMOUNTS AT END OF THE CONGRESS.—In order to ensure that this section is carried out in a manner that shall not vary the compensation of Senators or Representatives in violation of the twenty-seventh article of amendment to the Constitution of the United States, the payroll administrator of a House of Congress shall release for payments to Members of that House of Congress any amounts remaining in any escrow account under this section on the last day of the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress.

(5) ROLE OF SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall provide the payroll administrators of the Houses of Congress with such assistance as may be necessary to enable the payroll administrators to carry out this section.

(b) TREATMENT OF DELEGATES AS MEMBERS.—In this section, the term ''Member'' includes a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.

(c) PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR DEFINED.—In this section, the ''payroll administrator'' of a House of Congress means—

(1) in the case of the House of Representatives, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives, or an employee of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer who is designated by the Chief Administrative Officer to carry out this section; and

(2) in the case of the Senate, the Secretary of the Senate, or an employee of the Office of the Secretary of the Senate who is designated by the Secretary to carry out this section.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Debate shall not exceed 1 hour with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration.

The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) each will control 20 minutes. The gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 325.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 325, the No Budget, No Pay Act of 2013. This legislation directs Members of the House and Senate to adopt a budget resolution by April 15, 2013. If either body does not adopt a budget resolution by April 15, 2013, Members of that body will have their pay withheld until they pass a budget. It's simple: no budget, no pay. The American people understand that they don't get paid if they don't do their job, and neither should Members of Congress.

In addition, to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the U.S. Government, this legislation allows Treasury to issue debt between the date of enactment and May 18, 2013. However, Treasury may only issue enough debt necessary to pay bills coming due before May 18. I want to be perfectly clear on this point: this bill does not allow Treasury to run up an unlimited amount of debt between now and May 18.

The debt authorized under this bill must be tied to bills coming due during that timeframe. Further, on May 19, a new debt limit is automatically established.

So that's what this bill does. The larger question is, why are we even talking about the debt and debt limit? Our Nation's debt is not just some abstract number. It has a direct impact

on American families. During the President's fiscal commission, the Simpson-Bowles Commission, we heard nonpartisan testimony that when the debt is this large in comparison to the economy, it costs the country the equivalent of about 1 million jobs. Think about that. If Washington got its debt and spending under control, then 1 million more Americans would be working today.

And if that wasn't sobering enough, Fitch Ratings recently warned that the failure to come up with a plan for reducing our debt would likely still result in a downgrade of the U.S. credit rating. A lower credit rating is sure to mean higher interest rates. That means higher credit card payments, higher car payments, higher student loans, and certainly higher mortgage payments.

Despite these nonpartisan warnings, the Democrat-controlled Senate has not produced a budget in more than 1,300 days. That's 4 years without a budget. How can we begin to get our debt under control when Democrats won't even produce a budget? This bill is the first step in forcing Democrats to put forward a budget so we can start holding Washington accountable for its out-of-control spending.

Every day, American families have to make decisions about their household finances. They have to adjust their spending to cover a whole host of things: groceries, student loan payments, braces for children, and a replacement for that aging refrigerator. Of course, they can't buy everything they want. Every day, they have to make tough choices.

It's time for Congress—the House and the Senate—to make some tough choices. To be honest, Mr. Speaker, this isn't a tough choice where I come from. Where I grew up, if you didn't do your job, you didn't get paid. It's time for Congress to start living with the same facts of life everyone else in America has to live with. I support the No Budget, No Pay Act because it brings back a bit of accountability and common sense to Washington. I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this bill.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I shall consume.

This Republican bill is not a change in policy. It's a change in tactics. House Republicans continue to play with economic fire. They're playing political games with the debt ceiling, and that undermines certainty.

Yesterday, economist Simon Johnson of MIT testified before our committee saying that a short-term increase would only extend uncertainty. He said:

> You will continue to undermine the private sector. You will continue to delay investment and to reduce employment relative to what it would be otherwise.

Let's, for a second, remember history, the last time the House Republicans played political games with the debt ceiling. In August 2011, our economy produced the lowest job growth in 3 years. During that 2-month period, the Dow Jones plummeted 2,000 points, including one of its worst single-day drops in history—635 points on August 8. S&P downgraded the U.S. credit rating for the first time in history.

Leading Republicans in June, 2011, criticized the notion of a short-term debt ceiling increase as providing a lack of certainty. The majority leader said:

> We feel very strongly that one of the reasons why we continue to see an ailing economy is that people have very little confidence, have very little certainty in terms of where we are headed.

Our Ways and Means chairman echoed that feeling only days later saying about the prospect of a short-term debt ceiling increase, It does not give you certainty.

This bill does not give certainty, but uncertainty.

The action we took New Year's Day to avoid the fiscal cliff brought our total deficit reduction over the past 2 years to $2.5 trillion. What's more, it set the stage for future further balanced agreements that include both spending cuts and new revenue. We should proceed with that effort, not plunge into further uncertainty.

I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1120

Mr. CAMP. I yield myself 15 seconds just to say that Standard & Poor's downgraded the U.S. credit rating on August 5, after the Budget Control Act was passed. In doing so:

> The downgrade reflects our opinion that the fiscal consolidation plan that Congress and the administration recently agreed to falls short of what, in our view, would be necessary to stabilize the government's medium-term debt dynamics.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee and chairman of the House Budget Committee, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. RYAN).

(Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. I thank the chairman.

Mr. Speaker, you know what we know with certainty? We know with certainty that a debt crisis is coming to America. This is not a question of if; it's a question of when.

What is a debt crisis? It means we can't keep living beyond our means. It means we can't keep borrowing from our children's future. Our generation of Americans, we're being selfish. We are taking from the next generation their future.

We have a moral obligation to fix that. If we have a debt crisis, those who get hurt the first and the worst are those who need government the most: our seniors, the poor, the people living on the safety net, that's who gets hurt in a debt crisis. We have an obligation to do something about this.

What does this bill do? This bill simply says: Congress do your job.

When I grew up in Wisconsin, if you had a job and you did the work, then you got paid. If you didn't do the work you didn't get paid. It's that simple. Here's the point. We have a law, and it's called the Budget Control Act. It requires that Congress pass a budget by April 15. All we're saying is: Congress, follow the law. Do your work. Budget.

The reason for this extension is so that we can have the debate we need to have. It's been a one-sided debate. The House of Representatives has passed budgets. The other body, the Senate, hasn't passed a budget for almost 4 years. We owe our constituents more than that. We owe them solutions. When both parties put their solutions on the table, then we can have a good and clear debate about how to solve the problem. The problem is not going away no matter how much we wish it away. The problem of debt, of deficits, of a debt crisis is here.

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

Mr. CAMP. I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. We owe it to our children and our grandchildren and we owe it to our constituents to fix this.

This isn't a Republican or Democrat thing. This is a math thing. And the math is vicious, and it's hurting our country, and it's hurting the next generation, and it's hurting our economy. The sooner we can solve this problem, the better off everybody is going to be. That's why this needs to pass.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 2 minutes to the ranking member of the Budget Committee, Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan.

This resolution contains some good news, but lots of bad news for the American people. The good news is that our congressional Republican colleagues have finally recognized that America must pay its bills and meet its financial obligations without condition. The bad news is they only want to do that for 3 months. Just read the title: To ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until May 19.

If it's a good idea to maintain the obligations of the U.S. Government between now and May 19, it sure is a good idea to make sure that we meet the obligations of the U.S. Government beyond that. And by setting up what amounts to another fiscal cliff, all our Republican colleagues are doing is prolonging economic uncertainty.

For the last 2 years, we've heard from our Republican colleagues that economic uncertainty is bad for the economy. Guess what? It is. Yet that's exactly what you're doing, another big dose of economic uncertainty. This is a

political effort simply to increase their negotiating strategy leverage 3 months from now at the expense of jobs in the economy and the American people.

How do we know it's at the expense of jobs in the economy? Because we saw what happened in August of 2011. As the ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee said, it was the worst month in terms of jobs. We saw our credit rating downgraded, and both GAO and the Bipartisan Policy Center have said it cost the taxpayers over $1 billion. So that's all we're doing right now, another dose of uncertainty.

To my friend and colleague, the chairman of the Budget Committee, yes, we need budgets; yes, we need to reduce our long-term deficits. That's never been the issue. The issue is how. We believe we've got to make targeted cuts in reforms, but we also believe we need to eliminate a lot of the tax breaks and loopholes that we heard a lot from our colleagues about in order to reduce the deficit in a balanced way. If you don't do that, you sock it to everybody else in the country.

Let's pass a balanced approach to reducing our deficit, and not one that takes it out at the expense of our kids and our seniors.

Mr. CAMP. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would just say that we've already increased the debt limit over $5 trillion in the Obama administration. That's an almost 50 percent increase in the debt limit.

Let me also just say that we've had several temporary short-term increases in the debt limit before there's been a more permanent longer-term increase—in 1987, in 1990, and 1996. So it is not unprecedented, the action that we're going to be taking today.

With that, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentleman from Washington State (Mr. REICHERT).

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Let me just see if I can simplify this just a little bit.

There are three branches of government. Two branches of the government have responsibility for the budget, and there are three pieces to those two branches. The White House is one—the administration needs to produce a budget; the House Republicans need to produce a budget; and the Senate Democrats need to produce a budget for the system to work.

Even though we may not agree with it on this side of the aisle, the President has produced his budget. It's increased our deficit from $11.4- to $16.4 trillion or $16.5 trillion. And some people at home may not really grasp the concept of $16 trillion. Let's just talk about $1 trillion. If we spent a dollar a second, Mr. Speaker, how long would it take us to spend that $1 trillion? It would take 36,000 years. We are 16 of those in debt. It's time for the Senate to do their job.

Even though Admiral Mullen has said our greatest national security threat is our deficit, and even though the Senate has raised their right hand and took an oath to protect and defend this great Nation of ours and defend the Constitution, they still have not acted. They still have not done their job to protect and defend, to uphold the oath that they took. Again, Admiral Mullen has said—and I repeat—that national security is at great risk because of our $16 trillion deficit.

Look, you own a home and you have a $50,000-a-year job and you're making your payments on a car and a house and you're thinking things are going just fine, but I want to add to that. I'm going to buy a new big screen TV, I'm going to put a pool table in, I'm going to buy two more cars, I'm going to put a pool in the back, I'm just going to fix the place up. All the sudden you realize, I can't pay for it.

You have some options available. You have to raise revenue. You go out and get two or three more jobs maybe, or your wife goes to work or your kids have to go to work. And that still doesn't meet your responsibilities. Then you have to stop spending, right? Stop spending.

The only other option now is to get rid of some of the stuff you can't pay for because even though you might have stopped spending and you've taken another job and you've raised some revenue, now you've got to get rid of stuff.

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

Mr. CAMP. I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Washington.

Mr. REICHERT. Let's get rid of the pool table, let's get rid of the big screen TV. We've got to start cutting things. We need to stop spending in this country. The Senate needs to do their job.

No budget, no pay.

□ 1130

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL).

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

Mr. RANGEL. I don't think anyone challenges the fact that we have to stop overspending. You just can't simplify it and say, ''Stop spending.''

The problem that we have now is that the debt ceiling has nothing to do with the full faith and credit of money that has already been spent. We'd have plenty of time to talk about taxes and spending if we'd talk about concurrent resolutions, if we'd talk about sequestration; but if what you're saying is that if there is a budget that I have to vote ''yes'' or ''no'' on and if one budget says that one way to close and reduce the deficit is to go after the people who are the poorest, the most sick, and the oldest and call that ''entitlement cutbacks'' and if I don't vote for that then it means that the government is not going to pay me, well, I can go home very easily and tell them that a bad budget is worse than no budget and that, once again, we are holding hostage the spending cuts that a lot of people want that should be negotiated.

Perhaps we've got a 3-month reprieve, but the fact remains that this is holding up the President and our country from getting on with what we should do when the fiscal impact of this in our country and throughout the world is dangerous.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentleman from New York (Mr. REED).

Mr. REED. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I rise today in support of this No Budget, No Pay proposal.

This is why we ran for office. This is why I came to Washington, D.C.—to stand for a vision that's going to attack this debt crisis that is upon us today, the debt crisis that will threaten our children and our grandchildren for generations if we do not get our fiscal house in order in Washington, D.C. It is time to put up the visions of the House Republicans versus those of the Senate Democrats as to what the proposals to move forward to solve this debt crisis are.

We owe it to the American people, to hardworking taxpayers, to be open and honest, and if my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want to stand for budgets that are all about tax increases, so be it. I believe there is a better way, and that better way will be in a House Republican budget that does the responsible thing and lays out a vision of growth and opportunity for generations to deal with this unsustainable debt crisis that is now upon us.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to another member of our committee, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT).

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, here we are with another Republican straw man out here—a bill set up to fail. The Senate has not yet adopted its rules. We don't know where the filibuster is going to be used or anything, and you're saying they have to do something by a fixed date. Now, we've had fixed dates in here as long as I've been here, and we never make them; but what we are creating is continuous chaos globally in the economic world, and what you're doing by this is simply saying, hey, let's have another big kerfuffle. We'll be out here in May, 4 months from now, making exactly the same speeches. We'll all bring out the same pieces of paper and read from them and give the same speeches, and we will continue to retard the ability of the American economy to move forward.

We cannot send the message worldwide that the United States has lost

the ability to make decisions, to pay its debts. If that's the message you want the world to get, that's what this is about today. I'm voting against this. Bring back one that lifts the debt limit and that gets it out of the way so we can get down to the cost-cutting that needs to happen.

Mr. CAMP. I yield 1 minute to a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACK).

Mrs. BLACK. As a charter member of the Fix Congress Now Caucus and as an early supporter of the No Budget, No Pay, I am very excited that this legislation will be voted on in the House in just a little bit.

We on the House Budget Committee work hard to pass a responsible budget each year, but the Democrat-controlled Senate refuses to do the same. In fact, it has been nearly 4 years since the Senate has passed a budget, and since that time, the government has racked up annual deficits exceeding $1 trillion a year and, in total, more than $5 trillion in 4 years. If we stay on this current path of record deficits, big government, and unfunded entitlement programs, Greece's present will be America's future.

A massive debt crisis is surely not the future we want for our children or our grandchildren. Fiscal responsibility and accountability in the Halls of Congress cannot wait. Today, we will take an important step in the House, forcing the Senate to either do its job or to face the consequences. It's simple: no budget, no pay.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL).

Mr. NEAL. Thank you, Mr. LEVIN.

Our job here is to educate the public, not to entertain them. They ran up deficits on the Republican side of $6 trillion during an 8-year period of time—$2.3 trillion worth of tax cuts and two wars. Now they come back today with a glitzy proposal of no work, no pay.

Institutional memory. Do you remember their term limits pledge? They invented that. They're all still here. Do you remember their line-item veto? the constitutional theorists? They got rid of that. How about that they were going to pass a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution? My dad used to say, ''At least Jesse James had enough personal respect to wear a mask.''

The people who put us into this situation are now quibbling about raising the debt ceiling when they almost broke the country with the proposals that they offered during all of those years, and never once did they deny President Bush on those proposals.

Mr. CAMP. I yield 1 minute to a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. ROSKAM).

Mr. ROSKAM. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Look, here is an opportunity. There is an opportunity to find common ground. There is an opportunity to do something that makes common sense, that is not just common ground. It is common sense to require people, if they're getting compensation, to do their jobs. It has been 4 years. Ironically, it has been since the day Rod Blagojevich, the Governor of Illinois, was indicted that the United States Senate has passed a budget, and now we have an opportunity to put pressure on the other body, which is for them to do their work.

We don't do ourselves, we don't do our children, we don't do the taxpayers any favors by creating a climate that says ''folks don't have to do their work.'' We don't get to a solution or a remedy unless we pass budgets. This is an opportunity to get on record and put the other body out into the open field so we can have a discussion and move this country on a pathway that makes sense. We ought to pass this and pass it quickly.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 1 minute to a member of our committee and chairman of our caucus, the gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA).

Mr. BECERRA. If you buy a house, you pay your mortgage—well, at least under this bill, for 3 or 4 months. If you want your kids to go to college, you take out student loans, and you'll tell the bank, well, you'll pay for 3 or 4 months, and then we can talk again. If you want to buy a car, you go in and tell the dealer, Love that beautiful new car. You take out a loan. You pay for 3 or 4 months, and then you tell the dealer, Let's talk in about 3 or 4 months about what we do with the rest of the debt.

This simply creates more uncertainty, another fiscal cliff and yet another economic case of sabotage against the American public. The party that voted for tax cuts for the wealthy, two wars, and a massive new prescription drug benefit program and that put all of the costs of that on a credit card doesn't believe it's important now to honor those obligations of paying those bills and maintaining the full faith and credit of the United States of America. Now, with this new Congress, we have a chance for a fresh start—an opportunity to find common ground, not more conflict. Instead, our Republican colleagues are threatening three strikes against the middle class, against small businesses and the U.S. economy—the U.S. default, a government shutdown, and sequestration.

Let's start talking about what really matters to Americans, the biggest deficit we face—a jobs deficit. Let's get to work putting Americans back to work. Let's be problem solvers, not problem makers. It's time to get America moving again.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG).

□ 1140

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, as I travel in my south central Indiana district, I hear frequently two simple requests from my constituents. First, they want us to get our spending and our debt under control. And, second, they want us to work together, collectively, Republicans and Democrats, to get that important job done. That's why I support this proposed legislation, H.R. 325.

The bill strikes me as eminently reasonable because it not only satisfies those simple requests; it asks us to do our job. We are required under law, as has been said before, to pass a budget. The House is required to do it, and the Senate is required to do it. The Senate has not done it for 4 years.

Now, a budget is essentially spending priorities. It lays out your vision for the future. Whatever solutions you may or may not have are revealed in a budget. It's not easy to put together a budget. Sometimes it's unpopular, but it is our duty.

So I say no budget, no pay. I'm tired of the Senate being dilatory in its responsibilities. They need to pass a budget. That's why I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to another member of our committee, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. We continue to talk past one another. The issue isn't passing a budget or not passing a budget. The issue is whether or not we're going to take fundamental steps to reform the way that we spend money around here.

The Republican budget of my good friend, Mr. RYAN, that they've passed on a couple of occasions would have required 9 trillion dollars in additional debt ceiling increase and wouldn't be balanced for two decades.

Let's stop playing games with the form, and let's sit down and work on the things we agree upon. I think the American public would support us if we took out tens of billions of dollars of unnecessary spending for redundant nuclear weapons; to reform the scandal that is the crop insurance program that incents people to plant land that they shouldn't plant and drives up losses. Let's accelerate health care reform like we're doing in Oregon that would save over a trillion dollars if it were applied nationally.

Let's get down and do it. Act, don't debate.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to a distinguished member of the Ways and Means Committee, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 325. The bill is an important step toward getting our fiscal house in order because it requires the Senate to finally pass a budget, something American families and businesses do each and every day.

The Federal Government is currently in the process of accumulating its fifth consecutive trillion-dollar deficit. We need a serious, forward-looking plan to

address the deficit. However, the Senate has gone nearly 4 years without even passing an annual budget.

Taking a year-by-year approach and addressing only discretionary spending will not solve our long-term spending problem. We must take a comprehensive, long-term approach to the Federal budget. A comprehensive approach to spending must also address the long-term solvency issues of entitlements such as Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security. Without reform, spending will remain on an unsustainable path while the Medicare and Social Security trust funds are emptied before the majority of Americans who currently are paying in even qualify to become beneficiaries of those programs.

Today's legislation will allow us to work with the Senate in achieving this long-term deficit solution we know would meet the needs of Americans.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL), a member of our committee.

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, the 14th Amendment of the Constitution states, if I may paraphrase, the public debt of the United States shall not be questioned. In other words, we don't even have the power, really, in section 4 of that amendment. Take a look at it and read it, what our objectives are, rather than bring to debate year after year whether we should raise the debt limit. We have to do our jobs.

It would be foolish if people around the world began to wonder, once again, whether or not the Congress will give the President the ability to pay the debts that we racked up. Both sides voted for much of this. The fact is that the United States, as the President said, is not a deadbeat Nation. We will pay our obligations, both to our bondholders and to seniors and veterans and the middle class.

So while I'm glad my colleagues on the other side have edged slightly away from the precipice of default, they are still leaving themselves room to backtrack if they don't get what they want. And just the fact that the conference chairperson has said if we have to shut down the government to make sure that President Obama understands that we're serious, that's almost treason, according to the 14th Amendment.

Mr. CAMP. At this time I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RODNEY DAVIS).

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 325, which is based on a very simple principle: if Congress does not pass a budget, Congress does not get paid.

We cannot start the process of controlling spending in this country without a budget. We also cannot ask hard-working taxpayers to manage their own budgets when their elected leaders fail to do so.

The House has done its work and passed a budget each of the past 2 years. The other body of this branch must do theirs if we're going to address our out-of-control spending. For nearly 4 years, the Senate has gotten away with not passing a budget, but they've found time to pass laws that increase spending. Failing to budget for our country for the past 4 years is a terrible way to run a government, and I support this bill which will pay for bills already obligated.

We have to stop the political gamesmanship that is occurring here in this town and work together to find commonsense solutions to cut spending and find savings in our budget. I look forward to passing this bill that will finally hold Congress accountable and begin putting America on a debt repayment plan and save future generations from paying for the mistakes of the past.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, how much time remains?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) has 9½ minutes, and the other gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) has 5¼ minutes.

Mr. LEVIN. I now yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND).

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation before us today solves no problems. In fact, it just maintains the great uncertainty hanging over the U.S. and the global economy—whether or not we're going to jeopardize the full faith and credit of the United States of America and default on our Nation's financial obligations for the first time in our Nation's history. I do not for the life of me understand why anyone would jeopardize that safe haven that's been established in this country.

But we all know what needs to be done to get our fiscal house in order. Both parties are going to have to lock arms and jump into the icy water and make difficult decisions together. Every bipartisan commission that has been formed to address this issue has come up with the same conclusion. There's going to have to be some additional revenue, and there's going to have to be major spending reforms in our budget to make this work.

But my friends on the other side have not been exactly up front with the American people. They've finished two national campaigns promising to restore $700 billion to the Medicare program and increase defense spending by over $2 trillion over the next 10 years. That's $2.7 trillion additional dollars in the two largest spending programs. So we do need an honest conversation about this.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 15 seconds to place in the RECORD a letter from the Executive Office of the President, a Statement of Administration Policy, that says:

> The administration would not oppose a short-term solution to the debt limit and looks forward to continuing to work with both the House and the Senate to increase certainty and stability for the American economy.

I reserve the balance of my time.

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

H.R. 325—TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF DEBT CEILING

(Rep. Camp, R–MI, and Rep. Miller, R–MI, Jan. 22, 2013)

The Administration supports a long-term increase in the debt limit that would increase certainty and economic stability. Although H.R. 325 is a short-term measure and introduces unnecessary complications, needlessly perpetuating uncertainty in the Nation's fiscal system, the Administration is encouraged that H.R. 325 lifts the immediate threat of default and indicates that congressional Republicans have backed off an insistence on holding the Nation's economy hostage to extract drastic cuts in Medicare, education, and other programs that middle-class families depend on. For these reasons, the Administration would not oppose a short-term solution to the debt limit and looks forward to continuing to work with both the House and the Senate to increase certainty and stability for the economy.

Instead of short-term management of self-inflicted fiscal crises, the President believes there is now an opportunity to strengthen the economy by putting the Nation on a sounder fiscal path. Progress has already been made towards that goal. In 2011, the President signed into law $1.4 trillion in spending reductions, not counting additional savings from winding down the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The fiscal agreement the President signed at the beginning of January increased revenue from high-income households by over $600 billion. Together with interest savings, these two steps will cut the deficit by more than $2.5 trillion over the next decade. The President has made clear that he remains willing to work with both parties in the Congress to budget responsibly and to achieve additional deficit reduction consistent with the principles of balance, shared growth, and shared opportunity.

The President has also made clear that he will not have another debate with the Congress over whether or not they should pay the bills that they have already racked up through the laws that they passed. The President has made clear that the Congress has only two options—pay their bills, or fail to do so and put the Nation into default.

H.R. 325 would temporarily allow the Congress to fund commitments to which it has already agreed. A temporary solution is not enough to remove the threat of default that Republicans in the Congress have held over the economy. The Congress should commit to paying its bills and pass a long-term clean debt limit increase that lifts self-inflicted and unnecessary uncertainty from the Nation's economy.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY), a member of our committee.

Mr. CROWLEY. I thank the gentleman from Michigan for yielding me this time.

The Budget Control Act of 2011 sets the budget for the next 10 years. It actually says it in the name of the bill: the Budget Control Act. Many of my colleagues on either side supported that bill. So we have a budget in place for 10 years. You don't like what you voted for now, I understand that. That's problematic.

But this bill before us today is not a serious proposal by House Republicans, but rather a gimmick. Even the Wall Street Journal called it a gimmick.

□ 1150

This bill does not provide certainty to the business community, the international markets or job creators here in the U.S. that the U.S. Government will pay its bills.

This bill simply sets up another GOP-manufactured crisis in 4 months, putting the economy and the creditworthiness of our Nation at risk. Instead of no cliffs, my Republican colleagues on the other side of the aisle are creating a new cliff.

The American people sent us here to work, not to play more games. But my Republican colleagues are failing America again. Only 38 of my Republican colleagues voted for the Hurricane Sandy relief. Only 85 of their Members voted to provide tax cuts to the middle class. Yet, when it comes to pushing our country over the brink, they're all in.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BOEHNER), the Speaker of the House.

Mr. BOEHNER. Let me thank my colleague for yielding, and ask my colleagues today to vote for the No Budget, No Pay Act.

You know, the promise here is pretty simple. It says that there should be no long-term increase in the debt limit until there's a long-term plan to deal with the fiscal crisis that faces our country.

Every hardworking taxpayer in America knows that they have to do a budget. Every hardworking taxpayer understands that you can't continue to spend money that you don't have.

We are committed to continue to do a budget every year. And if you think about this, it's not just that we've done a budget the last 2 years that addresses our fiscal crisis. Even when the Democrats had control, in the 2 years before that, you all did a budget. And yet, for 4 years, nearly 4 years, the United States Senate has not done a budget.

And so this bill before us is real simple. It says, Congress, if you don't do a budget, you don't get paid. I have no doubt that we're going to do our work. We're committed to doing a budget and a 10-year plan to solve our budget crisis and to balance our budget.

Frankly, I think it's time for the Senate and the White House to produce a budget that will balance over the next 10 years.

You know, most Americans would look up and go, wait a minute, why do they need 10 years to balance the budget?

But we know with baby boomers retiring, and the fact that it wasn't prepared for, it's going to take a little more time. But my goodness, we ought to be able to balance the budget in the next 10 years.

Balancing the budget over the next 10 years means that we save the future for our kids and our grandkids. It also means that we strengthen programs like Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid that can't continue to exist in the current form without some kind of controls.

It's time for Congress to get serious about this, and this is the first step in an effort to bring real fiscal responsibility to Washington. It's real simple. No budget, no pay.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), our whip.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to say to the Speaker before he leaves the floor, I believe the Speaker wants to get to a responsible agreement between our parties, between the House and the Senate, and between the Congress and the President on getting to a responsible way to reduce the budget. This bill is not that vehicle.

This bill, in my view, is an irresponsible waste of our time. This bill does not do what Republicans said they wanted to do over and over and over again, and that is give a sense of certainty to our economy, to our people, and to the international community.

This bill kicks the can down the road for 90 days one more time. This bill simply puts a leverage point another 90 days away, so that we can continue to roil this Congress, roil this country, and roil our people and our economy.

This bill is a political gimmick. This bill was cooked up a few miles from here when, frankly, the majority party said, We're in trouble. The people don't like us. Things aren't going well. How do we fix it?

Well, they came up with this gimmick, and the gimmick was, if you don't vote the way we want you to vote, we won't pay you.

Now, very frankly, the problem with that premise is that we are elected by 435 districts who have different perspectives. And my view is the overwhelming majority of us come here, work very hard on behalf of our constituents, but your constituents may not like what my constituents want. But that doesn't mean you have the right to say you're not going to get paid, Mr. HOYER, because we don't like what you're working for. If that's our premise, we are holding hostage policy in an undemocratic, dictatorial fashion.

Not only that, this 90-day kicking the can down the road has got to stop. We need to come to reality that it's not the debt limit that's the problem—and the President's absolutely right. The President has nothing to do with the debt limit. Only this House and the Senate can spend money. The President can't spend a nickel. Only this House and only this Senate.

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

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. HOYER. The other problem with this, of course, is we're now going to spend till 12:30 today discussing this critically important issue. We treat it like just a throwaway. I can't discuss the substance of this issue in the time allotted to me, nor can any other Member.

When I had a magic 1 minute, it was a little better when I was majority leader. I miss that very much.

But I urge both of us, both Republicans and Democrats, to come to grips with making the hard decision, not the political demagoguery decisions that this bill projects. Let us sit down together and come to grips with the fact that, yes, my friend, we need more revenues and, yes, we need to restrain spending and, yes, we need to restrain entitlements.

I say that as a leader of my party.

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

Mr. LEVIN. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. HOYER. But I say to all of us, you will not get there with gimmicks. You will not get there with pretense. You will not get there with irresponsibility and kick the can down the road.

I understand what you have done. You've taken your most controversial leverage point and put it at the end, rather than at the beginning of the process. But you still have the CR, and you still have the sequester, and we'll have to debate those.

What we ought to be doing is extending this debt limit for 1, 2, 4, or 6 years, or eliminating it all together. When you spend money, it has nothing to do with the debt limit and everything to do with the actions of this Congress.

Mr. CAMP. At this time I yield 1 minute to the distinguished Member from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK).

Mr. FITZPATRICK. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a gimmick. For the past, almost going on now 4 years, our colleagues in the Senate have failed in their most basic responsibility of governance, which is to pass a budget.

The people I represent back in Bucks County and Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, the families and the businesses, they wouldn't survive without being able to operate on a budget. The school districts, the municipalities, the boroughs, the townships, the county government, even the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, are all required to pass a budget that balances on time.

I'm proud to have, over the course of the past year, been advocating consistently for no budget, no pay in this House. The hardworking men and women that I represent wouldn't be paid if they didn't show up and they didn't do their job, or they didn't get their job done on time. And this place should operate no differently.

So I call on all our Members of the House, all my colleagues, to support no budget, no pay in these very difficult and troubled times.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS).

(Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

No budget, no pay. No budget, no responsibility. No stability, no confidence. No confidence, no ability to borrow, to attract investors.

H.R. 325 is a gimmick. It is a gimmick. And I've always been taught that if you have a debt, pay it. Delaying it drives up interest rates and is not the best approach to convincing investors and lenders that we have the ability to pay.

If you convince people that you don't have the ability to pay, it is more likely that they're not going to let you have what you want. That's what I've always been taught. They do not want gimmicks. They want solutions.

□ 1200

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

Mr. LEVIN. Can I ask how much time we have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) has 3 minutes remaining. The gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP) also has 3 minutes remaining.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to a member of our committee, the Congresswoman from California (Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ).

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. I want to thank my colleagues on the other side of the aisle for understanding the need to stop dancing with default. Recognizing that we can't disregard our obligations to seniors, veterans, and active military is a first big step. But this legislation doesn't create the long-term certainty that our economy needs. The small business owners that I talk to tell me that they need certainty before they can invest in their businesses and hire more employees.

Instead of providing small businesses the long-term certainty they need, the Republican-led House is just playing games. They're stringing the American public along so they can set up yet another dramatic showdown that only hurts our recovery. The mere mention of default sends markets plummeting, dries up hiring, and pulls the rug out from under consumer confidence.

Businesses in my district and all across the country can't afford more tantrums threatening defaults and government shutdowns. It's our job to find a solution and give businesses, the markets, and American families the long-term certainty they deserve. This legislation isn't a long-term solution. It's yet more irresponsible gamesmanship.

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

Mr. LEVIN. I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. DELANEY).

Mr. DELANEY. There's more cash in U.S. corporations than there's ever been in our country's history. Corporations have three things they can do with their cash: They can raise their dividends; they can buy back stock; or they can make investments.

To make investments, which require a long-term time horizon, there needs to be certainty. If we care about American families, if we want our corporations to make investments that will create jobs, we will have certainty on the debt ceiling for a reasonable period of time and we will create fiscal certainty in this country in a balanced way. By ''balanced,'' I mean additional revenues. That's what will create certainty in this country. That's what will get U.S. corporations investing.

If U.S. corporations invest, we create jobs, and that helps working families.

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

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, how much time do we have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FOXX). The gentleman from Michigan has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. LEVIN. I yield myself the balance of my time.

This isn't: no budget, no pay. This is: 3 months, no certainty. It's been said it kicks the can down the road—a road paved with uncertainty.

What this does, in a few words, is keep default hanging over the heads of this Congress and over the heads of the American economy and the American people. It's unwise to do that. We tried that in the summer of 2011. The Republicans more than flirted with it, and they flirted dangerously. Now they're pulling back.

But instead of meeting this head-on, they essentially bring a bill here that presumes that it moves us ahead, when it moves us into more and more uncertainty. This is unwise. Politically, they think it's smart policy. For the American people, it's very dumb.

Mr. CAMP. I yield myself the balance of my time.

The gentleman, my friend from Michigan, talked about certainty. And yes, there is certainty, because the Senate majority leader just announced they will take up this bill and pass it. And I think every American understands that we must get our debt and deficit under control. We've had over $5 trillion in increases in deficits in the Obama administration—almost a 50 percent increase in our national debt.

And let me just say that we have had many short-term increases in the debt limit over time. What was business as usual when the Democrats were in the majority? We had nine short-term debt increases—three of them in 1987 and six of them in 1990—before longer, more permanent debt limit increases were made. So what was business as usual for the Democrats they now call ''flirting dangerously'' for Republicans.

I think it is very important we move forward on increasing the debt limit for this limited period of time while we can then address the issues that will help affect our long-term debts and deficits, including the sequester and the continuing resolution.

When the long-term debt of the United States was lowered to a AA-plus rating on August 5, 2011, they said that the downgrade, which was after the Budget Control Act was passed, reflected their opinion that the fiscal consolidation plan that Congress and the administration recently agreed to—meaning the Budget Control Act—falls short of what, in our view, would be necessary to stabilize the government's medium-term debt dynamics, meaning we didn't do enough to address the drivers of our long-term debt. We must do that.

I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 325, to support the No Budget, No Pay Act, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 325, the No Budget, No Pay Act.

The Budget Act of 1974 requires each House of Congress to pass a budget each year by April 15. This is important, of course, because the budget that we pass is our blueprint, literally, for how we're going to spend the hard-earned tax dollars that the American people send here to Washington to run our Nation.

Today, we are in a situation where the United States Senate has not passed a budget in nearly 4 full years, leaving the American people with no idea of how the Senate intends to deal with the fiscal crisis that is facing our Federal Government. In the time since the Senate last passed a budget, the Federal Government has experienced deficits of over $1 trillion each and every year, and we have added more than $5 trillion to our national debt. Obviously, this is a very serious fiscal crisis, and the American people are demanding answers.

This legislation will allow us room to begin working on a solution that will put our Nation on a much more sound financial footing. This bill will extend our Nation's borrowing authority for 90 days to give each House of Congress, the House and the Senate, the needed time to do what they are legally required to do, which is to pass a budget to show the American people how we intend to deal with the many challenges that we face. But while giving Congress time to do its work, it also has a very important caveat associated with it that says, if we don't do what we are required to do by law, that we will not be paid. Simply put: no budget, no pay.

This idea actually came, Madam Speaker, from previous bipartisan efforts to bring fiscal responsibility to Washington. And now the President has indicated that if it reaches his desk, he will sign it, that he does not oppose it.

As well, there have been very promising indications coming out of the United States Senate from many Democratic Members that they will also step up, after 4 long years of inaction, and put forward a budget.

□ 1210

I believe that this can be the impetus today for us to begin working together to make the difficult decisions to finally address our fiscal challenges. Today, we can send that very strong message to the American people with a bipartisan vote to show that we are willing to put our paychecks on the line to meet these challenges.

Now, some are concerned about whether or not this legislation is constitutional because of the 27th Amendment's restriction that the pay of Members of Congress cannot be varied—that is really the operative phrase of that amendment, ''varied''—that it can neither be raised nor reduced until another election has taken place. This bill, Madam Speaker, was carefully crafted to comply with the requirements of the 27th Amendment.

So this is how it will work:

If either the House or the Senate does not pass a budget by April 15, the deadline, then beginning on April 16, the pay for Members of that Chamber will be placed into an escrow account and will only be paid when that Chamber—either the House or the Senate—has passed a budget or when we reach the end of the 113th Congress. The amount that Members are paid will not be reduced nor will it be raised, so we stay in strict compliance with the terms of the 27th Amendment.

There is no requirement in the 27th Amendment which states that Members have to be paid weekly, biweekly, monthly, or bimonthly or what have you, only that the pay that they receive will not vary.

Now, some have suggested that the escrow account into which the Member pay would be deposited should bear interest so that that could then, as well, be paid to the Members. This cannot happen because that would actually cause Member pay to increase, of course. It would then vary their pay, which would not be in compliance with the strict terms of the 27th Amendment.

So I am extremely hopeful, Madam Speaker, that we will successfully conclude our work in a timely basis here in the House, and I hope that this additional provision, as well, encourages the Senate to also complete our important work and pass a budget.

What we are suggesting certainly is not unreasonable. I'll tell you, I come from southeast Michigan, and one thing I can tell you that is true about the people that I am honored to serve is that they get up every single day, every morning and work hard all day, every day. They simply do not understand how Congress can fail to do our job for almost 4 years—no budget out of the Senate for almost 4 years—and yet suffer no consequences.

The American people are demanding that their Members of Congress deal effectively with the challenges we face. Our problems are real, and it's time for real solutions or real consequences.

The concept, again, very simple: no budget, no pay. When times are tight, you balance your checkbook. When you run out of money, you stop spending. When your credit card is maxed out, you cut it up or get a plan together to pay it off. And if you don't do your job, you don't get paid. These are the principles, Madam Speaker, that Americans live by, and we certainly should be no exception.

So I would urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

This bill is not a serious or viable attempt to address the debt ceiling issue and is merely another way to avoid dealing with the difficult choices we need to make.

We have been here before. We know what happens when we govern with this kick-the-can-down-the-road mentality. The most troubling effect, again, is the constitutionality of this bill is also dangerously unclear.

I was not on the floor last week when my colleagues read the Constitution. Maybe they didn't reach the 27th Amendment. I am not a constitutional attorney. I am not an attorney in any way, and I make no apologies for that. But it's real easy:

> No law, varying the compensation for the services of the Senators or Representatives, shall take effect, until an election of the Representatives shall have intervened.

''Varying'' is the, again, as my friend did say, operative word. If you aren't getting a paycheck in a month and you're going to wait for 18 months, that's varying. So it could be—and, in my opinion, it is—a constitutional problem.

But be that as it may, I do commend the majority for recognizing that Congress must pay its bills, that raising the debt ceiling isn't about spending more money, it's about paying for bills we already incurred.

There is widespread, bipartisan acknowledgement of how difficult and serious the fiscal challenges before us have become. However, this proposal is just another attempt to yet again put the discussion off for another day.

Madam Speaker, I came here and I saw the sign, ''No Budget, No Pay.'' It probably should say, ''No Budget, Delayed Pay,'' but it sounds better when you say ''No Budget, No Pay.'' That means we may not be getting paid, but we're going to get paid; it will be delayed, but we're going to get paid.

Every year in this house we do pass a budget; although, it's a budget that I can't vote for. It's a budget that hurts the middle class, the working class, the want-to-be-working class, and it also hurts the American people's safety net. We know again this year we will pass that budget. So our friends on the other side of the aisle are putting up a No Budget, No Pay quite well knowing that they will probably pass their budget and we probably will get paid.

On another thought, as my good friend, Mr. DOYLE, from Pittsburgh has said to me, why not no gun control, no pay? Why not no immigration reform, no pay? Why not no DISCLOSE Act, no pay?

So, Madam Speaker, in my opinion—and I think in a lot of my colleagues' opinion—it's a gimmick bill. No Budget, No Pay has no teeth.

With that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, before I yield time to my good colleague here, a couple of comments in regards to what my ranking member has said from the committee, why not no gun control, no pay, or using some other examples. I would just point out that none of those are required by law, as passing a budget is required by law.

Also, there was some comment again about the significance of the 27th Amendment. I would just add quickly a statement from David Rivkin, Jr., and Lee Casey. These are two constitutional attorneys that served in former administrations who say the bill passes muster. Their comment:

> It does not vary Members' compensation instead holding it in escrow until such time that a budget is passed or, at the latest, this Congress comes to an end. It is attentive to the text and structure of the Constitution.

And just one other quote. This is from another constitutional attorney, a Greg Watson—actually, a gentleman who rallied the support to pass the 27th Amendment. I will proudly point out, in 1992 it was my State of Michigan that put it over the three-fourths threshold. But at any rate, he said:

> Nowhere in such a proposal do I see any violation of the terms and provisions of the 27th Amendment. Such a proposal does not vary the dollar amount of compensation to Members of Congress. The proposal merely delays the disbursement of that dollar amount.

STATEMENT OF DAVID B. RIVKIN, JR., AND LEE A. CASEY

> Members of Congress are accountable not just to serve their constituents but also to support and defend the Constitution of the United States. The House of Representatives' debt ceiling extension furthers both. The American people expect that their elected representatives in Congress will work together to enact a budget resolution, and the House bill's approach holds them personally accountable for doing so. It honors both Article I and the Twenty-Seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution because it does not vary Members' compensation, instead holding it in escrow until such time that a budget is passed or, at the latest, this Congress comes to an end. This mechanism is a model for the way that Congress ought to work: it is creative, it is fiscally responsible, and it is attentive to the text and structure of the Constitution.

Madam Speaker, at this time I am very honored and privileged to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. HARPER), who is a distinguished member of the Committee on House Administration.

Mr. HARPER. Madam Speaker, the No Budget, No Pay portion of this bill was written specifically to ensure that it complies with the 27th Amendment

to the Constitution. The bill does not vary the amount of compensation and is, therefore, constitutional. It only changes when Representatives and Senators are paid if they fail to adopt a budget resolution, as required by law.

Currently, Representatives are paid monthly and Senators are paid twice a month. This bill simply says, if the House does not adopt a budget resolution, the Members of that House, instead, get paid at the end of that term of Congress.

In 1789, James Madison, when he introduced the 27th Amendment, spoke of preventing changes in compensation from being for the benefit of those determining them. The clear purpose of the amendment—which, as we know, was not ratified until 1992—was to prevent Members from drawing higher salaries from the public treasury without giving voters an opportunity to speak on that decision. This bill does not benefit Members at the expense of taxpayers, and it is consistent with the provisions of the 27th Amendment.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. It is my pleasure to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Vermont (Mr. WELCH).

Mr. WELCH. I thank the gentleman.

We have sharp differences in this body on taxes, on spending, on the best path forward to resolve our fiscal situation. Those are fairly legitimate debates, but there should be absolutely no daylight between us on meeting our obligation to pay our bills. There should be no linkage between the obligation to pay our bills and getting our way on contentious issues in dispute among us.

This is just like a person with a credit card who buys a refrigerator. At the end of the month when the credit card bill arrives, they've used the refrigerator, they see they're above their credit limit, they don't tear up their credit card. What they do is they stiff their credit card company.

□ 1220

We have to pay our bills. That is not negotiable. A year ago August when we went through this spectacle with this linkage, we suffered our first downgrade in the history of the country. That is outrageous. And it's going to cost taxpayers money. If we mess around with the debt ceiling, creating uncertainty as to whether this is a political tool and gimmick, a 1 percent increase in interest rates will cost the taxpayers $1 trillion.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, the reason that we have such an enormous amount of national debt, such a number that you can't even get your mind around it anymore, $16 trillion, a big component of that is because we have not been following the law in having the Senate pass a budget as we have done in this House.

I would say, having been very proud to participate and sit on the platform watching the President of the United States in his inaugural getting sworn in just the other day, one of the things that he said is that we have to address our debt and we have to work together. And today, the White House is saying they will not oppose this bill. So I am asking my colleagues to work together in a bipartisan way. Passing a budget is the foundation for us to begin to get a handle on this out-of-control spending and the deficit and the debt that we have.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I would like to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York, Hakeem Jeffries.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Over the last 2 years, the debt ceiling has been illegitimately demonized, politicized, and mischaracterized. If it were possible to give voice to the debt ceiling, it might reasonably ask the question: Where do I go to get my reputation back?

The debt ceiling is not a forward-looking vehicle designed to give the President the power to spend more. It is a backward-looking vehicle designed to give the administration the ability to pay bills that have already been incurred by the Congress.

We've all sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution. We, therefore, have a constitutional obligation to protect the full faith and credit of the United States to prevent a default and to stop holding the economy hostage to economic and ideological extremism.

The American people deserve a meaningful, long-term increase in the debt ceiling that will give us the stability to create economic growth. That is the reason why I urge a ''no'' vote on this legislative gimmick.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield 1 minute to the distinguished Democratic leader, Ms. NANCY PELOSI.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I thank him; our ranking member on the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. LEVIN; and our ranking member on Budget, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, for their leadership and the clarity they have brought to the debate on the floor today.

It's a curiosity what we have on the floor today. It's a subterfuge to distract from the matter at hand. Madam Speaker, once again, as has happened too often in the last 2 years, we have come to the floor at a moment when our Republican colleagues are threatening the full faith and credit of the United States of America and putting the stability of our economy on the line.

Too often, families and small businesses have faced uncertainty about the debt ceiling, funding our national government, our Tax Code, and the rest. Three months. Where is the certainty in 3 months? We should not even be having a debate. There should be no doubt that the full faith and credit of the United States will be honored, and that is what our Constitution says.

Too often, House Republicans have refused to acknowledge the negative impact of their action, choosing to return to the same tired, failed strategy, one that only serves to, again, weaken our economy and undermine our middle class. That track record must end.

Now, I'm hearing people say that we should go down this path of least resistance. That's what I call it. It's an easy way out, 3 months. But the fact is that that is a path to even more problems and, as Mr. CROWLEY has said, a path to another cliff.

Our country needs a clean, long-term debt ceiling increase and a bipartisan, balanced budget that protects Medicare and Social Security, invests in the future, and responsibly reduces the deficit. We all know that. We know that as we go forward to reduce the deficit we need growth in job creation, we need spending cuts, and we need revenue. Democrats have already agreed to $1.6 trillion in spending cuts. Democrats have already agreed to more than $1 trillion in Medicare savings to strengthen Medicare and to protect beneficiaries and not to affect their benefits. Democrats and Republicans came together to avert the fiscal cliff and raise revenues by de-linking the tax cut for the high end from the tax cut for the middle class.

We all agree that more can and must be done to get our fiscal house in order. But we must face the facts. Real, lasting deficit reduction will only be achieved through an approach that is balanced, fair, and focused on jobs and the prosperity of our middle class.

Unfortunately, this bill on the floor today fails to meet those standards. Americans and Members of Congress should remember two words about this legislation—two words: three months. Three months. That's how long Republicans are prepared to raise the debt ceiling. Today they really don't even address the debt ceiling issue—three months.

But Republican leaders are doing more. They have made promises to their fellow Republicans, to get their vote, to even go beyond the Ryan budget. This is like the Ryan budget on steroids. They have called this bill No Budget, No Pay. But who pays under the Republican budget? Seniors pay, ending the Medicare guarantee. Seniors, children, and people with disabilities pay, cutting Medicaid. Children pay because it will cut investments in their education, in their future, in their self-fulfillment, in the competitiveness of our country in the global economy. Veterans pay because of the gutting of our domestic spending priorities.

I don't think that we should ever link what we do here as to whether people get paid. We have a lot of work to do here. This linkage is a gimmick, it's a joke, and it's not right. It's designed to put people on the spot and say, you don't get paid, and in order to get paid, in order for Members of Congress to get paid, you must cut benefits for seniors and their Medicare guarantee, Medicaid and the rest. It's a

false link. It shouldn't even be there in the first place, and it is wrong.

Again, this proposal is a missed opportunity. It does not relieve the uncertainty faced by small businesses, the markets, and the middle class. It is a gimmick unworthy of the fiscal and economic challenges that we face. This proposal does not have certainty. It does not have growth, and it does not have my support. I urge a ''no'' vote.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. How much time do I have remaining, Madam Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has 4½ minutes remaining.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. I would like to yield 1 minute to my dear friend from right across the river from me, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS).

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

□ 1230

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, an owner of a software company is deciding whether to hire more people today, a manufacturer is deciding whether to buy a new piece of equipment, a restaurant owner is deciding whether to add more tables and jobs to her restaurant. In order for them to decide to grow, they need to know there's going to be a stable financial environment.

What we're doing today is saying to those decisionmakers, don't worry, the government is going to pay all of its bills until May 19. After that, we're not sure.

The way to reduce the deficit is, yes, fiscal restraint and adding revenue, but the way to reduce the deficit is to grow jobs in this country. The people who decide to grow jobs in this country will not make that decision in an atmosphere of financial chaos.

This bill creates another fiscal cliff. Fiscal cliffs are the problem, not the solution. The solution is economic growth.

Let's oppose this bill and oppose yet another unnecessary and contrived fiscal cliff.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York, Mr. JERRY NADLER.

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

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, the gimmick nature of this whole thing I won't elaborate on. It's been done before. The fact that this provision of withholding pay from Members of Congress is unconstitutional as it varies Members' pay is obvious. The argument that withholding pay for a year and a half or a year and three-quarters is not varying compensation. It is constitutionally laughable and beneath respect.

Secondly, this is institutionalized bribery and extortion. It should never be considered. What this provision says is if you vote the way we think you ought to vote, you'll get paid. If you vote the way we think you should not vote, you will not get paid. That's why we have this provision in the Constitution. We should not be bribing Members. We should not say to a Member that if you think the budget before you is not good for the country, vote against it and you won't get paid; if you think it's not good for the country, you better vote for it because you have a mortgage payment coming due.

How dare we.

Finally, the last thing we want to do is say to people thinking of running for the Congress, if you're not a millionaire, don't run because there's no guarantee you'll be paid.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to yield 1½ minutes to the assistant Democratic leader, Mr. CLYBURN.

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

Mr. CLYBURN. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

In 2011, the majority leader, Mr. CANTOR, said:

> We don't need to be governing in 2 month increments.

I agree.

> We don't need any more uncertainty.

I agree.

He later said:

> Uncertainty prevents entrepreneurs from taking a risk, from starting a business and creating jobs.

I agree. Governing in 3-month increments is no better. It maintains a continuous cloud of uncertainty.

We all saw the damage caused in 2011 when our Republican colleagues risked the full faith and credit of the United States. Businesses slowed and Standard & Poor's downgraded America's credit. Going down this road again will threaten our ongoing economic recovery and reverse job growth.

My Republican colleagues continue to use the American economy as leverage for their ideological agenda and creating another cliff is not an adequate solution. This is hostage-taking, and this is unacceptable.

This bill merely kicks the can down the road and does nothing to end the uncertainty facing businesses. I urge a ''no'' vote.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. As I have no more speakers, I'm prepared to close and yield myself the balance of my time.

I heard the previous speakers on the other side talk about no budget, no pay. It's no budget, delayed pay. They are trying to fool the American people by saying we're not getting paid, which is not true. We are going to be getting paid—which I doubt also—at the end of 18 months. So we're going to get paid.

The reason why I doubt that is because every year my colleagues on the other side of the aisle do pass a budget. Do we pass a budget that we can agree with? No. Do they hurt the middle class? Yes. Do they hurt the working class? Yes. Do they take away safety nets? Yes. Do they hurt our veterans? Yes.

Without question, I will make a bet with anybody who would like to that there will be a budget passed in this session. When that happens, they will try to put some pressure on the Senate, which can easily pass anything they want to pass, and then that makes this no budget, no pay, no teeth.

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

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I would just say this, Madam Speaker: what we're hearing from our Democratic colleagues here in the House is really a complete disconnect from what we're hearing from their Senate colleagues about this particular bill.

You have House Democrats saying that this bill is nothing but a gimmick. I've heard it said that this bill is a joke. In other words, it is a gimmick or a joke to suggest that Congress should follow the law.

I think that's different than what Senate Democrats have been saying very vocally, that this bill actually would give them an opportunity to pass a budget and the White House saying that they won't oppose it. Again, it's a complete disconnect from my colleagues here on the floor, some that I'm hearing on the other side there. I would say more pointedly that it's a complete disconnect from what the American people have as an expectation for their government, which is to follow the law, to pass a budget, to get a handle on our debt and our spending, and to prioritize our spending.

Again, a budget is a blueprint for a path forward. It speaks to the American people of the priorities of their Congress, of their government. We will have lots of other opportunities to address this terrible national debt.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support No Budget, No Pay. The idea behind No Budget, No Pay came from a Nashvillian who approached me two years ago and said, "I don't get paid if I don't do my job, and do it on time. Why should Congress be any different?" I agreed, and I introduced No Budget, No Pay in 2011 during the last Congress with the help of the important non-partisan reform group No Labels. I reintroduced the bill, H.R. 310, last Friday, with 48 original cosponsors, 19 Democrats and 29 Republicans.

The purpose of No Budget, No Pay is to get Congress to do its essential budgeting work on time. This means pay-for-performance, a new concept here on Capitol Hill. Getting the job done on time is a fundamental American principle yet one that has been forgotten in

our nation's Capitol. Our No Budget, No Pay proposal aligns incentives of elected officials with those of our citizens back home so that we will start completing our work on time in order to get paid. The purpose of this bill is not punishment, but performance.

We are in an interesting parliamentary situation today because, after stonewalling by both political parties, the Republican Party has now, suddenly and without hearings, adopted a diluted version of No Budget, No Pay for immediate floor consideration. Thankfully, the Democratic Party has decided not to make this a partisan issue, freeing members to vote as their conscience tells them.

I am not defending Republican floor procedures, or the modifications they made to my bill. But the important point is that reform of Congress is long overdue, and this is the way to start, with a new type of reform that brings Congress back in line with the values and the work ethic of the American people. No work, no pay. No budget, no pay.

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 325, the No Budget, No Pay Act of 2013.

It frustrates me to no end that my Republican colleagues still have not learned their lesson from their earlier failures on matters of similar character. The American people want results, not political gimmicks, which is precisely what this bill is. H.R. 325 does nothing to ensure the long-term stability of markets, promote sustainable economic growth, and protect the credit rating of the United States. Very much the opposite, it is a ''gotcha bill'' that allows House Republicans to thumb their noses at the Senate and blame it for faults in which House Republicans share. I have never been a great lover of the other body, but now is not the time for petulant antics. Now is the time for action in the public interest.

I urge my colleagues to vote down H.R. 325. We have time enough—though not much—to negotiate a bipartisan increase to the debt ceiling that is not just another stopgap measure creating new problems and risks in the immediate future. That will require good faith and hard work by all who choose to be involved. I choose so, and I hope my colleagues do as well.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, this measure will continue to ensure funding for all federal government obligations and allow the government to continue its day to day operations through May of 2013.

The U.S. Constitution is clear on the subject of the debt limit. Section 4 of the 14th Amendment states in clear language that: ''the validity of the public debt of the United States . . . shall not be questioned.''

The American people and our economy are being held hostage to gimmicks driven by polls, and unfettered brinkmanship. On the cusp of the inauguration of our 44th President—a glorious occasion—the people deserve better.

Americans want a clean debt limit increase, which has been done numerous times, but the normal process by which the Treasury Secretary consults with the President and Congress seems to have hit a major roadblock. This obstructionist governing is based on a practice that seems to put ideology over pragmatism.

The President has stated:

''The Administration supports a long-term increase in the debt limit that would increase certainty and economic stability. . .Instead of short-term management of self-inflicted fiscal crises, the President believes there is now an opportunity to strengthen the economy by putting the Nation on a sounder fiscal path. Progress has already been made towards that goal.''

I would hope that my colleagues on the other side realize that these are trying times for the American people and brinkmanship is not the answer. This body must come up with a sensible solution to the pressing financial problems which plague our economy.

It is truly shameful that during the beautiful transcendent inaugural weekend, in which many of my Houston constituents were able to come and enjoy Washington, DC, hospitality; capped off by the celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday, Congress is back to the same bad sportsmanship which has crippled this body to the point of gridlock.

The measure provides funding authority for the first five months of 2013, through May 2013, to allow the government to service debts and obligations which we have previously incurred.

This legislation is filled with gimmickry because it would require House Members' salaries to be held in escrow if we House do not adopt a budget resolution and Senators' salaries to be held in escrow if the Senate doesn't do the same. It appears that my colleagues on the right have opted for form over substance.

We cannot continue to hold our Nation hostage, keeping the benefits of recipients of Social Security, Medicaid, and Medicare who have must have sleepless nights because they are worried about the disappearance of their monthly checks.

I support a long-term increase in the debt limit that would increase certainty and economic stability. The bill before us this morning, H.R. 325, is a short-term measure with unnecessary complications, needlessly perpetuating uncertainty in the Nation's fiscal system, though I would note that the Obama administration has given somewhat tepid support, and only because H.R. 325 lifts the immediate threat of default and indicates that my Congressional Republican colleagues have backed off an insistence on holding the Nation's economy hostage to extract drastic cuts in Medicare, education, and other programs that middle-class families depend on.

My colleagues want to buy time so that they can figure out how to squeeze the American taxpayer even more by devising bone-crunching cuts and slashes to entitlement programs—all of which is driven by rabid ideology—as opposed to sitting down and working with Democrats to come up with reasonable budget reforms which do not hurt seniors and the disadvantaged.

That is why Madam Speaker, I submitted an Amendment to the Rules Committee yesterday which:

''Establishes that it is the sense of Congress that the safety net for the most vulnerable among us, the 15.1 percent of Americans living below the poverty line which includes 21 percent of our nation's children, must be protected in any budget negotiations.''

Madam Speaker, Social Security is currently the only source of income for nearly two-thirds of older American households receiving benefits, and roughly one-third of those households depend on Social Security for nearly all of their income.

Half of those 65 and older have annual incomes below $18,500, and many older Americans have experienced recent and significant losses in retirement savings, pensions, and home values. Today, every dollar of the average Social Security retirement benefit of about $14,800 is absolutely critical to the typical beneficiary.

Contrary to some claims, Social Security is not the cause of our nation's deficit problem. Not only does the program operate independently, but it is prohibited from borrowing. Social Security must pay all benefits from its own trust fund.

If there are insufficient funds to pay out full benefits, benefits are automatically reduced to the level supported by the program's own revenues.

For reasons like these, I may not oppose a short-term solution to the debt limit and look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues here in the House and the Senate to provide certainty and foment stability for the economy.

I would add that instead of short-term management of self-inflicted fiscal crises, I truly believe we have an opportunity to strengthen the economy by putting the Nation on a sounder fiscal path.

Progress has already been made towards that goal. In 2011, the President signed into law $1.4 trillion in spending reductions, not counting additional savings from winding down the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. We need to seize this template and move forward—not backwards.

The fiscal agreement the President signed at the beginning of January increased revenue from high-income households by over $600 billion. Together with interest savings, these two steps will cut the deficit by more than $2.5 trillion over the next decade. We should have done more to address our revenue problem.

The President has made clear that he remains willing to work with both parties in the Congress to budget responsibly and to achieve additional deficit reduction consistent with the principles of balance, shared growth, and shared opportunity.

The President has also made clear that he will not have another debate with the Congress over whether or not they should pay the bills that they have already racked up through the laws that they passed. The President has made clear that the Congress has only two options—pay their bills, or fail to do so and put the Nation into default. And I am in complete agreement.

According to the Bipartisan Policy Center, spending for Medicare and Medicaid is projected to increase from 21 percent of non-interest federal spending in 2010 to 31 percent by 2020. The numbers are wonkish sounding but in terms of real dollars, the increase is mammoth. That is why we must address the spending issue in earnest but not using the paltry monthly income of seniors to pay for yachts for millionaires.

National spending on health care has grown about 2 percentage points per year faster than GDP over time. Federal revenues, however, have not kept pace, growing at roughly the same rate as GDP.

As a result, federal deficits will be driven upward by federal health programs unless their rate of growth is tamed. This discrepancy must be dealt with sooner rather than later, but no matter how you couch it, there is no better translation than the word: b-r-o-k-e.

I hasten to add that community health centers provide much needed, high-quality healthcare to over 20 million Americans. These centers are able to serve vulnerable portions of the American population, including racial and ethnic minorities, as well as rural and low-income Americans.

I want to give some pertinent facts about my district and why the certainty provided by H.R. 325 is so important.

The Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown Metropolitan Area consists of 10 counties: Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, San Jacinto and Waller.

The Houston metro area:

It ranks sixth among U.S. metropolitan statistical areas with a population of 5,867,489 as of mid–2009, and it covers more than 10,000 square miles, and has a gross product of $403.8 billion, according to The Perryman Group. This area recorded 2.54 million payroll jobs in November 2010, more than the job counts of 31 U.S. states, including Arizona, Colorado and Alabama.

The Houston economy has experienced a resurgence but let's remember the economic history:

The recession hit Houston in September '08. Our region lost 152,800 jobs through January '10. We began to recoup jobs starting in February that year and by October '11, the region had gained 153,000 jobs, or 101.1 percent of what we lost in the recession.

And though Houston faces some challenges in the near term, the long-term outlook is bright. The challenges are those of managing growth rather than economic stagnation. The long-term outlook for the Houston metro area is positive, and steady growth will be the norm for Houston for the foreseeable future. What Houston cannot afford right now is continued uncertainty from Washington, D.C.

Moreover, given the uncertainty of final funding decisions and the possibility that across-the-board spending cuts will occur in March unless Congress and the President can reach agreement to prevent the currently scheduled "sequester," it is critical that we work towards bipartisan solutions to our nation's financial woes.

Given the U.S. economy is showing signs of progress, it is crucial that we continue to fund government programs without interruption.

Lastly, as a Senior Member of the Homeland Security and Judiciary Committees I understand the importance of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection mission to enforce drug, trade and travel laws in efforts to keep our borders safe; and the importance of ensuring that our nation remains safe from terrorists and others who would do harm to our nation.

In summation, I urge my colleagues to reject this poll-driven exercise in futility and give a clean debt ceiling vote so that the American people can carry-on with the business of achieving prosperity.

This is not a new law, new outlay, or some random exercise in the fulfillment of the Obama Doctrine. In fact, according to the Congressional Research Service, since March 1962, Congress has enacted 76 separate measures that have altered the limit on federal debt. Typically, the Treasury Secretary consults with the President and Congress, and the limit has been subsequently raised to accommodate our fiscal needs.

And I close with the sacred words from our Constitution. Section 4 of the 14th Amendment states in clear language that: "the validity of the public debt of the United States . . . shall not be question."

And the President himself was transparent and sincere when he stated:

"H.R. 325 would temporarily allow the Congress to fund commitments to which it has already agreed. A temporary solution is not enough to remove the threat of default that Republicans in the Congress have held over the economy. The Congress should commit to paying its bills and pass a long-term clean debt limit increase that lifts self-inflicted and unnecessary uncertainty from the Nation's economy."

I echo President Obama's words and wish that this House gets its house in order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 39, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman opposed to the bill?

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. I am opposed in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Murphy of Florida moves to recommit the bill H.R. 325 to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Add at the end the following new section:

SEC. 4. PROTECTING VETERANS, TROOPS, AND SENIORS FROM BENEFIT CUTS AND COST INCREASES.

A concurrent resolution on the budget shall not be taken into account under section 3 if the concurrent resolution provides for—

(1) any cut in benefits for veterans, members of the Armed Forces, or their families; or

(2) any cut in benefits for seniors, including—

(A) the elimination of guaranteed health insurance benefits for seniors or people with disabilities;

(B) the conversion of Medicare into a voucher plan that provides limited payments to seniors or people with disabilities to purchase health care in the private health insurance market;

(C) cuts in Medicaid health insurance benefits;

(D) cuts in nursing home care; or

(E) privatization of Social Security benefits.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I reserve a point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A point of order is reserved.

The gentleman from Florida is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his motion.

□ 1240

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, this is the final amendment to the bill, which will not kill the bill or send it back to committee. If adopted, the bill will be amended and immediately proceed to final passage.

I appreciate that the Republican leadership has put forward legislation that would raise the Nation's debt ceiling, agreeing that it is not an option for the United States to default on its obligations. I also support that Members of Congress should not be paid if they do not do their jobs, part of which is to pass a responsible budget, but I do not agree with the political gamesmanship of, once again, playing politics with our serious fiscal issues and using short-term gimmicks rather than working to find long-term solutions. We need to stop playing games with the debt ceiling and spend our time and energy on job creation.

I supported a clean debt limit bill. However, because in this version congressional pay has been tied directly to passing a budget, it is important to ensure that the budget that is passed is responsible and protects our most vulnerable citizens.

My amendment would not kill the underlying legislation. It would merely add commonsense protections to the bill for members of our Armed Forces, our veterans, and our seniors from the budget-cutting process. Anyone who supports the underlying legislation has no reason to not also support this amendment. If adopted, the debt limit would still be raised to allow the government to pay its obligations through May 19, and Members of Congress would still have their pay withheld if they fail to agree to a budget resolution by April 15. The amendment simply clarifies that the budget resolution protects our troops, veterans, and seniors.

I recently visited the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center and spoke with both veterans and staff. I heard their very real fears that their benefits, which they fought for, would be threatened by the political gamesmanship in Washington. I saw that same anxiety in the eyes of seniors I recently spoke to from Nettles Island on the Treasure Coast, who worry that cuts to Medicare and the privatization of Social Security could lead to a choice between a meal or medicine. After hearing these concerns, I expressed time and time again throughout my district that I could not understand why anyone would oppose amending the underlying legislation to ensure veterans, troops, and seniors are protected from devastating cuts.

Madam Speaker, this amendment language should have the full support of the House. It simply states that we cannot cut benefits for veterans or members of the Armed Forces or cut benefits for seniors and that we will not gamble our grandparents' futures on Wall Street or turn Medicaid into a for-profit voucher system designed more to help out the big corporations than those who are struggling or disabled.

I also want to express my disappointment that the underlying legislation is another short-term fix when our country needs long-term solutions. I spoke to several business groups last week, and they want stability from our government. If they had certainty, they would begin investing capital back into our economy rather than sitting on it. Our dysfunctional Congress is to blame for slowing our recovery.

Now is the time to work together with courage and purpose and come to a grand bargain that will protect America's greatness for generations to come. Our Nation cannot afford to continue down the path of such fiscal irresponsibility. Such piecemeal approaches will not address our country's long-term fiscal health. Rather, we must look at reducing spending, generating revenue, lowering unemployment, addressing the long-term sustainability of Social Security and Medicare, and creating additional economic growth through job creation.

A real fix to America's long-term fiscal issues and deficit reduction can only come by truly coming to the table without personal agendas and with the recognition that America needs less political gamesmanship and more leadership. Unfortunately, the underlying legislation in its current form falls short of what our country desperately needs.

That is why I hope my amendment will be adopted here today as a first step towards putting aside partisanship and, instead, protecting our veterans, troops, and seniors. While the underlying legislation is not perfect and while it is not the grand bargain we were hoping for, it would show that there is willingness in the 113th Congress for compromise. As we move forward from the debate over the debt limit and on to other pressing fiscal issues, we can no longer settle for short-term approaches to our public policy but, instead, work together to come to the grand bargains that will ensure America continues to be the greatest country for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, my amendment is an opportunity to show the American people that this Congress is willing to work together and compromise to address our fiscal issues and to protect our troops, veterans, and seniors. I urge my colleagues to vote in support of my commonsense amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I withdraw my point of order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The reservation is withdrawn.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, as I read this motion to recommit, it says that the concurrent resolution on the budget shall not do this, shall not do that, shall do this, shall do that. This debate belongs when we do the budget. We're not at the budget yet.

Look, I'm glad people are excited about actually debating a budget. That's wonderful. Let's hold that enthusiasm until we actually are debating a budget. The purpose of this bill is to actually get us to have that debate, to have a budget.

What's frustrating for Democrats and Republicans in the House, I would like to say, is that the other body hasn't been doing a budget for 4 years. The minority, to their credit, brought a budget to the floor. The majority has brought a budget to the floor and passed it both of the last 2 years. The Senate, no budget. So what we decided to do was to take a piece of legislation from the minority, from a member of the minority—the No Budget, No Pay legislation—and add it to this so that we can get to debating this Nation's fiscal house, which is not in order, Madam Speaker.

So all I would say is we should defeat this motion to recommit. It is premature, and it is prejudging a budget that does not yet exist. So let's get rid of this motion to recommit and be serious about this short-term extension so that we can make sure that we have the debate we deserve.

How are we going to prevent a debt crisis? How are we going to balance the budget? How are we going to have growth and opportunity in this society? How are we going to save Medicare? How are we going to make sure that we can pay our bills and stop our government from living beyond its means? How are we going to secure a future for our children and our grandchildren?

That's the debate surrounding the budget. This is premature. It applies to a budget that hasn't even been written yet and which will be written on a baseline that doesn't even exist yet. So let's defeat this motion to recommit—it's silly, it's partisan, it's process—and move on to the underlying bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote on the question of passage.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 151, nays 277, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 29]

YEAS—151

Andrews
Barber
Barrow (GA)
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Carney
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Cooper
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Davis (CA)
DeFazio
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Higgins
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Markey
Matheson
McCollum
McIntyre
McNerney
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pastor (AZ)
Pelosi
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Schakowsky
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Watt
Waxman
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—277

Aderholt
Alexander
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Bass
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capuano
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Conyers
Cook
Costa
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Cummings
Daines
Davis, Danny
Davis, Rodney
DeGette
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Himes
Holding
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa

Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
Lee (CA)
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Meeks
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Palazzo
Pascrell
Paulsen
Payne
Pearce
Perlmutter
Perry
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Radel
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Richmond
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schiff
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Veasey
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Wasserman Schultz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—3

Cárdenas
Rush
Waters

□ 1310

Messrs. LATTA, OLSON, PERRY, Ms. BASS, Messrs. SERRANO, ADERHOLT, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Messrs. PAYNE, McDERMOTT, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Messrs. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, CUMMINGS, McGOVERN, CARSON of Indiana, CLAY, RICHMOND, AL GREEN of Texas, PERLMUTTER, THOMPSON of California, Mrs. McCARTHY of New York, Messrs. MORAN, SCHIFF, RUPPERSBERGER, and BLUMENAUER changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. HUFFMAN, POLIS of Colorado, McNERNEY, GUTIERREZ, and BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

Mr. COHEN changed his vote from ''present'' to ''nay.''

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 285, noes 144, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 30]

AYES—285

Aderholt
Alexander
Amodei
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boehner
Bonner
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks (IN)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Cicilline
Coffman
Cole
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Connolly
Cook
Cooper
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
Delaney
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Ellmers
Enyart
Esty
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallego
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hahn
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holding
Horsford
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Israel
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jordan
Joyce
Keating
Kelly
Kilmer
Kind
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Latham
Latta
Lewis
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Lummis
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meadows
Meehan
Meng
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Moran
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Neal
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
O'Rourke
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Perry
Peters (CA)
Peterson
Pittenger
Pitts
Polis
Pompeo
Price (GA)
Quigley
Radel
Rahall
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Scalise
Schneider
Schock
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stutzman
Takano
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Upton
Valadao
Vela
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Waxman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NOES—144

Amash
Andrews
Bachmann
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Capuano
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Chu
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Collins (GA)
Conyers
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeGette
DeLauro
DesJarlais
Dingell
Doyle
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Garcia
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Grayson
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hanabusa
Hastings (FL)
Heck (NV)
Herrera Beutler
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
King (IA)
King (NY)
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lofgren
Lowey
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Maloney, Carolyn
Massie
Matsui
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
Meeks
Miller, George
Moore
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Negrete McLeod
Neugebauer
Pallone
Pascrell
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (MI)
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Poe (TX)
Posey
Price (NC)
Rangel
Richmond
Rohrabacher
Roybal-Allard
Ryan (OH)
Salmon
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stockman
Swalwell (CA)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Turner
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Welch
Williams
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth
Yoho

NOT VOTING—3

Cárdenas
Green, Gene
Rush

□ 1320

Messrs. BROOKS of Alabama, DUNCAN of Tennessee and GUTIERREZ changed their vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So 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. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 30, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 42

Resolved, That the following named Members be and are hereby elected to the following standing committees of the House of Representatives:

(1) COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.—Mr. Courtney.

(2) COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET.—Mr. Schrader.

(3) COMMITTEE ON ETHICS.—Mr. Pierluisi, Mr. Capuano, Ms. Clarke, and Mr. Deutch.

(4) COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM.—Mr. Danny K. Davis of Illinois, Mr. Cárdenas, Mr. Horsford, and Ms. Michelle Lujan Grisham of New Mexico.

(5) COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS.—Mr. Barber, Ms. Kuster, and Mr. Murphy of Florida.

(6) COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.—Mr. Walz.

Mr. BECERRA (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ADJOURNMENT TO FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2013

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Friday, January 25, 2013, and when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, January 29, 2013.

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

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42–43), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution:

Mr. SAM JOHNSON, Texas

Mr. COLE, Oklahoma

APPOINTMENTS—OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ETHICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the Speaker's appointment, pursuant to section 4(d) of House Resolution 5, 113th Congress, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, of the following individuals to serve as the Governing Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics:

Nominated by the Speaker with the concurrence of the minority leader:

Mr. Porter J. Goss, Florida, Chairman

Mr. James M. Eagen, III, Colorado

Ms. Allison R. Hayward, Virginia

Mr. Bill Frenzel, Virginia, Alternate

Nominated by the minority leader with the concurrence of the Speaker:

Mr. David Skaggs, Colorado, Co-Chairman

Mrs. Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, California

Ms. Karan English, Arizona

Mr. Mike Barnes, Maryland, Alternate

□ 1330

MARCH FOR LIFE

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, Friday marks the annual March for Life, and I look forward to joining the thousands of constituents that will journey to Washington to be the voice of the unborn and champions for their protection. Without abortion, we can only imagine what cures, innovations, and discoveries we would have today from those aborted babies who did not grow up to fulfill the purpose that God had for them.

Our country is founded on the principles of Judeo-Christian ethics, including dignity of human life and life is an unalienable right. If we do not respect and protect the born and the unborn, all other values and morals are meaningless.

The dignity of human life is the first principle of any civilized society. Abortion is contrary to one of the basic foundations in this great Nation of equal rights for all and special exemption for none. Abortion is contrary to the beliefs held by most Americans that it is right and moral to help those who are in need and vulnerable. The innocent unborn are among the most vulnerable.

Thank you to the hundreds of thousands who will be in Washington on Friday to march for this country's most vulnerable, the unborn.

THE PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

(Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Paycheck Fairness Act, which is being introduced today by its long-time champion, Congresswoman ROSA DELAURO.

I am proud to join her and my colleagues in supporting this critical legislation which now protects women in the workforce by strengthening the Equal Pay Act by banning retaliation against workers who discuss their wages, helping employees challenge unequal pay and making available remedies for discriminatory practices.

We all know that women make 77 cents for every dollar earned by men. The number has been repeated often, especially in this House, which has passed Paycheck Fairness twice to correct this injustice.

And in this tough economy, now more than ever before, women are the last line of economic defense for themselves and their children, working to keep a roof over their family's heads and food on the table.

That is why we need the Paycheck Fairness Act without delay. It is time for the Congress to act and give women a fighting chance to receive fair pay for their hard work. It's time to get this legislation to the President's desk.

NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK

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

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National School Choice Week, which has grown from 200 organizations and 150 events in 2011 to 500 organizations and more than 3,500 events this year.

National School Choice Week highlights the benefits of school choice and the need to provide meaningful school options to students and families across this country. The school choice movement is based on one essential truth: that when parents have a choice, kids have an opportunity. School choice programs empower parents so they can send their kids to schools that best meet their needs.

As the former president of School Choice Indiana, I am proud of the more than 10,000 Hoosier children who have better opportunities today because of Indiana's school choice programs. Those programs work, and I will work for their continued expansion as a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Mr. Speaker, school choice is an idea that transcends ideology and party affiliation, providing opportunities that every child deserves.

EXPORT LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS

(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, there is good news about energy. We have untapped natural resources here at home. In the United States, we have natural gas that can be turned into liquefied natural gas. Other nations don't have this. We have so much natural gas that we can export it by selling it as LNG. Not only will exporting LNG bring money and energy back home; it will create jobs. This means jobs and capital for Americans and American companies.

Even the Department of Energy says that expanded export of LNG will benefit the United States economy. In 2010, the oil and natural gas industry added $476 billion to our economy. To

top it off, the oil and natural gas industry employs 9.2 million people in America. We are missing out on this opportunity by not exporting LNG. We've ignored this opportunity far too long. Let's stop relying on Middle Eastern nations and use more natural gas and export it as LNG.

And that's just the way it is.

NO BUDGET, NO PAY FOR MR. REID

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

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, growing up back home on the farm in Indiana, we all knew that ''if you don't work, you don't eat.'' Unfortunately, that doesn't hold true if you're the majority leader in the United States Senate.

It's been 4 years since Senate Majority Leader HARRY REID has brought a budget to the floor of the United States Senate. You could build the Pentagon three times in that timeframe. It's time to pass a budget out of the United States Senate, and Senator REID should not be paid until it's done.

The House has acted responsibly. We've met our deadlines, and we have set our priorities. I was part of the House Budget Committee when we put together budgets that tried to get our out-of-control spending under control and rein in our $16 trillion of debt. The Senate has not acted one time in that timeframe.

It's time to make the hard choices and do the work necessary to restore fiscal responsibility to Washington. It's time for Senator REID to pass a budget or withhold his paycheck.

RECOGNIZING EDEN PRAIRIE POLICE 40TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Eden Prairie Police Department as they celebrate their 40th anniversary this year. Since the creation of the Public Safety Department in December of 1972, the Eden Prairie community has been safer and stronger because of the wonderful work of its police officers.

A police department that started with only five officers, a secretary and two patrol cars has grown to be a thriving pillar of our community, employing more than 60 officers today.

Every day, I am amazed by the hard work of police departments and officers across Minnesota, but I am particularly and especially proud of my hometown Eden Prairie Police Department and would like to congratulate them and all of its officers on an impressive 40 years serving our community.

To Chief Reynolds and every Eden Prairie police officer, past and present, thank you for your service and also thank you for providing for our continued safety.

HENRY CLAY, THE GREAT COMPROMISER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CRAMER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, when I graduated from Henry Clay High School in Lexington, Kentucky, just over 20 years ago, I had little notion that I would stand before you today occupying the seat which the Great Compromiser himself once held.

Henry Clay was first elected to this House in 1811 becoming the only person elected as Speaker the same day he took office. During his remarkable four decades on the national stage, he steered America through a daunting array of crises, each of which might have shattered the Union absent his remarkable leadership.

Indeed, Henry Clay demonstrated that an unwavering dedication to principle and a practical commitment to compromise are not incompatible values. They are, instead, the tools of statesmanship, the implements of progress, and the guardians of freedom.

He was Abraham Lincoln's ''beau ideal of a great man.'' Eulogizing Clay in 1852, Lincoln called him ''the man for a crisis,'' declaring that Clay ''desired the prosperity of his countrymen partly because they were his countrymen, but chiefly to show the world that freemen could be prosperous.

Henry Clay understood the indispensable link between liberty, prosperity, and basic human dignity. His struggle to harness our system of checks and balances to serve these goals echoes across the generations. The process was messy, and the path ahead was fraught with danger and uncertainty; but the Great Compromiser governed in the national interest without comprising himself or forgetting who sent him there.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored, indeed I am awed, by the legacy of Henry Clay and the exceptional men who followed him; but I did not come here as the self-styled heir to that legacy.

□ 1340

Instead, I came here as a father concerned about his children's future. I came here as a Kentuckian determined to fight for my State's signature industries. And I came here as an American committed to restoring the American Dream.

My district, in central and eastern Kentucky, offers a panoramic view of the values, dreams, and passions that have animated our Nation since its beginnings. Historically anchored in Kentucky's bluegrass region, the Sixth District now extends to the Appalachian foothills, bordering the coalfields of the Cumberland Plateau.

We are perhaps most recognized as the horse capital of the world. Indeed, the world came to Kentucky just over 2 years ago when Lexington hosted the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. Yet that event offers just the latest example of our State's deep integration with the global economy.

Georgetown, Kentucky, is home to the largest Toyota manufacturing facility outside of Japan, a facility which provides 7,000 well-paying jobs that produces the Camry, the most popular American-made car in the United States.

These jobs in turn rely upon some of the lowest electricity costs in the Nation, which Kentucky's coal industry makes possible. Having endured the astonishing assault of the war on coal during the last 4 years, Kentucky's coal industry continues to offer the reality of affordable energy today and the promise of an affordable, reliable, and clean source of American energy for centuries to come.

Kentuckians are also capitalizing upon our State's enormous potential for tourism through creative initiatives like the Bourbon Trail, which now draws an estimated 400,000 visitors every year. We are introducing the world to our special distilling heritage.

The Sixth District offers a number of historic treasures, such as Daniel Boone's settlement, Fort Boonesborough, and in Frankfort, even our new State capitol and executive mansion are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Plus, tourists and residents alike can enjoy natural attractions of stunning majesty, such as Red River Gorge, Natural Bridge, and Cave Run, which provide almost limitless opportunities for outdoor recreation.

The Sixth District also remains home to a diverse and thriving agricultural economy. We are best known for tobacco, but many people may not know that Kentucky possesses more head of cattle than any State east of the Mississippi.

These industries are supported with colleges and universities filled with outstanding teaching and research professionals. Institutions like the University of Kentucky—my alma mater—Eastern Kentucky University, Transylvania University, Kentucky State University, Georgetown College, Midway College, and the members of our community and technical college system.

The University of Kentucky is well-known for its proud tradition of college basketball, having won eight national championships, most recently in 2012.

Underlying all of these success stories is the unique pride and attachment to place that distinguishes Kentuckians wherever you find us. Our State's pioneer heritage survives as the wellspring of our determination to survive and excel against overwhelming odds. No matter the challenge, we will persevere. We will lead. And with God's help, we will prosper together.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled beyond measure to represent a people who embody the spirit, the generosity, and the creativity that define America's greatness. I pray that my service proves equal to their trust.

Through the lens of time, Henry Clay appears larger than life, yet our Republic has a habit of producing the right men and women at the right time. Together, let's strive after Henry Clay's model of leadership. Given the gravity of our challenge, each of us must.

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

TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WOLF) is recognized for the remainder of the hour.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, more than 4 months have passed since the terrorist attacks in Benghazi, which killed four Americans, including our ambassador, injured many others, and destroyed two U.S. facilities. Yet, despite the months that have passed, we're hardly closer to bringing those responsible to justice than we were in the weeks immediately following the attack. Put bluntly, the lack of progress in identifying and hunting down the terrorists responsible is stunning.

Consider the current state of the Obama administration's investigation and response to the attack:

Four months later, the administration still cannot or will not name the terrorist groups responsible for the attacks or the names of these group leaders;

Four months later, despite consulate video footage that many Members of Congress have seen and many eyewitnesses, not a single Benghazi terror suspect is in custody;

Four months later, the FBI has had access to only one suspect, Ali Harzi, for just 3 hours, and the Tunisian Government kept the FBI team waiting for more than 5 weeks before finally granting access;

Four months later, the administration still has not disclosed the serious connections between the groups behind the Benghazi attack and the leaders of the attack on the U.S. embassies in Cairo, Tunis, and Sana'a that same week of September 11;

Four months later, following the release of the Pickering report on State Department failures leading up to the attack, not a single State Department employee has been fired and held responsible for their role in denying adequate security for the consulate in Benghazi;

Four months later, despite Secretary Clinton's September 21 declaration when she said, ''What happened was a terrorist attack, and we will not rest until we have tracked down and brought to justice the terrorists who murdered four Americans,'' this administration seems to have not only rested, but to have moved on and apparently hopes that the Congress and the American people will too.

Just today, the New York Times is reporting:

> Several Egyptian members of the squad of militants that lay bloody siege to an Algerian gas complex last week also took part in the deadly attack on the United States Mission in Libya in September.

Mr. Speaker, 4 months later, this is an unacceptable state of affairs. Quite frankly, the Obama administration has failed. They have failed to prioritize this investigation. They have failed to bring the necessary pressure to bear on the Libyan, Tunisian, and Egyptian Governments. But more fundamentally, the administration has failed to respond to a terrorist attack appropriately, treating it as a law enforcement and diplomatic issue, rather than the security issue that it is.

At its core, this is yet another reflection of President Obama's schizophrenic counterterrorism policy, the same administration that unapologetically rains down lethal drone attacks on some al Qaeda affiliate terrorists in Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia and will not use other counterterrorism resources to identify, locate, and detain the terrorists involved in the death of our ambassador and others in Libya.

This inconsistent policy may stem from the President's hasty campaign promise to shut down Guantanamo Bay in Gitmo and prematurely transfer detention facilities in Iraq and Afghanistan. In doing so, the President effectively ended America's ability to detain and interrogate terrorists, depriving the FBI, the CIA, and other agencies of critical opportunities to obtain information on al Qaeda networks.

Today, as the case of Benghazi suspect Ali Harzi has demonstrated, the United States is completely reliant on the cooperation of host countries to detain on our behalf and selectively allow access to suspects. As in the case of Harzi, as demonstrated, this approach is fraught with diplomatic roadblocks, costing critical time in getting information from suspects to track terrorist networks. Perhaps that is why President Obama so often opts to use lethal drone strikes to kill terrorists, knowing that the U.S. would be unable to get access to interrogate these terror suspects by working through host governments or because he no longer has a way to detain them in U.S. custody short of providing them the full privileges of an article III court.

□ 1350

In short, the President has tied his own hands, compromised U.S. national security and put the FBI in an impossible position. The FBI has been asked to treat the terrorist attack where four Americans died as if it's a law enforcement activity and has been put in a compromised and very difficult spot, and they have laid the groundwork for the administration's inept response in the wake of the terrorist attack in Benghazi.

To make matters worse, the administration has not even seen any significant success from its diplomatic-focused response. When Tunisia refused to allow the FBI access to Harzi for more than 5 weeks, the administration took no public steps to use diplomatic tools, like U.S. foreign assistance, to pressure the Tunisians to make Harzi available. In fact, the FBI only gained access after Members of Congress threatened amendments to cut off or restrict Tunisia's foreign aid if they continued to obstruct the FBI investigation.

I was among those Members of Congress along with LINDSEY GRAHAM and Senator MCCAIN and others. In the interim, I urged the administration to act immediately to suspend foreign assistance if the Tunisian Government persisted in obstructing the investigation. On January 4, I received a tepid—and it was tepid—response from the Acting Deputy Assistant Administrator for Legislative and Public Affairs at USAID with a bland assurance that the Tunisian Government was cooperating. Was cooperating? Five weeks and the FBI had to wait? Then the FBI had 3 hours to talk to him, and we gave this Tunisian Government, Mr. Speaker, $320 million last year? Days later, Ali Harzi was released.

Today, I again wrote USAID, expressing my disappointment that the administrator himself could not respond directly to a Member of Congress who serves on a committee of jurisdiction and, further, pointed out what should be obvious—that the Tunisian Government did not cooperate. The Tunisian Government never seriously thought the aid—precious taxpayer money—was in jeopardy. The Tunisian Government has not faced a single consequence for undermining U.S. national security. I submit my letter for the RECORD.

Sadly, the failure to respond forcefully and appropriately to the Benghazi attack will undoubtedly encourage our enemies and make the world a more dangerous place for Americans working in hostile environments around the world. This failure to respond has endangered future Embassy staffs and Ambassadors—the Federal employees who serve our country at great risk.

Rather than demonstrating that there will be no quarter, no respite, no safe haven for terrorists who threaten American officials abroad, the message the administration has sent is that there is no apparent consequence for these actions. This will only embolden our enemy to plan the next Benghazi, knowing that under this administration there is less consequence even for their involvement in such an attack.

In this context, perhaps it is not surprising that the al Qaeda-affiliated terrorist group Ansar al-Sharia brazenly took pictures of the FBI agents interviewing Harzi and posted pictures on their Web sites; and when the Tunisian Government released Harzi, Ansar al-

Sharia was there to welcome him and post a video of the celebration of his release. Again, these antagonistic actions have been met by silence from this administration.

As Steve Hayes and Tom Joscelyn reported in The Weekly Standard this week:

> U.S. officials tell The Weekly Standard that the release of the photos was a clear attempt to intimidate the Americans and show that the FBI could not act with impunity.

In its posting, Ansar al-Sharia Tunisia warned the Tunisian people that their government had allowed the FBI ''to begin investigating your sons under post-revolutionary protection.''

Consider that, in the same week of the Benghazi attack, our Embassies in Cairo, Tunis and Sana were also overrun in an increasingly apparent coordinated plot. In each case, the American flag was ripped down and burned, and a black al Qaeda flag was flown in its place. We are fortunate and blessed that none of these incidents resulted in a loss of life. They were, nonetheless, an attack on America by hostile groups.

As the administration's own State Department Web site states: ''Any attack on an Embassy is considered an attack on the country it represents.'' Each Embassy and consulate that was overrun the week of September 11 represents, in its own way, a public attack on America, and in the months that have followed, this administration has demonstrated that there are no consequences for breaching our Embassies or for killing our personnel.

I fear that the latest hostage-taking and killing of Americans and other Westerners in Algeria is a manifestation of a newfound confidence by our enemy in knowing that they may face no serious consequences from this administration for their murderous acts. It is telling that neither President Obama nor any others in his administration have made a public statement on the recent terrorist activities in Algeria, whereas the head of France and the head of England have spoken out over and over and over.

All the while, the Arab Spring, which was fanned by this administration to much fanfare, has become an Arab Winter, and for many of the people in the Middle East and North Africa, this Arab Winter—a new safe haven for al Qaeda-affiliated groups—is forming, ideologically fueled by the release of terrorists and extremists from prisons and flush with weapons provided to anti-Qadhafi rebels last year.

We are witnessing the potential formation of the next front in the war on terror, but we increasingly have an administration that no longer considers it a war worth fighting no matter the cost to American power or to the safety of our people abroad. While some have described the Obama doctrine as leading from behind, it is increasingly clear that the Obama doctrine means not leading at all. While most of the responsibility falls on the President and his administration, the Congress—the House and the Senate—and the media share some blame for failing to adequately investigate and bring attention to the many questions surrounding the administration's response to Benghazi.

Aside from a handful of reporters who have stayed with this story and have continued to raise questions about the administration's words and deeds, I can't help but wonder: Where are the New York Times, the Washington Post, or the network news programs? Why in the wake of last week's deadly terrorist attack in Algeria are no reporters investigating the serious links between al Qaeda's affiliates in North Africa and the connection between the groups?

Equally important, where has the Congress been in investigating both the circumstances of the attack and the administration's response over the last 4 months? Despite a handful of hearings, many in classified settings and done by very capable and good people, the American people have not been provided with anything close to an adequate answer to the following questions. It is not only important for the Congress to find out; it is important for the American people to find out. Have they been given answers to these questions?

Secretary Panetta, Attorney General Holder and DNI Clapper still have not testified publicly before Congress as to what steps they took during the attack and in the days that followed.

What were the President's activities during the 7-hour period of attack?

Why wasn't the U.S. military deployed to assist?

On the anniversary of the worst terrorist attack in American history and after multiple attacks this year on U.S. and Western interests, why were U.S. military units and assets in the region not ready, alert, and in a position to respond? After all, two of the four people killed were murdered 7 hours after the fighting began.

Why do we still not have the clear answers on the internal process that produced the inaccurate and, frankly, misleading talking points on which Ambassador Rice relied several days after the attack?

Why were the testimonies of the U.S. personnel who were evacuated from Benghazi on September 12—eyewitnesses who knew there was never a demonstration outside the consulate—not immediately factored into the judgments of our intelligence community?

Have the witnesses who were there on the scene, government employees, good people—all risking their lives—been called to come up and been given the opportunity to talk to Members on both sides of the aisle? The answer to date is ''no.''

Why hasn't Secretary Clinton been interviewed by the Pickering Commission?

Was the White House aware of the FBI investigation of General Petraeus? If not, why not?

To date, Congress has failed to get these answers, and it has not developed a coordinated or substantial investigative plan to fully explore this critical matter, which has a direct bearing on U.S. national security. In the absence of serious oversight, the media has moved on. In the absence of this, the administration, which has so much to account for to the American people, receives a carte blanche from the legislative branch to continue its questionable policies.

These matters are too serious to be brushed aside. There are critical legislative decisions the next Congress will have to make based on answers to these questions; but, more importantly, the American people deserve the answers to these questions, including open hearings and an unclassified report.

□ 1400

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons I remain convinced that a House select committee on the terrorist attack in Benghazi is needed more than ever. That is why last week I introduced my resolution, H. Res. 36, with 20 of our colleagues joining as cosponsors.

A select committee is essential to combine the myriad existing investigations into a single, comprehensive, and exhaustive review. I believe such a combined effort will yield even more information regarding the true nature of these terrorist attacks and the administration's response will not allow administration officials to offer up siloed accounts to various committees.

The select committee I am proposing should draw from the existing congressional investigations by including the chairman and ranking member of each committee of jurisdiction—the Intelligence Committee, Mr. ROGERS and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER have done a great job; the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. ROYCE and Mr. ENGEL do a great job; the Judiciary Committee, the same way; the Armed Services Committee; the Homeland Security Committee; the Oversight and Government Reform Committee; as well as five additional Republican Members appointed by the Speaker and two additional Democrats appointed by the minority leader so it is truly bipartisan.

I appreciate the support I've received for this resolution from the original cosponsors, as well as the Heritage Foundation; former Senator from Tennessee, Fred Thompson, who was counsel on the Watergate Select Committee; former Ambassador John Bolton; and General Jerry Boykin, a former special operations officer and CIA operative who is widely respected in the intelligence community.

Mr. Speaker and Members of this body, we owe it to the families of the victims and the American people to fully investigate this terrorist attack. I urge my colleagues to support my resolution to create a House select committee.

I yield back the balance of my time.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 23, 2013.

Dr. RAJIV SHAH,
Administrator, Agency For International Development, Washington, DC.

DEAR DR. SHAH: Ms. Barbara Bennett, acting deputy assistant administrator for legislative and public affairs at USAID recently sent a response to my December 11, 2012 letter to you. I was disappointed you did not respond directly to a Member of Congress who serves on a committee of jurisdiction, especially given that my concern was budgetary in nature.

Just days after I received your response, Tunisian authorities released Ali Harzi, a key suspect in the September 11 terrorist attack on the U.S. consulate and annex in Benghazi, which took the lives of four Americans, including the U.S. ambassador, and resulted in the destruction of two U.S. facilities. This development is completely at odds with USAID's assurances in the response letter that ''. . . Tunisian authorities are cooperating with the Department [State] through normal law enforcement channels.'' Respectfully, I would also like to remind you that I chair the Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations subcommittee which has jurisdiction over the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Consequently, while Ms. Bennett indicated that USAID ''could not provide further detail,'' I am well-versed on the investigation and can say with confidence that releasing Ali Harzi is an affront to U.S. national security and rule of law, given the evidence of his alleged involvement.

Furthermore, your assertion that U.S. assistance is critical to ''Tunisia's successful democratic transition'' is misguided. Tunisia is not transitioning successfully. I have enclosed for your review a recent piece which ran in Bloomberg Businessweek, ''Revolution and Entropy,'' which paints a bleak picture of progress in Tunisia. A January 14 Reuters piece described large street protests in the capital city during which protestors chanted, ''Where is the constitution? Where is democracy?'' Democratic transition aside, the Tunisian government, as evidenced by this most recent development with Ali Harzi, is working at cross-purposes with U.S. national interests.

During these tight budgetary times, when worthy programs face constraints and cuts, our national priorities should undergird our foreign assistance. The administration continues to claim that bringing the perpetrators to justice for the deadly attack on the U.S. consulate is a priority. And yet its actions are inconsistent with such sentiments, particularly in the case of Tunisia.

We must send a clear and unequivocal message to the Tunisian government. U.S. aid must not be taken for granted. U.S. national security considerations are a cornerstone of our foreign policy. When those interests are undermined, there are consequences.

I look forward to a personal response to this letter and any future correspondence. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,
Member of Congress.

[From Bloomberg Businessweek, Jan. 14–20, 2013]

REVOLUTION AND ENTROPY

(By Norman Pearlstine and Tarek el-Tablawy)

In Tunisia, where the Arab Spring began, the transition to democracy is sputtering.

Two years after he set himself on fire, Mohamed Bouazizi remains history's most famous fruit vendor. Like many enterprising Tunisians, Bouazizi, 26, was subject to constant fines of as much as 10 times his daily earnings as he tried to make a living on the streets of Sidi Bouzid. After his scale and cart were seized on Dec. 17, 2010, he doused himself with a liter of paint solvent while standing in front of the provincial governor's office. A flick of a lighter and . . .

What then? Tunisia's revolution and the Arab Spring that followed created a list of dead, imprisoned, or exiled autocrats—including Egypt's Hosni Mubarak, Libya's Muammar Qaddafi, and Tunisia's own Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali. (Syria's Bashar Assad hangs on, brutally.) But hope and vengeance are very different from progress, as Ben Ali's successor as president, the physician and ex-opposition leader Moncef Marzouki, has discovered.

On Dec. 17, 2012, Marzouki went to Sidi Bouzid to commemorate the man and the moment that began all the changes in the region, only to be greeted by angry chants of ''Leave! Leave!'' When he told the crowd he lacked a ''magic wand'' to cure Tunisia's ills, the response was a hailstorm of rocks and tomatoes. Marzouki had to be hustled into a car and sped away from the stage.

''Nothing has changed, and that's the sad reality,'' says Mohamad Amri, a close friend of the Bouazizi family. Unemployment is officially 18 percent, but a September study published by the Middle East Economic Association says about 50 percent of young Tunisians with higher education are without work. At 33, Amri is unemployed and relies on an allowance from his father to cover soaring food and living costs, ''I feel like I need to be optimistic, but in the end, I'm pessimistic.''

On Dec. 12, Fitch Ratings downgraded Tunisia's sovereign ratings, citing the slow transition to a free economy and ''large twin budget and current-account deficits.'' Standard & Poor's has downgraded the country to junk status, too. Meji Djelloul, a professor of Islamic history at Manouba University in Tunis, the capital, says 80 percent of his students are eager to leave after graduating. ''In 25 years of teaching I have never encountered such a sense of helplessness,'' he says.

It need not be this bleak. The revolution lifted restraints on expression that had existed for decades, and Tunisians seem to agree that even without a functioning constitution, they feel more free—a significant accomplishment. The country has close social and economic ties to Europe, a highly educated populace, and infrastructure that's among the best in the Arab world, with good roads and nine commercial airports serving a country the size of Florida.

Tunisia has the further comfort of knowing it's not alone. In its political and economic struggles, Egypt is Tunisia's larger, perhaps more troubled mirror. Both saw Islamists take top government positions while Salafis, who embrace the strictest, most puritanical interpretation of Islam, have pressed for an even greater role for religion in the reborn nations. (Egyptian secularists are angered by a constitution they say was forced upon them, while Tunisia's latest constitutional draft was stripped of references to sharia, or Islamic law.) Both countries also saw their economies contract sharply in reaction to change. Egypt's net international reserves tell almost 60 percent, to $15 billion, over the past two years. Tunisia's economy contracted 1.8 percent in 2011. Last year growth was likely 2.7 percent and could rise to 3.3 percent this year, says the International Monetary Fund. ''We are going through a complicated transition, not unlike what Eastern Europe went through,'' says Tunisian Foreign Minister Rafik Abdessalem, a former professor of politics in Britain who returned to Tunisia after the revolution. ''We need to prove that it is possible to have democracy in the Arab world.''

Weaker, economies in Europe have hurt tourism and exports, two of Tunisia's chief sources of revenue. That's left officials appealing to the U.S., the United Arab Emirates, and Qatar, for investment. So far Tunisia hasn't received the support it sought, let alone the aid it was promised. At its May 2011 summit in Deauville, France, the Group of Eight pledged more than $30 billion to assist new Arab governments. ''When we spoke about intentions, it was $30 billion,'' jokes Alaya Bettaieb, secretary of state to the minister of investment and international cooperation. ''When we spoke about action, it was $250 million'' that was delivered.

Tunisia's transition from dictatorship to democracy would have been easier had the collapse of the Ben Ali regime not been so sudden. Amri, Bouazizi's friend, suggests the man who started it all didn't even know how flammable the paint thinner he poured on himself was, let-alone the impact of his act of martyrdom. Other protesters, in Tunisia and across the Arab world, decided to set themselves afire in the weeks and months that followed. Hernando de Soto, the Peruvian economist best known for his work seeking property rights for peasants, has studied the underclass in Tunisia, Egypt, and elsewhere. He documented 164 deaths by self-immolation in the six months following Bouazizi's act. ''The ground was fertile socially, economically, and politically for this kind of statement,'' says Ali Bouazizi, a cousin who played a key role in the revolution by filming and uploading to his Facebook page a video of the protest after the fruit seller's death.

The embers of unrest remain hot. Tunisia's first truly free elections in 2011 yielded a Constituent Assembly charged with drafting the country's new charter and also serving as its parliament. Ennahda, the moderate Islamist party whose name translates to Renaissance, won 41 percent of the seats and together with two smaller secular parties formed a ruling coalition.

The constitution is still a source of great uncertainty, as are Ennahda's broader intentions. Critics on the right maintain that the party has stressed its commitment to Tunisia's secular tradition in public, while urging Salafis to be patient for the realization of their goals behind closed doors. Salafis, including Mouldi Mojahed, who heads the Salafi-controlled al-Asala Party, says Ennahda ''has backed away from its principles.''

Neither side has been pacified. Salafis have been blamed for the serial arson of stores selling alcohol as well as the September attack on the U.S. embassy amid outrage over a YouTube clip denigrating Islam's prophet. Ahmed Nejib Chebbi, an Official in the opposition Jumhuri, or Republican, Party says, ''The Islamists don't know how to govern,'' and the win by Ennahda in October 2011 was ''not very reassuring to the economic stakeholders in the country.''

Prime Minister Hamadi Jebali has tried to walk the middle ground. ''The Tunisian people have their own identity, and they agreed on this identity,'' says Jebali in an interview, affirming the country's commitment to secularism. Jebali, who spent 10 years in solitary confinement while Ben Ali controlled the country, says the new constitution won't impose Islamic law and will respect women's rights. He and Ennahda have also pledged to support a market economy, if not a workers' paradise; he rages at those he suggests have riled up. labor unions and ''who live with the idea of the proletariat revolution, and who believe that the revolution in Tunisia was led by the proletariat.''

Sorting out how to improve the lives of ordinary Tunisians, regardless of their politics,

is complicated by a lack of economic facts. At a conference organized by Utica, a group representing Tunisia's largest employers, De Soto, the economist, estimated that the black market economy is more than 10 times the size of all companies on the country's stock exchange. Others have suggested off-the-books trade represents as much as 30 percent of Tunisia's GDP. The divisions between the corporate and informal sectors run deeper than matters of accounting. Wided Bouchmaorii, Utica's president and head of one of Tunisia's largest business enterprises, says the informal economy condones violence. ''It is disastrous for legitimate businesses serving consumers,'' she says.

Prime Minister Jebali acknowledges the size of the informal economy and continued problems with corruption. (The nation saw its corruption ranking, issued by Transparency International, slide from 59th in 2010 to 75th in 2012.) He pledges that Tunisia will do more to address these problems as democratic institutions take hold and the economy strengthens. In the meantime, he says priorities include addressing the ''heavy taxation of the formal economy'' and the inability of a ''young economy to absorb unemployed youth.''

For those who have been waiting, patience is running short. Habib Kasdalli set himself afire shortly after Bouazizi when a civil servant denied him government benefits for a mental disability. Seated in a Tunis hotel, Kasdalli describes his nervous condition as his burn-scarred hands twitch. When he pulls off a blue knit cap, his scalp is grotesquely scarred. ''I felt oppressed, and I felt hopelessness,'' Kasdalli says. The revolution offered a respite. Relief remains a long way off.

ADMINISTRATION IN REVIEW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, just very briefly, we had a vote today. There's some wonderfully fine Members of Congress that I have deep respect for who voted ''yes,'' and 32 voted ''no'' from the Republican side. It's not because we don't all hold the same belief that we have to cut spending to be responsible, to avoid continuing to add debt to our children and grandchildren, but a matter of difference in strategy. It is a mistake to suspend the debt ceiling increase, just as it would be to raise the debt ceiling without any meaningful cuts, just as Senator Phil Gramm got back in 1985, I believe it was, with Gramm-Rudman and so many of the debt ceiling increases that were accompanied as part of the deal with restrictions on spending.

There're so many things going on in the world today that are just staggering. We know we had Secretary of State Hillary Clinton testifying today. One report here today says that Secretary Clinton interrupted one Senator to contradict him and stress that she did not see requests for additional security to protect the Benghazi mission.

That's extremely unfortunate that people in our State Department, committed to helping this country, would make cries for help over a period of months, over a period of years, even going back to when Ambassador Rice was with the State Department and people were killed at an American embassy and a request had been made for extra security that went unheeded.

Here it came again; and apparently there were a number of people who made requests, including one of the security officials that I met and talked to personally. They could see that we were sitting ducks. And apparently former Senator Clinton, now Secretary Clinton, is saying she never saw the request. The bucks would have stopped with her if they'd ever made it to her. What it says is something has got to be done so that when people who have dedicated their lives to helping and protecting this country cry for help, that months, years after the cries, we don't again come back and say: never heard the cries; never got to me.

Tragic. Tragic.

Senator, now-Secretary, Clinton said that the administration's response to the assault was to be defended, and an independent investigation found that the State's actions saved American lives in real-time.

Well, from what I've seen on the House side and in the news, without going into anything that might be classified, just from the public information we've discerned, the actions of the State Department in failing and ignoring the requests for help did not save lives. It ended up costing lives.

The failure of this President to either receive information when a United States Ambassador he put in harm's way was begging, was under fire and people were begging for help on his behalf, we've had people indicate, gee, that immediately gets to the President himself or someone directly around the President who can get the President's immediate attention. We have an Ambassador under attack; that goes straight to the President or somebody right around him.

And just like Secretary Clinton apparently has testified today: I never saw or heard the cries for help. I didn't know.

Well, since this President is going to be in office for 4 more years as of Monday, it is imperative that he clean house and set up new procedures so that even if he's out golfing, even if he's on vacation, body surfing in Hawaii, wherever he is, doing fund-raising in Las Vegas, no matter where he is, that when somebody says Mr. President, people that you put in harm's way are begging for help, they're under attack, they're begging for your help, and I feel sure, you know, he would take time off of one of the greens or body surfing. He would surely take time. I know he would. If somebody would get him the information, your Ambassador is about to be killed, I know he would walk off the green and give some order to protect him, surely. But he's got to get the information.

And since I travel around the world meeting with our military, Special Forces, different branches of our military, from Afghanistan to the very far reaches in the southern part of the Philippines, wherever, Iraq—and I won't be going back to Iraq. Prime Minister Maliki didn't like DANA ROHRABACHER and me questioning him about repaying some of the U.S. money that we spent to give him the opportunity to be elected, especially since they now have all that oil revenue, and he also didn't like us bringing up the fact that they promised the United States when they took over the government that they would protect the people at Camp Ashraf, the refugees from Iran, and that actually the military had gone in and killed some of those people that he and the U.S. had pledged would be safe. And he didn't like that and apparently sent word that we were not welcome in his country anymore.

□ 1410

We're okay with Americans dying so I can get elected here in Iraq, but we don't want anybody making us keep our promises here in Iraq.

I've seen our military in the Kurdish areas of northern Iraq, all around the world. I was in the Army for 4 years. And one thing that they are very concerned about that they can't talk about publicly, but especially after we had two former SEALs killed trying to protect the Ambassador, when it wasn't their job to do that, they did it because they're American heroes, American patriots. But our military sees those things.

You know, when I was in the military, President Carter was President. We knew we had a President who did not have our back, who was more concerned about other things than the military. And there was a lot of unrest, but it's a crime in the United States military to say anything derogatory about anyone in your chain of command, including the top person, the President, and it needs to be that way.

When you're in the military, you take orders and you follow your orders, and you don't castigate whoever is up your chain of command, even if they don't have a clue what they're doing. It has to be for the good order and discipline of the military.

But we were not stupid. We knew when the President was not protecting us, was not protecting Americans. We knew when the President was not providing the equipment and what we needed to protect Americans. We knew that.

And as I go around the world and talk to different of our military, they notice that we have officials in this administration who, after Americans dedicated to protecting this country are killed, will come forward from the White House down and say, gee, I had no idea that they were in that kind of trouble. I had no idea that our policies subjected them to being killed. I had no idea. I wish somebody had let me know they were in this kind of trouble.

The military knows that. And as I've mentioned, one soldier in Afghanistan

said, please let others in Washington know I don't mind laying down my life for my country, but please don't waste it. That's not much of an ask for those who are committed to protecting the rest of us.

And yet this administration still prevents us from getting to the real facts, the real truth. To have someone come forward and say, I really didn't know there was trouble; I didn't know about the request for help, that does not answer the question that this body is demanding answers to and, that is, well, who did know.

Who made the decisions not to protect Americans in harm's way? Who made that call? Who was it that gave orders, because surely there was somebody out there who said, an American Ambassador is under attack. We're going to go protect him.

To attack a consulate is an act of war under anybody's interpretation of international law. It's an act of war. And when somebody commits an act of war against the United States, against a U.S. Ambassador, against our people, they need to know that there's a Commander in Chief, or if he doesn't know because he's busy, somebody that will give the order to protect those that were put in that bad situation.

Our military needs to know that their Commander cares. Our military needs to know that they're not going to lay down their life for nothing.

This is not the kind of testimony that we need. We want the truth. If this is the truth, so be it.

Of course, we'd heard from her doctors after the fall that, gee, it turns out this could be the kind of thing that would result in memory loss. And I'm glad she's well enough to get along.

My late mother, with a brain tumor, had balance problems. We constantly had to be on the alert for her falling, maybe tripping over a curb and hurting herself. It breaks your heart when you see somebody with bruises from falling. So I'm glad Secretary Clinton's okay.

But we have an Ambassador and other Americans who died. So instead of sending witnesses to say, I don't know what happened, I'll take the blame. I have no clue what happened, but I'm responsible, instead of that, please, Mr. Speaker, we need to be provided with testimony and evidence how did these irresponsible decisions get made, and who made them.

Because, as I say, our military gets it. They see what's going on. Despite some that might say, yeah, if you don't finish high school or don't get an education, you may end up in the military, if you actually spend enough time with the military, instead of being a 90-day wonder and get your Purple Heart and be on your way, if you actually spend substantial time with true military heroes that are dedicated to protecting our way of life, you spend time with them, you know these are smart people.

You spend time with SEALs, as I have, and you find out these are not only incredibly trained people. They're smart people. You spend time with Special Forces, as I have there at Fort Benning where I spent 4 years, that's where the Rangers are trained. They're smart people, and they're smart enough to know when people in their chain of command do not have their back, they do not take actions that make it appear they care.

I know the President cares. I know he does. I know Secretary Clinton cares. But it's not enough to say, ''I had no idea that I put people in harm's way and that they were begging for help and I got them killed.''

You know, let's find out where the problem is. How come they didn't know that was what was going on and the failure to provide security was going to get them killed? Why didn't they know? Those are the kinds of things we need to find out.

Then we find out that there were Americans killed in the attack in Algeria. How could it be that these people in Algeria had the weapons to carry out this attack?

Well, some of the reports indicate that these weapons probably came from Libya. Well, where would the Libyans have gotten weapons? Could it be that those were American-provided weapons, just like this administration forced the sale of guns that would go to kill at least one American and hundreds of Mexicans before it started claiming we've got to go after entirely, with our full force of the law, anybody that sells guns to criminals?

It's a shame they didn't start with the Department of Justice; but I guess if you're the Department of Justice and you're responsible for forcing the sale of guns for criminals, then you're not exactly interested in looking at whose actions in your Department caused the death of hundreds of Mexicans and one or two Americans.

But it needs to be looked at. That's how you avoid mistakes in the future. You find out what caused the mistakes.

□ 1420

The three Americans were among 38 workers killed in the siege of an Algerian gas plant in which Islamic terrorists used hostages as human shields after their attempted mass kidnapping for ransom went awry.

Some Algerian attackers are placed in Benghazi. This story is from Algeria, in The New York Times, dated January 22, by Adam Nossiter:

> Several Egyptian members of the squad of militants that lay bloody siege to an Algerian gas complex last week also took part in the deadly attack on the United States mission in Libya in September, a senior Algerian official said Tuesday.

Months and months after a U.S. ambassador was killed, we finally have our FBI director go over to check into it himself. After FBI agents went and did some checking, we had reporters go over there and find actual evidence that somehow the FBI missed or did not bother with. Mistakes that get the United States public servants who have committed their lives to the U.S., and get them killed, requires scrutiny. And this administration, since they will have 4 more years, will, hopefully, be concerned enough about not getting other members of their State Department, their embassies, their consulates, their soldiers, killed for nothing.

Now I know the soldiers. I've been to far too many funerals. And having known so many in harm's way, even if they're sent to the Valley of Death riding with the 600, figuratively speaking, they know they didn't die for nothing. They died devoted to the belief in the things that are set out in the Declaration of Independence—that we are endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights. And just like inheritance, if you're going to keep it, you're probably going to have to fight for it. Again, our military begs, If I'm going to lay down my life for my country, don't waste it.

So, Mr. Speaker, I hope and pray this administration will stop obfuscating, will stop the hiding of documents, preventing us from getting them, so we can find out what mistakes were made so that we can prevent them in the future. And the great news for this administration, Mr. Speaker, is that gee, it doesn't have to run for reelection again. So there should be no excuse whatsoever for not bringing the facts forward.

May I inquire how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 9 minutes remaining.

Mr. GOHMERT. Since the President doesn't have to run for reelection, there is no reason not to bring out the facts of Fast and Furious and what happened in Benghazi, that has now spilled over and cost American lives in Algeria. Let's get to the bottom of it. And if Secretary Clinton does not know what happened, if she doesn't have a clue, bless her heart, let's get somebody that does. Let's find out how these mistakes were made so we can prevent future lives being lost when they don't have to be.

Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude today, since this week marks the 40th anniversary of the landmark case of Roe v. Wade, and those of us who have been involved as a lawyer trying cases such as Roe v. Wade, which was a civil case, those of us that have been involved as a judge, as I was also a chief justice, we know that in order for a case to be ripe, that it can be heard in court, there must be a justiciable issue, as there was in Roe v. Wade. But the person bringing the case actually has standing to bring the case. It took years, but we ultimately find out that at the time there was no standing. We find out from the person who was Roe, a fictitious name, that she deeply regrets what had happened. And that case has been responsible for the killing of millions of lives.

I have so many dear friends on the Democratic side of the aisle. I know

their hearts. They don't want people to get killed. They care about life. And so many on both sides of the aisle talk about trying to protect ''the most vulnerable among us.'' I would humbly submit there is no one more vulnerable than an unborn child. There is that cord through which nourishment and oxygen flow as that baby grows and develops. There is a desire in the human heart to live. There is a desire to live. And those precious, innocent children want to live. It's who they are. It's part of their genetic makeup to want to live. There's no baby, born or unborn, who is capable mentally or physically of taking their own lives intentionally. It can't happen. It doesn't happen. They want to live.

So our heart breaks as a Nation, thinking about the spilled blood of innocent, vulnerable children all put to death because someone did not understand what was going on and they were led to believe it's not a life, it's a choice. The children want to live. When our first-born was born, she came 8 to 10 weeks prematurely. Back then, it was uncertain whether she was going to live. We were encouraged at first, but the doctor said, She's in trouble. Her lungs were not developed. And I knew from cases that I had been involved in that if too much oxygen is given to a preemie, there's a chance they'll go blind. So doctors avoided that, if at all possible. And I saw them go from 20 to 40 to 60 to 80 to 100 percent oxygen. When they got to 100 percent, I knew Katy was in big trouble or they wouldn't risk her blindness.

They said we needed to ship her to either Dallas or Shreveport, where she could get the top-rated neonatal ICU. Shreveport was a little closer. I was torn—my wife was suffering, having given birth prematurely—whether to stay with her or go with the baby. She said, Go with Katy. Do anything you can to help her. So I followed the ambulance to Shreveport. A man named Dr. Tsing was the neonatologist. He cared so deeply for those babies. And I began to understand why the doctor said they seemed to have the best survival rate there in Shreveport.

□ 1430

He had a policy that if you went by a child, you had to observe proper sanitization procedures, but you touched those children, you talked to those children. They hear you. They know you.

When I got there, they sat me on a stool and said you can stay no more than 2 hours, but talk to this child, she knows your voice. She has heard your voice for maybe 7 months. She knows your voice. Talk to her. Caress her arms. Talk to her. Caress her little face. And I did. The monitors were going so fast, so erratic was the heart rate, so erratic was the breathing, the lungs so undeveloped.

As I had been there for a couple of hours, Dr. Tsing came back over. Katie had a grip on my finger, that tiny little hand of hers around the very end of my finger, and she wouldn't let go. He came over after a while and he said, have you looked at the monitors? I looked up. She still had such undeveloped lungs, but her breathing had stabilized. Her heart rate had stabilized. And Dr. Tsing said, she is drawing life, she is drawing strength from you. I couldn't leave. I sat there for 8 hours before they forced me to take a break, but I learned, born or unborn, a child wants to live.

I hope and pray we will not continue to allow the killing of 40, 50, 60 million more precious babies like Katie. Katie is alive today. She is a joy, she is brilliant. There are other children that wanted to live as well. We need to stop deceiving pregnant women that it's not a life. It is a life, and it's endowed by our Creator.

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

SUNSET MEMORIAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FRANKS) for 30 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I know that another legislative day has come to an end and that sunset fast approaches in Washington, D.C.

I stand before this House with what I call a Sunset Memorial. Because, you see, Mr. Speaker, before the sun sets today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children will be killed by abortion on demand in the land of the free and the home of the brave. That is more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11th in this country, and it happens every single day.

Mr. Speaker, it has now been 40 years—an entire generation—since the tragedy called Roe v. Wade was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 55 million of its own unborn children. Some of them, Mr. Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid going over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.

All of them had at least four things in common, Mr. Speaker. First, they were just nameless little babies who had done wrong to no one, and yet each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity in this world are now lost forever.

Yet, even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself over and over again and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Mr. Speaker, I recently heard Barack Obama speak such poignant words that, whether he knows it or not, apply so profoundly to the tragedy of abortion on demand in America. Let me quote selected, excerpted portions of his comments.

He said:

> This is our first task—caring for our children. It's our first job. If we don't get that right, we don't get anything right. That's how, as a society, we will be judged. And by that measure, can we truly say, as a Nation, that we are meeting our obligations? Can we honestly say that we're doing enough to keep our children—all of them—safe from harm?

He went on to quote:

> Can we say that we're truly doing enough to give all the children of this country the chance they deserve to live out their lives in happiness and with purpose?

He said:

> I've been reflecting on this the last few days, and if we're honest with ourselves, the answer is no. We're not doing enough. And we will have to change.

Oh, Mr. Speaker, how true the President's words were. The President also said:

> We can't tolerate this anymore. These tragedies must end. And to end them, we must change.

Then the President asked:

> Are we really prepared to say that we're powerless in the face of such carnage, that the politics are too hard? Are we prepared to say that such violence visited on our children year after year after year is somehow the price of our freedom?

What a powerful question, Mr. Speaker. It is the most relevant question we should all be asking in the midst of this genocidal murder of thousands of unborn children in America every day.

The President said:

> Our journey is not complete until all our children are cared for and cherished and always safe from harm.

He said:

> That is our generation's task—to make these words, these rights, these values of life and liberty and the pursuit of happiness real for every American.

Mr. Speaker, never have I so deeply agreed with any words ever spoken by President Obama as those I have just quoted. And yet this President, in the most merciless distortion of logic and reason and humanity itself, refuses to apply these majestic words to the helpless unborn babies of this Nation. How I wish that somehow Mr. Obama would just open his heart and his ears to his own words, and ask himself in the core of his soul, why his words, that should apply to all children, cannot include the most helpless of all children.

Only a few days ago, no more than 200 yards from this well, Barack Obama put his hand down on the same Bible that Abraham Lincoln was sworn in on when he took his Presidential oath.

□ 1440

Mr. Speaker, we should remember that we honor Abraham Lincoln most because he found the courage as President of the United States in the days of slavery, and the humanity within himself, to recognize the image of God

stamped on the soul of slaves that the Supreme Court said were not human and that the tide of public opinion didn't recognize as protectable under the law. Could it still be, could it still be, Mr. Speaker, that President Barack Obama might consider that perspective, as well as his own legacy, and even eternity itself, Mr. Speaker, and recognize that in his day under his Presidency that these little unborn children look so desperately to him now for help?

Could it be that the President might finally remember that on the pages of the Bible on which he laid his hand were the words written in red:

> Inasmuch as you have done unto the least of these My brethren, you have done it unto Me.

Mr. Speaker, whether he does or not, it is certainly time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said:

> The care of human life and happiness, and not its destruction, is the chief and only object of good government.

The phrase in the 14th Amendment encapsulates our entire Constitution. It says:

> No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law.

Mr. Speaker, protecting the lives of all Americans and their constitutional rights is why we are all here. The bedrock foundation of this Republic is that clarion declaration of that self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights, the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world, Mr. Speaker. It is who we are. And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent little American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So, Mr. Speaker, let me conclude this sunset memorial in the hopes that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the very inconvenient truth that abortion really does kill little babies and that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never imagine, and that it is time we stood up together again and looked to our Declaration of Independence and remember that we are the same America that rejected human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust, and we are still the courageous and compassionate Nation that can find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

It is still not too late for us to make a better world and for America to be the one that leads the rest of the planet, just as we did in the days of slavery, from this tragic genocide of murdering nearly 4,000 of our own children every day.

So, now, Mr. Speaker, as we consider the plight of the unborn after 40 years under Roe v. Wade, maybe we can remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are all numbered, and that all too soon, each one of us will also walk from these Chambers for the very last time. And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day, may that be the day when we finally find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny little brothers and sisters in America, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

Mr. Speaker, it is now 40 years since Roe v. Wade first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children. This, in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I yield back the balance of my time.

PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE RULES

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the attached copy of the rules of the Committee on Rules for the U.S. House of Representatives for the 113th Congress:

RULE 1—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The Rules of the House are the rules of the Committee and its subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are non-debatable privileged motions in the Committee. A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if it has been available to the members of the Committee for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day).

(b) Each subcommittee is a part of the Committee, and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and to its rules so far as applicable.

(c) The provisions of clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House are incorporated by reference as the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

(d) The Committee's rules shall be published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

RULE 2—REGULAR, ADDITIONAL, AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

Regular Meetings

(a)(1) The Committee shall regularly meet at 5:00 p.m. on the first day on which votes are scheduled of each week when the House is in session.

(2) A regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with if, in the judgment of the Chairman of the Committee (hereafter in these rules referred to as the ''Chair''), there is no need for the meeting.

(3) Additional regular meetings and hearings of the Committee may be called by the Chair.

Notice for Regular Meetings

(b) The Chair shall notify in electronic or written form each member of the Committee of the agenda of each regular meeting of the Committee at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting and shall provide to each member of the Committee, at least 24 hours before the time of each regular meeting:

(1) for each bill or resolution scheduled on the agenda for consideration of a rule, a copy of—

(A) the bill or resolution;

(B) any committee reports thereon; and

(C) any available letter requesting a rule for the bill or resolution; and

(2) for each other bill, resolution, report, or other matter on the agenda a copy of—

(A) the bill, resolution, report, or materials relating to the other matter in question; and

(B) any report on the bill, resolution, report, or any other matter made by any subcommittee of the Committee.

Emergency Meetings

(c)(1) The Chair may call an emergency meeting of the Committee at any time on any measure or matter which the Chair determines to be of an emergency nature; provided, however, that the Chair has made an effort to consult the ranking minority member, or, in such member's absence, the next ranking minority party member of the Committee.

(2) As soon as possible after calling an emergency meeting of the Committee, the Chair shall notify each member of the Committee of the time and location of the meeting.

(3) To the extent feasible, the notice provided under paragraph (2) shall include the agenda for the emergency meeting and copies of available materials which would otherwise have been provided under subsection (b) if the emergency meeting was a regular meeting.

Special Meetings

(d) Special meetings shall be called and convened as provided in clause 2(c)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

RULE 3—MEETING AND HEARING PROCEDURES

In General

(a)(1) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be called to order and presided over by the Chair or, in the Chair's absence, by the member designated by the Chair as the Vice Chair of the Committee, or by the ranking majority member of the Committee present as Acting Chair.

(2) Meetings and hearings of the Committee shall be open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(3) Any meeting or hearing of the Committee that is open to the public shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with the provisions of clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House (which are incorporated by reference as part of these rules).

(4) Before a motion to report a rule is offered, a copy of the language recommended shall be furnished to each member of the Committee.

Quorum

(b)(1) For the purpose of hearing testimony on requests for rules, five members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(2) For the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence on measures or matters of original jurisdiction before the Committee, three members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(3) A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of: reporting any measure or matter; authorizing a subpoena; closing a meeting or hearing pursuant to clause 2(g) of rule XI of

the Rules of the House (except as provided in clause 2(g)(2)(A) and (B)); or taking any other action.

Voting

(c)(1) No vote may be conducted on any measure or motion pending before the Committee unless a majority of the members of the Committee is actually present for such purpose.

(2) A record vote of the Committee shall be provided on any question before the Committee upon the request of any member.

(3) No vote by any member of the Committee on any measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

(4) A record of the vote of each Member of the Committee on each record vote on any measure or matter before the Committee shall be made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours, and with respect to any record vote on any motion to amend or report, shall be included in the report of the Committee showing the total number of votes cast for and against and the names of those members voting for and against.

Hearing Procedures

(d)(1) With regard to hearings on matters of original jurisdiction, to the greatest extent practicable:

(A) each witness who is to appear before the Committee shall file with the Committee at least 24 hours in advance of the appearance a statement of proposed testimony in written and electronic form and shall limit the oral presentation to the Committee to a brief summary thereof; and

(B) each witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity shall include with the statement of proposed testimony provided in written and electronic form a curriculum vitae and a disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal year or either of the two preceding fiscal years.

(2) The five-minute rule shall be observed in the interrogation of each witness before the Committee until each member of the Committee has had an opportunity to question the witness.

(3) The provisions of clause 2(k) of rule XI of the Rules of the House shall apply to any hearing conducted by the Committee.

Subpoenas and Oaths

(e)(1) Pursuant to clause 2(m) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, a subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Committee or a subcommittee in the conduct of any investigation or series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority being present.

(2) The Chair may authorize and issue subpoenas under such clause during any period in which the House has adjourned for a period of longer than three days.

(3) Authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chair or by any member designated by the Committee, and may be served by any person designated by the Chair or such member.

(4) The Chair, or any member of the Committee designated by the Chair, may administer oaths to witnesses before the Committee.

RULE 4—GENERAL OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) The Committee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within its jurisdiction.

(b) Not later than February 15 of the first session of a Congress, the Committee shall meet in open session, with a quorum present, to adopt its oversight plans for that Congress for submission to the Committee on House Administration and the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, in accordance with the provisions of clause 2(d) of House rule X.

RULE 5—SUBCOMMITTEES

Establishment and Responsibilities of Subcommittees

(a)(1) There shall be two subcommittees of the Committee as follows:

(A) Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process, which shall have general responsibility for measures or matters related to relations between the Congress and the Executive Branch.

(B) Subcommittee on Rules and Organization of the House, which shall have general responsibility for measures or matters related to process and procedures of the House, relations between the two Houses of Congress, relations between the Congress and the Judiciary, and internal operations of the House.

(2) In addition, each such subcommittee shall have specific responsibility for such other measures or matters as the Chair refers to it.

(3) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution, and effectiveness of those laws, or parts of laws, the subject matter of which is within its general responsibility.

Referral of Measures and Matters to Subcommittees

(b)(1) No special order providing for the consideration of any bill or resolution shall be referred to a subcommittee of the Committee.

(2) The Chair shall refer to a subcommittee such measures or matters of original jurisdiction as the Chair deems appropriate given its jurisdiction and responsibilities.

(3) All other measures or matters of original jurisdiction shall be subject to consideration by the full Committee.

(4) In referring any measure or matter of original jurisdiction to a subcommittee, the Chair may specify a date by which the subcommittee shall report thereon to the Committee.

(5) The Committee by motion may discharge a subcommittee from consideration of any measure or matter referred to a subcommittee of the Committee.

Composition of Subcommittees

(c) The size and ratio of each subcommittee shall be determined by the Committee and members shall be elected to each subcommittee, and to the positions of chairman and ranking minority member thereof, in accordance with the rules of the respective party caucuses. The Chair of the full Committee shall designate a member of the majority party on each subcommittee as its vice chairman.

Subcommittee Meetings and Hearings

(d)(1) Each subcommittee of the Committee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive testimony, mark up legislation, and report to the full Committee on any measure or matter referred to it.

(2) No subcommittee of the Committee may meet or hold a hearing at the same time as a meeting or hearing of the full Committee is being held.

(3) The chairman of each subcommittee shall schedule meetings and hearings of the subcommittee only after consultation with the Chair.

Quorum

(e)(1) For the purpose of taking testimony, two members of the subcommittee shall constitute a quorum.

(2) For all other purposes, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of a subcommittee.

Effect of a Vacancy

(f) Any vacancy in the membership of a subcommittee shall not affect the power of the remaining members to execute the functions of the subcommittee.

Records

(g) Each subcommittee of the Committee shall provide the full Committee with copies of such records of votes taken in the subcommittee and such other records with respect to the subcommittee necessary for the Committee to comply with all rules and regulations of the House.

RULE 6—STAFF

In General

(a)(1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the professional and other staff of the Committee shall be appointed, by the Chair, and shall work under the general supervision and direction of the Chair.

(2) All professional, and other staff provided to the minority party members of the Committee shall be appointed, by the ranking minority member of the Committee, and shall work under the general supervision and direction of such member.

(3) The appointment of all professional staff shall be subject to the approval of the Committee as provided by, and subject to the provisions of, clause 9 of rule X of the Rules of the House.

Associate Staff

(b) Associate staff for members of the Committee may be appointed only at the discretion of the Chair (in consultation with the ranking minority member regarding any minority party associate staff), after taking into account any staff ceilings and budgetary constraints in effect at the time, and any terms, limits, or conditions established by the Committee on House Administration under clause 9 of rule X of the Rules of the House.

Subcommittee Staff

(c) From funds made available for the appointment of staff, the Chair of the Committee shall, pursuant to clause 6(d) of rule X of the Rules of the House, ensure that sufficient staff is made available to each subcommittee to carry out its responsibilities under the rules of the Committee, and, after consultation with the ranking minority member of the Committee, that the minority party of the Committee is treated fairly in the appointment of such staff.

Compensation of Staff

(d) The Chair shall fix the compensation of all professional and other staff of the Committee, after consultation with the ranking minority member regarding any minority party staff.

Certification of Staff

(e)(1) To the extent any staff member of the Committee or any of its subcommittees does not work under the direct supervision and direction of the Chair, the Member of the Committee who supervises and directs the staff member's work shall file with the Chief of Staff of the Committee (not later than the tenth day of each month) a certification regarding the staff member's work for that member for the preceding calendar month.

(2) The certification required by paragraph (1) shall be in such form as the Chair may prescribe, shall identify each staff member by name, and shall state that the work engaged in by the staff member and the duties assigned to the staff member for the member of the Committee with respect to the month in question met the requirements of clause 9 of rule X of the Rules of the House.

(3) Any certification of staff of the Committee, or any of its subcommittees, made

by the Chair in compliance with any provision of law or regulation shall be made—

(A) on the basis of the certifications filed under paragraph (1) to the extent the staff is not under the Chair's supervision and direction, and

(B) on his own responsibility to the extent the staff is under the Chair's direct supervision and direction.

RULE 7—BUDGET, TRAVEL, PAY OF WITNESSES

Budget

(a) The Chair, in consultation with other members of the Committee, shall prepare for each Congress a budget providing amounts for staff, necessary travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee and its subcommittees.

Travel

(b)(1) The Chair may authorize travel for any member and any staff member of the Committee in connection with activities or subject matters under the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is granted, there shall be submitted to the Chair in writing the following:

(A) The purpose of the travel.

(B) The dates during which the travel is to occur.

(C) The names of the States or countries to be visited and the length of time to be spent in each.

(D) The names of members and staff of the Committee for whom the authorization is sought.

(2) Members and staff of the Committee shall make a written report to the Chair on any travel they have conducted under this subsection, including a description of their itinerary, expenses, and activities, and of pertinent information gained as a result of such travel.

(3) Members and staff of the Committee performing authorized travel on official business shall be governed by applicable laws, resolutions, and regulations of the House and of the Committee on House Administration.

Pay of Witnesses

(c) Witnesses may be paid from funds made available to the Committee in its expense resolution subject to the provisions of clause 5 of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

RULE 8— COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION

Reporting

(a) Whenever the Committee authorizes the favorable reporting of a bill or resolution from the Committee—

(1) the Chair or acting Chair shall report it to the House or designate a member of the Committee to do so, and

(2) in the case of a bill or resolution in which the Committee has original jurisdiction, the Chair shall allow, to the extent that the anticipated floor schedule permits, any member of the Committee a reasonable amount of time to submit views for inclusion in the Committee report on the bill or resolution. Any such report shall contain all matters required by the Rules of the House of Representatives (or by any provision of law enacted as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House) and such other information as the Chair deems appropriate.

(3) In the case of a resolution providing for consideration of a measure, the Committee report accompanying such resolution shall include an accurate explanation of any waivers of points of order, including a detailed explanation of all points of order.

Records

(b)(1) There shall be a transcript made of each regular meeting and hearing of the Committee, and the transcript may be printed if the Chair decides it is appropriate or if a majority of the Members of the Committee requests such printing. Any such transcripts shall be a substantially verbatim account of remarks actually made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical, and typographical corrections authorized by the person making the remarks. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require that all such transcripts be subject to correction and publication.

(2) The Committee shall keep a record of all actions of the Committee and of its subcommittees. The record shall contain all information required by clause 2(e)(1) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and shall be available for public inspection at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee.

(3) All Committee hearings, records, data, charts, and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the Chair, shall be the property of the House, and all Members of the House shall have access thereto as provided in clause 2(e)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House.

(4) The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with rule VII of the Rules of the House. The Chair shall notify the ranking minority member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of the rule, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on written request of any member of the Committee.

Audio and Video Coverage

(c) The Chair shall provide, to the maximum extent practicable,—

(1) Complete and unedited audio and video broadcasts of all committee hearings and meetings; and

(2) For distribution of such broadcasts and unedited recordings thereof to the public and for the storage of audio and video recordings of the proceedings. Proceedings shall be broadcast live on the Majority Committee website and recordings shall be made available on such website within one calendar day of the proceeding.

Committee Publications on the Internet

(d) To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

Journal

(e)(1) The Committee shall maintain a Committee Journal, which shall include all bills, resolutions, and other matters referred to or reported by the Committee and all bills, resolutions, and other matters reported by any other committee on which a rule has been granted or formally requested, and such other matters as the Chair shall direct. The Journal shall be published periodically, but in no case less often than once in each session of Congress. (2) A rule is considered as formally requested when the Chairman of a committee of primary jurisdiction which has reported a bill or resolution (or a member of such committee authorized to act on the Chairman's behalf):

(A) has requested, in writing to the Chair, that a hearing be scheduled on a rule for the consideration of the bill or resolution, and

(B) has supplied the Committee with the bill or resolution, as reported, together with the final committee report thereon.

Other Procedures

(f) The Chair may establish such other Committee procedures and take such actions as may be necessary to carry out these rules or to facilitate the effective operation of the Committee and its subcommittees in a manner consistent with these rules.

RULE 9—AMENDMENTS TO COMMITTEE RULES

The rules of the Committee may be modified, amended or repealed, in the same manner and method as prescribed for the adoption of committee rules in clause 2 of rule XI of the Rules of the House, but only if written notice of the proposed change has been provided to each Member at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting at which the vote on the change occurs. Any such change in the rules of the Committee shall be published in the Congressional Record within 30 calendar days after their approval.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I submit for publication the attached copy of the rules of the Committee on Natural Resources for the U.S. House of Representatives for the 113th Congress:

RULE 1. RULES OF THE HOUSE; VICE CHAIRMEN

(a) Applicability of House Rules.

(1) The Rules of the House of Representatives, so far as they are applicable, are the rules of the Committee on Natural Resources (hereinafter in these rules referred to as the ''Committee'') and its Subcommittees.

(2) Each Subcommittee is part of the Committee and is subject to the authority, direction and rules of the Committee. References in these rules to ''Committee'' and ''Chairman'' shall apply to each Subcommittee and its Chairman wherever applicable.

(3) House Rule XI is incorporated and made a part of the rules of the Committee to the extent applicable.

(b) Vice Chairmen.—Unless inconsistent with other rules, the Chairman shall appoint Vice Chairmen of the Committee and the Subcommittees. If the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee is not present at any meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee, as the case may be, the Vice Chairman shall preside. If the Vice Chairman is not present, the ranking Member of the Majority party on the Committee or Subcommittee who is present shall preside at that meeting.

RULE 2. MEETINGS IN GENERAL

(a) Scheduled Meetings.—The Committee shall meet at 10 a.m. every Wednesday when the House is in session if so noticed by the Chairman under Committee Rule 3(a). The Committee shall also meet at the call of the Chairman subject to advance notice to all Members of the Committee. Special meetings shall be called and convened by the Chairman as provided in clause 2(c)(1) of House Rule XI. Any Committee meeting or hearing that conflicts with a party caucus, conference, or similar party meeting shall be rescheduled at the discretion of the Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member. The Committee may not sit during a joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of the House and Senate is in progress.

(b) Open Meetings.—Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, and each hearing of the Committee or a Subcommittee shall be open to the public, except as provided by clause 2(g) and clause 2(k) of House Rule XI.

(c) Broadcasting.—Whenever a meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or a hearing is open to the public, that meeting or hearing shall be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with clause 4 of House Rule XI. The provisions of clause 4(f) of House Rule XI are specifically made part of these rules by reference. To the maximum extent practicable, the Committee shall provide audio and visual coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings, and maintain the recordings of

such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public. Operation and use of any Committee Internet broadcast system shall be fair and nonpartisan and in accordance with clause 4(b) of House Rule XI and all other applicable rules of the Committee and the House.

(d) Oversight Plan.—No later than February 15 of the first session of each Congress, the Committee shall adopt its oversight plans for that Congress in accordance with clause 2(d)(1) of House Rule X.

RULE 3. MEETING AND HEARING PROCEDURES IN GENERAL

(a) Notice and Information for Members and the Public.

(1) The Chairman shall publicly announce the date, place and subject matter of: (i) a Committee hearing, which may not commence earlier than one week after such notice; or (ii) a Committee meeting, which may not commence earlier than the third day on which Members have notice thereof.

(2) A hearing or meeting may begin sooner if the Chairman, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, determines that there is good cause to begin the meeting or hearing sooner, or if the Committee so determines by majority vote. In these cases, the Chairman shall publicly announce the meeting or hearing at the earliest possible time. The Chief Legislative Clerk of the Committee shall promptly notify the Daily Digest Clerk of the Congressional Record and shall promptly make publicly available in electronic form the appropriate information as soon as possible after the public announcement is made.

(3) To the extent practicable, a background memorandum prepared by the Majority staff for the Majority Members and the Minority staff for the Minority Members summarizing the major provisions of any bill being considered by the Committee, including the need for the bill and its effect on current law, will be available for the Members of the Committee no later than 48 hours before the meeting.

(b) Public Availability of Markup Text.—At least 24 hours prior to the markup of any legislation (or at the time of an announcement under paragraph (a)(2) above made within 24 hours before such meeting), the Chairman shall cause the text of such legislation to be made publicly available in electronic form.

(c) Meetings and Hearings to Begin Promptly.—Each meeting or hearing of the Committee shall begin promptly at the time stipulated in the public announcement of the meeting or hearing.

(d) Addressing the Committee.—A Committee Member may address the Committee or a Subcommittee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration or may question a witness at a hearing only when recognized by the Chairman for that purpose. The time a Member may address the Committee or Subcommittee for any purpose or to question a witness shall be limited to five minutes, except as provided in Committee Rule 4(f). A Member shall limit his remarks to the subject matter under consideration. The Chairman shall enforce the preceding provision.

(e) Quorums.

(1) A majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the reporting of any measure or recommendation, the authorizing of a subpoena, the closing of any meeting or hearing to the public under clause 2(g)(1), clause 2(g)(2)(A) and clause 2(k)(5)(B) of House Rule XI, and the releasing of executive session materials under clause 2(k)(7) of House Rule X. Testimony and evidence may be received at any hearing at which there are at least two Members of the Committee present. For the purpose of transacting all other business of the Committee, one third of the Members shall constitute a quorum.

(2) When a call of the roll is required to ascertain the presence of a quorum, the offices of all Members shall be notified and the Members shall have not less than 15 minutes to prove their attendance. The Chairman shall have the discretion to waive this requirement when a quorum is actually present or whenever a quorum is secured and may direct the Chief Legislative Clerk to note the names of all Members present within the 15-minute period.

(f) Participation of Members in Committee and Subcommittees.—Any Member of the Committee may sit with any Subcommittee during any meeting or hearing, and by unanimous consent of the Members of the Subcommittee, may participate in such meeting or hearing. However, a Member who is not a Member of the Subcommittee may not vote on any matter before the Subcommittee, be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum or raise points of order.

(g) Proxies.—No vote in the Committee or its Subcommittees may be cast by proxy.

(h) Record Votes.—Record votes shall be ordered on the demand of one-fifth of the Members present, or by any Member in the apparent absence of a quorum.

(i) Postponed Record Votes.

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Chairman may, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment. The Chairman shall resume proceedings on a postponed request at any time after reasonable notice, but no later than the next meeting day.

(2) Notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, when proceedings resume on a postponed question under paragraph (1), an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

(3) This rule shall apply to Subcommittee proceedings.

(j) Privileged Motions.—A motion to recess from day to day, a motion to recess subject to the call of the Chairman (within 24 hours), and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution if printed copies are available, are nondebatable motions of high privilege.

(k) Layover and Copy of Bill.—No measure or recommendation reported by a Subcommittee shall be considered by the Committee until two calendar days from the time of Subcommittee action. No bill shall be considered by the Committee unless a copy has been delivered to the office of each Member of the Committee requesting a copy. These requirements may be waived by a majority vote of the Committee at the time of consideration of the measure or recommendation.

(l) Access to Dais and Conference Room.—Access to the hearing rooms' daises (and to the conference rooms adjacent to the Committee hearing rooms) shall be limited to Members of Congress and employees of the Committee during a meeting of the Committee, except that Committee Members' personal staff may be present on the daises if their employing Member is the author of a bill or amendment under consideration by the Committee, but only during the time that the bill or amendment is under active consideration by the Committee. Access to the conference rooms adjacent to the Committee hearing rooms shall be limited to Members of Congress and employees of Congress during a meeting of the Committee.

(m) Cellular Telephones.—The use of cellular telephones is prohibited on the Committee dais or in the Committee hearing rooms during a meeting of the Committee.

(n) Motion to go to Conference with the Senate.—The Chairman may offer a motion under clause 1 of Rule XXII whenever the Chairman considers it appropriate.

RULE 4. HEARING PROCEDURES

(a) Written Statement; Oral Testimony.—Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or a Subcommittee shall file with the Chief Legislative Clerk of the Committee or Subcommittee Clerk, at least two working days before the day of his or her appearance, a written statement of their proposed testimony. Each witness shall limit his or her oral presentation to a five-minute summary of the written statement, unless the Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, extends this time period. In addition, all witnesses shall be required to submit with their testimony a resume or other statement describing their education, employment, professional affiliations and other background information pertinent to their testimony. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in the exclusion of the written testimony from the hearing record and/or the barring of an oral presentation of the testimony.

(b) Minority Witnesses.—When any hearing is conducted by the Committee or any Subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the Minority party Members on the Committee or Subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by a majority of those Minority Members before the completion of the hearing, to call witnesses selected by the Minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearings thereon.

(c) Information for Members.—After announcement of a hearing, the Committee shall make available as soon as practicable to all Members of the Committee a tentative witness list and to the extent practicable the Majority staff shall make available to the Majority Members and the Minority staff shall make available to the Minority Members a memorandum explaining the subject matter of the hearing (including relevant legislative reports and other necessary material). In addition, the Chairman shall make available to the Members of the Committee any official reports from departments and agencies on the subject matter as they are received.

(d) Subpoenas.—The Committee or a Subcommittee may authorize and issue a subpoena under clause 2(m) of House Rule XI if authorized by a majority of the Members voting. In addition, the Chairman of the Committee may authorize and issue subpoenas during any period of time in which the House of Representatives has adjourned for more than three days. Subpoenas shall be signed only by the Chairman of the Committee, or any Member of the Committee authorized by the Committee, and may be served by any person designated by the Chairman or Member.

(e) Oaths.—The Chairman of the Committee or any Member designated by the Chairman may administer oaths to any witness before the Committee. All witnesses appearing in hearings may be administered the following oath by the Chairman or his designee prior to receiving the testimony: ''Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the testimony that you are about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?''

Opening Statements; Questioning of Witnesses.

(1) Opening statements by Members may not be presented orally, unless the Chairman or his designee makes a statement, in which case the Ranking Minority Member or his

designee may also make a statement. If a witness scheduled to testify at any hearing of the Committee is a constituent of a Member of the Committee, that Member shall be entitled to introduce the witness at the hearing.

(2) The questioning of witnesses in Committee and Subcommittee hearings shall be initiated by the Chairman, followed by the Ranking Minority Member and all other Members alternating between the Majority and Minority parties. In recognizing Members to question witnesses, the Chairman shall take into consideration the ratio of the Majority to Minority Members present and shall establish the order of recognition for questioning in a manner so as not to disadvantage the Members of the Majority or the Members of the Minority. A motion is in order to allow designated Majority and Minority party Members to question a witness for a specified period to be equally divided between the Majority and Minority parties. This period shall not exceed one hour in the aggregate.

(g) Materials for Hearing Record.—Any materials submitted specifically for inclusion in the hearing record must address the announced subject matter of the hearing and be submitted to the relevant Subcommittee Clerk or Chief Legislative Clerk no later than 10 business days following the last day of the hearing.

(h) Claims of Privilege.—Claims of common-law privileges made by witnesses in hearings, or by interviewees or deponents in investigations or inquiries, are applicable only at the discretion of the Chairman, subject to appeal to the Committee.

RULE 5. FILING OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) Duty of Chairman.—Whenever the Committee authorizes the favorable reporting of a measure from the Committee, the Chairman or his designee shall report the same to the House of Representatives and shall take all steps necessary to secure its passage without any additional authority needing to be set forth in the motion to report each individual measure. In appropriate cases, the authority set forth in this rule shall extend to moving in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives that the House be resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the measure; and to moving in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives for the disposition of a Senate measure that is substantially the same as the House measure as reported.

(b) Filing.—A report on a measure which has been approved by the Committee shall be filed within seven calendar days (exclusive of days on which the House of Representatives is not in session) after the day on which there has been filed with the Committee Chief Legislative Clerk a written request, signed by a majority of the Members of the Committee, for the reporting of that measure. Upon the filing with the Committee Chief Legislative Clerk of this request, the Chief Legislative Clerk shall transmit immediately to the Chairman notice of the filing of that request.

(c) Supplemental, Additional or Minority Views.—Any Member may, if notice is given by any Member at the time a bill or resolution is approved by the Committee, file supplemental, additional, or minority views. These views must be in writing and signed by each Member joining therein and be filed with the Committee Chief Legislative Clerk not less than two additional calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays except when the House is in session on those days) of the time the bill or resolution is approved by the Committee. This paragraph shall not preclude the filing of any supplemental report on any bill or resolution that may be required for the correction of any technical error in a previous report made by the Committee on that bill or resolution.

(d) Review by Members.—Each Member of the Committee shall be given an opportunity to review each proposed Committee report before it is filed with the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Nothing in this paragraph extends the time allowed for filing supplemental, additional or minority views under paragraph (c).

(e) Disclaimer.—All Committee or Subcommittee reports printed and not approved by a majority vote of the Committee or Subcommittee, as appropriate, shall contain the following disclaimer on the cover of the report:

''This report has not been officially adopted by the {Committee on Natural Resources} {Subcommittee} and may not therefore necessarily reflect the views of its Members.''

RULE 6. ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCOMMITTEES; FULL COMMITTEE JURISDICTION; BILL REFERRALS

(a) Subcommittees.—There shall be five standing Subcommittees of the Committee, with the following jurisdiction and responsibilities:

Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation

(1) The National Environmental Policy Act in general.

(2) Measures and matters related to the National Park System and its units, including Federal reserved water rights.

(3) The National Wilderness Preservation System.

(4) Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Trails System, national heritage areas and other national units established for protection, conservation, preservation or recreational development, other than coastal barriers.

(5) Military parks and battlefields, national cemeteries administered by the Secretary of the Interior, parks in and within the vicinity of the District of Columbia and the erection of monuments to the memory of individuals.

(6) Federal and non-Federal outdoor recreation plans, programs and administration including the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 and the Outdoor Recreation Act of 1963.

(7) Preservation of prehistoric ruins and objects of interest on the public domain and other historic preservation programs and activities, including national monuments, historic sites and programs for international cooperation in the field of historic preservation.

(8) Matters concerning the following agencies and programs: Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program, Historic American Buildings Survey, Historic American Engineering Record, and U.S. Holocaust Memorial.

(9) Public lands generally, including measures or matters relating to entry, easements, withdrawals, grazing and Federal reserved water rights.

(10) Forfeiture of land grants and alien ownership, including alien ownership of mineral lands.

(11) Cooperative efforts to encourage, enhance and improve international programs for the protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

(12) Forest reservations, including management thereof, created from the public domain.

(13) Public forest lands generally, including measures or matters related to entry, easements, withdrawals, grazing and Federal reserved water rights.

(14) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs

(1) All matters regarding insular areas of the United States.

(2) All measures or matters regarding the Freely Associated States and Antarctica.

(3) Fisheries management and fisheries research generally, including the management of all commercial and recreational fisheries (except for the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act), interjurisdictional fisheries, international fisheries agreements, aquaculture, seafood safety and fisheries promotion.

(4) Wildlife resources, including research, restoration, refuges and conservation.

(5) All matters pertaining to the protection of coastal and marine environments, including estuarine protection.

(6) Coastal barriers.

(7) Oceanography.

(8) Ocean engineering, including materials, technology and systems.

(9) Coastal zone management.

(10) Marine sanctuaries.

(11) U.N. Convention on the Law of the Sea.

(12) Sea Grant programs and marine extension services.

(13) Cooperative efforts to encourage, enhance and improve international programs for the protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

(14) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee on Water and Power

(1) Generation and marketing of electric power from Federal water projects by Federally chartered or Federal regional power marketing authorities.

(2) All measures and matters concerning water resources planning conducted pursuant to the Water Resources Planning Act, water resource research and development programs and saline water research and development.

(3) Compacts relating to the use and apportionment of interstate waters, water rights and major interbasin water or power movement programs.

(4) All measures and matters pertaining to irrigation and reclamation projects and other water resources development and recycling programs, including policies and procedures.

(5) Indian water rights and settlements.

(6) Cooperative efforts to encourage, enhance and improve international programs for the protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

(7) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources

(I) All measures and matters concerning the U.S. Geological Survey, except for the activities and programs of the Water Resources Division or its successor.

(2) All measures and matters affecting geothermal resources.

(3) Conservation of United States uranium supply.

(4) Mining interests generally, including all matters involving mining regulation and enforcement, including the reclamation of mined lands, the environmental effects of mining, and the management of mineral receipts, mineral land laws and claims, long-range mineral programs and deep seabed mining.

(5) Mining schools, experimental stations and long-range mineral programs.

(6) Mineral resources on public lands.

(7) Conservation and development of oil and gas resources of the Outer Continental Shelf.

(8) Petroleum conservation on the public lands and conservation of the radium supply in the United States.

(9) Measures and matters concerning the transportation of natural gas from or within Alaska and disposition of oil transported by the trans-Alaska oil pipeline.

(10) Rights of way over public lands for underground energy-related transportation.

(11) Cooperative efforts to encourage, enhance and improve international programs for the protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

(12) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs

(1) Measures relating to the welfare of Native Americans, including management of Indian lands in general and special measures relating to claims which are paid out of Indian funds.

(2) All matters regarding the relations of the United States with Native Americans and Native American tribes, including special oversight functions under House Rule X.

(3) All matters regarding Native Alaskans.

(4) All matters related to the Federal trust responsibility to Native Americans and the sovereignty of Native Americans.

(b) Full Committee.—The following measures and matters shall be retained at the Full Committee:

(1) Environmental and habitat measures of general applicability, including the Endangered Species Act and reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

(2) All matters regarding Native Hawaiians.

(3) Cooperative efforts to encourage, enhance and improve international programs for the protection of the environment and the conservation of natural resources otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Full Committee under this paragraph.

(4) All other measures and matters retained by the Full Committee, including those retained under Committee Rule 6(e).

(5) General and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies and programs within the jurisdiction of the Committee under House Rule X.

(c) Ex-officio Members.—The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee may serve as ex-officio Members of each standing Subcommittee to which the Chairman or the Ranking Minority Member have not been assigned. Ex-officio Members shall have the right to fully participate in Subcommittee activities but may not vote and may not be counted in establishing a quorum.

(d) Powers and Duties of Subcommittees. Each Subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence and report to the Committee on all matters within its jurisdiction. Each Subcommittee shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the application, administration, execution and effectiveness of those statutes, or parts of statutes, the subject matter of which is within that Subcommittee's jurisdiction; and the organization, operation, and regulations of any Federal agency or entity having responsibilities in or for the administration of such statutes, to determine whether these statutes are being implemented and carried out in accordance with the intent of Congress. Each Subcommittee shall review and study any conditions or circumstances indicating the need of enacting new or supplemental legislation within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee. Each Subcommittee shall have general and continuing oversight and investigative authority over activities, policies and programs within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee.

(e) Referral to Subcommittees; Recall.

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) and for those measures or matters retained at the Full Committee, every legislative measure or other matter referred to the Committee shall be referred to the Subcommittee of jurisdiction within two weeks of the date of its referral to the Committee. If any measure or matter is within or affects the jurisdiction of one or more Subcommittees, the Chairman may refer that measure or matter simultaneously to two or more Subcommittees for concurrent consideration or for consideration in sequence subject to appropriate time limits, or divide the matter into two or more parts and refer each part to a Subcommittee.

(2) The Chairman, with the approval of a majority of the Majority Members of the Committee, may refer a legislative measure or other matter to a select or special Subcommittee. A legislative measure or other matter referred by the Chairman to a Subcommittee may be recalled from the Subcommittee for direct consideration by the Full Committee, or for referral to another Subcommittee, provided Members of the Committee receive one week written notice of the recall and a majority of the Members of the Committee do not object. In addition, a legislative measure or other matter referred by the Chairman to a Subcommittee may be recalled from the Subcommittee at any time by majority vote of the Committee for direct consideration by the Full Committee or for referral to another Subcommittee.

Consultation.—Each Subcommittee Chairman shall consult with the Chairman of the Full Committee prior to setting dates for Subcommittee meetings with a view towards avoiding whenever possible conflicting Committee and Subcommittee meetings.

(g) Vacancy.—A vacancy in the membership of a Subcommittee shall not affect the power of the remaining Members to execute the functions of the Subcommittee.

RULE 7. TASK FORCES, SPECIAL OR SELECT SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Appointment.—The Chairman of the Committee is authorized, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, to appoint Task Forces, or special or select Subcommittees, to carry out the duties and functions of the Committee.

(b) Ex-Officio Members.—The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee may serve as ex-officio Members of each Task Force, or special or select Subcommittee if they are not otherwise members. Ex-officio Members shall have the right to fully participate in activities but may not vote and may not be counted in establishing a quorum.

(c) Party Ratios.—The ratio of Majority Members to Minority Members, excluding ex-officio Members, on each Task Force, special or select Subcommittee shall be as close as practicable to the ratio on the Full Committee.

(d) Temporary Resignation.—A Member can temporarily resign his or her position on a Subcommittee to serve on a Task Force, special or select Subcommittee without prejudice to the Member's seniority on the Subcommittee.

(e) Chairman and Ranking Minority Member.—The Chairman of any Task Force, or special or select Subcommittee shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee. The Ranking Minority Member shall select a Ranking Minority Member for each Task Force, or standing, special or select Subcommittee.

RULE 8. RECOMMENDATION OF CONFEREES

Whenever it becomes necessary to appoint conferees on a particular measure, the Chairman shall recommend to the Speaker as conferees those Majority Members, as well as those Minority Members recommended to the Chairman by the Ranking Minority Member, primarily responsible for the measure. The ratio of Majority Members to Minority Members recommended for conferences shall be no greater than the ratio on the Committee.

RULE 9. COMMITTEE RECORDS

(a) Segregation of Records.—All Committee records shall be kept separate and distinct from the office records of individual Committee Members serving as Chairmen or Ranking Minority Members. These records shall be the property of the House and all Members shall have access to them in accordance with clause 2(e)(2) of House Rule XI.

(b) Availability.—The Committee shall make available to the public for review at reasonable times in the Committee office transcripts of public meetings and hearings, except those that are unrevised or unedited and intended solely for the use of the Committee.

(c) Archived Records.—Records of the Committee which are deposited with the National Archives shall be made available for public use pursuant to House Rule VII. The Chairman of the Committee shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of House Rule VII, to withhold, or to provide a time, schedule or condition for availability of any record otherwise available. At the written request of any Member of the Committee, the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination and shall be subject to the same notice and quorum requirements for the conduct of business under Committee Rule 3.

(d) Records of Closed Meetings.—Notwithstanding the other provisions of this rule, no records of Committee meetings or hearings which were closed to the public pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives shall be released to the public unless the Committee votes to release those records in accordance with the procedure used to close the Committee meeting.

(e) Classified Materials.—All classified materials shall be maintained in an appropriately secured location and shall be released only to authorized persons for review, who shall not remove the material from the Committee offices without the written permission of the Chairman.

(I) Committee Information Available for the Public.—In addition to any other requirement of these rules or the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Chairman shall cause to be made available publicly in electronic form the following:

(1) a record of the votes on any question on which a recorded vote is taken which shall be posted no later than 24 hours after the vote is taken that shall include:

(i) a copy of the amendment or a detailed description of the motion, order or other proposition; and

(ii) the name of each Member voting for and each Member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, the names of those Members voting present, and the names of any Member not present.

(2) copies of all amendments adopted in Committee by voice vote or unanimous consent within 24 hours of the adoption of the amendment.

(3) the rules of the Committee, once adopted, and any amendments thereto, in accordance with clause 2(a)(2) of House Rule XI.

(4) the statements required under the second sentence of clause 2(g)(5) of House Rule XI, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of the witness, which shall be posted no later than one day after the witness appears before the Committee.

RULE 10. COMMITTEE BUDGET AND EXPENSES

(a) Budget.—At the beginning of each Congress, after consultation with the Chairman of each Subcommittee and the Ranking Minority Member, the Chairman shall present to the Committee for its approval a budget covering the funding required for staff, travel, and miscellaneous expenses.

(b) Expense Resolution.—-Upon approval by the Committee of each budget, the Chairman, acting pursuant to clause 6 of House Rule X, shall prepare and introduce in the House a supporting expense resolution, and take all action necessary to bring about its approval by the Committee on House Administration and by the House of Representatives.

(c) Amendments.—The Chairman shall report to the Committee any amendments to each expense resolution and any related changes in the budget.

(d) Additional Expenses.—Authorization for the payment of additional or unforeseen Committee expenses may be procured by one or more additional expense resolutions processed in the same manner as set out under this rule.

(e) Month Reports.—Copies of each monthly report, prepared by the Chairman for the Committee on House Administration, which shows expenditures made during the reporting period and cumulative for the year, anticipated expenditures for the projected Committee program, and detailed information on travel, shall be available to each Member.

RULE 11. COMMITTEE STAFF

(a) Rules and Policies.—Committee staff members are subject to the provisions of clause 9 of House Rule X, as well as any written personnel policies the Committee may from time to time adopt.

(b) Majority and Nonpartisan Staff.—The Chairman shall appoint, determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the legislative and administrative employees of the Committee not assigned to the Minority. The legislative and administrative staff of the Committee not assigned to the Minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Chairman, who shall establish and assign the duties and responsibilities of these staff members and delegate any authority he determines appropriate.

(c) Minority Staff.—The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall appoint, determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the legislative and administrative staff assigned to the Minority within the budget approved for those purposes. The legislative and administrative staff assigned to the Minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee who may delegate any authority he determines appropriate.

(d) Availability.—The skills and services of all Committee staff shall be available to all Members of the Committee.

RULE 12. COMMITTEE TRAVEL

In addition to any written travel policies the Committee may from time to time adopt, all travel of Members and staff of the Committee or its Subcommittees, to hearings, meetings, conferences and investigations, including all foreign travel, must be authorized by the Full Committee Chairman prior to any public notice of the travel and prior to the actual travel. In the case of Minority staff, all travel shall first be approved by the Ranking Minority Member. Funds authorized for the Committee under clauses 6 and 7 of House Rule X are for expenses incurred in the Committee's activities within the United States.

RULE 13. CHANGES TO COMMITTEE RULES

The rules of the Committee may be modified, amended, or repealed, by a majority vote of the Committee, provided that written notice of the proposed change has been provided each Member of the Committee prior to the meeting date on which the changes are to be discussed and voted on consistent with Committee Rule 3(a). A change to the rules of the Committee shall be published in the Congressional Record no later than 30 days after its approval and made publicly available in electronic form.

RULE 14. OTHER PROCEDURES

The Chairman may establish procedures and take actions as may be necessary to carry out the rules of the Committee or to facilitate the effective administration of the Committee, in accordance with the rules of the Committee and the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit for printing, pursuant to rule XI, clause 2(a) of the Rules of the House, a copy of the Rules of the Committee on Agriculture, which were adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee on January 23, 2013.

Apendix A of the Committee Rules will include excerpts from the Rules of the House relevant to the operation of the Committee. Appendix B will include relevant excerpts from the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. In the interests of minimizing printing costs, Appendices A and B are omitted from this submission.

RULE I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) Applicability of House Rules.—(1) The Rules of the House shall govern the procedure of the Committee and its subcommittees, and the rules of the Committee on Agriculture so far as applicable shall be interpreted in accordance with the Rules of the House, except that a motion to recess from day to day, and a motion to dispense with the first reading (in full) of a bill or resolution, if printed copies are available, are nondebatable privileged motions in the Committee and its subcommittees. (See Appendix A for the applicable Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives.)

(2) As provided in clause 1(a)(2) of House Rule XI, each subcommittee is part of the Committee and is subject to the authority and direction of the Committee and its rules so far as applicable. (See also Committee rules III, IV, V, VI, VII and X, infra.)

(b) Authority to Conduct Investigations.—The Committee and its subcommittees, after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, may conduct such investigations and studies as they may consider necessary or appropriate in the exercise of their responsibilities under Rule X of the Rules of the House and in accordance with clause 2(m) of House Rule XI.

(c) Authority to Print.—The Committee is authorized by the Rules of the House to have printed and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the Committee and its subcommittees. All costs of stenographic services and transcripts in connection with any meeting or hearing of the Committee and its subcommittees shall be paid from applicable accounts of the House described in clause 1(i)(1) of House Rule X in accordance with clause 1(c) of House Rule XI. (See also paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) of Committee rule VIII.)

(d) Vice Chairman.—The Member of the majority party on the Committee or subcommittee designated by the Chairman of the full Committee shall be the vice chairman of the Committee or subcommittee in accordance with clause 2(d) of House Rule XI.

(e) Presiding Member.—If the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee is not present at any Committee or subcommittee meeting or hearing, the vice chairman shall preside. If the Chairman and vice chairman of the Committee or subcommittee are not present at a Committee or subcommittee meeting or hearing the ranking Member of the majority party who is present shall preside in accordance with clause 2(d), House Rule XI.

(f) Publication of Rules.—The Committee's rules shall be publicly available in electronic form and published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the Chair is elected in each odd-numbered year as provided in clause 2(a) of House Rule XI.

(g) Joint Committee Reports of Investigation or Study.—A report of an investigation or study conducted jointly by more than one committee may be filed jointly, provided that each of the committees complies independently with all requirements for approval and filing of the report.

RULE II.—COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETINGS—REGULAR, ADDITIONAL AND SPECIAL

(a) Regular Meetings.—(1) Regular meetings of the Committee, in accordance with clause 2(b) of House Rule XI, shall be held on the first Wednesday of every month to transact its business if notice is given pursuant to clause 2(g)(3) of House Rule XI. The Chairman shall provide each member of the Committee, as far in advance of the day of the regular meeting as practicable, a written agenda of such meeting. Items may be placed on the agenda by the Chairman or a majority of the Committee. This paragraph shall not apply to meetings of any subcommittee. (See paragraph (f) of Committee rule X for provisions that apply to meetings of subcommittees.)

(b) Additional Meetings.—(1) The Chairman may call and convene, as he or she considers necessary, which may not commence earlier than the third day on which members have notice thereof after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or after concurrence with the Ranking Minority Member, additional meetings of the Committee for the consideration of any bill or resolution pending before the Committee or for the conduct of other Committee business. The Committee shall meet for such additional meetings pursuant to the notice from the Chairman.

(2) A hearing or meeting may begin sooner than specified in clause (1) (in which case the chair shall make the announcement specified at the earliest possible time) if the committee so determines by majority vote in the presence of the number of members required under the rules of the committee for the transaction of business.

(3) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of a measure or matter the Chair shall cause the text of such measure or matter to be made publicly available in electronic form.

(c) Special Meetings.—If at least three members of the Committee desire that a special meeting of the Committee be called by the Chairman, those members may file in the offices of the Committee their written request to the Chairman for such special meeting. Such request shall specify the measure or matters to be considered. Immediately upon the filing of the request, the Majority Staff Director (serving as the clerk of the Committee for such purpose) shall notify the Chairman of the filing of the request. If, within three calendar days after the filing of the request, the Chairman does not call the requested special meeting to be held within 7 calendar days after the filing of the request, a majority of the members of the Committee may file in the offices of the Committee their written notice that a special meeting of the Committee will be held, specifying the date and hour thereof, and the measures or matter to be considered at that special meeting in accordance with clause 2(c)(2) of House Rule XI. The Committee shall meet on that date and hour. Immediately upon the filing of the notice, the Majority Staff Director (serving as the clerk) of the Committee shall notify all members of the Committee that such meeting will be held and inform them of its date and hour and the measure or matter to be considered, and only the measure or matter specified in that notice may be considered at that special meeting.

RULE III.—OPEN MEETINGS AND HEARINGS; BROADCASTING

(a) Open Meetings and Hearings.—Each meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, and each hearing by the Committee or a subcommittee shall be open to the public unless closed in accordance with clause 2(g) of House Rule XI. (See Appendix A.)

(b) Broadcasting and Photography.—Whenever a Committee or subcommittee meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or a hearing is open to the public, that meeting or hearing shall:

(1) To the maximum extent practicable the Committee shall provide audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings and shall maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

(2) Be open to coverage by television, radio, and still photography in accordance with clause 4 of House Rule XI (See Appendix A). When such radio coverage is conducted in the Committee or subcommittee, written notice to that effect shall be placed on the desk of each Member. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, shall not limit the number of television or still cameras permitted in a hearing or meeting room to fewer than two representatives from each medium (except for legitimate space or safety considerations, in which case pool coverage shall be authorized).

(c) Closed Meetings—Attendees.—No person other than Members of the Committee or subcommittee and such congressional staff and departmental representatives as the Committee or subcommittee may authorize shall be present at any business or markup session that has been closed to the public as provided in clause 2(g)(1) of House Rule XI.

(d) Addressing the Committee.—A Committee member may address the Committee or a subcommittee on any bill, motion, or other matter under consideration (See Committee rule VII (e) relating to questioning a witness at a hearing). The time a member may address the Committee or subcommittee for any such purpose shall be limited to five minutes, except that this time limit may be waived by unanimous consent. A member shall also be limited in his or her remarks to the subject matter under consideration, unless the Member receives unanimous consent to extend his or her remarks beyond such subject.

(e) Meetings to Begin Promptly.—Subject to the presence of a quorum, each meeting or hearing of the Committee and its subcommittees shall begin promptly at the time so stipulated in the public announcement of the meeting or hearing.

(f) Prohibition on Proxy Voting.—No vote by any Member of the Committee or subcommittee with respect to any measure or matter may be cast by proxy.

(g) Location of Persons at Meetings.—No person other than the Committee or subcommittee Members and Committee or subcommittee staff may be seated in the rostrum area during a meeting of the Committee or subcommittee unless by unanimous consent of Committee or subcommittee.

(h) Consideration of Amendments and Motions.—A Member, upon request, shall be recognized by the Chairman to address the Committee or subcommittee at a meeting for a period limited to five minutes on behalf of an amendment or motion offered by the Member or another Member, or upon any other matter under consideration, unless the Member receives unanimous consent to extend the time limit. Every amendment or motion made in Committee or subcommittee shall, upon the demand of any Member present, be reduced to writing, and a copy thereof shall be made available to all Members present. Such amendment or motion shall not be pending before the Committee or subcommittee or voted on until the requirements of this paragraph have been met.

(i) Demanding Record Vote.—

(1) A record vote of the Committee or subcommittee on a question or action shall be ordered on a demand by one-fifth of the Members present.

(2) The Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving a measure or matter or on adopting an amendment. If the Chairman postpones further proceedings:

(A) the Chairman may resume such postponed proceedings, after giving Members adequate notice, at a time chosen in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member; and

(B) notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, the underlying proposition on which proceedings were postponed shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

(j) Submission of Motions or Amendments In Advance of Business Meetings.—The Committee and subcommittee-Chairman may request and Committee and subcommittee Members should, insofar as practicable, cooperate in providing copies of proposed amendments or motions to the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or the subcommittee twenty-four hours before a Committee or subcommittee business meeting.

(k) Points of Order.— No point of order against the hearing or meeting procedures of the Committee or subcommittee shall be entertained unless it is made in a timely fashion.

(l) Limitation on Committee Sittings.—The Committee or subcommittees may not sit during a joint session of the House and Senate or during a recess when a joint meeting of the House and Senate is in progress.

(m) Prohibition of Wireless Telephones.—Use of wireless phones during a committee or subcommittee hearing or meeting is prohibited.

RULE IV.—QUORUMS.

(a) Working Quorum.—One-third of the members of the Committee or a subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for taking any action, other than as noted in paragraphs (b) and (c).

(b) Majority Quorum.—A majority of the members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for:

(1) the reporting of a bill, resolution or other measure (See clause 2(h)(1) of House Rules XI, and Committee rule VIII);

(2) the closing of a meeting or hearing to the public pursuant to clauses 2(g), 2(k)(5) and 2(k)(7) of the Rule XI of the Rules of the House;

(3) the authorizing of a subpoena as provided in clause 2(m)(3), of House Rule XI (See also Committee rule VI.); and

(4) as where required by a rule of the House.

(c) Quorum for Taking Testimony.—Two members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony and receiving evidence.

RULE V.—RECORDS.

(a) Maintenance of Records.—The Committee shall keep a complete record of all Committee and subcommittee action which shall include—

(1) in the case of any meeting or hearing transcripts, a substantially verbatim account of remarks actually made during the proceedings, subject only to technical, grammatical and typographical corrections authorized by the person making the remarks involved, and

(2) written minutes shall include a record of all Committee and subcommittee action and a record of all votes on any question and a tally on all record votes.

The result of each such record vote shall be made available by the Committee for inspection by the public at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee and by telephone request and also made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours of such record vote. Not later than 24 hours after adoption of an amendment to a measure or matter, the chair of the Committee shall cause the text of such amendment adopted thereto to be made publicly available in electronic form. Information so available for public inspection shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order or other proposition and the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of those members present but not voting.

(b) Access to and Correction of Records.—Any public witness, or person authorized by such witness, during Committee office hours in the Committee offices and within two weeks of the close of hearings, may obtain a transcript copy of that public witness's testimony and make such technical, grammatical and typographical corrections as authorized by the person making the remarks involved as will not alter the nature of testimony given. There shall be prompt return of such corrected copy of the transcript to the Committee. Members of the Committee or subcommittee shall receive copies of transcripts for their prompt review and correction and prompt return to the Committee. The Committee or subcommittee may order the printing of a hearing record without the corrections of any Member or witness if it determines that such Member or witness has been afforded a reasonable time in which to make such corrections and further delay would seriously impede the consideration of the legislative action that is subject of the hearing.

The record of a hearing shall be closed ten calendar days after the last oral testimony, unless the Committee or subcommittee determines otherwise. Any person requesting to file a statement for the record of a hearing must so request before the hearing concludes and must file the statement before the record is closed unless the Committee or subcommittee determines otherwise. The Committee or subcommittee may reject any statement in light of its length or its tendency to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

(c) Property of the House.—All Committee and subcommittee records (including hearings data, charts, and files) shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the Members serving as Chairman and such records shall be the property of the House and all Members of the House shall have access thereto. The Majority Staff Director shall promptly notify the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of any request for access to such records.

(d) Availability of Archived Records.—The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with House Rule VII. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee of the need for a Committee order pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of such House Rule, to withhold a record otherwise available.

(e) Special Rules for Certain Records and Proceedings.—A stenographic record of a business meeting of the Committee or subcommittee may be kept and thereafter may be published if the Chairman of the Committee, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, determines there is need for such a record. The proceedings of the Committee or subcommittee in a closed meeting, evidence or testimony in such meeting, shall not be divulged unless otherwise determined by a majority of the Committee or subcommittee.

(f) Electronic Availability of Committee Publications.—To the maximum extent feasible, the Committee shall make its publications available in electronic form.

RULE VI.—POWER TO SIT AND ACT; SUBPOENA POWER.

(a) Authority to Sit and Act.—For the purpose of carrying out any of its function and duties under House Rules X and XI, the Committee and each of its subcommittees is authorized (subject to paragraph (b)(1) of this rule)—

(1) to sit and act at such times and places within the United States whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned and to hold such hearings, and

(2) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers and documents, as it deems necessary. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, or any member designated by the Chairman, may administer oaths to any witness.

(b) Issuance of Subpoenas.—(1) A subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Committee or subcommittee under paragraph (a)(2) in the conduct of any investigation or series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority being present, as provided in clause 2(m)(3)(A) of House Rule XI. Such authorized subpoenas shall be signed by the Chairman of the Committee or by any member designated by the Committee. As soon as practicable after a subpoena is issued under this rule, the Chairman shall notify all members of the Committee of such action.

(2) Notice of a meeting to consider a motion to authorize and issue a subpoena should be given to all Members of the Committee by 5 p.m. of the day preceding such meeting.

(3) Compliance with any subpoena issued by the Committee or subcommittee under paragraph (a)(2) may be enforced only as authorized or directed by the House.

(4) A subpoena duces tecum may specify terms of return other than at a meeting or hearing of the committee or subcommittee authorizing the subpoena.

(c) Expenses of Subpoenaed Witnesses.—Each witness who has been subpoenaed, upon the completion of his or her testimony before the Committee or any subcommittee, may report to the offices of the Committee, and there sign appropriate vouchers for travel allowances and attendance fees to which he or she is entitled. If hearings are held in cities other than Washington D.C., the subpoenaed witness may contact the Majority Staff Director of the Committee, or his or her representative, before leaving the hearing room.

RULE VII.—HEARING PROCEDURES.

(a) Power to Hear.—For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under House Rule X and XI, the Committee and its subcommittees are authorized to sit and hold hearings at any time or place within the United States whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned. (See paragraph (a) of Committee rule VI and paragraph (f) of Committee rule X for provisions relating to subcommittee hearings and meetings.)

(b) Announcement.—The Chairman of the Committee shall after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, make a public announcement of the date, place and subject matter of any Committee hearing at least one week before the commencement of the hearing. The Chairman of a subcommittee shall schedule a hearing only after consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee, and the Chairmen of the other subcommittees after such consultation with the Committee Chairman, and shall request the Majority Staff Director to make a public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of such hearing at least one week before the hearing. If the Chairman of the Committee or the subcommittee, with concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate, shall request the Majority Staff Director to make such public announcement at the earliest possible date. The clerk of the Committee shall promptly notify the Daily Digest Clerk of the Congressional Record, and shall promptly enter the appropriate information into the Committee scheduling service of the House Information Systems as soon as possible after such public announcement is made.

(c) Scheduling of Witnesses.—Except as otherwise provided in this rule, the scheduling of witnesses and determination of the time allowed for the presentation of testimony at hearings shall be at the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, unless a majority of the Committee or subcommittee determines otherwise.

(d) Written Statement; Oral Testimony.—(1) Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or a subcommittee, shall insofar as practicable file with the Majority Staff Director of the Committee, at least two working days before day of his or her appearance, a written statement of proposed testimony. Witnesses shall provide sufficient copies of their statement for distribution to Committee or subcommittee Members, staff, and the news media. Insofar as practicable, the Committee or subcommittee staff shall distribute such written statements to all Members of the Committee or subcommittee as soon as they are received as well as any official reports from departments and agencies on such subject matter. All witnesses may be limited in their oral presentations to brief summaries of their statements within the time allotted to them, at the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, in light of the nature of the testimony and the length of time available.

(2) As noted in paragraph (a) of Committee rule VI, the Chairman of the Committee or one of its subcommittees, or any Member designated by the Chairman, may administer an oath to any witness.

(3) To the greatest extent practicable, each witness appearing in a non-governmental capacity shall include with the written statement of proposed testimony a curriculum vitae and disclosure of the amount and source (by agency and program) of any Federal grant (or subgrant thereof) or contract (or subcontract thereof) received during the current fiscal year or either of the two preceding fiscal years. Such statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of witnesses, shall be made publicly available in electronic form not later than one day after the witness appears.

(e) Questioning of Witnesses.—Committee or subcommittee Members may question witnesses only when they have been recognized by the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee for that purpose. Each Member so recognized shall be limited to questioning a witness for five minutes until such time as each Member of the Committee or subcommittee who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness for five minutes; and thereafter the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee may limit the time of a further round of questioning after giving due consideration to the importance of the subject matter and the length of time available. All questions put to witnesses shall be germane to the measure or matter under consideration. Unless a majority of the Committee or subcommittee determines otherwise, no committee or subcommittee staff shall interrogate witnesses.

(f) Extended Questioning for Designated Members.—Notwithstanding paragraph (e), the Chairman and Ranking Minority member may designate an equal number of Members from each party to question a witness for a period not longer than 60 minutes.

(g) Witnesses for the Minority.—When any hearing is conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee upon any measure or matter, the minority party members on the Committee or subcommittee shall be entitled, upon request to the Chairman by a majority of those minority members before the completion of such hearing, to call witnesses selected by the minority to testify with respect to that measure or matter during at least one day of hearing thereon as provided in clause 2(j)(1) of House Rule XI.

(h) Summary of Subject Matter.—Upon announcement of a hearing, to the extent practicable, the Committee shall make available immediately to all members of the Committee a concise summary of the subject matter (including legislative reports and other material) under consideration. In addition, upon announcement of a hearing and subsequently as they are received, the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee shall, to the extent practicable, make available to the members of the Committee any

official reports from departments and agencies on such matter. (See Committee rule X(f).)

(i) Open Hearings.—Each hearing conducted by the Committee or subcommittee shall be open to the public, including radio, television and still photography coverage, except as provided in clause 4 of House Rule XI (see also Committee rule III (b).). In any event, no Member of the House may be excluded from nonparticipatory attendance at any hearing unless the House by majority vote shall authorize the Committee or subcommittee, for purposes of a particular series of hearings on a particular bill or resolution or on a particular subject of investigation, to close its hearings to Members by means of the above procedure.

(j) Hearings and Reports.—(1)(i) The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee at a hearing shall announce in an opening statement the subject of the investigation. A copy of the Committee rules (and the applicable provisions of clause 2 of House Rule XI, regarding hearing procedures, an excerpt of which appears in Appendix A thereto) shall be made available to each witness upon request. Witnesses at hearings may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional ethics on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings; but only the full Committee may cite the offender to the House for contempt.

(ii) Whenever it is asserted by a member of the committee that the evidence or testimony at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or it is asserted by a witness that the evidence or testimony that the witness would give at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate the witness, such testimony or evidence shall be presented in executive session, notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (i) of this rule, if by a majority of those present, there being in attendance the requisite number required under the rules of the Committee to be present for the purpose of taking testimony, the Committee or subcommittee determines that such evidence or testimony may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. The Committee or subcommittee shall afford a person an opportunity voluntarily to appear as a witness; and the Committee or subcommittee shall receive and shall dispose of requests from such person to subpoena additional witnesses.

(iii) No evidence or testimony taken in executive session may be released or used in public sessions without the consent of the Committee or subcommittee. In the discretion of the Committee or subcommittee, witnesses may submit brief and pertinent statements in writing for inclusion in the record. The Committee or subcommittee is the sole judge of the pertinency of testimony and evidence adduced at its hearings. A witness may obtain a transcript copy of his or her testimony given at a public session or, if given at an executive session, when authorized by the Committee or subcommittee. (See paragraph (c) of Committee rule V.)

(2) A proposed investigative or oversight report shall be considered as read if it has been available to the members of the Committee for at least 24 hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, or legal holidays except when the House is in session on such day) in advance of their consideration.

RULE VIII.—THE REPORTING OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

(a) Filing of Reports.—The Chairman shall report or cause to be reported promptly to the House any bill, resolution, or other measure approved by the Committee and shall take or cause to be taken all necessary steps to bring such bill, resolution, or other measure to a vote. No bill, resolution, or measure shall be reported from the Committee unless a majority of Committee is actually present. A Committee report on any bill, resolution, or other measure approved by the Committee shall be filed within seven calendar days (not counting days on which the House is not in session) after the day on which there has been filed with the Majority Staff Director of the Committee a written request, signed by a majority of the Committee, for the reporting of that bill or resolution. The Majority Staff Director of the Committee shall notify the Chairman immediately when such a request is filed.

(b) Content of Reports.—Each Committee report on any bill or resolution approved by the Committee shall include as separately identified sections:

(1) a statement of the intent or purpose of the bill or resolution;

(2) a statement describing the need for such bill or resolution;

(3) a statement of Committee and subcommittee consideration of the measure including a summary of amendments and motions offered and the actions taken thereon;

(4) the results of the each record vote on any amendment in the Committee and subcommittee and on the motion to report the measure or matter, including the names of those Members and the total voting for and the names of those Members and the total voting against such amendment or motion (See clause 3(b) of House rule XIII);

(5) the oversight findings and recommendations of the Committee with respect to the subject matter of the bill or resolution as required pursuant to clause 3(c)(1) of House Rule XIII and clause 2(b)(1) of House Rule X;

(6) the detailed statement described in House Rule XIII clause 3(c)(2) and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 if the bill or resolution provides new budget authority (other than continuing appropriations), new spending authority described in section 401(c)(2) of such Act, new credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures, except that the estimates with respect to new budget authority shall include, when practicable, a comparison of the total estimated funding level for the relevant program (or programs) to the appropriate levels under current law;

(7) the estimate of costs and comparison of such estimates, if any, prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with such bill or resolution pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 if submitted in timely fashion to the Committee;

(8) a statement of general performance goals and objectives, including outcome-related goals and objectives, for which the measure authorizes funding;

(9) an estimate by the committee of the costs that would be incurred in carrying out such bill or joint resolution in the fiscal year in which it is reported and for its authorized duration or for each of the five fiscal years following the fiscal year of reporting, whichever period is less (see Rule XIII, clause 3(d)(2), (3) and (h)(2), (3)), together with—(i) a comparison of these estimates with those made and submitted to the Committee by any Government agency when practicable, and (ii) a comparison of the total estimated funding level for the relevant program (or programs) with appropriate levels under current law (The provisions of this clause do not apply if a cost estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 has been timely submitted prior to the filing of the report and included in the report);

(10) a list of congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits in the bill or in the report (and the name of any Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who submitted a request to the committee for each respective item included in such list) or a statement that the proposition contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits;

(11) the changes in existing law (if any) shown in accordance with clause 3 of House Rule XIII;

(12) the determination required pursuant to section 5(b) of Public Law 92–463, if the legislation reported establishes or authorizes the establishment of an advisory committee; and

(13) the information on Federal and intergovernmental mandates required by section 423(c) and (d) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as added by the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (P.L. 104–4).

(14) a statement regarding the applicability of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act, Public Law 104–1.

''(15) a statement indicating whether any provision of the measure establishes or reauthorizes a program of the Federal Government known to be duplicative of another Federal program. The Statement shall at a minimum explain whether—

''(A) any such program was included in any report from the Government Accountability Office to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139; or

''(B) the most recent catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, published pursuant to the Federal Program Information Act (Public Law 95–220, as amended by Public Law 98–169), identified other programs related to the program established or reauthorized by the measure''.

''(16) a statement estimating the number of directed rule makings required by the measure.''

(c) Supplemental, Minority, or Additional Views.—If, at the time of approval of any measure or matter by the Committee, any Member of the Committee gives notice of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views, all Members shall be entitled to not less than two subsequent calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the House is in session on such date) in which toto file such writing and signed views, with the Majority Staff Director of the Committee. When time guaranteed by this paragraph has expired (or if sooner, when all separate views have been received), the Committee may arrange to file its report with the Clerk of the House not later than one hour after the expiration of such time. All such views (in accordance with House rule XI, clause 2(1) and House rule XIII, clause 3(a)(1)), as filed by one or more Members of the Committee, shall be included within and made a part of the report filed by the Committee with respect to that bill or resolution.

(d) Printing of Reports.—The report of the Committee on the measure or matter noted in paragraph (a) above shall be printed in a single volume, which shall:

(1) include all supplemental, minority or additional views that have been submitted by the time of the filing of the report; and

(2) bear on its cover a recital that any such supplemental, minority, or additional views (and any material submitted under House rule XII, clause 3(a)(1)) are included as part of the report.

(e) Immediate Printing; Supplemental Reports.— Nothing in this rule shall preclude (1) the immediate filing or printing of a Committee report unless timely request for

the opportunity to file supplemental, minority, or additional views has been made as provided by paragraph (c), or (2) the filing by the Committee of any supplemental report on any bill or resolution that may be required for the correction of any technical error in a previous report made by the Committee on that bill or resolution.

(f) Availability of Printed Hearing Records.—If hearings have been held on any reported bill or resolution, the Committee shall make every reasonable effort to have the record of such hearings printed and available for distribution to the Members of the House prior to the consideration of such bill or resolution by the House. Each printed hearing of the Committee or any of its subcommittees shall include a record of the attendance of the Members.

(g) Committee Prints.—All Committee or subcommittee prints or other Committee or subcommittee documents, other than reports or prints of bills, that are prepared for public distribution shall be approved by the Chairman of the Committee or the Committee prior to public distribution.

(h) Post Adjournment Filing of Committee Reports.—(1) After an adjournment of the last regular session of a Congress sine die, an investigative or oversight report approved by the Committee may be filed with the Clerk at any time, provided that if a member gives notice at the time of approval of intention to file supplemental, minority, or additional views, that member shall be entitled to not less than seven calendar days in which to submit such views for inclusion with the report.

(2) After an adjournment of the last regular session of a Congress sine die, the Chairman of the Committee may file at any time with the Clerk the Committee's activity report for that Congress pursuant to clause 1(d)(1) of rule XI of the Rules of the House without the approval of the Committee, provided that a copy of the report has been available to each member of the Committee for at least seven calendar days and the report includes any supplemental, minority, or additional views submitted by a member of the Committee.

(i) The Chairman is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of rule XXII of the Rules of the House whenever the Chairman considers it appropriate.

RULE IX.—OTHER COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

(a) Oversight Plan.—Not later than February 15 of the first session of a Congress, the Chairman shall convene the Committee in a meeting that is open to the public and with a quorum present to adopt its oversight plans for that Congress. Such plans shall be submitted simultaneously to the Committee on Government Reform and to the Committee on House Administration. In developing such plans the Committee shall, to the maximum extent feasible—

(1) consult with other committees of the House that have jurisdiction over the same or related laws, programs, or agencies within its jurisdiction, with the objective of ensuring that such laws, programs, or agencies are reviewed in the same Congress and that there is a maximum of coordination between such committees in the conduct of such reviews; and such plans shall include an explanation of what steps have been and will be taken to ensure such coordination and cooperation;

(2) review specific problems with federal rules, regulations, statutes, and court decisions that are ambiguous, arbitrary, or nonsensical, or that impose severe financial burdens on individuals;

(3) give priority consideration to including in its plans the review of those laws, programs, or agencies operating under permanent budget authority or permanent statutory authority;

(4) have a view toward ensuring that all significant laws, programs, or agencies within its jurisdiction are subject to review at least once every ten years; and

(5) include proposals to cut or eliminate programs, including mandatory spending programs, that are inefficient, duplicative, outdated, or more appropriately administered by State or local governments.

The Committee and its appropriate subcommittees shall review and study, on a continuing basis, the impact or probable impact of tax policies affecting subjects within its jurisdiction as provided in clause 2(d) of House Rule X. The Committee shall include in the report filed pursuant to clause 1(d) of House Rule XI a summary of the oversight plans submitted by the Committee under clause 2(d) of House Rule X, a summary of actions taken and recommendations made with respect to each such plan, and a summary of any additional oversight activities undertaken by the Committee and any recommendations made or actions taken thereon.

(b) Annual Appropriations.—The Committee shall, in its consideration of all bills and joint resolutions of a public character within its jurisdiction, ensure that appropriations for continuing programs and activities of the Federal government and the District of Columbia government will be made annually to the maximum extent feasible and consistent with the nature, requirements, and objectives of the programs and activities involved. The Committee shall review, from time to time, each continuing program within its jurisdiction for which appropriations are not made annually in order to ascertain whether such program could be modified so that appropriations therefor would be made annually.

(c) Budget Act Compliance: Views and Estimates (See Appendix B).—Not later than six weeks after the President submits his budget under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, or at such time as the Committee on the Budget may request, the Committee shall, submit to the Committee on the Budget (1) its views and estimates with respect to all matters to be set forth in the concurrent resolution on the budget for the ensuing fiscal year (under section 301 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974—see Appendix B) that are within its jurisdiction or functions; and (2) an estimate of the total amounts of new budget authority, and budget outlays resulting therefrom, to be provided or authorized in all bills and resolutions within its jurisdiction that it intends to be effective during that fiscal year.

(d) Budget Act Compliance: Recommended Changes.—Whenever the Committee is directed in a concurrent resolution on the budget to determine and recommend changes in laws, bills, or resolutions under the reconciliation process, it shall promptly make such determination and recommendations, and report a reconciliation bill or resolution (or both) to the House or submit such recommendations to the Committee on the Budget, in accordance with the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (See Appendix B).

(e) Conference Committees.—Whenever in the legislative process it becomes necessary to appoint conferees, the Chairman shall, after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, determine the number of conferees the Chairman deems most suitable and then recommend to the Speaker as conferees, in keeping with the number to be appointed by the Speaker as provided in House Rule I, clause 11, the names of those Members of the Committee of not less than a majority who generally supported the House position and who were primarily responsible for the legislation. The Chairman shall, to the fullest extent feasible, include those Members of the Committee who were the principal proponents of the major provisions of the bill as it passed the House and such other Committee Members of the majority party as the Chairman may designate in consultation with the Members of the majority party. Such recommendations shall provide a ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members no less favorable to the majority party than the ratio of majority party Members to minority party Members on the Committee. In making recommendations of Minority Party Members as conferees, the Chairman shall consult with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

(f)(1) The Committee, or a subcommittee, shall hold at least one hearing during each 120-day period following the establishment of the committee on the topic of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement in Government programs which the committee may authorize.

(2) A hearing described in subparagraph (1) shall include a focus on the most egregious instances of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement as documented by any report the committee has received from a Federal Office of the Inspector General or the Comptroller General of the United States.

(g) The Committee or a subcommittee, shall hold at least one hearing in any session in which the committee has received disclaimers of agency financial statements from auditors of any Federal agency that the committee may authorize to hear testimony on such disclaimers from representatives of any such agency.

(h) The Committee or a subcommittee, shall hold at least one hearing on issues raised by reports issued by the Comptroller General of the United States indicating that Federal programs or operations that the committee may authorize are at high risk for waste, fraud, and mismanagement, known as the 'high-risk-list' or the 'high-risk series'.

(i)(1) Not later than January 2 of each year, the Committee shall submit to the House a report on the activities of the committee. After adjournment sine die of a regular session of Congress, or after December 15, whichever occurs first, the Chair may file the report, a copy of which shall be made available to each member of the committee for at least seven calendar days, with the Clerk at any time.

(2) Such report shall include separate sections summarizing the legislative and oversight activities of the Committee during that Congress.

(3) The oversight section of such report shall include a summary of the oversight plans submitted by the Committee pursuant to clause 2(d) of House Rule X, a summary of the actions taken and recommendations made with respect to each such plan, and a summary of any additional oversight activities undertaken by the Committee, and any recommendations made or actions taken with respect thereto.

RULE X.—SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Number and Composition.—There shall be such subcommittees as specified in paragraph (c) of this rule. Each of such subcommittees shall be composed of the number of members set forth in paragraph (c) of this rule, including ex officio members. The Chairman may create additional subcommittees of an ad hoc nature as the Chairman determines to be appropriate subject to any limitations provided for in the House Rules.

(b) Ratios.—On each subcommittee, there shall be a ratio of majority party members to minority party members which shall be consistent with the ratio on the full Committee. In calculating the ratio of majority

party members to minority party members, there shall be included the ex officio members of the subcommittees and ratios below reflect that fact.

(c) Jurisdiction.—Each subcommittee shall have the following general jurisdiction and number of members:

General Farm Commodities and Risk Management (____ members, ____ majority and ____ minority)—Program and markets related to cotton, cottonseed, wheat, feed grains, soybeans, oilseeds, rice, dry beans, peas, lentils, the Commodity Credit Corporation, risk management, including crop insurance, commodity exchanges, and specialty crops.

Livestock, Rural Development, and Credit (___members, ___majority and ___minority)—Livestock, dairy, poultry, meat, seafood and seafood products, inspection, marketing, and promotion of such commodities, aquaculture, animal welfare and grazing, rural development, farm security and family farming matters, and agricultural credit.

Department Operations, Oversight, and Nutrition (____ members, ____majority and ____minority)—Agency oversight, review and analysis, special investigations, food stamps, nutrition and consumer programs.

Conservation, Energy, and Forestry(____members, ____majority and ____minority)—Soil, water, and resource conservation, small watershed program, energy and biobased energy production, rural electrification, forestry in general and forest reserves other than those created in public domain.

Horticulture, Research, Biotechnology, and Foreign Agriculture (___members, ___majority and ___minority)—Fruits and vegetables, honey and bees, marketing and promotion orders, plant pesticides, quarantine, adulteration of seeds and insect pests, and organic agriculture, research, education and extension, biotechnology and foreign agriculture assistance, and trade promotion programs, generally.

(d) Referral of Legislation.—(1)(a) In General.—All bills, resolutions, and other matters referred to the Committee shall be referred to all subcommittees of appropriate jurisdiction within 2 weeks after being referred to the Committee. After consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the Chairman may determine that the Committee will consider certain bills, resolutions, or other matters.

(b) Trade Matters.—Unless action is otherwise taken under subparagraph (3), bills, resolutions, and other matters referred to the Committee relating to foreign agriculture, foreign food or commodity assistance, and foreign trade and marketing issues will be considered by the Committee.

(2) The Chairman, by a majority vote of the Committee, may discharge a subcommittee from further consideration of any bill, resolution, or other matter referred to the subcommittee and have such bill, resolution or other matter considered by the Committee. The Committee having referred a bill, resolution, or other matter to a subcommittee in accordance with this rule may discharge such subcommittee from further consideration thereof at any time by a vote of the majority members of the Committee for the Committee's direct consideration or for reference to another subcommittee.

(3) Unless the Committee, a quorum being present, decides otherwise by a majority vote, the Chairman may refer bills, resolutions, legislation or other matters not specifically within the jurisdiction of a subcommittee, or that is within the jurisdiction of more than one subcommittee, jointly or exclusively as the Chairman deems appropriate, including concurrently to the subcommittees with jurisdiction, sequentially to the subcommittees with jurisdiction (subject to any time limits deemed appropriate), divided by subject matter among the subcommittees with jurisdiction, or to an ad hoc subcommittee appointed by the Chairman for the purpose of considering the matter and reporting to the Committee thereon, or make such other provisions deemed appropriate.

(e) Participation and Service of Committee Members on Subcommittees.—(1) The Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member shall serve as ex officio members of all subcommittees and shall have the right to vote on all matters before the subcommittees. The Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member may not be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum.

(2) Any member of the Committee who is not a member of the subcommittee may have the privilege of sitting and nonparticipatory attendance at subcommittee hearings or meetings in accordance with clause 2(g)(2) of House Rule XI. Such member may not:

(i) vote on any matter;

(ii) be counted for the purpose of a establishing a quorum;

(iii) participate in questioning a witness under the five minute rule, unless permitted to do so by the subcommittee Chairman in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member or a majority of the subcommittee, a quorum being present;

(iv) raise points of order; or

(v) offer amendments or motions.

(f) Subcommittee Hearings and Meetings.—(1) Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and make recommendations to the Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction after consultation by the subcommittee Chairmen with the Committee Chairman. (See Committee rule VII.)

(2) After consultation with the Committee Chairman, subcommittee Chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their subcommittees and shall request the Majority Staff Director to make any announcement relating thereto. (See Committee rule VII(b).) In setting the dates, the Committee Chairman and subcommittee Chairman shall consult with other subcommittee Chairmen and relevant Committee and Subcommittee Ranking Minority Members in an effort to avoid simultaneously scheduling Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings to the extent practicable.

(3) Notice of all subcommittee meetings shall be provided to the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee by the Majority Staff Director.

(4) Subcommittees may hold meetings or hearings outside of the House if the Chairman of the Committee and other subcommittee Chairmen and the Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee is consulted in advance to ensure that there is no scheduling problem. However, the majority of the Committee may authorize such meeting or hearing.

(5) The provisions regarding notice and the agenda of Committee meetings under Committee rule II(a) and special or additional meetings under Committee rule II(b) shall apply to subcommittee meetings.

(6) If a vacancy occurs in a subcommittee chairmanship, the Chairman may set the dates for hearings and meetings of the subcommittee during the period of vacancy. The Chairman may also appoint an acting subcommittee Chairman until the vacancy is filled.

(g) Subcommittee Action.—(1) Any bill, resolution, recommendation, or other matter forwarded to the Committee by a subcommittee shall be promptly forwarded by the subcommittee Chairman or any subcommittee member authorized to do so by the subcommittee.

(2) Upon receipt of such recommendation, the Majority Staff Director of the Committee shall promptly advise all members of the Committee of the subcommittee action.

(3) The Committee shall not consider any matters recommended by subcommittees until two calendar days have elapsed from the date of action, unless the Chairman or a majority of the Committee determines otherwise.

(h) Subcommittee Investigations.—No investigation shall be initiated by a subcommittee without the prior consultation with the Chairman of the Committee or a majority of the Committee.

RULE XI.—COMMITTEE BUDGET, STAFF, AND TRAVEL

(a) Committee Budget.—The Chairman, in consultation with the majority members of the Committee, and the minority members of the Committee, shall prepare a preliminary budget for each session of the Congress. Such budget shall include necessary amounts for staff personnel, travel, investigation, and other expenses of the Committee and subcommittees. After consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, the Chairman shall include an amount budgeted to minority members for staff under their direction and supervision. Thereafter, the Chairman shall combine such proposals into a consolidated Committee budget, and shall take whatever action is necessary to have such budget duly authorized by the House.

(b) Committee Staff.—(1) The Chairman shall appoint and determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the professional and clerical employees of the Committee not assigned to the minority. The professional and clerical staff of the Committee not assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Chairman, who shall establish and assign the duties and responsibilities of such staff members and delegate such authority as he or she determines appropriate. (See House Rule X, clause 9)

(2) The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall appoint and determine the remuneration of, and may remove, the professional and clerical staff assigned to the minority within the budget approved for such purposes. The professional and clerical staff assigned to the minority shall be under the general supervision and direction of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee who may delegate such authority as he or she determines appropriate.

(3) From the funds made available for the appointment of Committee staff pursuant to any primary or additional expense resolution, the Chairman shall ensure that each subcommittee is adequately funded and staffed to discharge its responsibilities and that the minority party is fairly treated in the appointment of such staff (See House Rule X, clause 6(d)).

(c) Committee Travel.—(1) Consistent with the primary expense resolution and such additional expense resolution as may have been approved, the provisions of this rule shall govern official travel of Committee members and Committee staff regarding domestic and foreign travel (See House rule XI, clause 2(n) and House Rule X, clause 8 (reprinted in Appendix A)). Official travel for any member or any Committee staff member shall be paid only upon the prior authorization of the Chairman. Official travel may be authorized by the Chairman for any Committee Member and any Committee staff member in connection with the attendance of hearings conducted by the Committee and its subcommittees and meetings, conferences, facility inspections, and investigations which involve

activities or subject matter relevant to the general jurisdiction of the Committee. Before such authorization is given there shall be submitted to the Chairman in writing the following:

(i) The purpose of the official travel;

(ii) The dates during which the official travel is to be made and the date or dates of the event for which the official travel is being made;

(iii) The location of the event for which the official travel is to be made; and

(iv) The names of members and Committee staff seeking authorization.

(2) In the case of official travel of members and staff of a subcommittee to hearings, meetings, conferences, facility inspections and investigations involving activities or subject matter under the jurisdiction of such subcommittee to be paid for out of funds allocated to the Committee, prior authorization must be obtained from the subcommittee Chairman and the full Committee Chairman. Such prior authorization shall be given by the Chairman only upon the representation by the applicable subcommittee Chairman in writing setting forth those items enumerated in clause (1).

(3) Within 60 days of the conclusion of any official travel authorized under this rule, there shall be submitted to the Committee Chairman a written report covering the information gained as a result of the hearing, meeting, conference, facility inspection or investigation attended pursuant to such official travel.

(4) Local currencies owned by the United States shall be made available to the Committee and its employees engaged in carrying out their official duties outside the United States, its territories or possessions. No appropriated funds shall be expended for the purpose of defraying expenses of Members of the Committee or its employees in any country where local currencies are available for this purpose; and the following conditions shall apply with respect to their use of such currencies;

(i) No Member or employee of the Committee shall receive or expend local currencies for subsistence in any country at a rate in excess of the maximum per diem rate set forth in applicable Federal law; and

(ii) Each Member or employee of the Committee shall make an itemized report to the Chairman within 60 days following the completion of travel showing the dates each country was visited, the amount of per diem furnished, the cost of transportation furnished, and any funds expended for any other official purpose, and shall summarize in these categories the total foreign currencies and appropriated funds expended. All such individual reports shall be filed by the Chairman with the Committee on House Administration and shall be open to public inspection.

RULE XII.—AMENDMENT OF RULES

These rules may be amended by a majority vote of the Committee. A proposed change in these rules shall not be considered by the Committee as provided in clause 2 of House Rule XI, unless written notice of the proposed change has been provided to each Committee member two legislative days in advance of the date on which the matter is to be considered. Any such change in the rules of the Committee shall be published in the Congressional Record within 30 calendar days after its approval.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I submit for publication the attached copy of the rules of the Committee on Armed Services for the U.S. House of Representatives for the 113th Congress, as adopted by the committee on January 15, 2013.

RULE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(a) The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on Armed Services (hereinafter referred to in these rules as the ''Committee'') and its subcommittees so far as applicable.

(b) Pursuant to clause 2(a)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's rules shall be publicly available in electronic form and published in the Congressional Record not later than 30 days after the chair of the committee is elected in each odd-numbered year.

RULE 2. FULL COMMITTEE MEETING DATE

(a) The Committee shall meet every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., when the House of Representatives is in session, and at such other times as may be fixed by the Chairman of the Committee (hereinafter referred to as the ''Chairman''), or by written request of members of the Committee pursuant to clause 2(c) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(b) A Wednesday meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with by the Chairman, but such action may be reversed by a written request of a majority of the members of the Committee.

RULE 3. SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Each subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the Committee on all matters referred to it. Insofar as possible, meetings of the Committee and its subcommittees shall not conflict. A subcommittee Chairman shall set meeting dates after consultation with the Chairman, other subcommittee Chairmen, and the Ranking Minority Member of the subcommittee with a view toward avoiding, whenever possible, simultaneous scheduling of Committee and subcommittee meetings or hearings.

RULE 4. JURISDICTION AND MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Jurisdiction

(1) The Committee retains jurisdiction of all subjects listed in clause 1(c) and clause 3(b) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives and retains exclusive jurisdiction for: defense policy generally, ongoing military operations, the organization and reform of the Department of Defense and Department of Energy, counter-drug programs, security and humanitarian assistance (except special operations-related activities) of the Department of Defense, acquisition and industrial base policy, technology transfer and export controls, joint interoperability, the Cooperative Threat Reduction program, Department of Energy nonproliferation programs, detainee affairs and policy, force protection policy and inter-agency reform as it pertains to the Department of Defense and the nuclear weapons programs of the Department of Energy. While subcommittees are provided jurisdictional responsibilities in subparagraph (2), the Committee retains the right to exercise oversight and legislative jurisdiction over all subjects within its purview under rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(2) The Committee shall be organized to consist of seven standing subcommittees with the following jurisdictions:

Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces: All Army, Air Force and Marine Corps acquisition programs (except Marine Corps amphibious assault vehicle programs, strategic missiles, space, lift programs, special operations, science and technology programs, and information technology accounts) and the associated weapons systems sustainment. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Navy and Marine Corps aviation programs and the associated weapons systems sustainment, National Guard and Army, Air Force and Marine Corps Reserve modernization, and ammunition programs.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel: Military personnel policy, Reserve Component integration and employment issues, military health care, military education, and POW/MIA issues. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Morale, Welfare and Recreation issues and programs.

Subcommittee on Readiness: Military readiness, training, logistics and maintenance issues and programs. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for all military construction, depot policy, civilian personnel policy, environmental policy, installations and family housing issues, including the base closure process, and energy policy and programs of the Department of Defense.

Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces: Navy acquisition programs, Naval Reserve equipment, and Marine Corps amphibious assault vehicle programs (except strategic weapons, space, special operations, science and technology programs, and information technology programs), deep strike bombers and related systems, lift programs, seaborne unmanned aerial systems and the associated weapons systems sustainment. In addition, the subcommittee will be responsible for Maritime programs under the jurisdiction of the Committee as delineated in paragraphs 5, 6, and 9 of clause 1(c) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces: Strategic weapons (except deep strike bombers and related systems), space programs (including national intelligence space programs), ballistic missile defense, the associated weapons systems sustainment, and Department of Energy national security programs (except non-proliferation programs).

Subcommittee on Intelligence, Emerging Threats and Capabilities: Defense-wide and joint enabling activities and programs to include: Special Operations Forces; counter-proliferation and counter-terrorism programs and initiatives; science and technology policy and programs; information technology programs; homeland defense and Department of Defense related consequence management programs; related intelligence support; and other enabling programs and activities to include cyber operations, strategic communications, and information operations. In addition the subcommittee will be responsible for intelligence policy (including coordination of military intelligence programs), national-intelligence programs (excluding national intelligence space programs), and DoD elements that are part of the Intelligence Community.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations: Any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee, subject to the concurrence of the Chairman of the Committee and, as appropriate, affected subcommittee chairmen. The subcommittee shall have no legislative jurisdiction.

(b) Membership of the Subcommittees

(1) Subcommittee memberships, with the exception of membership on the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, shall be filled in accordance with the rules of the Majority party's conference and the Minority party's caucus, respectively.

(2) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations shall be filled in accordance with the rules of the Majority party's conference and the Minority party's caucus, respectively. Consistent with the party ratios established by the Majority party, all

other Majority members of the subcommittee shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee, and all other Minority members shall be appointed by the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee.

(3) The Chairman of the Committee and Ranking Minority Member thereof may sit as ex officio members of all subcommittees. Ex officio members shall not vote in subcommittee hearings or meetings or be taken into consideration for the purpose of determining the ratio of the subcommittees or establishing a quorum at subcommittee hearings or meetings.

(4) A member of the Committee who is not a member of a particular subcommittee may sit with the subcommittee and participate during any of its hearings but shall not have authority to vote, cannot be counted for the purpose of achieving a quorum, and cannot raise a point of order at the hearing.

RULE 5. COMMITTEE PANELS AND TASK FORCES

(a) Committee Panels

(1) The Chairman may designate a panel of the Committee consisting of members of the Committee to inquire into and take testimony on a matter or matters that fall within the jurisdiction of more than one subcommittee and to report to the Committee.

(2) No panel appointed by the Chairman shall continue in existence for more than six months after the appointment. A panel so appointed may, upon the expiration of six months, be reappointed by the Chairman for a period of time which is not to exceed six months.

(3) Consistent with the party ratios established by the Majority party, all Majority members of the panels shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee, and all Minority members shall be appointed by the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee. The Chairman of the Committee shall choose one of the Majority members so appointed who does not currently chair another subcommittee of the Committee to serve as Chairman of the panel. The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee shall similarly choose the Ranking Minority Member of the panel.

(4) No panel shall have legislative jurisdiction.

(b) Committee and Subcommittee Task Forces

(1) The Chairman of the Committee, or a Chairman of a subcommittee with the concurrence of the Chairman of the Committee, may designate a task force to inquire into and take testimony on a matter that falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee or subcommittee, respectively. The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee shall each appoint an equal number of members to the task force. The Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee shall choose one of the members so appointed, who does not currently chair another subcommittee of the Committee, to serve as Chairman of the task force. The Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee shall similarly appoint the Ranking Minority Member of the task force.

(2) No task force appointed by the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee shall continue in existence for more than three months. A task force may only be reappointed for an additional three months with the written concurrence of the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee whose Chairman appointed the task force.

(3) No task force shall have legislative jurisdiction.

RULE 6. REFERENCE AND CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION

(a) The Chairman shall refer legislation and other matters to the appropriate subcommittee or to the full Committee.

(b) Legislation shall be taken up for a hearing or markup only when called by the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate, or by a majority of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate.

(c) The Chairman, with approval of a majority vote of a quorum of the Committee, shall have authority to discharge a subcommittee from consideration of any measure or matter referred thereto and have such measure or matter considered by the Committee.

(d) Reports and recommendations of a subcommittee may not be considered by the Committee until after the intervention of three calendar days from the time the report is approved by the subcommittee and available to the members of the Committee, except that this rule may be waived by a majority vote of a quorum of the Committee.

(e) The Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, shall establish criteria for recommending legislation and other matters to be considered by the House of Representatives, pursuant to clause I of rule XV of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Such criteria shall not conflict with the Rules of the House of Representatives and other applicable rules.

RULE 7. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

(a) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(3) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Committee, or of any subcommittee, panel, or task force, shall make a public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing or meeting before that body at least one week before the commencement of a hearing and at least three days before the commencement of a meeting. However, if the Chairman of the Committee, or of any subcommittee, panel, or task force, with the concurrence of the respective Ranking Minority Member, determines that there is good cause to begin the hearing or meeting sooner, or if the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, such chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date. Any announcement made under this rule shall be promptly published in the Daily Digest, promptly entered into the committee scheduling service of the House Information Resources, and promptly made publicly available in electronic form.

(b) At least 24 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of legislation, or at the time of an announcement under paragraph (a) made within 24 hours before such meeting, the Chairman of the Committee, or of any subcommittee, panel, or task force shall cause the text of such measure or matter to be made publicly available in electronic form as provided in clause 2(g)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 8. BROADCASTING OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

(a) Pursuant to clause 2(e)(5) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide audio and video coverage of each hearing or meeting for the transaction of business in a manner that allows the public to easily listen to and view the proceedings. The Committee shall maintain the recordings of such coverage in a manner that is easily accessible to the public.

(b) Clause 4 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to the Committee.

RULE 9. MEETINGS AND HEARINGS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

(a) Each hearing and meeting for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, conducted by the Committee, or any subcommittee, panel, or task force, to the extent that the respective body is authorized to conduct markups, shall be open to the public except when the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force in open session and with a majority being present, determines by record vote that all or part of the remainder of that hearing or meeting on that day shall be in executive session because disclosure of testimony, evidence, or other matters to be considered would endanger the national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would violate any law or rule of the House of Representatives. Notwithstanding the requirements of the preceding sentence, a majority of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force may vote to close a hearing or meeting for the sole purpose of discussing whether testimony or evidence to be received would endanger the national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would violate any law or rule of the House of Representatives. If the decision is to proceed in executive session, the vote must be by record vote and in open session, a majority of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force being present.

(b) Whenever it is asserted by a member of the Committee or subcommittee that the evidence or testimony at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person, or it is asserted by a witness that the evidence or testimony that the witness would give at a hearing may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate the witness, notwithstanding the requirements of (a) and the provisions of clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, such evidence or testimony shall be presented in executive session, if by a majority vote of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee or subcommittee, the Committee or subcommittee determines that such evidence may tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. A majority of those present, there being in attendance no fewer than two members of the Committee or subcommittee may also vote to close the hearing or meeting for the sole purpose of discussing whether evidence or testimony to be received would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person. The Committee or subcommittee shall proceed to receive such testimony in open session only if the Committee or subcommittee, a majority being present, determines that such evidence or testimony will not tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

(c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, and with the approval of the Chairman, each member of the Committee may designate by letter to the Chairman, one member of that member's personal staff, and an alternate, which may include fellows, with Top Secret security clearance to attend hearings of the Committee, or that member's subcommittee(s), panel(s), or task force(s) (excluding briefings or meetings held under the provisions of committee rule 9(a)), which have been closed under the provisions of rule 9(a) above for national security purposes for the taking of testimony. The attendance of such a staff member or fellow at such hearings is subject to the approval of the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force as dictated by national security requirements at that time. The attainment of any required security clearances is the responsibility of individual members of the Committee.

(d) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, no Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner may be excluded from nonparticipatory attendance at any hearing of the Committee or a subcommittee, unless the House of Representatives shall by majority vote authorize the Committee or subcommittee, for purposes of a particular series of hearings on a particular article of legislation or on a particular subject of investigation, to close its hearings to Members, Delegates, and the Resident Commissioner by the same procedures designated in this rule for closing hearings to the public.

(e) The Committee or the subcommittee may vote, by the same procedure, to meet in executive session for up to five additional consecutive days of hearings.

RULE 10. QUORUM

(a) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence, two members shall constitute a quorum.

(b) One-third of the members of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for taking any action, with the following exceptions, in which case a majority of the Committee or subcommittee shall constitute a quorum:

(1) Reporting a measure or recommendation;

(2) Closing Committee or subcommittee meetings and hearings to the public;

(3) Authorizing the issuance of subpoenas;

(4) Authorizing the use of executive session material; and

(5) Voting to proceed in open session after voting to close to discuss whether evidence or testimony to be received would tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person.

(c) No measure or recommendation shall be reported to the House of Representatives unless a majority of the Committee is actually present.

RULE 11. THE FIVE-MINUTE RULE

(a) Subject to rule 15, the time any one member may address the Committee or subcommittee on any measure or matter under consideration shall not exceed five minutes and then only when the member has been recognized by the Chairman or subcommittee chairman, as appropriate, except that this time limit may be exceeded by unanimous consent. Any member, upon request, shall be recognized for not more than five minutes to address the Committee or subcommittee on behalf of an amendment which the member has offered to any pending bill or resolution. The five-minute limitation shall not apply to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or subcommittee.

(b)(1) Members who are present at a hearing of the Committee or subcommittee when a hearing is originally convened shall be recognized by the Chairman or subcommittee chairman, as appropriate, in order of seniority. Those members arriving subsequently shall be recognized in order of their arrival. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member will take precedence upon their arrival. In recognizing members to question witnesses in this fashion, the Chairman shall take into consideration the ratio of the Majority to Minority members present and shall establish the order of recognition for questioning in such a manner as not to disadvantage the members of either party.

(2) Pursuant to rule 4 and subject to rule 15, a member of the Committee who is not a member of a subcommittee may be recognized by a subcommittee chairman in order of their arrival and after all present subcommittee members have been recognized.

(3) The Chairman of the Committee or a subcommittee, with the concurrence of the respective Ranking Minority Member, may depart with the regular order for questioning which is specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this rule provided that such a decision is announced prior to the hearing or prior to the opening statements of the witnesses and that any such departure applies equally to the Majority and the Minority.

(c) No person other than a Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of Congress and committee staff may be seated in or behind the dais area during Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force hearings and meetings.

RULE 12. POWER TO SIT AND ACT; SUBPOENA POWER

(a) For the purpose of carrying out any of its functions and duties under rules X and XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee and any subcommittee is authorized (subject to subparagraph (b)(1) of this paragraph):

(1) to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether the House is in session, has recessed, or has adjourned, and to hold hearings, and

(2) to require by subpoena, or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memorandums, papers and documents, including, but not limited to, those in electronic form, as it considers necessary.

(b)(1) A subpoena may be authorized and issued by the Committee, or any subcommittee with the concurrence of the full Committee Chairman and after consultation with the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, under subparagraph (a)(2) in the conduct of any investigation, or series of investigations or activities, only when authorized by a majority of the members voting, a majority of the Committee or subcommittee being present. Authorized subpoenas shall be signed only by the Chairman, or by any member designated by the Committee.

(2) Pursuant to clause 2(m) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, compliance with any subpoena issued by the Committee or any subcommittee under subparagraph (a)(2) may be enforced only as authorized or directed by the House of Representatives.

RULE 13. WITNESS STATEMENTS

(a) Any prepared statement to be presented by a witness to the Committee or a subcommittee shall be submitted to the Committee or subcommittee at least 48 hours in advance of presentation and shall be distributed to all members of the Committee or subcommittee as soon as practicable but not less than 24 hours in advance of presentation. A copy of any such prepared statement shall also be submitted to the Committee in electronic form. If a prepared statement contains national security information bearing a classification of Secret or higher, the statement shall be made available in the Committee rooms to all members of the Committee or subcommittee as soon as practicable but not less than 24 hours in advance of presentation; however, no such statement shall be removed from the Committee offices. The requirement of this rule may be waived by a majority vote of the Committee or subcommittee, a quorum being present. In cases where a witness does not submit a statement by the time required under this rule, the Chairman of the Committee or subcommittee, as appropriate, with the concurrence of the respective Ranking Minority Member, may elect to exclude the witness from the hearing.

(b) The Committee and each subcommittee shall require each witness who is to appear before it to file with the Committee in advance of his or her appearance a written statement of the proposed testimony and to limit the oral presentation at such appearance to a brief summary of the submitted written statement.

(c) Pursuant to clause 2(g)(5) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, written witness statements, with appropriate redactions to protect the privacy of the witness, shall be made publicly available in electronic form not later than one day after the witness appears.

RULE 14. ADMINISTERING OATHS TO WITNESSES

(a) The Chairman, or any member designated by the Chairman, may administer oaths to any witness.

(b) Witnesses, when sworn, shall subscribe to the following oath:

''Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the testimony you will give before this Committee (or subcommittee) in the matters now under consideration will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?''

RULE 15. QUESTIONING OF WITNESSES

(a) When a witness is before the Committee or a subcommittee, members of the Committee or subcommittee may put questions to the witness only when recognized by the Chairman or subcommittee chairman, as appropriate, for that purpose according to rule 11 of the Committee.

(b) Members of the Committee or subcommittee who so desire shall have not more than five minutes to question each witness or panel of witnesses, the responses of the witness or witnesses being included in the five-minute period, until such time as each member has had an opportunity to question each witness or panel of witnesses. Thereafter, additional rounds for questioning witnesses by members are within the discretion of the Chairman or subcommittee chairman, as appropriate.

(c) Questions put to witnesses before the Committee or subcommittee shall be pertinent to the measure or matter that may be before the Committee or subcommittee for consideration.

RULE 16. PUBLICATION OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND MARKUPS

The transcripts of those hearings conducted by the Committee, subcommittee, or panel will be published officially in substantially verbatim form, with the material requested for the record inserted at that place requested, or at the end of the record, as appropriate. The transcripts of markups conducted by the Committee or any subcommittee may be published officially in verbatim form. Any requests to correct any errors, other than those in transcription, will be appended to the record, and the appropriate place where the change is requested will be footnoted. Any transcript published under this rule shall include the results of record votes conducted in the session covered by the transcript and shall also include materials that have been submitted for the record and are covered under rule 19. The handling and safekeeping of these materials shall fully satisfy the requirements of rule 20. No transcript of an executive session conducted under rule 9 shall be published under this rule.

RULE 17. VOTING AND ROLLCALLS

(a) Voting on a measure or matter may be by record vote, division vote, voice vote, or unanimous consent.

(b) A record vote shall be ordered upon the request of one-fifth of those members present.

(c) No vote by any member of the Committee or a subcommittee with respect to any measure or matter shall be cast by proxy.

(d) In the event of a vote or votes, when a member is in attendance at any other committee, subcommittee, or conference committee meeting during that time, the necessary absence of that member shall be so noted in the record vote record, upon timely notification to the Chairman by that member.

(e) The Chairman of the Committee or a subcommittee, as appropriate, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member or the most senior Minority member who is present at the time, may elect to postpone requested record votes until such time or point at a markup as is mutually decided. When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, the underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

RULE 18. COMMITTEE REPORTS

(a) If, at the time of approval of any measure or matter by the Committee, any member of the Committee gives timely notice of intention to file supplemental, Minority, additional or dissenting views, all members shall be entitled to not less than two calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays except when the House is in session on such days) in which to file such written and signed views with the Staff Director of the Committee, or the Staff Director's designee. All such views so filed by one or more members of the Committee shall be included within, and shall be a part of, the report filed by the Committee with respect to that measure or matter.

(b) With respect to each record vote on a motion to report any measure or matter, and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, the total number of votes cast for and against, the names of those voting for and against, and a brief description of the question, shall be included in the Committee report on the measure or matter.

(c) Not later than 24 hours after the adoption of any amendment to a measure or matter considered by the Committee, the Chairman shall cause the text of each such amendment to be made publicly available in electronic form as provided in clause 2(e)(6) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 19. PUBLIC INSPECTION OF COMMITTEE ROLLCALLS

The result of each record vote in any meeting of the Committee shall be made available by the Committee for inspection by the public at reasonable times in the offices of the Committee and also made publicly available in electronic form within 48 hours of such record vote pursuant to clause 2(e)(1)B(i) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. Information so available shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition and the name of each member voting for and each member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition and the names of those members present but not voting.

RULE 20. PROTECTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND OTHER INFORMATION

(a) Except as provided in clause 2(g) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, all national security information bearing a classification of Secret or higher which has been received by the Committee or a subcommittee shall be deemed to have been received in executive session and shall be given appropriate safekeeping.

(b) The Chairman of the Committee shall, with the approval of a majority of the Committee, establish such procedures as in his judgment may be necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any national security information that is received which is classified as Secret or higher. Such procedures shall, however, ensure access to this information by any member of the Committee or any other Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner of the House of Representatives, staff of the Committee, or staff designated under rule 9(c) who have the appropriate security clearances and the need to know, who has requested the opportunity to review such material.

(c) The Chairman of the Committee shall, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, establish such procedures as in his judgment may be necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of any proprietary information that is received by the Committee, subcommittee, panel, or task force. Such procedures shall be consistent with the Rules of the House of Representatives and applicable law.

RULE 21. COMMITTEE STAFFING

The staffing of the Committee, the standing subcommittees, and any panel or task force designated by the Chairman or chairmen of the subcommittees shall be subject to the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULE 22. COMMITTEE RECORDS

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with rule VII of the Rules of the House of Representatives. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to clause 3(b)(3) or clause 4(b) of rule VII, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any member of the Committee.

RULE 23. HEARING PROCEDURES

Clause 2(k) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives shall apply to the Committee.

RULE 24. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY REPORTS

Not later than January 2nd of each year the Committee shall submit to the House a report on its activities, pursuant to clause 1(d) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

RULES OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR THE 113TH CONGRESS

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I submit for publication the attached copy of the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary for the U.S. House of Representatives for the 113th Congress, as adopted by the Committee on January 23, 2013:

Rule I. The Rules of the House of Representatives are the rules of the Committee on the Judiciary and its Subcommittees with the following specific additions thereto.

RULE II. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) The regular meeting day of the Committee on the Judiciary for the conduct of its business shall be on Wednesday of each week while the House is in session.

(b) Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman and a regular meeting of the Committee may be dispensed with when, in the judgment of the Chairman, there is no need therefor.

(c) The Chairman shall furnish each Member of the Committee or Subcommittee with the date, place, and a list of bills and subjects to be considered at a Committee or Subcommittee meeting, which may not commence earlier than the third day on which Members have notice thereof (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session).

(d) At least 48 hours prior to the commencement of a meeting for the markup of legislation, the text of such legislation shall be made publicly available in electronic form.

(e) In an emergency that does not reasonably allow for the notice requirements in (c) and (d), the Chairman may waive the notice requirements with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member.

(f) To the maximum extent practicable, amendments to a measure or matter shall be submitted in writing or electronically to the designee of both the Chairman and Ranking Member at least 24 hours prior to the consideration of the measure or matter. The Chairman may use his discretion to give priority to amendments submitted in advance.

(g) Committee and Subcommittee meetings for the transaction of business, i.e. meetings other than those held for the purpose of taking testimony, shall be open to the public except when the Committee or Subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(h) Every motion made to the Committee and entertained by the Chairman shall be reduced to writing upon demand of any Member, and a copy made available to each Member present.

(i) For purposes of taking any action at a meeting of the full Committee or any Subcommittee thereof, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of not less than one-third of the Members of the Committee or Subcommittee, except that a full majority of the Members of the Committee or Subcommittee shall constitute a quorum for purposes of reporting a measure or recommendation from the Committee or Subcommittee, closing a meeting to the public, or authorizing the issuance of a subpoena.

(j)(1) Subject to subparagraph (2), the Chairman may postpone further proceedings when a record vote is ordered on the question of approving any measure or matter or adopting an amendment. The Chairman may resume proceedings on a postponed request at any time.

(2) In exercising postponement authority under subparagraph (1), the Chairman shall take all reasonable steps necessary to notify Members on the resumption of proceedings on any postponed record vote.

(3) When proceedings resume on a postponed question, notwithstanding any intervening order for the previous question, an underlying proposition shall remain subject to further debate or amendment to the same extent as when the question was postponed.

(k) Transcripts of markups shall be recorded and may be published in the same manner as hearings before the Committee.

(l) Without further action of the Committee, the Chairman is directed to offer a motion under clause 1 of rule XXII of the Rules of the House of Representatives whenever the Chairman considers it appropriate.

RULE III. HEARINGS

(a) The Committee Chairman or any Subcommittee Chairman shall make public announcement of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be conducted by it on any measure or matter at least one week before the commencement of that hearing. If the Chairman of the Committee, or Subcommittee, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member, determines there is good cause to begin the hearing sooner, or if the Committee or Subcommittee so determines by majority vote, a quorum being present for the transaction of business, the Chairman or Subcommittee Chairman shall make the announcement at the earliest possible date.

(b) Committee and Subcommittee hearings shall be open to the public except when the Committee or Subcommittee determines by majority vote to close the meeting because disclosure of matters to be considered would endanger national security, would compromise sensitive law enforcement information, or would tend to defame, degrade or incriminate any person or otherwise would violate any law or rule of the House.

(c) For purposes of taking testimony and receiving evidence before the Committee or any Subcommittee, a quorum shall be constituted by the presence of two Members.

(d) In the course of any hearing each Member shall be allowed five minutes for the interrogation of a witness until such time as each Member who so desires has had an opportunity to question the witness.

(e) The transcripts of those hearings conducted by the Committee which are decided to be printed shall be published in verbatim form, with the material requested for the record inserted at that place requested, or at the end of the record, as appropriate. Individuals, including Members of Congress, whose comments are to be published as part of a Committee document shall be given the opportunity to verify the accuracy of the transcription in advance of publication. Any requests by those Members, staff or witnesses to correct any errors other than errors in the transcription, or disputed errors in transcription, shall be appended to the record, and the appropriate place where the change is requested will be footnoted. Prior to approval by the Chairman of hearings conducted jointly with another congressional Committee, a memorandum of understanding shall be prepared which incorporates an agreement for the publication of the verbatim transcript.

RULE IV. BROADCASTING

Whenever a hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee or any Subcommittee is open to the public, those proceedings shall be open to coverage by television, radio and still photography except when the hearing or meeting is closed pursuant to the Committee Rules of Procedure.

RULE V. STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) The full Committee shall have jurisdiction over such matters as determined by the Chairman.

(b) There shall be five standing Subcommittees of the Committee on the Judiciary, with jurisdictions as follows:

The Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: constitutional amendments, constitutional rights, Federal civil rights, ethics in government, tort liability, including medical malpractice and product liability, legal reform generally, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

The Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: Administration of U.S. Courts, Federal Rules of Evidence, Civil and Appellate Procedure, judicial ethics, copyright, patent, trademark law, information technology, other appropriate matters as referred to by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

The Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: Federal Criminal Code, drug enforcement, sentencing, parole and pardons, internal and homeland security, Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, prisons, criminal law enforcement, and other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

The Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: immigration and naturalization, border security, admission of refugees, treaties, conventions and international agreements, claims against the United States, Federal charters of incorporation, private immigration and claims bills, non-border immigration enforcement, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

The Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law shall have jurisdiction over the following subject matters: bankruptcy and commercial law, bankruptcy judgeships, administrative law, independent counsel, state taxation affecting interstate commerce, interstate compacts, antitrust matters, other appropriate matters as referred by the Chairman, and relevant oversight.

(c) The Chairman of the Committee and Ranking Minority Member thereof shall be ex officio Members, but not voting Members, of each Subcommittee to which such Chairman or Ranking Minority Member has not been assigned by resolution of the Committee. Ex officio Members shall not be counted as present for purposes of constituting a quorum at any hearing or meeting of such Subcommittee.

RULE VI. POWERS AND DUTIES OF SUBCOMMITTEES

Each Subcommittee is authorized to meet, hold hearings, receive evidence, and report to the full Committee on all matters referred to it or under its jurisdiction. Subcommittee chairmen shall set dates for hearings and meetings of their respective Subcommittees after consultation with the Chairman and other Subcommittee chairmen with a view toward avoiding simultaneous scheduling of full Committee and Subcommittee meetings or hearings whenever possible.

RULE VII. NON-LEGISLATIVE REPORTS

No report of the Committee or Subcommittee which does not accompany a measure or matter for consideration by the House shall be published unless all Members of the Committee or Subcommittee issuing the report shall have been apprised of such report and given the opportunity to give notice of intention to file supplemental, additional, or dissenting views as part of the report. In no case shall the time in which to file such views be less than three calendar days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays when the House is not in session).

RULE VIII. COMMITTEE RECORDS

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use according to the Rules of the House. The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the Committee for a determination on the written request of any Member of the Committee.

RULE IX. OFFICIAL COMMITTEE WEBSITE

(a) The Chairman shall maintain an official website on behalf of the Committee for the purpose of furthering the Committee's legislative and oversight responsibilities, including communicating information about the Committee's activities to Committee Members and other Members of the House.

(b) The Chairman shall make the record of the votes on any question on which a record vote is demanded in the full Committee available on the Committee's official website not later than 48 hours after such vote is taken. Such record shall identify or describe the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition, the name of each Member voting for and each Member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and the names of the Members voting present.

(c) Not later than 24 hours after the adoption of any amendment to a measure or matter considered by the Committee or its Subcommittees, the Chairman shall make the text of each such amendment publicly available in electronic form.

(d) Not later than 3 days after the conclusion of a Committee meeting, the transcript of such meeting and the text of all amendments offered shall be made available on the Committee website.

(e) The Ranking Member is authorized to maintain a similar official website on behalf of the Committee Minority for the same purpose, including communicating information about the activities of the Minority to Committee Members and other Members of the House.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 45 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Friday, January 25, 2013, at 2 p.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2012 pursuant to Public Law 95–384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, CARLOS SANCHEZ, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN NOV. 30 AND DEC. 2, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Carlos Sanchez	11/30	12/2	Mexico		658.94		(3)				658.94

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, CARLOS SANCHEZ, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN NOV. 30 AND DEC. 2, 2012—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Committee total											658.94

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

MR. CARLOS SANCHEZ, Dec. 31, 2012.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicated and return.☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JOHN KLINE, Chairman, Jan. 2, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, Chairman, Jan. 15, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN, Chairman, Dec. 31, 2012.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. LAMAR SMITH, Chairman, Jan. 2, 2013.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JOHN L. MICA, Chairman, Jan. 2, 2013.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

97. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Spiromesifen; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2012-0038; FRL-9374-3] received January 10, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

98. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports with Korean Air Lines of Seoul, South Korea

pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

99. A letter from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting a report on transactions involving U.S. exports to LATAM Airlines Group S.A. of Santiago, Chile pursuant to Section 2(b)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended; to the Committee on Financial Services.

100. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's Report on Activities Related to Section 1075 of the Dodd-Frank Act; to the Committee on Financial Services.

101. A letter from the Chair, Community Preventive Services Task Force, transmitting the Annual Report to Congress for 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

102. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting the Department's Annual Report for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve covering calendar year 2011, in accordance with section 165 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

103. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Findings of Failure to Submit a Complete State Implementation Plan for Section 110(a) Pertaining to the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0943; FRL-9769-4] (RIN: 2060) received January 10, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

104. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Reasonably Available Control Technology Requirements for Volatile Organic Compounds [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0610; FRL-9770-6] received January 10, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

105. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia; Requirements for Determining General Conformity of Federal Actions to Applicable State Implementation Plans [EPA-R03-OAR-2012-0784; FRL-9770-4] received January 10, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

106. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Revisions to the New Source Review (NSR) State Implementation Plan (SIP); Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Nonattainment New Source Review (NNSR) Permitting [EPA-R06-OAR-2011-0033; FRL-9770-8] received January 10, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

107. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on gifts given by the United States to foreign individuals for Fiscal Year 2010, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2694(2); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

108. A letter from the Acting Secretary, Department of Commerce, transmitting the annual report for FY 2012 of the Department's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

109. A letter from the Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting annual audit of the American Red Cross consolidated financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2012; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

110. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's report on the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act for 2012, amended; to the Committee on House Administration.

111. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Infrastructure and Interstate Transport Requirements for the 2006 PM2.5 NAAQS [EPA-R06-OAR-2009-0710; FRL-9770-9] received January 10, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

112. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery; Closure of the Elephant Trunk Area [Docket No.: 121203677-2677-01] (RIN: 0648-BC67) received January 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

113. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Salmon [Docket No.: 120330244-2673-02] (RIN: 0648-BB77) received January 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

114. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reallocation of Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 111213751-2102-02] (RIN: 0648-XC376) received January 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

115. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Fisheries; Framework Adjustment 5 [Docket No.: 120321209-2643-02] (RIN: 0648-BC08) received January 14, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

116. A letter from the Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting a copy of the decision of the Court of Appeals for Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, Inc. v. Copyright Royalty Board, 684 F.3d 1332 (D.C. Cir. 2012); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

117. A letter from the Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President, transmitting notification that the Administration intends to enter negotiations for a new trade agreement aimed at promoting international trade in services; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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. LEWIS (for himself, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. HOYER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. ANDREWS, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BERA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CHU, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. ESTY, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. FARR, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. HAHN, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KIND, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. MAFFEI, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. NOLAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. O'ROURKE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. RUIZ, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SIRES, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TIERNEY, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WATT, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. YARMUTH):

H.R. 12. A bill to modernize voter registration, promote access to voting for individuals with disabilities, protect the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Science, Space, and Technology, Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Government Reform, and Education and the Workforce, 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. ROE of Tennessee (for himself, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mrs. BLACK, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. BURGESS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CHABOT, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. DENT, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HANNA, Mr. HARPER, Mr. HARRIS, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. JONES, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LANCE, Mr. LATHAM, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. LONG, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. OLSON, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. PETRI, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. POSEY, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. REED, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. WOMACK, and Mr. YOUNG of Florida):

H.R. 351. A bill to repeal the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Rules, 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. GOODLATTE (for himself, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. FORBES, Mr. LONG, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. ISSA, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. UPTON, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. KLINE, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. POSEY, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. BONNER, Mr. PITTS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. CARTER, Mr. FLEMING, Mr. MICA, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. TERRY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CONAWAY, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. WOODALL, Mr. HURT, Mr. LATTA, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. BENISHEK, and Mr. BOUSTANY):

H.R. 352. A bill to terminate the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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. DENT:

H.R. 353. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to implement a program to prevent the fraudulent use of taxpayer identification numbers of residents of United States territories and possessions to be used to obtain a credit or refund on tax returns filed with the United States; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. POE of Texas (for himself and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York):

H.R. 354. A bill 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 Reporting System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 355. A bill to increase the statutory limit on the public debt only upon the certification by the President of the submission to the States for their ratification of the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the United States to balance the Federal Budget or limit Federal spending; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah (for himself, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. CHAFFETZ, and Mr. STEWART):

H.R. 356. A bill to clarify authority granted under the Act entitled ''An Act to define the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah, and for other purposes''; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MILLER of Florida (for himself and Mr. MICHAUD):

H.R. 357. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require courses of education provided by public institutions of higher education that are approved for purposes of the educational assistance programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to charge veterans tuition and fees at the in-State tuition rate; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM (for herself, Mr. KELLY, Mr. WALZ, Mr. LATTA, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. HIGGINS, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. PAULSEN):

H.R. 358. A bill to direct the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, in coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Park Service, and the United States Geological Survey, to lead a multiagency effort to slow the spread of Asian Carp in the Upper Mississippi and Ohio River basins and tributaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. CUMMINGS):

H.R. 359. A bill to establish and operate a National Center for Campus Public Safety; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SEWELL of Alabama (for herself, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BONNER, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. LEWIS, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia):

H.R. 360. A bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Addie Mae Collins, Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, and Cynthia Wesley, in recognition of the 50th commemoration of the bombing of the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church where the 4 little Black girls lost their lives, which served as a catalyst for the Civil Rights Movement; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. REICHERT (for himself and Ms. DELBENE):

H.R. 361. A bill to expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in the State of Washington, to designate the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River and Pratt River as wild and scenic rivers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. HONDA, Mr. FARR, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. CLAY, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CHU, Mr. PIERLUISI, and Mr. POLIS):

H.R. 362. A bill to provide for the treatment of the District of Columbia as a State for purposes of representation in the House of Representatives and Senate, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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 Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. HONDA, Mr. FARR, Mr. RANGEL, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. CLAY, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CHU, and Mr. PIERLUISI):

H.R. 363. A bill to provide for the treatment of the District of Columbia as a State for purposes of representation in the House of Representatives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. PIERLUISI (for himself, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. SABLAN, and Mr. SERRANO):

H.R. 364. A bill to extend the supplemental security income program to Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PIERLUISI (for himself, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. SERRANO):

H.R. 365. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to eliminate the cap on certain payments under the TANF program to Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MARINO (for himself, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. MORAN, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. DENT, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. LEWIS, and Mr. HIMES):

H.R. 366. A bill to prohibit attendance of an animal fighting venture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. YOUNG of Indiana (for himself, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BARR,

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mrs. BLACK, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BONNER, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. CAMP, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. FORBES, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. HANNA, Mr. HARPER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. HULTGREN, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. JONES, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KLINE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. LATTA, Mr. LONG, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. MESSER, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mrs. NOEM, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. NUNNELEE, Mr. OLSON, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. REED, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. SCHOCK, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. YODER, Mr. YOHO, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. HALL, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. MARINO, Mr. POSEY, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. FLORES, Mr. BARTON, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. UPTON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. BENISHEK, and Mr. ROSS):

H.R. 367. A bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Rules, and 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. BENISHEK:

H.R. 368. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require an audiometric test of each member of the Armed Forces before the separation of the member; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BENISHEK:

H.R. 369. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a presumption of service connection for certain veterans with tinnitus or hearing loss; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. WESTMORELAND, and Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas):

H.R. 370. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to establish a Social Security Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Social Security surplus, to provide for suspension of investment of amounts held in the Account until enactment of legislation providing for investment of the Trust Fund in investment vehicles other than obligations of the United States, and to establish a Social Security Investment Commission to make recommendations for alternative forms of investment of the Social Security surplus in the Trust Fund; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROOKS of Alabama (for himself, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. STUTZMAN, Mr. MCKINLEY, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 371. A bill to increase the statutory limit on the public debt by $1,000,000,000 upon the adoption by Congress of a Balanced Budget Constitutional Amendment and by an additional $1,000,000,000 upon ratification by the States of that Amendment; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BROUN of Georgia:

H.R. 372. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to eliminate the requirement that the President submit a budget to the Congress each year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, Oversight and Government Reform, and Rules, 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 Mrs. CAPPS (for herself, Mr. FARR, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. HOLT, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 373. A bill to amend title VII of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mrs. CHRISTENSEN:

H.R. 374. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to assist in the recovery and development of the Virgin Islands by providing for a reduction in the tax imposed on distributions from certain retirement plans' assets which are invested for at least 30 years, subject to defined withdrawals, under a Virgin Islands investment program; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. LIPINSKI):

H.R. 375. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of Labor to establish the Make It In America Incentive Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, 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 Mrs. DAVIS of California (for herself, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HONDA, Ms. LEE of California, and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York):

H.R. 376. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to allow all eligible voters to vote by mail in Federal elections; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. ANDREWS, Ms. BASS, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CHU, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DELANEY, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. ESTY, Mr. FARR, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. HAHN, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HECK of Washington, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HOYER, Mr. ISRAEL, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIND, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MATHESON, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NOLAN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SCHRADER, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. WALZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WATT, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. YARMUTH, Mrs. BEATTY, and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 377. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 378. A bill to provide for adequate and equitable educational opportunities for students in State public school systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 379. A bill to amend section 1120A(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to assure comparability of opportunity for educationally disadvantaged students; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 380. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for contributions to a trust used to provide need-based college scholarships; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 381. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to require long-term cost benefit analyses of introduced bills; to the

Committee on Rules, 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 Ms. FOXX (for herself, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. GOHMERT, and Mr. MULVANEY):

H.R. 382. A bill to provide for State approval of national monuments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GIBSON (for himself, Mr. AMASH, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. COFFMAN, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Ms. FOXX, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. REED, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. ROSS, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 383. A bill to amend the War Powers Resolution to limit the use of funds for introduction of the Armed Forces into hostilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, 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. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. HAHN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. RUSH):

H.R. 384. A bill to establish the position of Special Assistant for Veterans Affairs in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. MICHAUD):

H.R. 385. A bill to establish a pilot program to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to nonprofit organizations to rehabilitate and modify homes of disabled and low-income veterans; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. HAHN, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RUSH, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. SERRANO):

H.R. 386. A bill to provide housing assistance for very low-income veterans; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 387. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to remove the limitation upon the amount of outside income which an individual may earn while receiving benefits under such title, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas (for himself, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. COTTON):

H.R. 388. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 300 West Second Street in Little Rock, Arkansas, as the ''Morris Sheppard Arnold United States Courthouse''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GUTHRIE:

H.R. 389. A bill to require the submission to the Congress of annual reports on the tobacco user fees assessed and collected under section 919 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida:

H.R. 390. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish national emergency centers on military installations; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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 Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER (for herself and Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia):

H.R. 391. A bill to provide for a 10 percent reduction in pay for Members of Congress, the President, and the Vice President; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, 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. HONDA (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. POLIS, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

H.R. 392. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to direct local educational agencies to release secondary school student information to military recruiters if the student's parent provides written consent for the release, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 393. A bill to consolidate, improve, and reauthorize programs that support families and victims in the justice system affected by domestic violence; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 394. A bill to ensure the development and responsible stewardship of nanotechnology; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, and 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. ISRAEL (for himself, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HANNA, and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 395. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts paid by an employer on an employee's student loans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. JENKINS:

H.R. 396. A bill to reduce the annual rates of pay for Members of Congress by 20 percent, and to prohibit an adjustment in such rates during a year unless the Federal government did not run a deficit in the previous fiscal year; to the Committee on House Administration, 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. LATHAM:

H.R. 397. A bill to prohibit the disbursement of funds for salaries and expenses of the offices of Members and committees of Congress and to hold the salaries of Members of Congress in escrow if Congress does not adopt a concurrent resolution on the budget on or before May 15 of each year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, 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. LOEBSACK (for himself and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK):

H.R. 398. A bill to reduce the rate of pay for Members of Congress by 10 percent and to eliminate automatic pay adjustments for Members; to the Committee on House Administration, 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 Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HONDA, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. FARR, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. BASS, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. HAHN, Ms. CHU, Mr. BERA, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Mr. CALVERT):

H.R. 399. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Army to undertake a comprehensive review of the Corps of Engineers policy guidelines on vegetation management for levees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. DINGELL, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. SCHIFF):

H.R. 400. A bill to provide for the establishment of a Clean Energy Technology Manufacturing and Export Assistance Fund to assist United States businesses with exporting clean energy technology products and services; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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. NUGENT (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. REICHERT, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. CONYERS, and Ms. LOFGREN):

H.R. 401. A bill to reauthorize and improve the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act of 2004; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio:

H.R. 402. A bill to provide for the retention of the name of Mount McKinley; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. SABLAN:

H.R. 403. A bill to amend the percentage of funds appropriated under title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 required to be reserved for outlying areas and the Secretary of the Interior; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. PIERLUISI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MORAN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. SLAUGHTER, and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 404. A bill to enhance criminal penalties for straw purchasers of firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 405. A bill to permit Members of Congress to administer the oath of allegiance to applicants for naturalization; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 406. A bill to provide discretionary authority to an immigration judge to determine that an alien parent of a United States citizen child should not be ordered removed, deported, or excluded from the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 407. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a business credit relating to the use of clean-fuel and fuel efficient vehicles by businesses within areas designated as nonattainment areas under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

H.R. 408. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal certain limitations on the expensing of section 179 property, to allow taxpayers to elect shorter recovery periods for purposes of determining the deduction for depreciation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SIMPSON:

H.R. 409. A bill to provide for Indian trust asset management reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 410. A bill to provide that any executive action infringing on the Second Amendment has no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TONKO (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. HUNTER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MARINO, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER):

H.R. 411. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a registry of certain veterans who were stationed at Fort McClellan, Alabama, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. TSONGAS:

H.R. 412. 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; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. HANNA, Mr. COOPER, and Mr. BRALEY of Iowa):

H.R. 413. A bill to eliminate the 2-year delay in including oral-only ESRD-related drugs in the Medicare ESRD prospective payment system, as provided under section 632(b)(1) of the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 414. A bill to provide for the continued lease or eventual conveyance of certain Federal land within the boundaries of Fort Wainwright Military Reservation in Fairbanks, Alaska; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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. BECERRA:

H. Res. 42. A resolution electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H. Res. 43. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives in support of the Common Core State Standards Initiative; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. FATTAH (for himself, Mr. HULTGREN, and Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico):

H. Res. 44. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Federal laboratories have been and continue to be on the cutting edge of scientific and technological advancement and supporting the designation of 2013 as the ''Year of the Federal Lab''; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H. Res. 45. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that it is imperative that the United States creates a clear vision and goal to be the world leader in innovation, science, technology, engineering, and math to ensure the continued strength, growth, and vitality of this Nation; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. REED, Mr. JONES, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. KELLY, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. TIBERI, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. BENISHEK, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. FORBES, Mr. YARMUTH, and Ms. SPEIER):

H. Res. 46. A resolution supporting the contributions of Catholic schools; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. GUTIERREZ introduced a bill (H.R. 415) for the relief of Francisca Lino; which was referred 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. LEWIS:

H.R. 12.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. ROE of Tennessee:

H.R. 351.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The repeal of this provision is consistent with the powers that are reserved to the States and to the people as expressed in Amendment X to the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GOODLATTE:

H.R. 352.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution and Amendment XVI of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. DENT:

H.R. 353.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. POE of Texas:

H.R. 354.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 Clause 1, which reads: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, which reads: 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. CRAWFORD:

H.R. 355.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clauses 1 and 2 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution.

Article V of the U.S. Constitution, which grants Congress the authority to propose Constitutional amendments.

By Mr. BISHOP of Utah:

H.R. 356.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. MILLER of Florida:

H.R. 357.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Ms. MCCOLLUM:

H.R. 358.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers.''

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

H.R. 359.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

Clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Ms. SEWELL of Alabama:

H.R. 360.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. REICHERT:

H.R. 361.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

''The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article 1, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 (relating to providing for the general welfare of the United States) and clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for

carrying out the powers vested in Congress), and Article IV, section 3, clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).''

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 362.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 363.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 17 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PIERLUISI:

H.R. 364.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution; to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution such power, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution; and to make rules and regulations respecting the U.S. territories, as enumerated in Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution.

By Mr. PIERLUISI:

H.R. 365.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution; to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution such power, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution; and to make rules and regulations respecting the U.S. territories, as enumerated in Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution.

By Mr. MARINO:

H.R. 366.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

1) Article I, Section 8, Clause

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

2) Article I, Section 9, Clause 3

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. YOUNG of Indiana:

H.R. 367.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution, including the power granted Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, of the United States Constitution, and the power granted to each House of Congress under Article I, Section 5, Clause 2, of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BENISHEK:

H.R. 368.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 14 ''To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.''

By Mr. BENISHEK:

H.R. 369.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14 ''To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces'' and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 ''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 Mrs. BLACKBURN:

H.R. 370.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1; Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3; and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 14.

By Mr. BROOKS of Alabama:

H.R. 371.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8. The Congress shall have Power . . . to pay debts. . .''

Article V. The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to this Constitution. . .

By Mr. BROUN of Georgia:

H.R. 372.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mrs. CAPPS:

H.R. 373.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. CHRISTENSEN:

H.R. 374.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

''Article IV, section 3 of the Constitution of the United States grant Congress the authority to make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States and Article 1, section 7 which provides that all Bills for raising Revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives.''

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 375.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. DAVIS of California:

H.R. 376.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 4:

''The Times, Places and Manner of holding Elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be perscribed in each State by the Legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by Law make or alter such Regulations. . .''

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.R. 377.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Fourteenth Amendment, Section 5 Section 1: All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 378.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 379.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 380.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mr. FATTAH:

H.R. 381.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Ms. FOXX:

H.R. 382.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 grants Congress the ''Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Terroritory or other Property belonging to the United States.''

By Mr. GIBSON:

H.R. 383.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, clauses 11, 12, 13, 14, and 18.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 384.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority to enact this legislation can be found in:

General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1)

Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3)

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 385.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority to enact this legislation can be found in:

General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1),

Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3),

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 386.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority to enact this legislation can be found in:

General Welfare Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 1)

Commerce Clause (Art. 1 Sec. 8 Cl. 3)

By Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas:

H.R. 387.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution (the Commerce Clause).

By Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas:

H.R. 388.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 2 of Section 3 of Article IV of the Constitution: The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and

Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

By Mr. GUTHRIE:

H.R. 389.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States;

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida:

H.R. 390.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the Constitution of the United States, including but not limited to Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1 and 3.

By Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER:

H.R. 391.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 6, of the Constitution reguires Congress to determine its own pay.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 392.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 393.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. HONDA:

H.R. 394.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. ISRAEL:

H.R. 395.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. JENKINS:

H.R. 396.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 1 of Section 6 of Article I of the Constitution which states ''The Senators and Representatives shall receive a Compensation for their Services, to be ascertained by Law, and paid out of the Treasury of the United States.'' and Clause 1 of Section 1 of Article I which states: ''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.''

By Mr. LATHAM:

H.R. 397.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, sections 6 and 9 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. LOEBSACK:

H.R. 398.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 6 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 399.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 400.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. NUGENT:

H.R. 401.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. RYAN of Ohio:

H.R. 402.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

''The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.''

By Mr. SABLAN:

H.R. 403.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article 1, section 8 of the United States Constitution (clause 1), which grants Congress the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States.

By Mr. SCHIFF:

H.R. 404.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Straw Purchaser Penalty Enhancement Act is constitutionally authorized under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, the Commerce Clause and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Additionally, the Preamble to the Constitution provides support of the authority to enact legislation to promote the General Welfare.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 405.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4, which gives Congress the power ''To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization,'' and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers.''

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 406.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4, which gives Congress the power ''To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization,'' and Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, which gives Congress the power ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper or carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers.''

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 407.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This legislation is introduced pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution, which states that ''The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises. . .'' In addition, this legislation is introduced pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution, which states that Congress shall have the power ''to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof''

By Mr. SESSIONS:

H.R. 408.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the

Article I, Section 8 Congress has the power to regulate Commerce.

By Mr. SIMPSON:

H.R. 409.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, which grants Congress the power to regulate Commerce with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 410.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 1

''All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.''

Article I, Section 8

''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 this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. TONKO:

H.R. 411.

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 Ms. TSONGAS:

H.R. 412.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress), and Article IV, Section 3, clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 413.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: 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 this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof..

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 414.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

Mr. GUTIERREZ:

H.R. 415.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 and Amendment I, Clause 3 of the Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 11: Ms. PELOSI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. WATT, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. KIND.

H.R. 21: Ms. SCHWARTZ and Mr. DOYLE.

H.R. 23: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee and Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 24: Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. OLSON, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. NUGENT,

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mrs. NOEM, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. YODER, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. HURT, Mr. LATHAM, and Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 25: Mr. DESANTIS.

H.R. 36: Mr. MATHESON, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. BARR, Mr. HANNA, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. SCHOCK, and Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 55: Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 61: Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. ROTHFUS, and Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 93: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 106: Mr. ROKITA.

H.R. 107: Mr. POE of Texas.

H.R. 129: Mr. WELCH and Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 134: Mr. PEARCE.

H.R. 140: Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. BENTIVOLIO, and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.

H.R. 148: Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. HIGGINS, and Mr. POLLS.

H.R. 149: Mr. PEARCE, Mr. FINCHER, and Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 164: Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Mr. PEARCE.

H.R. 167: Mrs. BLACK and Mr. PEARCE.

H.R. 176: Mr. BENTIVOLIO.

H.R. 178: Mr. YODER and Mr. DESANTIS.

H.R. 181: Mr. HIGGINS and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 200: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H.R. 203: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LONG, and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.

H.R. 207: Mr. ROKITA and Mr. HARRIS.

H.R. 217: Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.

H.R. 221: Mr. JONES and Mr. FINCHER.

H.R. 225: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 226: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 227: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Mr. BISHOP of New York.

H.R. 232: Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, and Mrs. BLACKBURN.

H.R. 236: Mr. BISHOP of New York.

H.R. 239: Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 241: Mr. BENTIVOLIO.

H.R. 261: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 270: Ms. EDWARDS.

H.R. 271: Mr. WALBERG.

H.R. 273: Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. COLLINS of New York, and Mr. MESSER.

H.R. 280: Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HOLT, Ms. NORTON, Mr. FARR, and Mr. POLIS.

H.R. 290: Ms. LEE of California and Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 297: Mr. KING of New York, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. TIBERI, and Mr. RIBBLE.

H.R. 298: Mr. BARR and Mr. ROE of Tennessee.

H.R. 300: Mr. BENTIVOLIO and Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 303: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. COLE, and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 309: Mr. MULLIN and Mr. HUELSKAMP.

H.R. 310: Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Ms. DUCKWORTH.

H.R. 311: Mr. PALAZZO.

H.R. 317: Mr. FLORES.

H.R. 318: Mr. RUSH, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. TURNER.

H.R. 320: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CONYERS, and Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 321: Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.

H.R. 322: Mr. ROKITA, Mr. COBLE, and Mr. BARTON.

H.R. 333: Mr. CONYERS, Ms. HANABUSA, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. NORTON, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. HONDA, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. JONES, Mr. TONKO, Mr. MCINTYRE, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HECK of Nevada, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, and Mr. STIVERS.

H.R. 334: Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. GOHMERT, MR. CHAFFETZ, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, and Mr. BARTON.

H.R. 335: Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. GERLACH, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. KEATING, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. UPTON.

H.R. 341: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 342: Mr. FLORES and Mr. GIBBS.

H.J. Res. 21: Mr. LANGEVIN.

H. Res. 12: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.

H. Res. 19: Ms. WATERS, Mr. NADLER, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. CHU, Mr. FARR, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. KEATING, and Mr. HIGGINS.

H. Res. 38: Mr. SABLAN, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. KILDEE.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 159 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2013 No. 8

Senate

(Legislative day of Thursday, January 3, 2013)

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable HEIDI HEITKAMP, a Senator from the State of North Dakota.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, we shout praises to You, for Your love never fails. You rescue us from trouble with Your loving and mighty providence. We commend our Nation to Your compassionate care, trusting You to guide it with Your merciful hands.

Bless the work of our Senators. Help them to respect and esteem each other as they struggle together for resolution of complex issues.

Lord, we thank You for the many people working on Capitol Hill who support our lawmakers, serving You faithfully, without public recognition. May we never take for granted their labors for liberty.

We pray in Your gracious Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable HEIDI HEITKAMP 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. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, January 23, 2013.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable HEIDI HEITKAMP, a Senator from the State of North Dakota, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. HEITKAMP thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Mr. REID. Madam President, yesterday I had the opportunity to meet with my Democratic Senate caucus for the first time this year. It was the first opportunity for all of us to sit down together, to break bread, and to discuss challenges and opportunities we all face. As the majority leader, I was gratified to see so many new faces and to have such an inclusive caucus. It was music to my ears to hear the announcement that the Presiding Officer today would be HEIDI HEITKAMP.

We have nine new Democratic Senators. Four of these new Senators are women, and so about one-third of our Democratic caucus is now women. We have, for example, the first Asian woman. We have expanded our majority. I am particularly satisfied that with each passing election cycle our caucus better reflects the Nation it serves. But despite the diversity of the caucus—and in particular its freshmen—there is one quality shared by each Democratic Senator: deep and abiding patriotism.

As Governor Adlai Stevenson said:

Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime.

That is true. Patriotism is not short, frenzied outbursts of emotion, but the tranquil and steady dedication of a lifetime. If we look at the records, the careers of these new Senators, that is the way it is.

Each person coming here reminds me of my first few weeks in the House of Representatives when Tip O'Neill—we had a large incoming class, so he called us in these groups of maybe 15 or so, and he told us something I have always remembered. He said: Each of you are successful politicians or you wouldn't be here. And that is true. I say that to each of my new Senators. They are successful politicians, and there is nothing wrong with the word ''politician.'' I am proud I am a politician. I am proud I serve in government, and we should each be proud.

So I am pleased now, and I was pleased yesterday, to be surrounded by so many dedicated public servants, new Members and old alike, who have devoted their lives to making their individual States and our shared Nation a better place in which to grow up, grow a family, and grow old.

Each new Democratic Member is accomplished, I repeat, in his or her own right. Our new caucus members include a couple of former Governors, a Harvard law professor, an engineer, just to name a few. While they have each accomplished so much already, their greatest achievements are still ahead of them. I know they will look back with satisfaction on the work we do together in the Senate.

Our caucus, this Congress, and our country face immense challenges. As we approach these tests and trials, this diverse group of new Democratic Senators will be united by a single objective: to fight for fairness and balance on behalf of the middle class.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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SENATE RULES REFORM

We are going to continue to work on Senate rules reforms. I will continue to work with the Republican leader on a package of reforms I hope we can agree on. As I have said before, if we don't agree, then we are going to do something as a Democratic caucus alone. I remain cautiously optimistic we will be able to move forward on a bipartisan basis. I hope we can do that. I will have more to say about that if, in fact, we can do that.

We are not going to get everything we want, and the Republicans aren't going to get everything they want. But maybe we can find a sweet spot in the middle and come up with something that will make the Senate more efficient. However, Democrats reserve the right of all Senators to propose changes to the Senate rules. We will explicitly not acquiesce in the carrying over of all the rules from last Congress. There must be some agreement reached or we will have to use every means to make the Congress—especially the Senate—more efficient.

Would the Chair announce the business of the day.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business for debate only until 12 noon, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COATS. Madam 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.

FISCAL POLICY

Mr. COATS. Madam President, earlier this week, through the eyes of the Nation watched the inauguration ceremony here in Washington. A week before that, back in Indiana, I was present for the celebration of the inauguration of Indiana's 50th Governor, former Congressman Mike Pence, who is taking over after 8 years of leadership under our former Governor, Mitch Daniels. So back-to-back weekends had two special events.

Inauguration ceremonies are a time for reflection on what has happened in the past and a time for new vision on how we ought to go forward with the future. It is also a time for new opportunity. An opportunity for the kind of change necessary to address the problems and challenges we face.

As I participated in the inauguration events for Governor Pence in Indianapolis just two weekends ago, I couldn't help but think of the remarkable record of achievement and the bold reforms that our former Governor, Mitch Daniels, delivered to the Hoosier State and the lessons they may offer to Washington.

In 2005, Indiana faced a several-hundred-million-dollar deficit. This pales by comparison to the deficit we face here; but, nevertheless, for a State of our size it is a significant amount. Although it is constitutionally mandated in Indiana, we had not balanced our budget for 7 years. Governor Daniels and his team had a vision and the political courage to make much needed changes, and the people of Indiana supported and responded. While other States increased spending and raised taxes, Indiana reduced spending, cut taxes, and paid down our debts.

Governor Daniels, with the help of the legislature and with the support of the people of Indiana, slowed down the rate of spending. The State's expenditures have grown at less than one-quarter the rate of the previous decade. We also reduced the size of State government.

Indiana has the fewest State employees per capita in the country. We paid down the previous debt by 43 percent, and we currently sit with a budget surplus and a rebate program which will give money collected in taxes back to the taxpayer because of our state's efficiency and effectiveness in terms of running our government. Indiana, as a result of this, has received its first AAA credit rating. This means when we do need to borrow or sell bonds to do certain infrastructure or meet other needs, we can receive low interest rates because of our superb AAA rating. All this has transformed Indiana's balance sheet and made our State one of the most attractive places to live, raise a family, and do business in the Midwest, if not in the Nation.

The story of Indiana and how it got hold of its fiscal issues has been written up in national journals and newspapers and documentaries and others. It is a remarkable story. It is not unique because we see these things happening in other States around the country led not only by Republican Governors but Democrat Governors. These are the kinds of decisions that have to be made and are being made to restore state and local governments. And it has created a much brighter future for the citizens of those States.

Governor Daniels has often said, ''You'd be amazed by how much government you'll never miss.'' The results of his administration back that up.

You can go around Indiana, as I have, and talk to people from big cities to small, rural to urban and everything in between and ask them how we have moved from deficit to surplus in our state. You can ask if they still believe our state performs the necessary functions of government and you can ask Hoosiers what has been cut that you think should have stayed.

Frankly, no one could come up with an answer that says: We have had disastrous consequences from these decisions. The vast majority say that things are working pretty well. In fact, I can get my license renewed through a total revamp of our licensing system in just a few minutes over the Internet or just a few minutes at the DMV. Governor Daniels' measure for that was in and out in less than 7 minutes.

For those of us who have spent hours and hours committing half a day or more to getting our license renewed, this is a remarkable achievement. The use of technology, privatization, and the use of more efficient government demands that our civil servants do more with less and this has proven to be effective.

While the fiscal situation we faced in Indiana is not totally analogous to what we face here, the principles are the same, and there still are many similarities. As Washington seeks answers at the start of this new session of Congress on how we move forward and address our extremely serious debt situation and get our fiscal house back in order so that we too can retain a AAA rating and so we too can provide the opportunity for growth and opportunity not just for the middle class but for all Americans in the future, maybe there are some lessons to be learned from Indiana. The spend less, borrow less, and tax less Hoosier model has resulted in balanced budgets, job creation, and a AAA credit rating. In contrast, the spend more, borrow more, and tax more approach in Washington during these last several years has resulted in fewer jobs, higher debt, and a threatened downgrade from credit agencies.

So as we reflect back on the last 4 years of this current administration, it is clear to me we must take a different course in the second term of this administration.

Whether lawmakers want to admit it, the crux of our problem is this: Washington has promised Americans far too much and committed well beyond our means. Federal spending and borrowing cannot continue at this current pace without dire consequences.

Whether one is reading or listening to a liberal, conservative or a nonpartisan economist or an analyst, there is a consensus that sustaining our current rate or continuing our rate of borrowing and spending simply is not feasible and the consequences will be dire if we do not address it.

As we seek to address these issues, my suggestion for Washington is to take a look at the Hoosier model. It is tested, it is proven, and it is working.

We need to go big and bold. We need to have the political courage to look beyond the short-term political consequences, as we perceive them, to the

long-term benefit from sound policies—which, interestingly enough, translate into good politics. Strengthening the economy and getting our country on a track to brighter and more prosperous times should be our priority.

We have proven in Indiana that good policy, no matter how politically difficult it might seem at the time to achieve, does translate into good politics. But much more important than the politics, good policy can translate into strengthening our economy, improving the lives of Americans, and providing opportunity for future generations.

It is time we learn that lesson in Washington that our State of Indiana and many States across the country, as well as other communities, are learning. It is time we exhibit the political courage to stand and do what I think just about everyone in this body understands; that is, to get a hold of runaway spending and borrowing that is putting us in a very deep fiscal hole and will have significant, dire consequences not only on future generations but even our current generation.

The time is now. As I said from this spot yesterday, 2013 is the decisive year. In 2014, we will be back into an election year, and that tired old belief that we cannot make these kinds of changes with the election looming will surface again. If we don't act now, more people will say that we need to wait until after the next election. It will push us into 2015. Many who have looked at our situation fiscally and analyzed it from a nonpartisan, nonideological basis have said 2015 is too late.

This is the time when we need to summon our courage, summon our political will, and do what is right for the American people. We cannot continue to bump along at less than 2 percent growth. We cannot continue to keep more than 8 percent or nearly 8 percent of our people unemployed; and, obviously, that number is much higher when we count those who are no longer looking for work who have given up. We cannot continue to keep America on the edge of uncertainty in terms of what our fiscal future will look like.

Let us summon that courage to go forward. Let us use examples from those States, the support of those Governors and the support they have received from people across those States. Let us summon the courage to do what we need to do.

I want to continue talking about how we need to address this with a ''go big, go bold'' type of approach. Everyone says and concludes that if we can put that package together to address our long-term ills over a period of time and bring us back to balance and stability, we will see a revival of the economy of this country and we will see great hope for the American people going forward.

Madam President, with that, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ROBERTS. Madam 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.

Mr. ROBERTS. I ask the Acting President pro tempore if we are in morning business, and I assume we are.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. ROBERTS. Thank you, Madam President.

(The remarks of Mr. ROBERTS pertaining to the submission of S. Res. 8 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

Mr. ROBERTS. I yield back the remainder of my time, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, President Obama may have been vague on details in his inaugural speech on Monday, but I will give him this, he couldn't have been clearer about the tone and the direction he has in mind for the second term. Gone is the postpartisan rhetoric that propelled him onto the national stage and into the White House. In its place is an unabashedly leftwing appeal for more bureaucratic control and centralized power here in Washington.

On Monday, we saw a President and a party that appeared to have shifted into reverse and jammed on the gas. For Democrats in the Obama age, the era of big government being over is officially over. And anybody who disagrees with their approach isn't just wrong, they are not just standing in the way of progress, they are malevolent, they are the bad guys, they are the ones who want to take food away from children, they want the old and the infirm to suffer, they want to choose between caring for the people who built this country, as the President put it on Monday, and investing in those who will build our future.

I don't know if the President buys all this stuff; I don't know if he believes his own caricature—I certainly hope not—but one thing I do know is that questioning the intentions of one's political opponents makes it awfully hard to get anything done in a representative democracy. As the President himself said, without so much as a hint of irony, we cannot mistake absolutism for principle or substitute spectacle for politics or treat name calling as reasoned debate.

The President won the election. I congratulate him on his victory. It is his prerogative to lay out an agenda and to make an argument—against all evidence—for the efficacy of big government, more Washington spending, and centralization. It is even his prerogative to argue—mistakenly, in my view—that America's greatness somehow rests not on its communities and voluntary associations, its churches and charities, on civil society, but instead on the dictates of Washington. But to suggest that those of us and our constituents who believe otherwise don't want the best interest of our parents or our children or our country's future is, at best, needlessly provocative; at worst, it suggests a troubling inability to view those who don't happen to share your opinions as beneath you.

To suggest, as one of the President's spokesmen did earlier this week, that both the American political system and those who belong to the party of Lincoln aren't worthy of this White House or its agenda isn't the way to get things done. It makes it impossible to tend to problems we simply have to face up to and that we will only solve together. Frankly, it calls into question the President's own belief in the wisdom and the efficacy of the constitutional system of checks and balances that the Founders so wisely put in place.

The postinaugural period is usually a chance to pivot to governing after a long campaign. It is an opportunity for Presidents to reach out to the minority and to forge compromises. But that is not what we are seeing this time around. Even before Monday we all noted the harsh change in tone, the reboot of the campaign machine, and how, instead of offering an olive branch to those who disagree with him, the President had already decided to transform his campaign operation into a weapon to bulldoze anyone who doesn't share his vision. Well, I would suggest that one thing the American people don't want is a permanent campaign. That is the last thing the American people are looking for—a permanent campaign. They want us to work together on solutions to our problems. And deficits and debt are right at the top of the list.

I wish to suggest this morning the President rethink the adversarial tone he has adopted in recent weeks. Our problems are simply too urgent and too big for the President to give up on working with us. I appeal to him once again to work with us on the things we can achieve together, and let us start with the deficit and the debt. Because the only way we will be able to tackle these problems is by doing it together.

If he refuses, if he insists on spending the next 4 years pushing a polarizing hard-left agenda instead, I assure him he will meet a determined opposition not only from Republicans in Washington but from the very people he seems to believe are squarely on his side in the push to remake government in his image.

The irony in the President's attacks, of course, is that the kind of reforms Republicans are calling for are the only conceivable route to saving the programs the President claims he wants to protect. Failing to reform the entitlement programs of the last century now—right now—is the best way to guarantee they no longer exist in their current form. I mean, one could practically hear the ring of the cash register with every new promise the President made. At a time when we can all see the failure of such policies by simply turning on the news, he seems blissfully—blissfully—unaware of the fact that from Athens to Madrid the sad, slow death of the left's big government dream is on display for all to see. If we want a less prosperous, less dynamic, less mobile society, that is the way to go—just ''Europeanize'' America.

The President's vision of an all-powerful government that rights every wrong and heals every wound may warm the liberal heart, but it is completely divorced from experience and from reality. So today I wish to do my part to bring the President and his allies in Congress a little closer down to Earth. I know it may be hard for them to accept, but the reality is this: We have a spending problem—not a taxing problem, a spending problem.

Let's take a look at the chart to my right. The green represents historic and projected tax revenue. And we can see it goes right straight across here out to 2040. The tax increases of 3 weeks ago were delivered by operation of law. In other words, the law expired and all of the Bush tax cuts were over. The Congress, 2 hours after everybody's taxes went up—in other words, after all the Bush tax cuts expired—restored tax relief for 99 percent of the American people, and they did it on a permanent basis to guarantee we wouldn't have another cliff, as we inevitably have. When a law sunsets, we have a cliff.

So the President was able to get some new revenue by operation of law, and that represents this dark blue line right across here. You can see that is pretty steady out to 2040.

The President, of course, said that wasn't nearly enough. He said: We need more taxes, and we will be back asking for more taxes later. So as nearly as we can tell, based on what he has said, the taxes he would like to add to the ones he got by operation of law 2½ weeks ago is this light blue line right across here.

If the President were given all the tax increases he says at the moment he wants, that would provide this amount of revenue going out to 2040. As you can see, that doesn't do anything to solve the problem because the red represents spending in the past and the spending escalation that will occur if we don't do anything to solve the spending problem.

Look at this line dramatically going up to 2040. So as you can see, there is not enough revenue we can raise without completely shutting down the economy to solve the problem. In fact, it produces a rather static and totally insignificant amount of revenue in order to deal with the massive spending problem.

So this constant demand for more and more tax increases on, I guess, whom people assume is the more successful guy down the street may be a great campaign tactic, but it doesn't do anything to solve the problem. Even if the President were able to get every bit of taxes he wants, we still have an enormous gap in spending if we don't deal with the real problem, which is spending. We have a spending addiction. I didn't make this up. This is a fact. This is reality.

So the tax issue is over. Congress has restored permanent tax relief for 99 percent of the American people. Even if the President were to get—and he will not—any more tax revenue, it is perfectly obvious that doesn't do anything to solve the problem.

So the challenge for us—and looking at the chart we can see—is revenue today is just about where it has been for the past 30 years or so. The President spent nearly his entire first term arguing that we needed to tax the so-called rich to solve our fiscal woes. He harangued Congress about it. He argued for it in rallies and debates. He threatened to push us over the cliff if he didn't get his way.

In the end, by operation of law he got part of what he asked for. And the reason he got it, as I said earlier, is because the tax relief we passed in 2001 and 2003 carried an expiration date. President Obama got some of the tax increases he wanted because the law expired. Then Congress, led by Republicans, voted to make Bush-era tax rates permanent for 99 percent of all Americans. Now, permanency is important. It has been kind of lost on the general public, but the importance is we don't have another cliff, another expiration date where all of a sudden everything changes.

Given how much time he devoted to that one topic, one would think his tax hike would have closed the deficit, eliminated the entire national debt, and left us with extra cash to spare. But do you see that tiny little blue line I pointed to right here? That is how much additional revenue he got. This blue area is the revenue he says he wants. He will not get it; but if he did, it is pretty apparent it has nothing whatsoever to do with solving the spending addiction.

So if this revenue doesn't come anywhere close to solving the problem, the real challenge, obviously, is how we are going to control all of this red. What do we do about this? Well, we are clearly spending way more than we take in. The real uptick, interestingly enough, occurs about the time the President took office. It has been hard enough to find ways to close the President's trillion-dollar deficits. But as I just pointed out, they are nothing next to what is going to hit us when tens of millions of baby boomers reach retirement age—nothing compared to what is heading our way.

I pointed out the massive slope. That is what is headed our way. Nothing short of a bipartisan effort is going to fix this problem, and there is only one way we can do it. We can't tax our way out of this problem. The revenue question is behind us. The law we voted for, as I said, made current tax rates permanent. I am pretty confident not a single Republican in the House or Senate will vote to raise any more taxes. But even if we were to do that, all the taxes the President asked for would only put us here in 2040. And look at what would be spent.

So the reality the President needs to face—and quickly—is that there is no realistic way to raise taxes high enough to even begin to address this problem. That is why Republicans are saying we need to start controlling spending, and we need to do it now. That is why if the President wants to do something good right now, he should put us out of the liberal wish list and put us out of the character attacks and join us in this great task. It is the transcendent issue of our time.

If we don't fix this problem, we don't leave behind for our children and grandchildren the kind of America our parents left behind for us. There is no bigger issue, even though it got scant mention in the State of the Union.

Now, I have no animus toward the President. I just want to see him do something about the problem because the longer we wait, the worse the problem becomes. The more we delay the inevitable, the less time younger Americans will have to plan for the reforms we make today. That is simply not right.

So the President has a choice. He can paint himself as a warrior of the left and charge into battle with failed ideas we have already tried before; he can demean and blame the opposition for his own failure to lead; he can indulge his supporters in a bitter, never-ending campaign that will only divide our country further; or he could take the responsible road. He can help his own base come to terms with the mathematical reality.

Some people over there are living in a fantasy world—a world that doesn't exist. He could reach out to leaders in both parties—and all of the members in both parties—and negotiate in good faith. We would be happy to give him credit. That is fine by me. If boosting his legacy is what it takes and it helps the country, that is all the better.

If my constituents believe they are working to help make their future a

little better and a little brighter, great. But we can't waste any more time denying the reality that is staring each of us in the face. There is only one way to solve this problem, and that is to do something about this spending addiction that is going to sink this country and turn us into Greece.

Senate Republicans are ready to help the President solve this problem. I hope we have an opportunity to do so.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I wonder if I might pose a question to the Republican leader, if he would retake the floor.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I would be happy to respond.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I want to congratulate the Republican leader for his remarks.

Here is my question. We have arrived at a time when we have a newly elected President who has had a fine inaugural day. He has an agenda that he wants to follow which he announced in his inaugural address. It is not an agenda that most of us on this side agree with, but he has an agenda that he wants to follow in his second term, all of which would ensure—in his eyes—his legacy as a President.

But isn't there one thing that in order to get to that agenda—or any other thing—he and we have to do, and that is to address the debt? Isn't the very best time—isn't the very best time to do something difficult, something nobody wants to talk about, something that is hard—the best time to do that is at a time when we have a divided government, a Democratic President, a Republican House, and 30 or 40 or 50 of us Senators on both sides of the aisle who have been saying for 2 years that we are ready to fix the debt?

Isn't this an opportunity now? Not just because it is a divided government, but because the House of Representatives today may very well create a 2-month or 3-month window during which we can address all of these issues if we had Presidential leadership?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I say to my friend from Tennessee, it is counterintuitive. But one could argue that a divided government—which we have had more often than not since World War II—has produced four of the most significant accomplishments for our country in modern times.

In the Reagan administration, President Reagan and Tip O'Neill, the Democratic Speaker of the House, agreed to raise the age for Social Security to save Social Security for another generation. Reagan and Tip O'Neill did the last comprehensive tax reform.

Bill Clinton and a Republican Congress did welfare reform, arguably the most important piece of social legislation in recent times. And Bill Clinton and a Republican Congress actually balanced the budgets in the late 1990s.

My friend from Tennessee is correct. Divided government actually is the perfect time—some would argue even the only time—we can do tough things, hard-to-explain things that need to be done to save the country. So I hate to miss the opportunity presented by a divided government to tackle the transcendent issue of our times.

The President talked about a lot of things, and that is all interesting, but it had nothing to do with fixing the country. Until we fix this problem, we will not have the kind of country for our children and our grandchildren that our parents left behind for us.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, I wonder if I might pose one more question to the Republican leader after making a short statement.

I came to this body as a young lawyer-legislative aide to Senator Howard Baker a long time ago, in 1967. I remember very well Senator Baker's story about how the civil rights bill of 1968 was passed. I have discussed this with the Republican leader before. He knows that era as well or better than I do.

But there was a time when Senator Baker said he was in Everett Dirksen's office—he is the man who had the job that Senator MCCONNELL now has. He was the Republican leader then. He said he heard the telephone ring. He heard only one end of the conversation, but Senator Dirksen was saying: No, Mr. President, I cannot come down and have a drink with you tonight. I did that last night, and Luella is very unhappy with me. And that was the conversation.

About 30 minutes later there was a rustle out in the outer office of the Republican leader's office—the very office that Senator MCCONNELL now holds. Two beagles, followed by the President of the United States, came in. Lyndon Johnson, the President, said to the Republican leader: Everett, if you won't have a drink with me, I am down here to have one with you. And they disappeared in the back room for 45 minutes.

The point of all that is not their socializing. The point was it was in that very office, the Republican leader's office, that in 1968, the next year, the civil rights bill was written and enacted. Lyndon Johnson got the credit for that in history but Everett Dirksen made it possible, and there were at that time many more Democrats in the Senate than Republicans.

What I want to say to Senator MCCONNELL, the Republican leader, the question I want to ask him, is this. He has seen the U.S. Senate and Presidency for the last number of years. He has seen many relationships between the President and leaders of the opposite party. He knows how this place works. My sense of the Republican leader and of the large majority of us is that we wish to see a result. We wish to see a result on this very tough issue of saving Social Security, saving Medicare, saving Medicaid, saving these programs on which seniors depend. I wonder if the Republican leader would agree with me that despite the fact that we engage every day in political matters, that we have big differences of opinion, that on this issue, without Presidential leadership, we cannot get a result and that there are a lot of us on both sides of the aisle who are ready to work with the President to fix the debt?

Mr. MCCONNELL. I say to my friend from Tennessee—in many ways it is a statement of the obvious but a lot of people forget it—there is only 1 person in America out of 307 million Americans who can sign something into law and only 1 person in America who can deliver the members of his party to support an agreement that he makes. The only way to get an outcome on the biggest issue of our time is with Presidential leadership. So it was disappointing to see scant reference in the State of the Union. Of course that is just one speech and I have not given up hoping that this President can make solving the transcendent issue of our time one of his premier accomplishments.

The point I think the Senator from Tennessee and I are making this morning is there are potential partners on this side of the aisle to make this happen. I hope we will not lose this opportunity once again to deal with the biggest issue in the country.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I thank the Senator from Kentucky for extending his time on the floor. On my own I wish to continue that line of thinking a little bit.

It is traditional that when we have a new President, a newly inaugurated President, that he has a pretty good opportunity to get what he asks; that it is a time of maximum leverage, it is a time to do important things, it is a time to do difficult things, it is a time to do things that otherwise might not get done.

Presidents are defined by their skills—their communication skills, their electoral ability—but they are also defined by their capacity over a period of years to identify the hard issues that are important to our country and cause people, as the President said in his address day before yesterday, to work together to solve those problems. Now the problem is whether you want to raise taxes on the guy down the street with the biggest house. That is not so hard to do. The problem is to spend money that you do not have—because you can do it; that is not so hard to do. If the problem is to address a disaster to help people who are in desperate shape, there might be some debate about whether it is really a disaster or not but it is not hard to do because in the end it is going to happen. What Presidents are remembered for is dealing with important, difficult crises.

President Clinton is remembered for a number of things but one of the things he did was challenge the conventional thinking in his own party to

deal with welfare reform. It would not have happened if he had not done it. It would not have happened if he had not done it because a Republican could not have made the argument. A President's job, according to George Reedy, the former press secretary to Lyndon Johnson, is three things: One is to see an urgent need, two is to develop a strategy to meet the need, and the third is to persuade at least half the people he is right.

President Nixon in the early 1960s went to China. That seems like ancient history but that was straight against the core of the Republican Party at that time. That was something that was inconceivable for a Republican President to do, given the history of mainland China and Taiwan, as they were both called.

There have been many times in our history when Presidents have had to do the hard work. President George H.W. Bush made a budget agreement which may have caused him to lose the election in 1992 because it angered a number of Republicans. But it also helped balance the budget and gave us a period of time in the 1990s when that budget agreement plus a good economy gave us an actual surplus of funding.

I sense that there is at the White House a feeling, two things I wish to disabuse the White House of. The first is that the budget problem is not a real problem. I cannot believe people at the White House think that. Everybody knows it is. Senator MCCONNELL gave a very good explanation of what was going on there. But let me say it this way: In 2025, according to the Congressional Budget Office, every dollar of taxes we collect will go to pay for Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and interest on the debt, and there is nothing left for national defense, National Laboratories, Pell grants for education, highways, or the investments that we need to make in research to grow this country. It all goes for Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and the interest on debt, every single penny we collect. And that is only 12 years away. That is not me talking. That is the Congressional Budget Office saying that. The Medicare trustees have said that in 2024 the Medicare Program will not have enough money to pay all of its bills. Whose bills? Bills of seniors, bills of Tennesseans, many of whom are literally counting the days until they are old enough to be eligible for Medicare so they can pay their medical bills. It would be a tragedy if that day arrived and there were not enough money to pay the bills. But the Medicare trustees, who by law are supposed to tell us these things, say that day will come in 2024. It is just 11 years away and that is the day for people already on Medicare and people who are going to be on Medicare.

Medicaid, which is a program for lower income Americans, is an important program. As Governor, I dealt with it in my State. But when I was Governor, it was 8 percent of the State budget. Today it is 26 percent of the State budget. It is soaking up almost every dollar that would go to higher education. As a result, students around the country are wondering: Why are my tuition fees going up? It is because of Washington's Medicaid Program requiring States to make decisions that soak up money that otherwise would be used to fund education.

In our State of Tennessee, 30 years ago the State paid 70 percent of the cost of going to the University of Tennessee. Today it pays 30. And Medicaid is the chief culprit.

Everyone knows this. The President's own debt commission has told him this and suggested a way to deal with it. Forty or fifty of us on both sides of the aisle have been working together, meeting together, having dinner together, writing bills together, trying to come up with plans to do it. Senator CORKER, my colleague from Tennessee, has developed a bill on which I am his prime cosponsor which says we have found a way to strengthen Medicare and other entitlements by reducing the growth in spending. We understand this.

We passed a Budget Control Act a couple of years ago. People said they didn't like it. It was not so bad because it took 38 percent of the budget, which is all of our discretionary spending—including national defense, national parks, national labs—and said it will go up at about the rate of inflation. This is before we get to the so-called sequester. But what about the rest of the budget? That is the automatic stuff we do not even vote on: Medicare, entitlements, all this? It is going up at about three to four times the rate of inflation. It is going to bankrupt these programs. Seniors will not be able to have their medical bills paid and the country will be bankrupt. That is no overstatement. The former Comptroller of the Currency says that. President Clinton says this is an urgent problem. The former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff says the national debt is the single biggest threat to our national security. Why are we not dealing with it? I think we are not dealing with it, A, because it is hard to do; B, because on both sides of the aisle we have not been effective in dealing with it before.

I remember when we had an all-Republican cast of characters here in town—President Bush, a Republican majority—we tried to reduce the growth of Medicare and we could not get the votes to do that.

This is not easy to do, but Robert Merry, who wrote a book about President Polk, had lunch with some of us yesterday, made this statement: "In America's history every crisis has been solved by Presidential leadership or not at all."

Whether it was Lincoln in the Civil War or Reagan and Tip O'Neill or Nixon to China or Clinton on welfare reform—we can all identify the crises. But it takes Presidential leadership to do it. It takes that to do it.

I was a Governor, which is much smaller potatoes. If I sat around waiting for the State legislature, with all respect, to come up with a road program we would still be driving on dirt roads. They were waiting for the Governor to do it. That is how our system works.

I wonder if the President thinks that the debt is not a problem? I cannot imagine anybody at the White House thinks that. This is a problem. If the President does not address it during his two terms he will be remembered by history as failing to do that. His legacy may be a failure to address financial matters that put this country on a road to bankruptcy. Or, if he were to do it, if he were to provide the leadership, he would be—as the Australian Foreign Minister has said, "America is one budget agreement away from reasserting its global preeminence." Why wouldn't President Obama want to be known as the President who caused America to reassert its global preeminence by dealing with a budget agreement during the first 3 months of his term and then he can get on with his agenda, about which we can argue? That leaves me with only one thought: That the President thinks we don't want to do it. We do want to do it and it is a misunderstanding if he thinks that.

I know the Republican leader would not mind me saying he is a wily, clever tactician who knows the Senate as well as anyone here. But if you look carefully, when we got down to the last few days of the year and needed an agreement on taxes, the Republican leader was in the middle of the agreement. When we needed an agreement to try to avoid default on the debt, the Republican leader was the one who was in the middle of doing that.

I think if the White House thinks that the Republican leader or we on the Republican side do not want to fix the debt, they are badly misunderstanding where we are and who we are. I do not know how we can say it more clearly. We have written bills that do it. We have held dinners to talk about it. We have made public statements with Democrats, 30 or 40 of us at a time, saying we support Simpson-Bowles, we support Domenici-Rivlin, or we support this or we support that. What is missing? Two words: Presidential leadership. This is not a partisan comment. It just does not work unless the President lays out his plan.

Some say the President does not want to lay out his plan. He has to lay out his plan. He is the President. We are just legislators. Senator CORKER and I have put out our plan. Who pays attention to that? Madam President, $1 trillion in reductions and a $1 trillion increase in the debt ceiling—it is out there. That is not going to work. However, if President Obama, with his skills, calls together Simpson and Bowles or his advisers and says: Here is

my plan to save Medicare, here is my plan to save Medicaid, here is my plan to fix the debt, and I want bipartisan support to do that, he will get it. At first, because it is a difficult issue, everybody will say: Oh, no, we can't do it that way. We need to sit down, talk, and come up with a result. I think the Republican leader has shown he is prepared and willing to do that. He has said it and done it on other issues. I don't know what else the rest of us can do to show that.

What I am trying to respectfully say today, as much as anything, to the President of the United States is congratulations on your inauguration. I was there. I was proud to participate in it and have the opportunity to speak for a minute and a half about why we celebrate for the 57th time the inauguration of an American President. We celebrate it because our country is distinguished from most other countries in the world by the peaceful transition or reaffirmation of the largest amount of power in the world. We have our political contests, and then we have the restraint to respect the results.

After winning the election, it is important, first, to get the fiscal house in order. The time to do it is while we have a divided government. The time to do it is while the President is at the peak of his popularity. The time to do it is while the House of Representatives—the Republican House—has created a window of 2 or 3 months to deal with all the fiscal issues. The time to do it is after 2 years of discussion with Republicans and Democrats in a bipartisan way about the need to fix the debt and the importance of it for the country.

My hope is that as the President and his advisers look at the Senate, they see a willingness to solve the problem of fixing the debt in a bipartisan way. I get the feeling they don't believe that about us. I don't know what else we can do to cause them to believe that. There is not the same kind of comfortable, back-and-forth relationship there should be. I have heard some people say: Well, the Johnson-Dirksen days are ancient history. That was a long time ago. However, human nature doesn't change. Human nature doesn't change in 50 years, 100 years, or 500 years.

There is plenty of good will across the aisle and on this side of the aisle, at the beginning of this term, to work with a newly inaugurated President and say: Mr. President, we are ready to fix the debt. Provide us the leadership. No great crisis is ever solved without Presidential leadership in the United States. You are the President; you are the only one who can lay out the plan. We will then consider it, amend it, argue about it, change it, and pass it. After that, we can get onto the President's agenda, about which we will have a difference of opinion, but he will go down in history as the man who was willing to do something hard within his own party, which was to fix the debt and save the programs seniors depend upon to pay their medical bills.

I hope I can say that in the spirit of someone who participated in the inauguration and admires the President's considerable abilities. I hope he and his advisers stop, take a look, and say: Maybe we were wrong. Maybe this is the time to do it. Maybe we are the only ones who can do it, so let's make a proposal and get started.

I thank the President. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam 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.

THE BUDGET

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, I was pleased to hear a few days ago that Senator SCHUMER said we would have a budget in the Senate. It has been now, I think, about 1,370 days, give or take, since we have had a budget in the Senate, even though plain statutory law requires the Congress to have a budget. Now Senator MURRAY has followed up today, I believe, with a quote saying: ''. . . the Senate will once again return to regular order and move a budget resolution through the Budget Committee and to the Senate floor.''

So the Budget Committee has not been meeting. It has not been doing its duty. As the ranking Republican on the Budget Committee, I have been aghast at the process and have talked about it for now for over 1,000 days. So this will be a good step.

My colleagues would like to suggest somehow that they decided to do this out of the goodness of their hearts because it is the right thing to do. But I think the American people have had a belly full of this.

The U.S. House of Representatives has repeatedly passed budgets, but the Senate has refused to even bring one up in committee or on the floor for over 2 years now. They have said they are raising the debt limit for about 3 months, but they have declared that the Senate does not get paid until we have a budget. Right now there is no punishment for not passing a budget. I was a Federal prosecutor for over 15 years and know how to read a code. It has no penalty for failing to pass a budget. It says the Senate should bring up a budget. It should complete the budget process in committee by April 1 and then the full Senate should take it up and it should be completed by April 15. The Senate is given priority: 50 hours of debate, virtually unlimited amendments—an opportunity to debate the financial condition of America.

That is why it has not happened. Senator REID, the Democratic leader for the last several years, has said it would be foolish to have a budget. What he meant was that it would be foolish politically. Because when you bring up a budget, this is a tough thing. The House did that.

PAUL RYAN offered a historic budget that would change the debt course of America and put us on a sound path. They had to make some tough choices. So they were, of course, attacked in the election—Oh, these are horrible people; they want to throw old people off the cliff and that kind of thing and it was irresponsible—while during this entire process, the Senate was in direct violation of Federal law that required us to bring up a budget. We did not bring it up because it would be foolish, foolish politically, because we have to take tough votes. We have to stand and be counted. Numbers have to be analyzed: How much are you truly going to raise taxes? Oh, well, is that going to change the debt course?

Is this latest $600 billion tax increase going to change the debt course of America? No; it is not. Our deficit last year was about $1,080 billion. How much would this tax increase, this $600 billion, have changed that? That is $60 billion a year. Instead of $1,080 billion or so in deficit, our deficit would have been $1,020 billion. Is that going to fix our problem? No, it will not.

These are difficult problems. These are very difficult problems, and it is not going to be easy. But it was easy to attack the House while not producing a budget. It is a pretty flabbergasting thing to me. So I am glad we are now going to have this process. It will not be easy for Republicans. It will not be easy for Democrats. But what are we paid to do? What responsibility do we have as the Congress—that has the power of the purse—if not discussing the great issues of our time?

We are on an unsustainable debt path. Last year there was another trillion-dollar deficit, and they are projecting we will have a trillion-dollar deficit this year. That is 5 consecutive years of trillion-dollar deficits. I know President Bush was criticized, and correctly sometimes, for spending too much. The highest deficit he ever had in 8 years was $470 billion. The year before he left it was $160 billion. President Obama has averaged well over $1,000 billion a year in an annual deficit ever since.

This is not sustainable, as every expert has told us time and time again. So I am worried about it. Maybe we can move out of these secret meetings where the Senate just sits around and we wait for the people to appear, write us a bill at midnight on December 31—actually 1 a.m. on January 1—that is supposed to handle it and nobody has even read it.

That is what we have been doing for the last 4 years. It has worked out good politically because it has kept an honest discussion of the dangerous path we are on from being part of the public debate. We have to have it part of the

public debate. I am not saying this budget, if it moves through the Senate, is going to solve our problems and that it will be adopted. I am not saying that. But I do believe the American people will understand better the challenges we face and Senators will understand better the challenges we face, how deep they are, how systemic they are.

In 2011, after Republicans won a victory in the midterm elections, there was hope we would have a new budget from the President, that he would reach out to the House that had gotten a Republican majority for a change—they took back the majority, and there were more Republicans in the Senate—and that the President was going to produce a budget that would put us on the right path and maybe a historic path that would help make Social Security and Medicare sustainable, preserve those programs so people can go to bed at night and feel confident these programs not going to go bankrupt and there are not going to be dramatic cuts. We can do that. It would take some belt-tightening, but we could do that. Yet the administration refused: You are just partisan, SESSIONS.

I am saying, without fear of contradiction by anybody who knows what has happened, that this administration basically has not wanted to talk about those deep spending issues that amount to more than half the money we spend.

That was a challenge. Maybe that logjam has broken and this budget process will give us an opportunity to move forward.

I do not like to be critical of nominees or anyone. I try to be as courteous and respectful as we can to people whom we deal with on a regular basis in the Congress. But I have to share with my colleagues a deep feeling that we have a serious credibility problem with credibility on debt and financing. We have to end that credibility problem. We have to be honest and deal with real numbers.

In January of 2011, Mr. Jack Lew, the then-Director of the Office of Management and Budget, with a substantial staff—one of their primary duties is to produce a budget every year—submitted the President's Budget to Congress. The President always submits a budget—it has been late, but they have always sent them over. The Senate has not moved budgets like it is required to, but every President has always sent over a budget. There was great hope that the budget would be the kind of breakthrough—with a Republican House and a Democratic President and a Democratic Senate—that somehow this would be an opportunity for historic agreement to put America on a sound path and get us off these trillion-dollar deficits, put us on a path to a balanced budget and do the kind of things that are necessary for the welfare of our country.

Mr. Lew produced the budget, and he went on television immediately and talked about it. On Wednesday of that week, he was going to be before the Budget Committee, but this is what he said in his CNN Sunday morning interview about his budget. I would ask you to listen to these words, colleagues and friends, anybody who is watching, and see what they mean to you. He said:

> Our budget will get us, over the next several years, to the point where we can look the American people in the eye and say we're not adding to the debt anymore; we're spending money that we have each year—

Money that we have each year—

> and then we can work on bringing down our national debt.

That was on CNN.

So he appeared before the Budget Committee and I asked him if that was an accurate statement; did he stand by that. He said: Yes, sir, and he never wavered from that.

I will just say that as part of the budget process we get a stack of documents—this much—from Mr. Lew's office. The Office of Management and Budget submits them—supporting documents—as part of their process. They are easily ascertainable. The numbers are not in dispute.

The lowest single deficit over 10 years that Mr. Lew projected was more than $600 billion. In other words, there was never a balanced budget, never paying down the debt, never a single year we were not borrowing at least $600 billion.

None of what he said is accurate. It is breathtaking. I called it the greatest financial misrepresentation in history. It would have added $13 trillion to the debt of the United States over 10 years, by his own estimate, not stuff I made up. Yet he said we are not going to be adding to the debt anymore.

So I thought, if a businessman reported to potential stock purchasers, our company is on the right track, we are not adding to our debt anymore—we are going to look the American people in the eye and say we're not adding to the debt anymore, we are spending only money we have—you are borrowing—the least amount of money you have borrowed in a single year is $600 billion, larger than President Bush ever had in 8 years as President.

When I asked him about it, he insisted that it was true. So we have got a problem here, and that is why I am not going to support Mr. Lew for the Secretary of the Treasury. I am not going to vote for him. I believe he knew exactly what he was saying. He produced a budget that was panned by virtually every editorial board in America. They hammered it as failing to meet the challenge of our time, and he knew it was that way. He is not a person who doesn't understand these issues. He knew what it was all about. But they decided they would go out and spin it this way. They would say it did what the American people wanted.

I hate to be this harsh, but there is only one conclusion. They decided to produce a budget that did not change the debt course of America and left us on an unsustainable path. Even their own numbers show that, but they would tell the American people this, say it was fixed, and maybe lull them into a false sense of confidence.

Then they attacked PAUL RYAN of the Republican House for producing a realistic budget. It wasn't a dramatic budget, it didn't even balance in 10 years, but it changed us and put us on a sound path. They would attack him as not caring about people, and for 2 years that is what has happened.

Once we bring a budget to the floor of this Senate, Republicans and Democrats are going to find out this is a very difficult situation we are in. The challenge is going to be very difficult, and we are going to have a hard time dealing with it.

Mr. Lew didn't just make that comment to CNN, in case you think I am exaggerating here. He also said this in an NPR, National Public Radio, interview on February 15, 2011, the day, I believe, of a Budget Committee hearing:

> If we're able to reduce the deficit to the point where we can pay for our spending and invest in the future, that is an enormous accomplishment. This budget has specific proposals that would do that.

He looked the American people in the eye, or, I guess, talked to their ears on NPR, and said his ''budget has specific proposals'' that would put us in a position to pay for our spending and invest in the future and reduce our deficit.

He went on to say on February 15, 2011, at the Budget Committee hearing—and I think this was my question, Was this an accurate statement that you made, Mr. OMB Director?

He said:

> It's an accurate statement that our current spending will not be increasing the debt. We've stopped spending money that we don't have.

I mean, I almost can't read those words without the hair standing up on the back of my neck. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget appeared before the U.S. Senate Budget Committee, and he said, ''it's an accurate statement,'' this baloney, ''it's an accurate statement that our current spending will not be increasing the debt . . . We've stopped spending money that we don't have.''

Nothing could be further from the truth—the lowest single deficit was $600 billion.

What about on a different CNN interview on February 14, 2011:

> It [the budget] takes real actions now so that between now and 5 years from now we can get our deficit under control so that we can stabilize things so that we're not adding to the debt anymore.

He promised, and looked the American people in the eye and said, in 5 years, we are not going to be adding to the debt anymore. He knew exactly what he was saying. He knew exactly what he wanted the American people to hear. There is no ambiguity about it, and it was utterly false.

February 13, 2011, on ABC, he said:

> This budget has a lot of pain, [but] it does the job, it cuts the deficit in half by the end

of the President's first term . . . It's going to take us a lot of hard work just to take us to the point where we're not adding to the debt.

There is not one year that they are not adding to the debt.

In the seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth years of the budget that Jack Lew presented, when you look at his real numbers, the deficit was going up each year. So it was not a fix to our debt problem.

Then he says this on the White House blog, February 13, 2011:

Like every family, we have to tighten our belts and live within our means while we're investing in the things that we need to have a strong and secure future . . . We know that you have to stabilize where we're going before you can move on and solve the rest of the problem. This budget does that.

So it is going to stabilize us and move us forward.

Well, as I say, that was not well received. The New York Times wrote this on February 5, 2011. That was his op-ed. I won't go into the editorials, but a whole list of those were critical of Mr. Lew.

I would just say this, we are in a difficult financial position. We need honesty, we need a budget that is truthful, we need the regular order so the Budget Committee does its work, and then it comes to the floor of the U.S. Senate—this will be first time in over a thousand days—it guarantees 50 hours of debate, it can't be filibustered, it can be passed with a simple majority, we will know what is in it, and people can offer amendments. That is what should have been happening for a long time that has not been happening. That is what the law requires, and that should be completed by April 15 of this year.

As we go forward, I am confident that we will be better served by public discussion of our debt, not secret meetings. I have been critical of them. I had hoped that some of them would ripen into some good solutions, but all we have had is temporary ''kick the can down the road'' maneuvers, and nothing substantial has been done to change the debt course of America.

By the way, when Mr. Erskine Bowles, whom President Obama appointed to head his fiscal commission, saw this budget in 2011, he said it goes nowhere near where they will have to go to resolve our fiscal nightmare. Everybody knew this budget wouldn't do the job, and that is why it was never brought through the process, and that is why it wasn't brought to the floor for a full budget analysis in committee and in debate on the floor.

So as we go forward, I will be meeting with our new chairman, Senator MURRAY. She is a great, tough advocate for her values, but she is a good person to work with. I have told her we will try to work with her, but we are going to talk about the great issues of our time, the difficulties we face, and see if we can't make this system work better and try to put this country on a sound financial footing.

We can do it. We can get this country on a sound path. It is not impossible, but anybody who thinks it will be easy is wrong. This is going to take some hard work. As we do that in a bipartisan, open way in the committee, on the floor of the Senate, the American people will be able to digest the difficulty of some of our challenges, and so will our Members in Congress. In the end, that, I think, leaves us in the best position to reach the kind of agreement, compromise, solution, that can put us on the right path, because everybody is going to have to swallow a little bit.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

THE BUDGET AND THE DEFICIT

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I couldn't help but listen to the words of my friend from Alabama regarding the debt and deficit, and then to be reminded that we did balance the budget not too long ago. In fact, in 1993, we passed a tax bill here in the Senate and in the House—it was signed into law by President Clinton—which set us on a course to reduce the deficit. In fact, by the years 1999 and 2000, we balanced the budget. We had a surplus. Can you imagine that? We had a surplus for 3 years in a row. The Congressional Budget Office and OMB said that if we had continued on that pathway, we would have fully paid off the national debt by 2010.

When I hear my friends on the Republican side talk about reducing the deficit and the debt, we did that. When the Democrats were in charge of the Senate and the House and we had the Presidency, I would also point out that not one Republican on that side of the aisle voted for that bill in 1993. I can remember standing here and debating with my friend from Texas at that time on this bill, and there were all kinds of dire warnings that if this bill passed, we were going to have depressions and recessions; the business community would stop, and it would be the worst thing that ever happened to this country if we passed the Clinton tax proposal. Well, we passed it, but without one Republican vote.

And what happened? We had the largest spurt of economic growth this country had seen almost since the 1950s and 1960s. This was to the point to where, as I said, by the end of the 1990s we had a balanced budget and we had a surplus.

Then President Bush comes into office, and we had surpluses, enough to retire the entire national debt by the year 2010. So what did President Bush say? Well, now we are going to give tax cuts. They pushed through this big tax cut bill for which this Senator did not vote.

That tax cut bill gave a lot away to corporations and to the wealthy of this country, so that they didn't have to pay their fair share. Also, there were two wars we didn't pay for, plus a recession, and now we are in this huge deficit.

We know how to get ourselves out of this fix. We did it in 1993. It was by having the people in this country pay their fair share of taxes, to make sure that corporations, to make sure that those who enjoy the benefits of living in this free and productive society, pay their fair share. This is for all of us to raise the revenues necessary to meet our obligations in education, health, infrastructure building, the security of our Nation, and also to raise enough revenues so we can reduce the deficit.

But it can only be done with fairness and with fair sharing by all, and that is what President Obama has spoken about. He spoke about that in his inaugural address. That is what we have been talking about here for a long time; that is, shared sacrifice on behalf of all, and to make sure that all pay their fair share of taxes in this country so we can once again do what we did in 1993. We can do it again if only my friends on the Republican side will join with us in making sure we raise the necessary revenues to get us out of this hole.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). The Senator from Missouri.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the period of morning business be extended until 2 p.m. today, and that all provisions of the previous order remain in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Missouri.

REMEMBERING STAN MUSIAL

Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, first of all, this is the first time I have spoken on the floor when you were in the chair. Welcome to the Senate and welcome to the presiding chair.

I want to talk for a few minutes today about a baseball great, a Missouri great, Stan Musial, who passed away on Saturday at the age of 92. Stan Musial was born in November 1920 in Denora, PA. His title was Stan ''The Man.'' He was the youngest of six children. When he wasn't called Stan ''The Man,'' he was just a guy who worked at a company as a young man, whose dad was a Polish immigrant, whose mother was of Czechoslovakian ancestry, and whose dreams were probably not to become a professional baseball player but who was, indeed, a great athlete from the very start.

In his remarks, when he presented Stan Musial the Medal of Freedom in 2011, President Obama said the following:

Stan matched his hustle with humility. He retired with 17 records—even as he missed a season in his prime to serve his country in

the Navy. He was the first player to make—get this—$100,000. Even more shocking, he asked for a pay cut when he didn't perform up to his own expectations.

I don't think that August Busch gave him the pay cut—again, a quote—but I have read the story where Stan Musial was holding out for a pay package somewhere in the mid-90s and August Busch, Jr., who not long before that had bought the Cardinals, called him into the office and said: I'm never going to pay you 90—whatever thousand dollars he was asking for. He said: I'm going to pay you $100,000, and you are going to be the first baseball player to make $100,000.

Stan Musial played for the Cardinals from 1941 to 1963, the only Major League team he played for. He entered the majors in 1941 as the fifth youngest player. He ended his career in 1963 as the third oldest player. He had a record of 24 times being named to the Major League Baseball All-Star team. He won seven National League batting titles, three National League Most Valuable Player awards, and he led the Cardinals to three World Series championships in the 1940s.

Stan Musial—No. 6—had a batting average of at least .300 in every 1 of his 17 seasons—a .300 hitter for every 1 of his 17 seasons. His lifetime batting average was .331. He batted .330 in the year before he decided to retire. He had 3,630 career hits, hitting 1,815 hits in St. Louis at Sportsman Park and Busch Stadium, and he hit another 1,815 on the road. He played as well at home as he did away from home. He missed the entire 1945 season while he was serving in the Navy.

It was a fan at Ebbet's Field—with the Dodgers playing at Ebbet's Field—who groaned as he came to the plate one time in a game—he was always particularly good against the Dodgers. The fan said: Here comes the man. And from that point on, his nickname was Stan ''The Man.''

I had a chance to sit by Tommy Lasorda at a luncheon a few years ago after I had read a biography of Stan Musial. Tommy was sort of the longtime Dodgers manager who was a player when Stan Musial was playing, and he said he thought Stan Musial was the best ballplayer he ever saw play, and he was death on the Dodgers. The Dodgers fans liked him, but it was a real rivalry.

Stan was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame the first year he was eligible, in 1969, and he would be one of the great ambassadors to baseball for the rest of his life. When he retired in 1963, Commissioner Ford Frick said:

> Here stands baseball's perfect warrior. Here stands baseball's perfect knight.

Stan Musial became an American icon throughout ballparks and over the radio in the 1940s and 1950s. KMOX, in the 1960s, had a booming signal that went almost all the way to the west coast and covered a lot of the South, and the St. Louis Cardinals were the furthest south of any baseball team and the furthest west of any baseball team. Because of that, Stan Musial played on a club that, in many ways, became America's team at that time.

I can remember growing up in southwest Missouri on a dairy farm, and particularly late at night when we were hauling hay—and I can remember this when I was 10 or 12 years old—and whoever was in the truck must have been almost deaf because the driver would have the radio turned as loud as you could turn the radio up, and the St. Louis Cardinals game would be coming out of both windows as we were out there working in the fields or, if we weren't working in the field, we would be sitting on the porch somewhere listening to the Cardinals play, and there was no greater Cardinal than Stan Musial.

Bob Gibson, another great Cardinal and Stan's teammate and fellow Hall of Famer, said:

> Stan Musial is the nicest man I ever met in baseball.

And Bob Gibson went on to say he didn't particularly associate nice with baseball, but he associated nice with Stan Musial.

Bob Costas had this to say about Stan Musial:

> Stan Musial didn't hit in 56 straight games. He didn't hit .400 for a season. He didn't get 4,000 hits. He didn't get 500 home runs. He didn't hit a home run in his last at bat, just a single. He didn't marry Marilyn Monroe; he married his high school sweetheart. His excellence was a quiet excellence.

ESPN titled Musial the most underrated athlete ever. Only Hank Aaron—thinking about the things Stan Musial didn't do—had more runs than Stan Musial and extra base hits. Only Tris Speaker and Pete Rose had more hits. And only Babe Ruth and Barry Bonds created more runs. But Stan Musial was at the highest levels in all of those areas.

Writing in the St. Louis Post Dispatch this week, Bernie Miklasz wrote:

> Let's celebrate Musial's extraordinary life and be thankful for his enduring presence through the decades. Let's keep it simple in honor of this remarkably uncomplicated man. There has never been a more perfect union, a better relationship between an athlete and a town, than Stan Musial and St. Louis. From the time Stan took his first at-bat as a Cardinal, until his death Saturday at his home in Ladue, he was part of the community's soul for 71 years, 4 months, and 2 days.

Many stories about Stan Musial have been told, but I want to mention three that Bernie mentioned in that same article. He talked about when Musial was first inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame—as I said earlier, as soon as you could possibly be inducted. It was an overcast day in Cooperstown. The crowd was quiet, subdued, and a little bit put off by the day. Moments before Musial's official ceremony, the clouds got out of the way and the sunshine emerged, and Dizzy Dean's widow said: ''Stan brought the sun. He always does.''

In the 1960s, a second story emerged of Musial and other Major League stars visiting U.S. troops in Vietnam, and they went to the military hospitals to console the wounded soldiers. One seriously injured soldier looked up at Musial from his hospital bed and said: ''You're the best.'' And Musial's response was: ''No, you are.''

Brooklyn Dodgers pitcher Joe Black, an African American, told a story about being racially taunted by players in the St. Louis dugout during a game. Musial, who was batting at the time, and facing Joe Black, stepped out and angrily kicked the dirt to display his disapproval of his own teammates. He waited after the game to tell Black:

> I'm sorry that happened. But don't you worry about it. You're a great pitcher. You will win a lot of games.

Black said Musial's support helped him gain the confidence he needed to become a top pitcher.

The fourth and last story Bernie told was of legendary center fielder Willie Mays, who frequently talked about Musial befriending African-American players, relating that at an All-Star game black players were being ignored by the other players. Mays said:

> We were in the back of the clubhouse playing poker and none of the white guys had come back or said, ''Hi'' or ''How's it going?'' or ''How you guys doing?'' or ''Welcome to the All Star Game.'' Nothing. We're playing poker and all of a sudden I look up and here comes Stan towards us. He grabs a chair, sits down and starts playing cards with us. And Stan didn't know how to play poker! But that was his way of welcoming us, of making us feel a part of it. I never forgot that. We never forgot that.

Musial didn't make a lot of fiery speeches. He didn't ''lead'' a movement or try to promote himself as an angelic humanitarian. He just did good things.

There is one last story, a love story, between Stan and his wife Lil. This may be the best Musial statistic of all. They were married for 71 years, 4 months, and 2 days until Lil's death on May 3, with Stan following her in January.

I listened to KMOX from the hay truck I talked about earlier, like lots of other Cardinals and Musial fans, but I remember the first time I saw Stan Musial play at Sportsman Park. I remember the first time, 30 years later, I actually met him, when I was the Secretary of State in Missouri. Getting to meet Stan Musial was about as good as it got even then. I remember hearing him play ''Take Me Out to the Ball Game'' on his harmonica.

Baseball was lucky to have him, Missouri was lucky to have him, and the Cardinals and St. Louis were lucky to have him, and I am pleased to be here today to say how much we appreciate Stan Musial.

I am also pleased to be joined by my colleague from Missouri, Senator MCCASKILL.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Madam President, I want to thank my colleague. He and I disagree on many things, but we agree on many things also, and one of

those things usually begins and ends with the State we love, Missouri, and certainly some of our most famous and beloved people who come from Missouri. Obviously, there is no one who deserves more love and respect than Stan Musial.

There are so many memories about Stan Musial that I want to try to encapsulate today, but the interesting thing about the memories I have about Stan Musial is that I don't have these memories because I am a Senator. They do not belong uniquely to me because I am an elected official. I have these memories that I share with hundreds of thousands of people who were lucky enough to encounter Stan Musial during his time on Earth.

You know, when you meet somebody, and you can tell they are kind of looking over you to try to find the person who is more important behind you or maybe they are impatient because they do not think you are a big enough deal to be taking their time? If you look at our sports icons today who travel with posses and have entourages and certain rules about who can come near them and who can't and when, that was not Stan Musial. Not one day of his career or one day after his career did he consider himself untouchable. He saw it as his duty and obligation to be there for all fans. Whether it was somebody who worked at the ballpark sweeping after the game was over or whether it was a very talented ballplayer from another team, everyone was equal in Stan Musial's eyes. What a wonderful American value.

I could stand here today, Madam President, and talk about his amazing record as a baseball player, his unique swing, and the beauty of his accomplishments in America's favorite pastime, but what we need to focus on as we mourn the loss of this living legend is his character because it was his character that brought universal love, respect, and devotion to the man, our man, Stan ''The Man.''

I know Senator BLUNT talked about this story, but I want to elaborate a little bit.

It is 1952. Joe Black has just been called up to the majors after spending 1 year in the minors with the Brooklyn organization. He is facing Stan Musial. Now, keep in mind that this is an accomplished baseball player who had won two championships in the Negro Baseball Leagues, and it had only been a few years since Jackie Robinson had, in fact, broken the color barrier for Major League Baseball. He is facing Stan Musial, who already was the most feared hitter in baseball. He is standing there as a Black man on the mound in this baseball game, and out of the Cardinal dugout come jeers and taunts. In fact, one of the things said was, hey, Stan, you are not going to have any trouble hitting that ball against that dark background.

When the game was over, Stan Musial decided not to stay in the Cardinal dugout. Joe Black told the story that as he sat in the dugout, he felt a hand on his shoulder. He looked up, and there was Stan Musial from the opposing dugout saying to Joe Black: You are going to be a great pitcher.

Now, that encapsulates the character of Stan Musial.

Chuck Connors, ''The Rifleman,'' used to tell this story. He was a struggling hitter for the Chicago Cubs.

I may need to explain to you, Madam President, but I certainly don't need to explain to anybody in Cardinal Nation that the Chicago Cubs are an opponent. Now, we don't like the Chicago Cubs in Cardinal Nation.

Chuck Connors asked a teammate what he should do about his swing. He was struggling with being able to hit in the majors, and they all told him the same thing: The only guy who can help you is Stan Musial. So even though he was reluctant to approach a hitter on the opposing team, he went to Musial and asked for help, and, of course, Stan responded as all of us would expect he would; he spent 30 minutes in the cage with an opposing player trying to help him with his swing. Connors recounted that he really wasn't ever that good of a hitter, but he said he never forgot Stan Musial's kindness.

> And when he finished watching me cut away at the ball, Stan slapped me on the back and told me to keep swinging.

After the 1946 season, the promoters from the Mexican League decided it was time for them to up the ante on baseball. At the time, Stan Musial was making the enormous sum of $13,500 playing for the St. Louis Cardinals. The Mexican League came to Stan Musial and said: We are going to offer you—a king's ransom at the time—$125,000 for 5 years. That was a lot of money for Stan Musial and his family, but he turned down the Mexican League. When asked about it later, he said:

> Back in my day, we didn't think about money as much. We just enjoyed playing the game. We loved baseball. I didn't think about anybody else but the Cardinals.

Harry Caray knew Stan Musial for over 50 years. He would often tell the story of Stan Musial wandering out of the ballpark after a steaming doubleheader—and trust me, we can have steaming doubleheaders in Missouri—looking as if he had been through 15 rounds in a prize fight and every single thing in his body language signifying that he was exhausted and just wanted to go home and lie down. Instead, when he got to his car, he found fans waiting for him. ''Watch this,'' Harry Caray told a friend. And sure enough, Musial's whole body straightened—like Popeye had just eaten a can of spinach—and he started shouting, ''Whaddya Say! Whaddya Say!'' And he signed every single autograph of all the fans surrounding his car. Harry Caray loved telling that story not because it was unusual—that is who Stan Musial was—but for the opposite reason: because it was ordinary. Even in his time, when baseball players weren't paid as much and so were more part of the community, Stan Musial stood apart by standing with the people in the community.

It wasn't just Cardinal Nation that worshipped Stan Musial. His opponents, the opposing teams—can you imagine this happening today? Believe it or not, the New York Mets had a Stan Musial Day at their park. And in Chicago, the home of the Cubs, he once finished first in a favorite player survey, edging out the legendary Ernie Banks, who was also a very nice guy who was beloved by the fans of baseball in the Midwest.

I could go on and on with stories that reflect this man's character. Yes, he has amazing statistics. Yes, him hitting a baseball was a thing of beauty to all baseball fans in America. But, really, what this man was about was that phrase we love to throw around in politics way too often; that is, American values. This was a man who didn't have to talk about his values because he lived them—his love for his family and how close they are.

I am very fortunate to be friends with the Musial family and have visited with them in the days since his death. They received messages from every star in the constellation of American baseball, but one stood out. Joe Torre, upon hearing of Stan's death just a few days ago, sent a message to the Musial family, and it simply said this:

> Stan Musial was a Hall of Famer in the game of life. We will miss you, Stan Musial.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, as we get started on this next Congress—and I wish to congratulate the Presiding Officer for joining this Chamber. As someone who has had the opportunity to preside during my first 2 years in the Senate, I commend the Presiding Officer for those actions and look forward to working with you on a variety of projects.

What I want to do today is continue a tradition that I actually inherited from one of our former colleagues, Senator Ted Kaufman of Delaware. Senator Kaufman, who had been a longtime employee of the Senate, came to this floor on a fairly regular basis during his time here to basically celebrate and acknowledge—in most cases—the tireless, unsung work of so many of our Federal employees. As we debate budgets, debt, and deficit, we oftentimes

recognize we have to make extraordinary and difficult choices in cuts. In many instances, behind all of those cuts are Federal employees who do remarkable work in keeping us safe, providing services, and helping our country grow.

Ted Kaufman used to come down here on a regular basis and celebrate some of those unsung heroes. I was proud to continue his tradition during the last Congress and look forward to carrying it on through another session.

I start this next Congress actually celebrating two great Federal employees, I might add, who both happen to be Virginians who serve as excellent role models. They represent the thousands of professionals who work quietly every day across our intelligence community to keep our Nation safe.

Very often these professionals work in anonymity and many risk their lives in troubled spots far away from the limelight, and that is how it should be. Recently we have seen certain incidents abroad, and sometimes they pay with the highest sign of sacrifice in terms of their lives.

For their service, their late nights and early mornings away from their families, the risks they take, and the sacrifices they make every day—and because they do not hear this nearly enough—allow me to say thank you to those members of the intelligence community.

JEANNE VERTEFEUILLE

Today I wish to briefly tell the remarkable stories of two extraordinary women who built their careers at the Central Intelligence Agency. Jeanne Vertefeuille, who is pictured here, passed away on December 29 at the age of 80 after a brief illness.

In announcing her death to the CIA family, Acting Director Michael Morell appropriately described Ms. Vertefeuille as an icon within the agency. If her story were not true, it would read like a spy novel.

Jeanne joined the CIA when she graduated from college in 1954. It was the year I was born and a year DICK DURBIN was also young. This was a time when the American intelligence community could be best described as an old boys' club. She was hired at the CIA as a GS–4 typist. This is a woman coming out of college in 1954 hired as a typist.

Over her career, which stretched over nearly a half century, Jeanne Vertefeuille blazed a trail for women in the national clandestine service. She methodically worked her way up to leadership positions. There were overseas postings in Ethiopia, Finland, and The Hague. She became an expert in Soviet intelligence and spycraft. She retired as a member of the Senior Intelligence Service in 1992.

Even after her retirement, she continued her work for the agency as a contractor, making still more valuable contributions and working without a day's break in service until she became ill last summer. As her obituary reads:

> She remained a quiet agency soldier . . . purposefully nondescript and selflessly dedicated.
>
> She lived alone and walked to work.
>
> But if she was a great figure at the agency, Ms. Vertefeuille was also a tenacious and effective one, and in October of 1986 was asked to lead a task force to investigate the disappearance of Russians whom the CIA had hired to spy against their own country.

Together, with colleagues at the CIA she invested years in the methodical and painstaking hunt for a mole. It was through her efforts, and the good work of many others, that we ultimately unmasked the notorious traitor Aldrich Ames in 1984. Remember, this is a woman who joined the CIA in 1954 as a typist.

Aldrich Ames turned out to be one of the most dangerous traitors in the Nation's history. Thanks in large measure to Ms. Vertefeuille, he was convicted of espionage and is now serving a life term without parole.

SANDY GRIMES

Jeanne Vertefeuille's story does not end there. The Washington Post recently described how one of her colleagues, Sandy Grimes—another Virginian who worked with her on the Ames task force—stepped up over the past year to care for Jeanne as she was battling cancer.

Sandy Grimes, a career CIA employee whose parents worked on the Manhattan Project, ultimately served as Jeanne's primary caregiver. She sat with her each day during the final 3 months of her remarkable life. She monitored Jeanne's care and tried to make sure she remained comfortable. She often brought personal messages of support and appreciation from their former colleagues. Ms. Grimes said:

> I felt an obligation to be there with her. I can't imagine not doing it. I was the one Jeanne would accept. I owed it to her as a friend.

By all accounts Jeanne Vertefeuille was an intensely private woman, and she doubtless would recoil at the attention she is now receiving. One cannot help but be inspired by this true-life story of service, patriotism, and friendship demonstrated by these two great employees, Sandy Grimes and the late Jeanne Vertefeuille. Their service reflects well on the thousands of other intelligence professionals whose names can never be revealed. Both of them deserve our recognition and thanks.

During the last Congress I joined 14 Senators in a Joint Resolution to mark the U.S. Intelligence Professionals Day. At some point during this Congress, I hope we can gather more supporters so we can have a day designated on a more formalized basis to recognize the enormous contributions made by intelligence professionals. Again, this is an effort to bring respectful attention to these quiet professionals who literally—as a member of the intelligence committee, I can testify to this—keep our Nation safe every day without any thought of recognition.

Again, I look forward to working with my colleagues so we can introduce this resolution in the next Congress.

As I conclude my remarks, I see my friend the distinguished majority whip. We have spent a lot of time over the last 2½ years grappling with the challenges around the debt and deficit and trying to make some of the very hard choices we are going to need to make as a Nation.

While it appears that we may be avoiding some of the immediate consequences of the so-called debt ceiling debate, which I am glad to see, never should the full faith and credit of the United States be used as a political hostage. Again, I want to compliment my friend the Senator from Illinois who has been as stalwart as anyone in this Chamber at stepping up and who has been willing to speak truth to even those who are the most supportive about some of the challenges and choices we have to make.

We are going to have to proceed at a level of spending that is less than what we have had in the past. As we think about cutting back budgets, I think it is important to remember that behind many of these budgets, there are not just numbers but there are incredible professionals who give their life's service to making this a stronger Nation. So with this tribute to Jeanne and Sandy, I commend these two great Federal employees.

I will be back on a regular basis to celebrate Federal employees throughout this Congress because too often in today's day and life, government service is disparaged. But for Jeanne Vertefeuille and Sandy Grimes we might not have as safe a Nation as we do today.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I will accept my colleague from Virginia's kind words with at least an indirect apology for the defamation which he included in his speech suggesting that I was somehow an Ancient Mariner here in the Senate. I wear my trousers rolled but not quite as rolled as my friend suggested.

I thank the Senator for his leadership on this deficit and debt issue. We have a lot to do and we have to do it thoughtfully. I am glad my colleague highlighted the two employees.

I read the obituary of the one the Senator from Virginia highlighted. It was an extraordinary story of a woman who persevered in an agency which didn't have much use for women beyond the secretarial staff. I am glad the Senator continues this tradition of acknowledging these important Federal employees.

I thank my friend from Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO STAN MUSIAL

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, it has been said in St. Louis, MO, baseball is not a sport, it is a religion. If that is

true, Stan Musial was a St. Louis civic patron saint.

Stan Musial was an icon in St. Louis. He was the best ballplayer to wear a Cardinal's uniform and one of the best to play the game of baseball.

Stan Musial was my childhood hero when I was a boy and he remains a hero in my life to this day. When a person reaches my age, and maybe my station in life, they are supposed to be beyond the stage of swooning adolescence. But when it comes to Stan Musial, I am a 10-year-old kid all over again in East St. Louis, IL, buying more bubble gum than I can possibly afford in the hope that I would open one of those packages and find, covered in pink powder, a card that had Stan Musial's picture. It was the treasure of my youth, and it still would be today if my mom had not thrown those cards away.

Stan Musial's death has hit the Cardinals Nation like a death in the family. One Cardinal fan spoke for many of us when she said losing Stan Musial ''is like losing a grandparent. It's hard not to tear up.''

I grew up in East St. Louis across the river, and my most prized possession when I was a kid was my very first Stan Musial Rawlings baseball glove. As a kid I rubbed that glove with something called Gloveoleum until I was the only one who could still see Stan Musial's name burned in the leather. One of the highlights in my life came 2 years ago when I got to meet Stan Musial in person for the very first time in my life. It was at the White House, February 11, 2011. Stan Musial was there to receive from President Obama the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He is one of only eight other baseball players in the history of America to receive that prestigious honor. Listen to the company he joined: Joe DiMaggio, Jackie Robinson, Ted Williams, Roberto Clemente, Hank Aaron, Frank Robinson, and the famous Buck O'Neill.

At the White House I stood patiently waiting for the moment to ask Stan Musial to sign that old baseball glove, which I still have and have had since I was a kid. He agreed to do so. What a thrill. I was 10 years old all over again.

Outside Busch Stadium in St. Louis is a statue of Stan ''The Man'' in his playing prime. He is coiled up in his batting style. Every coach said don't bat like Stan ''The Man,'' even though he has great numbers. If you do that, you will never hit the ball. We all tried; the coaches were right. Etched in the base of that statue are words that Major League Baseball Commissioner Ford Frick said when Stan retired in 1963: ''Here stands baseball's perfect warrior. Here stands baseball's perfect knight.''

On the field and off Stan Musial was always a gentleman, always a champion. He exemplified the values of sportsmanship, discipline, hard work, grace, consistency, and a love of family. Baseball broadcaster Vince Scully, a Hall of Famer himself, once said: ''How good was Stan Musial? He was good enough to take your breath away.''

Stan Musial played his entire 22-year career for the St. Louis Cardinals. He did take off one season in 1945 to serve our country in the U.S. Navy during World War II. His 3,026 games with the same club are second only to the 3,308 games over 23 years by Carl Yastrzemski.

When Stan Musial retired from baseball after the 1963 season, he held 29 National League records and 17 Major League records. Here are just some of his career numbers: a batting average of .331, an on-base percentage of .417, 3,630 hits, 725 doubles, 177 triples, 475 homers—and the first homer I can ever remember seeing on television was the All-Star game in St. Louis, and darned if Stan Musial didn't get up in the 12th inning, parking a home run into the outfield stands, winning it for the National League. I couldn't have been more thrilled, my first exposure to baseball on television. He had 1,951 RBIs and 1,949 runs. He is the only baseball player to finish his career in the top 25 in all of these categories.

Where did he get that nickname? It was coined not by a Cardinals fan but by a Brooklyn Dodgers fan in May 1946, after Musial's four hits helped lead the Cardinals to a 13-to-4 drubbing of the Brooklyn Dodgers. Every time Stan Musial came to the plate, the fans in Ebbets Field said, ''Here comes the man.'' And the name stuck.

The legendary baseball writer Red Barber once described the 1947 season as ''the year all hell broke loose in baseball.'' It was the year Jackie Robinson integrated Major League Baseball. Jackie Robinson would later recall when asked about his baseball career that it was Stan Musial and Hank Greenberg, two players who went out of their way to be friendly and encouraging in that historic and difficult year.

Maybe Stan Musial's greatest baseball day came on May 2, 1954. It was a double header in St. Louis against the New York Giants. He hit three homers in the first game and two in the second.

In 1957, Stan Musial became the first Major League Baseball player to earn the amazing salary of $100,000 a year. Two years later, when his batting average dipped to .255, it was Musial who went to the Cardinals' owners and asked them to cut his salary back to $80,000. He wasn't playing up to what he thought he had the potential to play up to.

Late in his final season, he stayed up all night waiting for the birth of his first grandchild, and the next day he became the first grandfather to ever homer in the Major Leagues. Umpires—and this says something about what a gentleman he always was—umpires never once ejected Stan Musial from a baseball game in more than 3,000 games.

On January 21, 1969, Stan Musial was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame on the first ballot. He was named on 92 percent of the ballots—something on which to reflect after what we just went through a few weeks ago when no one made the cut for the Baseball Hall of Fame. Stan Musial was the first player to receive 300 votes on a Hall of Fame ballot.

When he retired, the St. Louis Cardinals retired his number, No. 6. Cardinals manager Mike Matheny has said that when the entire Cardinals team takes the field this year, they will be wearing a No. 6 patch on their uniforms. But then he said:

> It will be a call for us to do our very best to live up to that high standard of excellence.

Then he added:

> You don't come across names like warrior, prince and knight by just having Hall of Fame statistics. It comes from making an impact in people's lives. I was in that group. Mr. Musial, I say thank you. He's a perfect example of what it means to wear this jersey.

I want to give credit to my colleague, Senator CLAIRE MCCASKILL. She worked with me—in fact, she led the way in terms of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, along with Senator Bond, for Stan Musial. And she came up with a great idea. I don't know if it is going to go anywhere, but I am going to try to help her make it a reality. She has suggested we can honor this American hero, this regional hero and the values he stood for by naming the new bridge being built across the Mississippi River at St. Louis in honor of Stan Musial. I grew up on the Illinois side, and we kind of looked over at Missouri a little differently than most, and they looked at us a little differently too. But if there was one thing that ever united us it was baseball loyalty and Stan Musial. It is a perfect name for a bridge that spans between Illinois and Missouri in that region of the country.

I am proud to join Senator CLAIRE MCCASKILL, and we will be introducing a bill to name the bridge the Stan Musial Memorial Bridge. Other legislation is being considered in the Illinois and Missouri General Assemblies at this time. I wish them the best in honoring this great man. It was my great honor to join him on that historic date when he was given the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

(The remarks of Senator DURBIN pertaining to the introduction of S. 113 and S. 114 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. DURBIN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COONS). The Senator from Louisiana.

GOOD GOVERNMENT REFORM

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, more and more Americans from all walks of life, of both political parties, feel there is not just a pond or a sea but an ocean of difference between the real world where they live and Washington, DC. They view—I think correctly—Washington, DC, as a different planet where

normal rules do not seem to apply. That is why on the first day I could introduce new legislation in this new Congress, I chose to introduce a package of reform measures—measures aimed at bridging that gap, bringing those two worlds together, returning us—returning Washington to the real world and reconnecting with the American people.

The American people are also concerned—rightly—about the bitter partisanship, the overly ideological tone of almost all of the debate we have here in Washington now, here in Congress.

I believe these sorts of reform measures—the four bills I have introduced in particular—can also help bridge that divide because they are not ideological, they are not partisan, they are good-government reform, things that can and should and, hopefully, will bring us together and bring us together and reconnect us with the American people. Again, it is another reason I chose to introduce this package of four reform measures, four good-government bills on the first day I could introduce legislation this Congress.

The first is a very simple and basic but fundamental idea: term limits for Members of Congress. I am honored to be joined by six other Senators right out of the gate, right out of the box in terms of cosponsoring this important legislation: Senators PAUL, AYOTTE, COBURN, LEE, RUBIO, CRUZ, and JOHNSON. I thank them for their cosponsorship and their support. This measure would limit Members of Congress in the House to three consecutive terms, a total of 6 years, and the Senate to two consecutive terms, a total of 12 years. It is a consensus measure supported by citizens groups very active and supportive of the concept of term limits. The idea, again, is simple: to reconnect Congress with the American people, to do away with the notion of legislating as a career, and to get back to the Founders' vision of citizen legislators.

When I was in the State legislature, I authored and passed term limits for the State legislature. That required a State constitutional amendment—a big deal—a two-thirds vote in each body, and then a vote of the people. But because of the people's voices rising and being heard, we achieved that. With that reform, which was voted overwhelmingly into the State constitution by the people of Louisiana, we have a regular influx now of new, fresh blood, real experience from the real world that reconnects in a very healthy way the State legislature and all of us, the citizens, whom it is supposed to represent. That was needed for the State legislature, and if it was—and it was—it is needed a thousand times more for Congress because that divide, that sea, that ocean, that difference between different planets in the eyes of so many Americans is even greater between Congress and the real world, Congress and the American people.

The second bill I have introduced is a bill to do away with automatic pay increases for Members of Congress. That is present law, that we get regular increases of pay with no proposal, no bill put in the hopper, no debate, no need for an inconvenient vote. I think that is just outright wrong. I think it helps build that distrust on the part of the American people. I am joined by a bipartisan cosponsor, Senator MCCASKILL of Missouri. I thank her for her leadership and her support of this measure. Again, the measure is very simple: Just repeal, do away with any automatic pay increases for Members of Congress. If there is to be a pay increase, there should be a bill proposing it and open debate and a public vote.

The third measure is also fully bipartisan. I am introducing it with Senator BILL NELSON of Florida. It is reform of the Corps of Engineers—something very important for our two States but also for, indeed, the whole country. In Louisiana, in Florida, and elsewhere, unfortunately, the Corps of Engineers has become a poster child for a dysfunctional Federal Government, a Federal bureaucracy, a Federal system that is just bogged down, does not work. It takes 10 and 20 years to study something, never ever getting to construction. We need to streamline and reform that process, and the Vitter-Nelson bill does just that by greatly streamlining the process by which Corps projects can come to fruition, putting State and local leaders more in charge of that effort, at first on a pilot basis. Hopefully, we will expand that in the future for important Corps of Engineers projects. Again, that is particularly important for our States of Louisiana and Florida, but it is important for so many States and for the country as a whole.

Fourth and finally, I am introducing a measure that I have had before to reform Federal campaign finance law to prohibit PACs and campaign funds from employing Members' spouses or family members.

That is just a way, quite frankly, in some circumstances for Members of Congress, politicians, to pad their family income. I think that is wrong, and that leads directly to the real suspicion and low regard in which so many Americans hold this institution.

Again, this bill is simple, straightforward, but important. It would prohibit spouses and immediate family members of Members of Congress from receiving payments from that Member's campaign accounts or leadership PACs. That is a loophole and an area of abuse we must close. We must prohibit that abuse in the future.

These four bills won't solve every problem out there. They won't be the be-all and end-all of important reform and good-government efforts, but they would be an important start. They would help us truly reconnect with the American people and narrow this divide, which is so vast right now, between the real world, real Americans, and this institution. They would be important, nonpartisan, nonideological reform efforts that we can gather around, Republicans and Democrats alike, to do something positive, to do something productive, and to reconnect with the American people.

I urge my colleagues from both parties to support these measures, to come on as cosponsors. Many of you already have, and I thank you for that.

Mr. President, I yield the floor, and 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. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the period of morning business be extended until 5 p.m. today and that all provisions of the previous order remain in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN ''JACK'' EDWARD BRESCH

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life, legacy and service of a dear friend—John Edward Bresch. Jack lead a life filled with compassion. He worked tirelessly for everyone to have access to affordable, quality health care, especially needy children and families. His heart was as big as heaven.

But Jack's life was also a life of great humor. Anybody who knew him also knew his warm and infectious laugh. It was a sure sign that Jack was somewhere nearby because you could almost hear his laughter before you saw his face. And everybody was glad to see Jack coming their way. He truly never met a stranger.

Sadly, we won't be able to hear that distinct laughter again. Jack passed away on September 1, 2012, surrounded by his family after a brief and courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. From the moment of his fateful diagnosis until the day he left us, we saw in him grace and courage, dignity and humility, joy and, yes, laughter—and so much love and gratitude lived out on a daily basis that, even in our sorrow, his memory will never be lost.

Tomorrow, Jack will be laid to rest in our Nation's most hallowed ground—Arlington National Cemetery—with full military honors as a decorated Naval Lieutenant who served as a Chaplain during the Vietnam war.

In his life, Jack Bresch was many things but above all, a family man, devoted to his wife, JoAnn; his children, Mary Elizabeth, James Richard, and

Jeffrey John; and 10 grandchildren on whom he doted. He also leaves behind countless friends and colleagues whose lives are enriched with memories of this gregarious, energetic, larger-than-life man. But when a loved one is gone, it is often the little things you remember most. Some of us will remember how much Jack loved neckties. Some of us will remember sharing Jack's favorite drink—a Manhattan, made with Maker's Mark, up, no bitters, with a twist of orange. Some of us will remember how often Jack quoted the 19th century German politician Otto von Bismark—''Politics is the art of the possible.'' And some of us will remember how proud Jack was to be at the White House when President Obama signed the Affordable Care Act for which he worked so tirelessly. A friend saw Jack on TV and sent him a text to let him know, and Jack texted back, ''Just a pleasure to be here.''

It was a pleasure for Jack to be anywhere. Simply put, Jack enjoyed being with people, and people enjoyed being with Jack. He was a great person to talk to—probably because he began his adult life as a Roman Catholic priest. Jack was a priest in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, his native city, from 1966 to 1974. In 1968, at the height of the Vietnam war, he entered the U.S. Navy and served as a Navy and Marine Corps Chaplain in posts around the world. During his time in the service, he supervised drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs and worked as a liaison with the American Red Cross. After the war, Jack left the priesthood. But in some ways, he never stopped being a chaplain, in the sense that he never wavered from his steadfast belief in social justice. He carried that belief forward in career that made the world a better place—working for Congress, the Federal Government, the Illinois Hospital Association, the Catholic Health Association, and the American Dental Education Association. Many members of Congress got to know Jack through his work as the lead lobbyist for the Catholic Health Association. They also learned quickly just how hard it was to say ''no'' to Jack.

While at the Catholic Health Association, Jack worked closely with then First Lady Hillary Clinton and the White House to develop a plan for reforming the Nation's health care system. While at the American Dental Education Association, he was instrumental in improving access to dental care for needy children. For more than a decade, he worked diligently to ensure that policymakers understood the value of oral health to overall health—the reason why he was invited to the White House for the signing of the Affordable Care Act. Jack lived long enough to see the Supreme Court uphold key portions of the Affordable Care Act. He knew the law wasn't perfect, but he was happy to see it move forward. Remember, he believed that ''politics is the art of the possible.''

To JoAnn and Jack's entire family, my wife Gayle and I extend our deepest sympathy because we are part of that family. Jack and I shared four of his 10 grandchildren, but he lent all the rest of them to me, too. It is hard to think of this world without Jack being a part of it, making us laugh—and hearing him laugh—and making us care—the way he cared.

There is a wonderful anonymous quote which may well describe how we should think of Jack's passing, especially since he served so courageously in the Navy. It offers great comfort to those who grieve. And it goes something like this:

> I am standing upon the seashore. A ship at my side spreads her white sails to the morning breeze and starts for the blue ocean. She is an object of beauty and strength, and I stand and watch her until, at length, she hangs like a speck of white cloud just where the sea and sky come down to mingle with each other. Then someone at my side says, ''There! She's gone.''
>
> Gone where? Gone from my sight—that is all. She is just as large in mast and hull and spar as she was when she left my side, and just as able to bear her load of living freight to the place of destination. Her diminished size is in me, not in her, and just at the moment when someone at my side says, ''There, she's gone,''—there are other eyes watching her coming, and other voices ready to take up the glad shout, ''There she comes!''

Jack Bresch was a man whose optimism could overwhelm any doubter and whose joy for life was wonderfully contagious and completely irresistible. The ancient poets tell us that ''one must wait until the evening to see how splendid the day has been.'' Our day with Jack Bresch was splendid indeed.

As we prepare to honor Jack with the military honors due a decorated Navy Chaplain, I would like to end my tribute to Jack's life with a traditional nautical blessing and wish my dear friend ''fair winds and following seas.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Tennessee is recognized.

TRIBUTE TO PATTI PAGE

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, Patti Page died on New Year's Day this year. She was 85 years old. The Senate has not been in session for most of the time since then. I wanted to come to the floor to pay a Tennessean's tribute to Patti Page. Patti Page is best known for our State song, the ''Tennessee Waltz.'' A few years ago, in 2007, when I met her for the first time, she told me the story of the ''Tennessee Waltz.'' I knew some of it, but she completed the rest of it.

In 1946, a couple of Tennesseans, Pee Wee King and Redd Stewart, were driving from Memphis to Nashville. That was before the interstate highways. It took a pretty good amount of time to drive that distance. I don't know whether or not they were drinking a beer on the way from Memphis to Nashville but they were relaxed, and one of them said to the other, Why is it Kentucky and Missouri have a waltz and Tennessee doesn't have a waltz? So on the way from Memphis to Nashville they took out a penny matchbox, which is one of these big boxes with wooden matches in it, dumped out the matches on the floorboards of the car, and on the back of the penny matchbox, between Memphis and Nashville, in 1946, Pee Wee King and Redd Stewart wrote the ''Tennessee Waltz.'' They sang it around a few places. Pee Wee King sang it at the Grand Ole Opry. Nobody paid much attention to it. Cowboy Copas sang it. They sang it on Red Foley's show in Missouri. Nothing much happened to the ''Tennessee Waltz'' until 1950, and this is the story Patti Page told me. Mercury Records in New York had a new song they were sure was going to be a big hit. It was called ''Boogie Woogie Santa Claus.'' I don't know whether it was a follow up to ''Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,'' but the executives in New York were sure it was going to be a big hit so they wanted the hottest young female singer in America to record ''Boogie Woogie Santa Claus'' so they hired Patti Page. She flew to New York, recorded it for Mercury Records, and then in those days you always had to put a record on the back of the main record. You had to pick a song. It would be the ''B'' side. Just as a throwaway they put on the back of it the song by Pee Wee King and Redd Stewart, the ''Tennessee Waltz.''

We know the rest of the story. The ''Tennessee Waltz'' sold about a million copies. Nobody ever heard of the ''Boogie Woogie Santa Claus'' except those who bought the ''Tennessee Waltz.'' Mike Curb, who runs Curb Records in Nashville, told me it was the best selling record ever by a female artist. Patti Page eventually sold 100 million records. She was the top selling female artist in record sales in history.

Growing up I heard her songs, ''Mockingbird Hill,'' ''I Went To Your Wedding,'' ''Old Cape Cod.'' In 1952 she had a song called ''Doggie in the Window.'' It sounds like a silly little song, but it sold a lot of records and a great many Americans remember it. When I was Governor of Tennessee I would travel to Japan, recruiting industry. In the evenings I would go to a restaurant bar with friends, and to my astonishment all of my Japanese friends, many of whom did not know much English, could sing every word of the ''Tennessee Waltz.'' When I inquired about it, it was because it was introduced during the time of the American occupation of Japan in 1950 or so, and according to them, the Asian music doesn't have the same kind of standard that American music has. We get a phrase or a theme in our minds and we never forget it, such as the ''Tennessee Waltz.'' So the ''Tennessee Waltz'' became a song that most Japanese men of that age knew, remembered, and could sing from memory.

I met Patti Page for the first time 6 years ago. It was 2007. She was about 79 or 80 years of age at the time. She told me the story of the recording of the

''Tennessee Waltz'' for Mercury Records. It turned out it was her last recording session. Mike Kerr, the owner of Kerr Records, had invited her to come to Nashville and record an album, ''Best of Patti Page.'' He had invited me to come play the piano while she sang the ''Tennessee Waltz,'' which I did. It was a real thrill and she was very patient to put up with an amateur piano player for her very special song. She told me then it wasn't the first time she had performed with a Tennessee Governor. In 1950 she had performed with Tennessee Governor Gordon Browning at a Memphis theater. This was when she was all the rage, the ''Tennessee Waltz'' was all the rage, and the Governor wanted to sing it with her.

I asked how it went. She said, ''Well, to tell you the truth, the Governor wasn't a very good singer.''

I don't know what she said to others about my piano playing, but I think that was probably about as harsh a verdict as Patti Page ever rendered of any other person.

According to the New York Times obituary, Patti Page once said:

> But I don't think I've stepped on anyone along the way. If I have, I didn't mean to.

Well, Patti Page is gone now, but her music is not. Whenever we Tennesseans hear our State song, the ''Tennessee Waltz,'' played, or whenever we sing it, we will remember the voice of Patti Page.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following my remarks that the obituary about Patti Page from the New York Times be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the New York Times—Obituary]

PATTI PAGE, HONEY-VOICED '50S POP SENSATION, DIES AT 85

(By Anita Gates)

Patti Page, the apple-cheeked, honey-voiced alto whose sentimental, soothing, sometimes silly hits like ''Tennessee Waltz,'' ''Old Cape Cod'' and ''How Much Is That Doggie in the Window?'' made her one of the most successful pop singers of the 1950s, died on Tuesday in Encinitas, Calif. She was 85.

Her death was confirmed by Seacrest Village Retirement Communities, where she lived.

Ms. Page had briefly been a singer with Benny Goodman when she emerged at the end of the big band era, just after World War II, into a cultural atmosphere in which pop music was not expected to be challenging. Critics assailed her style as plastic, placid, bland and antiseptic, but those opinions were not shared by millions of record buyers. As Jon Pareles wrote in The New York Times in 1997, ''For her fans, beauty and comfort were one and the same.''

''Doggie in the Window,'' a perky 1952 novelty number written by Bob Merrill and Ingrid Reuterskiöld, featured repeated barking sounds and could claim no more sophisticated a lyric than ''I must take a trip to California.'' It is often cited as an example of what was wrong with pop music in the early '50s, a perceived weakness that opened the door for rock 'n' roll. But if that is true, and if the silky voice of ''the singing rage, Miss Patti Page,'' as she was introduced during her heyday, was mechanical or sterile, she had significant achievements nonetheless.

''Tennessee Waltz,'' from 1950, sold 10 million copies and is largely considered the first true crossover hit; it spent months on the pop, country and rhythm-and-blues charts.

Ms. Page was believed to be the first singer to overdub herself, long before technology made that method common. Mitch Miller, a producer for Mercury Records, had her do it first on ''Confess,'' in 1948, when there were no backup singers because of a strike.

The height of her career predated the Grammy Awards, which were created in 1959, but she finally won her first and only Grammy in 1999 for ''Live at Carnegie Hall,'' a recording of a 1997 concert celebrating her 50th anniversary as a performer. Her career was also the basis of recent, short-lived Off Broadway musical, ''Flipside: The Patti Page Story.''

In the early days of television Ms. Page was the host of several short-lived network series, including ''Scott Music Hall'' (1952), a 15-minute NBC show that followed the evening news two nights a week, and ''The Big Record,'' which ran one season, 1957–58, on CBS. ''The Patti Page Show'' was an NBC summer fill-in series in 1956.

Ms. Page defended her demure, unpretentious style as appropriate for its time. ''It was right after the war,'' she told The Advocate of Baton Rouge, La., in 2002, ''and people were waiting to just settle down and take a deep breath and relax.''

She was born Clara Ann Fowler on Nov. 8, 1927, in Claremore, Okla., a small town near Tulsa that was also the birthplace of Will Rogers. She was one of 11 children of a railroad laborer.

Having shown talent as an artist, Clara took a job in the art department of the Tulsa radio station KTUL, but an executive there had heard her sing and soon asked her to take over a short country-music show called ''Meet Patti Page'' (Time magazine called it ''a hillbilly affair''), sponsored by Page Milk. She adopted the fictional character's name and kept it.

The newly named Ms. Page broke away from her radio career to tour with Jimmy Joy's band and was shortly signed by Mercury Records. She had her first hit record, ''With My Eyes Wide Open, I'm Dreaming,'' in 1950. Other notable recordings were ''Cross Over the Bridge,'' ''Mockin' Bird Hill,'' ''Allegheny Moon'' and her last hit, ''Hush . . . Hush, Sweet Charlotte,'' which she recorded as the theme for the Bette Davis movie of the same name. That song was nominated for an Oscar, and Ms. Page sang it on the 1965 Academy Awards telecast.

Ms. Page briefly pursued a movie career in her early '30s, playing an evangelical singer alongside Burt Lancaster and Jean Simmons in ''Elmer Gantry'' (1960), David Janssen's love interest in the comic-strip-inspired ''Dondi'' (1961) and a suburban wife in the comedy ''Boys' Night Out'' (1962), with Kim Novak and James Garner. She had one of her earliest acting roles in 1957 on an episode of ''The United States Steel Hour.''

In later decades her star faded, but she continued to sing professionally throughout her 70s. Early in the 21st century she was performing in about 40 to 50 concerts a year. In 2002 and 2003 she released an album of children's songs, a new ''best of'' collection and a Christmas album.

Ms. Page married Charles O'Curran, a Hollywood choreographer, in 1956. They divorced in 1972. In 1990 she married Jerry Filiciotto, a retired aerospace engineer, with whom she founded a New Hampshire company marketing maple syrup products. He died in 2009. Survivors include her son, Danny O'Curran; her daughter, Kathleen Ginn; and a number of grandchildren.

Ms. Page's nice-girl image endured. In 1988, when she was 60, she told The Times: ''I'm sure there are a lot of things I should have done differently. But I don't think I've stepped on anyone along the way. If I have, I didn't mean to.''

Mr. ALEXANDER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

(The remarks of Mr. COONS pertaining to the introduction of S. 85 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. COONS. I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

STARTUP ACT 2.0

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I have only been a Member of the Senate for 2 years, but in that short period of time at least seven other countries have taken actions that we have not taken to better support and attract entrepreneurs to their countries' economies. The map beside me shows those countries: the United Kingdom, Russia, Singapore, Australia, Brazil, Chile, and Canada. Those countries have changed their rules, regulations, passed laws, changed their policies to make their country more friendly to startup businesses and to entrepreneurship.

I wish to focus on and visit with my colleagues about what is happening in one of those countries—our neighbor to the north, Canada—and explain why it is in the interests of our own country to act quickly to retain highly skilled and entrepreneurial immigrants.

In 2002, Canada announced plans to create a new visa to attract foreign entrepreneurs to their country. Canada is developing a plan to admit foreign entrepreneurs who have received capital from venture funds to start businesses in Canada and to admit them to Canada within weeks. A spokesman for the Canadian immigration agency was quoted in September as saying: ''Canada seeks young, ambitious innovative immigrants who will contribute to Canada's job growth and further drive our economy.''

But Canada is not just changing its laws to attract entrepreneurs; it is advertising and trying to lure talent there. The ad we are now showing—this is a full-page ad that appeared in a publication called Fast Company. It is an American magazine dedicated to startups, to technology and innovation. The advertisement for Ontario highlights R&D incentives and innovative and dynamic business environment

and the top talent needed to grow new businesses.

We in Congress and in the administration need to take note of this. Other countries, including our friends to the north, are aggressively courting entrepreneurs and talented individuals and they are luring them from here; they are trying to get them from the United States. Canadian Citizenship and Immigration Minister Jason Kenney said: ''We need to proactively target a new type of immigrant entrepreneur who has the potential to build innovative companies that can compete on a global scale and create jobs for Canadians.''

While we work in the United States to continue educating our children with the skills for a 21st century economy and training the next generation of great American entrepreneurs, we also need to be welcoming to those who want to create a business in the United States and employ Americans now. With respect to Canada, America is the country of entrepreneurs, a place where those with good ideas who are willing to work hard can come and make something for themselves.

There is a global battle for entrepreneurial talent and the United States is falling behind. A story I heard while visiting California, the Silicon Valley, last year, illustrates this point pretty well. A large company that just a few years ago was a small startup told me they had plans to hire 68 highly skilled immigrants but could not get a visa for them to work in the United States. Rather than letting this talent go, the company hired them but hired them at their location in Canada. It is certainly troubling that 68 jobs went outside the United States. They were lost in our country because the United States does not have a visa program that works. What troubles me even more is that some of those 68 people hired in Canada will go on to start a business that may result in significant job creation in Canada. Those jobs that could have been in the United States are now in another country and those individuals who may start a company are no longer in the United States but are now in Canada. When we lose entrepreneurs and highly skilled immigrants, we lose the jobs they create.

The good news is there are steps we can take to attract and retain foreign entrepreneurs and highly skilled immigrants. In a bipartisan effort, Senator WARNER, Senator COONS, Senator RUBIO, and I introduced Startup Act 2.0 last year. Senators BLUNT and Scott Brown of Massachusetts joined as cosponsors, and an identical bill was introduced in the House of Representatives with an even number of Republican and Democratic supporters. Again, this year, I am working with those colleagues to reintroduce a bill very similar to that in very short order.

Startup Act 2.0 makes changes to the Federal regulatory process to lessen government burdens on job creators, modifies the Tax Code to encourage investment in new businesses and capital formation, seeks to accelerate the commercialization of university research that can lead to new ventures and, most importantly, provides new opportunities for highly educated and entrepreneurial immigrants to stay in the United States where their talent and new ideas can fuel economic growth and, most importantly, create jobs for Americans.

Startup Act 2.0 creates an entrepreneurial visa for foreign-born entrepreneurs currently in the United States—legally in the United States. Those with good ideas, with capital, and the willingness to hire Americans would be able to stay in the United States and grow their businesses. In many instances, foreign-born entrepreneurs, here legally, have an idea and want to begin a company that will employ Americans but are told their visa does not allow them to remain in the United States.

Take the story of Asaf Darash. Asaf was born in Israel and came to the United States in 2007 after being awarded a Fulbright scholarship to study at the University of California. After completing his doctoral thesis, he founded a software company called Regpack. Asaf raised $1.5 million in financing for the company and hired more than a dozen Americans. His company has the potential to grow quickly and to further create additional jobs. But Asaf, the founder of this dynamic company, is no longer in the United States. My staff contacted him this morning and he said that because of the difficulty in obtaining a visa and the amount of time and effort it was taking, he decided it was easier to move to Israel and take the core of the company, including its jobs, with him. As Regpack grows, new jobs are going to be created in Israel—jobs that could have been in the United States if we had a visa dedicated to foreign entrepreneurs such as Asaf.

Sadly, his story is far from uncommon. Immigrants legally living in the United States who have a good idea and want to start a business have few options available to them. With very few ways to stay, these entrepreneurs, just like Asaf, are forced to move and take their businesses with them and take the jobs they have created and will create to other countries.

I wish to make certain America is the best place for entrepreneurs who want to build America and hire Americans. Passing Startup Act 2.0 will help make this happen.

Entrepreneurial immigrants have long contributed to the strength of our country by starting companies and creating jobs. Of the current Fortune 500 companies, more than 40 percent were founded by first- or second-generation Americans. Today, 1 in every 10 Americans employed at a privately owned U.S. company works at an immigrant-owned firm.

In our mobile world, entrepreneurs have a choice as to where they start a business. For decades, there was no better place than the land of opportunity—the United States of America. But things are changing. Other countries are aggressively seeking the best and brightest, those with entrepreneurial talent, as a way to grow their economy.

I believe most—in fact, I would say at least 80 percent—of my colleagues in Congress agree with the visa provisions in Startup Act 2.0. They understand that retaining highly skilled entrepreneurial immigrants will lead to economic growth and new jobs for Americans. Unfortunately, there is an approach in Congress that has been here for the last several years that says if we can't do everything, we will not do anything. I urge my colleagues let's pass what we can agree on now and keep working to find common ground on issues that still divide us.

Canada and other countries are creating new opportunities for entrepreneurs, for startup companies, but the United States is still the home of the American dream. We need to pass Startup 2.0 so individuals can pursue their ambitions in America.

Millions of our citizens remain out of work. Our economy is barely growing. One would think, common sense would suggest we would work hard together to deal with the issues we have agreement on that would help jump-start the economy.

Let's do that. Let's jump-start the American economy through entrepreneurship and allow those with talents and skills we need to pursue the American dream in the United States of America and thereby strengthen our economy.

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. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BLUMENTHAL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

DYSFUNCTIONAL LEGISLATING

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, we all know in the Senate and in the House of Representatives about the low grades Congress receives in public opinion polling. Everybody knows what the public reports: Congress is partisan. Congress is divided. Congress is dysfunctional.

One recent survey that got a lot of media attention reported that Congress is less popular than a root canal. Across the country, people are fed up with Congress. Indeed, Members of Congress are fed up with Congress.

Americans want a Congress that can take on the tough challenges of today. But another recent poll by USA Today and Gallup showed that 77 percent of Americans feel ''the way politics works in Washington these days is causing serious harm to the United States.''

Americans think Congress has a problem. Indeed, Americans think Congress is a problem. Well, if we want to fix a problem, we ought to be specific about it. A doctor wouldn't try to fix a patient without a precise understanding of the patient's problem. An engineer wouldn't try to fix a system without a precise understanding of the system's problem. A mechanic wouldn't try to fix your car without a precise understanding of your car's problem. So if we are going to fix what is wrong with Congress, we better have a precise understanding of what Congress' problem is.

Let's start with the Senate. We do have our share of dysfunction in the Senate, I will confess. Undoubtedly, the filibuster is being abused. Certainly, nominees awaiting confirmation are unjustifiably delayed. Indeed, they are held hostage. So everything is not all roses in the Senate.

But we did pass a highway bill, a bipartisan highway bill, that passed the Senate with 74 votes. We did pass a farm bill, a bipartisan farm bill. Although I did not support that particular measure, it was a bipartisan measure that passed the Senate with 64 votes.

We passed the Hurricane Sandy emergency relief bill, also in bipartisan fashion, with 62 votes. We had open debate, we had discussions, we had amendments, and we passed legislation.

Particularly, we passed, by a powerful bipartisan vote of 89 to 8, a bill that avoided tax increases for 99 percent of Americans and extended emergency unemployment benefits for another year and protected us from the fiscal cliff. When it comes to legislating, the Senate actually has a pretty strong bipartisan record.

How did those Senate bills do on the House side? Well, the House couldn't pass its own highway bill. Congress has been doing highway bills since the Eisenhower years. This isn't rocket science. The House couldn't do one. The best the House of Representatives could do was to pass a short-term extension that allowed some of their Members to get to conference on the Senate bill, but they took no bill into conference because they couldn't pass one. Even then, they delayed the conference negotiations, putting thousands of jobs in jeopardy before they finally came around and passed an amended version of the Senate bipartisan highway bill. So their record on the highway bill is nothing to be proud of.

The House also couldn't pass a farm bill. Farm bills are pretty ordinary legislative business too. We do them all the time, but the House has passed no farm bill. We passed a strong bipartisan Senate farm bill. They can't even agree to call up the bipartisan Senate farm bill and pass it. With 80 percent of the agricultural land of the country in drought, there is no farm bill. It is trapped in the sinkhole of the House.

The House almost couldn't pass a disaster bill. If you go back to Hurricane Katrina, when Katrina hit back in 2005, the House of Representatives then had emergency aid on its way to the 850,000 damaged or destroyed homes of the gulf coast in 11 days. In 11 days aid was on its way. This time, with this House of Representatives, the House balked at the bipartisan Senate disaster bill and, finally, it took them 78 days after the landfall of Hurricane Sandy to send help to the half million homes and businesses damaged or destroyed by that storm.

The condemnation of the House of Republicans was bipartisan. The Republican Governor of New Jersey blamed, and I quote, ''the toxic internal politics,'' the toxic internal politics, of the House Republicans for this fiasco. ''This,'' he said, and I will quote again, ''is why the American people hate Congress.''

Is there a problem over in the House? You bet there is, to the point where one departing House Republican Member compared the Speaker of the House to the manager of an asylum and the Speaker's House Republican colleagues to the asylum inmates. That is pretty strong criticism from within the Republican Party.

The reason I give this speech is to try to be precise about what the problem is that has driven Congress's approval into the cellar, and what exactly is that problem? Well, I think the House votes on the so-called fiscal cliff bill and on the emergency Hurricane Sandy aid illustrate what the problem is. Those bills passed the House for one reason and one reason only: The Speaker of the House of Representatives waived what is called the Hastert rule.

What is the Hastert rule? The Hastert rule is probably the most significant contributor to dysfunction in Washington right now. It is not even really a rule, it is a policy, a political policy of Republican Speakers. It began under former Republican Speaker Hastert, hence its common name as the Hastert rule. The rule is that the Speaker will bring no bill to the floor of the House of Representatives without a majority of his own party supporting the bill. It doesn't matter about a majority of Congress; Democratic votes don't count. It is only when the Speaker has a majority of Republican votes supporting it that the Speaker will allow legislation to come to the floor.

It has actually gotten a little bit harder under Speaker BOEHNER, who has said, I don't feel comfortable scheduling any controversial legislation unless I know we have the votes on our side first, which sounds like he is saying he has to be able to produce a majority of the House out of just the Republican caucus before bringing a bill. But whether it is the original Hastert rule requiring a majority of the majority before they will even bring a bill to the floor or what appears to be the Boehner rule, that they have to have the votes on ''our side first,'' it is a rule of obstruction.

There are somewhere between 50 and 60 Members of the House Republican tea party caucus and a whole bunch more House Republicans who are scared of the tea party and scared of what might happen to them if they get a tea party primary challenger. So getting a majority of his party together for anything reasonable is a challenge for Speaker BOEHNER.

House Republicans could not get a majority of their conference to support a highway bill. So the Hastert rule kicked in and there was no House highway bill, none—they couldn't do one at all because they couldn't get it through their conference under the Hastert rule. That is why there was no highway bill.

The House Republicans could not get a majority of their conference to support a farm bill, so under the Hastert rule there is no House farm bill. The Speaker won't bring up the stalled bipartisan Senate farm bill, because under the Hastert rule he can't get a majority of his party to support even the bipartisan Senate farm bill.

We were headed for the exact same result on the fiscal cliff—we were headed for the exact same result on the fiscal cliff. Speaker BOEHNER could not get his party to support protecting America from the fiscal cliff. So, with literally minutes left to spare, and with the House Republican Conference ready, willing, and about to pitch the country off the fiscal cliff, Speaker BOEHNER did what? He ignored the Hastert rule. He ignored the Hastert rule, and he let the fiscal cliff bill come to the floor of the House without having the votes on ''our side first,'' to use the Speaker's language. Two-thirds of House Republicans actually voted to roll America off the fiscal cliff. Here is the vote count. Republican ''yes'' votes on the fiscal cliff legislation were only 85. Republican ''no'' votes on the fiscal cliff legislation were 151. He wasn't even close to making the Hastert rule.

That fiscal cliff bill passed the House 257 to 167 because the Democrats came out and voted for it, 172 to 16; 172 Democratic ''yes'' votes, 16 Democratic ''no'' votes. Two-thirds of the ''yes'' votes that put the fiscal cliff bill across and saved America from a 100-percent tax increase and protected our economy from the fiscal cliff—two-thirds of those votes came from Democrats. If the Speaker had enforced the Hastert rule, we would be over the fiscal cliff today.

What happened on Sandy? After nearly 3 months of stalling, while my State, while the Presiding Officer's State of New York, while the States of New York and New Jersey, struck by Sandy, were waiting urgently for the relief that we got to the coast within 11 days, they stalled and they stalled because they could not get a majority of the Republican caucus to support Federal relief for our hurricane-ravaged States. Under the Hastert rule, they

couldn't get that bill to the floor. So Speaker BOEHNER once again decided to forgo the Hastert rule. That is how they got the Sandy emergency aid bill passed. Look again at the votes. Republican ''yes'' votes for the disaster bill, 49; Republican ''no'' votes for that bill, 179. That bill was dead on arrival under the Hastert rule. The Republican caucus couldn't support it, wouldn't support it, and we would be without any help now if they had followed the Hastert rule.

On the Democratic side, what was the vote on the Hurricane Sandy bill—192 ''yes'' votes to 1 ''no'' vote. The final count was 241 ayes, 180 nays. The bill passed, but about three-quarters of the support came from Democratic votes.

If the Speaker had imposed the Hastert rule, not only would we be off the fiscal cliff, but we would have failed at providing disaster relief for Hurricane Sandy. The only reason these critical pieces of legislation avoided the fate of the highway bill and of the farm bill is that the Speaker didn't follow the Hastert rule. He couldn't follow the Hastert rule because he wouldn't have been able to pass legislation. If his tea party caucus had forced America off the fiscal cliff, he knew there would have been hell to pay, so he waived the Hastert rule.

Now, of course, House Republicans are all in a fuss about having waived the Hastert rule. One tea party lawmaker admitted that the New Year's Day tax vote left a lot of his fellow Republicans with a very bad taste in their mouth. So it is probably back to Hastert rule business as usual on the House side, with death by tea party to any major bipartisan Senate legislation.

The tea party over on the House side wanted to vote for extreme things, such as voting to repeal or defund ObamaCare over 30 times—over 30 times—or voting to turn Medicare into a voucher program. If it is extreme enough, then they will vote for it. But those are actions which are not supported by the American people, and they can't pass the Senate.

For the regular business of government, for the regular business of passing Senate bipartisan legislation, the tea party-Hastert rule combination is deadly.

So back to where I began. If you are concerned about dysfunction in Congress, if you are wondering why we are less popular than a root canal, if you are wondering why 77 percent of Americans look at Congress and think we are actually doing more harm than good, and if you want an explanation of the dysfunction, take a look at the Hastert rule. If you look at this problem the way a doctor would look at a patient, the way an engineer would look at a system, the way a car mechanic would look at an automobile, and you look for what is broken, be specific; it is the application by the Speaker of the Hastert rule that prevents strong, bipartisan Senate legislation from going forward. When something moves, it is because the Hastert rule has been waived.

So if you want to see what is wrong, that quest takes you straight to the House of Representatives, and there it leads you straight to the House Republican conference, and there it leads you to that toxic combination of the tea party and the Hastert rule.

When you understand the problem, the cure is obvious: The House should ditch the Hastert rule. Call things up for a vote. Let everybody's vote count. Don't refuse to proceed unless only your own party will let you. It is the obvious and only solution. The fiscal cliff bill and the Sandy bill and the votes on those bills prove it.

With those tea party extremists dominating the House Republican conference and ready to pitch the country over the fiscal cliff and leave hurricane victims high and dry, the Speaker had to ditch the Hastert rule. The only way the House can do bipartisan business on major issues is to ditch the Hastert rule.

As we saw, the Senate has its problems, but we are actually doing OK, just as our legislative record shows. Over and over, we pass real, significant, bipartisan legislation after a real process on the floor of argument and amendment. As the House's legislative record shows, the problem is over there. More precisely, the problem is within the House Republican conference. Still more precisely, again, the problem is that toxic combination of the tea party and the Hastert rule.

If we want Congress to function effectively, if we want to succeed at doing the work of the American people, such as the fiscal cliff bill and the hurricane relief bill, and if we don't want to see more important legislation, such as highway bills and farm bills, fail in the House, unable to pass in the House, blocked in the House, the solution for the problem is clear: We have to ditch the Hastert rule and let the House as a body work its will, just as the American people elected it to do.

EXTENSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the period for morning business be extended until 6:30 p.m. today and that all provisions of the previous order remain in effect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia.

(The remarks of Mr. CHAMBLISS pertaining to the introduction of S. 122 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I yield the floor, and 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SANDY DISASTER RELIEF

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise to encourage the Senate to seek quick action on the Sandy relief package that has been long overdue. I know the majority leader is committed to bringing it to the floor as soon as we can get some type of agreement with the other side of the aisle, and I hope that agreement can come quickly because a recovery that is delayed—as this has already been significantly delayed—is a recovery that very likely can fail.

We cannot afford for one of the biggest engines of the national economy, which is the Northeast, to fail in its recovery. This is not only for the sake of the Northeast but for the entire country.

I appreciate the majority leader's steadfast commitment to provide that relief as quickly as possible here in the Senate, but time is a-wasting. It is already Wednesday, and I am concerned we will lose another week before we, in fact, seek passage and then go to the President. From there, it would move on so the resources could begin to flow to communities across the Northeast that have languished since Sandy took its toll.

There is no excuse for delay. We already had the delay in the House. They could have passed the package the Senate passed in a transparent process that had the Appropriations Committee—on both sides—scrubbing the bill. It was brought before the Senate in a fashion in which we like to see the Senate work. I believe there were 25-some-odd amendments that were considered, a full vetting of the legislation, and there was a strong bipartisan vote at the end of that process. It was then sent to the House, and unfortunately it languished and died at the end of the last Congress.

Now the House has acted in a different fashion. So I am happy at this point to accept the House's version—even though I do believe the Senate version is superior in a variety of ways—so it can be sent to the President. Getting relief to the citizens in the Northeast is critically important.

I look at the package the House has, and I say to myself that $50.7 billion in resources, in addition to the flood insurance package that has already passed, will allow our residents and small businesses that have been waiting so long to recover and begin to rebuild. Finally, it will show them that they have a strong partner in the Federal Government and that someone is there for them, as we have been whenever and wherever disaster has struck

our fellow Americans throughout this Nation.

Obviously, I would have preferred the Senate bill, which was stronger, but we cannot let the perfect be the enemy of the good. We need to get assistance to the victims of Sandy as quickly as possible. This is a vehicle that gets us to that goal.

While the House bill significantly reduces assistance in a couple of areas—including fishery disasters and community development funding, which I think in that respect may stump the recovery of an important industry along our coast and could potentially siphon off billions in CDBG funding that is badly needed right now in New York and New Jersey by amplifying what disasters are eligible for it—I am pleased to say we protected the overall amendment of the CDBG funding from the Senate bill, which is about $16 billion.

While it is not everything we needed since it will now be spread even thinner across even more disasters, we can certainly help as many communities rebuild and recover as we can because time is of the essence. There is a fierce urgency right now. There are many business owners whom I have spoken to who said to me: Senator, I am at a critical juncture. I don't know whether I can reopen. If the government is not going to give me assistance, then I likely won't open because adding more debt, even in terms of a long-term, low-interest loan, is still debt. They say: I took out debt to start this business or: I took out debt to get through the great recession, but I don't really have the option to take out more debt without some direct assistance, such as a grant. A grant would give the help I need to jump-start my business so I can get those individuals I had employed reemployed once again and create an opportunity for our community.

That decision right now for those businesses, which are life-and-death decisions, is pending and hanging by the will of the Senate to act.

I am also pleased that the package the House passed recognizes what I have been saying all along—that funding the Army Corps of Engineers' efforts is critical to rebuilding coastal communities, particularly New Jersey's weakened coastal defenses. We are at the lowest of our immune system as a coastal State, and we already see the biting cold. It is cold throughout the Capitol today, which shows how cold it is outside. Think about those residents who are fellow Americans and don't have a place to call home because they don't have the wherewithal to get their home back in a way in which they can once again be able to live there, raise their families there, and meet their challenges as a family in a warm nurturing environment. That does not exist for many of our fellow Americans because they don't have the wherewithal to decide whether they are going to get the type of assistance to help them rebuild their homes. All of that is pending.

Part of that is the Army Corps of Engineers' ability to reengineer our beaches in a way that ultimately provides not only for the potential of tourism, which is a $37 billion industry in our State, but even more importantly for the protection of lives, property, and protection against repetitive losses. That is what is going to happen when we get this money to the Army Corps of Engineers so they can rebuild our coastal defenses. This package would give Jersey Shore residents and businesses the comfort of knowing they would be better protected in the future than they have been in the past.

It also includes $13 billion in critical funding I sought to help to restore our transportation systems. For example, it would allow New Jersey Transit to repair extensive damage from the storm and allow the agency to build facilities on higher ground to prevent future flood damage, which is a commonsense option. When we think about fiscal responsibility, why would we rebuild only to the very same status that was allowed to be flooded in the first place and caused all of the damage the government would pay for? The passage of this potential package from the House would allow the port authority to finish repairing the PATH station and harden electrical equipment to prevent future damages.

If we could get an agreement, the package that would come to the floor would include necessary policy reforms that I have supported that will streamline recovery efforts and improve FEMA's public assistance programs, which is critical to a successful recovery. These reforms would allow us to rebuild what is in place even stronger and better before there is another storm. Again, this is important in terms of the end results. It is important in terms of the fiscal responsibility to ensure we rebuild in such a way that we don't end up with repetitive damage, which would be more costly to the government.

It would allow a third-party dispute resolution process for major projects. Some of the history we have, particularly with Katrina from Senator LANDRIEU's experience, is the reality of not having a dispute resolution process, which ultimately forestalled recoveries and critical projects to that State and in those communities. Also, coverage for childcare costs related to disaster recovery through FEMA individual assistance is a critical element.

Without going through all of the provisions of the House bill, let me just say we need to pass this relief package. People are suffering. They are desperately waiting for certainty so they can start rebuilding their lives, their businesses and communities. They are trying to get back on their feet. They need this aid even if it is late and even if it is ultimately longer than other disasters have had to wait. As I pointed out in the past, I think it was 10 days or so when $50 billion flowed to Katrina victims. We are nearly 3 months since the worst disaster on the east coast in terms of a natural disaster that has taken place.

The people of the Northeast, the people of my State of New Jersey and our neighbors in New York desperately need this funding, and it is time to help these fellow Americans. It is time to do it now. It is time to do it this week. It is going to take time for this recovery to take place. The longer we delay, the greater the chance of failure we, in fact, create. I think we want success, not failure. I think we want to understand, as an institution, as I have said many times, that this is the United States of America. That means we respond to the challenges and the disasters that take place in other parts of the country. We do it, hopefully, more expeditiously than this, and at the same time we stand by our fellow Americans so they can reclaim their lives, reclaim their commitments to their communities, reclaim the opportunity to reopen their businesses, to contribute to those communities, to our State, to this Nation, to our society.

So I strongly urge our colleagues who have some reticence to agree to moving forward on a Sandy bill to come to common ground with us, to come to agreement to move this relief package. No American should have to languish months after a disaster to get help. That should not be the standard. The hallmark of our response should be an intelligent but expeditious response to the consequences of a disaster that any American faces. That is our tradition. It is a tradition we should maintain. It is a tradition that, unfortunately, in this particular instance has not been a reality. It is a tradition that I hope we can ultimately embrace once again this week in finally pushing through a Sandy package that can move to the President for signature and bring relief to our communities.

With that, I yield the floor.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO KEN SQUIER

• Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate Ken Squier, of Stowe, VT, for his historic contribution to motor sports and to broadcasting, and for his deep and abiding commitment to the people of Vermont. On November 29, 2012, NASCAR presented Ken with the prestigious Buddy Shuman Award, given to ''an individual who has played a key role in the continued growth and success of Cup racing.''

Most Americans know Ken Squier as the ''Voice of the Daytona 500.'' In 1979, Squier convinced CBS Sports to broadcast the Daytona 500 in its entirety. This event was a seminal moment for stock car racing in the United States, later described by ESPN as ''NASCAR's most revolutionary event,'' the one that convinced the national networks

that NASCAR had a very wide following around the country.

When he was 14 years old, Ken Squier announced his first race at a small dirt track in northern Vermont—from the back of a logging truck.

In 1960, he opened Thunder Road SpeedBowl, a quarter-mile racetrack in Barre, VT. In summer, the track has hosted stock car races every Thursday night for the last 50 years. These events have become fixtures in the culture of northern Vermont.

As NASCAR developed a national following, Ken Squier became one of its most celebrated personalities. He pioneered the use of in-car cameras during broadcasts, putting viewers right next to the driver during the race. Ken's voice became inseparable from the sport, providing turn-by-turn coverage of all CBS-broadcast races for almost two decades. This included the sport's most prestigious event, the Daytona 500.

Ken Squier is not at all defined solely by his importance to racing. He has deep roots in northern Vermont. In 1969, he became president of Radio Vermont, Inc., a family business that is one of the only independent, family-run radio companies left in the United States. Radio Vermont's stations provide a variety of music, sports, and news; in particular, they focus on local events, the happenings that bind communities together and give them identity. Over the years, Ken has staunchly opposed corporate consolidation of the media because he believes, strongly, that radio stations should serve the community and provide vital conduits for local information. He has practiced what he preaches.

Radio Vermont's immense value to the communities it served was proven during the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene in August 2011. Irene was the most destructive storm to hit Vermont in decades. Torrential rains and Vermont's mountainous terrain brought flooding on a vast scale, wiping out houses, businesses, and historic downtowns. Roads and bridges were washed away, cutting dozens of towns around Vermont off from the outside world. Ken and his staff, Eric Michaels, Lee Kittell, Tom Beardsley, meteorologist Roger Hill, and others kept the station on the air 24 hours a day in the weeks after the storm to ensure vital emergency information reached Vermonters in towns that had been cut off. With the State of Vermont's emergency communications equipment washed away, Radio Vermont proved that local radio stations are fundamentally important to their communities.

Ken Squier has helped change sports in America, but even more significantly, he has been a true exemplar of a good citizen. Vermont is, and will remain, deeply in his debt.●

REMEMBERING CATHERINE O'NEILL

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Catherine O'Neill, the great advocate for refugee women and children who died in Los Angeles last month at age 70. Cathy was my friend and neighbor, and I will miss her.

Catherine was born in 1942 in Queens, NY, the daughter of Irish immigrants Patrick and Bridget Vesey. After graduating from St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn and teaching as a Catholic missionary in Texas, she earned master's degrees in social work from Howard University and in international affairs from Columbia.

Cathy had an extraordinary career as a social worker, writer, editorial director, businesswoman, and director of the UN Information Center in Washington, DC. She was also active in political life, twice running for office in California and serving as finance director for Governor Jerry Brown's 1976 presidential campaign, but she is best known for her groundbreaking and heroic efforts to help refugee women and children.

In 1989, after visiting refugee camps around the world as a board member of the humanitarian International Rescue Committee, Cathy became a founder of the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children, now Women's Refugee Commission.

As the Commission's board chair, Cathy traveled the world to listen to refugee women and children and learn about their most pressing needs. She attracted prominent women journalists, academics, and philanthropists to the Commission and became a leading advocate for refugee issues on Capitol Hill, at the UN, and in the media. Under her leadership, the Women's Refugee Commission has shaped policies and practices in the U.S. and around the world to address the needs of women and children displaced by war, persecution, and natural disasters.

On behalf of the people of California, I send my gratitude and condolences to Cathy's husband, Richard Reeves, her daughter Fiona Reeves, sons Colin and Conor O'Neill, Jeffrey Reeves, her grandchildren, and her sister Mary Ann Garvey. Catherine O'Neill was an amazing person who made our world a better and more compassionate place, and we will miss her dearly.●

REMEMBERING FRANCIS JOSEPH CHASE

● Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to a proud veteran, a committed Marylander, a great American, and my good friend, Francis Joseph ''Frank'' Chase. Frank passed away on December 11, 2012 in his Columbia, MD home after a brief illness. He leaves behind his beloved family: his wife of 50 years, Carole, a daughter Amy, and a granddaughter Grace.

Frank loved his country dearly, and he showed it through years of public service, which began in 1955, when he entered the Army for 3 years. Frank then joined the civil service, beginning at the Social Security Administration and later moving to the Health Care Financing Administration, both in Baltimore. When he retired in January 1993, Frank left government service with far more than his Federal pension. For at SSA and HCFA, he had honed expertise that would for many years guide him to continue, as a volunteer, to improve the lives of retirees, persons with disabilities, and others.

A man of boundless energy, Frank was a valued confidant and a member of my health advisory group for the past 20 years. With nearly perfect attendance at meetings and conference calls, he could always be counted on for a warm greeting, sage advice, and wisdom born of compassion and clear-sightedness.

A graduate of Dartmouth College, Frank maintained strong ties with his alma mater, serving terms as president of the Dartmouth Alumni Association and president of the Dartmouth Club of Maryland. He also served his community through volunteer work at Common Cause of Maryland, United Seniors of Maryland, and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

Through his involvement in Maryland politics, Frank fought tirelessly for fair election practices, propelled by the belief that, regardless of their views, all Marylanders deserved to have their voices heard. Through my many conversations with him over the years, I discovered a man who loved democracy and justice, and who felt compelled to live his life in service to these causes.

In closing, when I think of Frank, I am reminded of the words of Robert Frost in ''Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening'':

The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Frank could have led a comfortable, quiet life after retirement, but he chose instead to keep going for many more miles, working for the causes he believed in deeply and the Nation he loved. Like all who were privileged to know him, I will miss my dear friend Frank Chase, and I ask you to join me in celebrating his life.●

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 Committee on Armed Services.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:43 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 307. An act to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and for other purposes.

At 4:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42–43), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Mr. JOHNSON of Texas and Mr. COLE of Oklahoma.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 307. An act to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 81. A bill to provide guidance and priorities for Federal Government obligations in the event that the debt limit is reached.

S. 82. A bill to provide that any executive action infringing on the Second Amendment has no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes.

S. 83. A bill to provide for continuing operations of Government in a fiscally responsible manner.

S. 124. A bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

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–70. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval, Disapproval and Promulgation of State Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Regional Haze Rule Requirements for Mandatory Class I Areas Under 40 CFR 51.309; Correction'' (FRL No. 9771–9) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–71. 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 Attainment for the San Francisco Bay Area Nonattainment Area for the 2006 Fine Particle Standard; California; Determination Regarding Applicability of Clean Air Act Requirements'' (FRL No. 9766–7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–72. 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 Attainment for the Nogales Nonattainment Area for the 2006 Fine Particle Standard; Arizona; Determination Regarding Applicability of Clean Air Act Requirements'' (FRL No. 9766–8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–73. 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 Diego APCD, Northern Sierra AQMD, and Sacramento Metropolitan AQMD'' (FRL No. 9732–9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–74. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval of the Clean Air Act, Section 112(I), Authority for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Asbestos Management and Control; State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services'' (FRL No. 9697–2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–75. 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; State of Nevada; Redesignation of Clark County to Attainment for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard'' (FRL No. 9766–9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–76. 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 Attainment for the Yuba City-Marysville Nonattainment Area for the 2006 Fine Particle Standard; California; Determination Regarding Applicability of Clean Air Act Requirements'' (FRL No. 9768–2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–77. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Interim Final Determination to Stay Sanctions, Imperial County Air Pollution Control District'' (FRL No. 9766–4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–78. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Finding of Substantial Inadequacy of Implementation Plan; Call for California State Implementation Plan Revision; South Coast'' (FRL No. 9767–3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–79. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incineration Units: Reconsideration and Final Amendments; Non-Hazardous Secondary Materials That Are Solid Waste: Final Rule'' (FRL No. 9764–1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–80. 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 Pollutants for the Portland Cement Manufacturing Industry and Standards of Performance for Portland Cement Plants'' (FRL No. 9758–6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–81. 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 Pollutants for Area Sources: Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional Boilers'' (FRL No. 9698–5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–82. 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, Placer County Air Pollution Control District'' (FRL No. 9760–4) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–83. 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 Missouri; Control of Sulfur Emissions from Stationary Boilers'' (FRL No. 9772–6) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–84. 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, South Coast Air Quality Management District'' (FRL No. 9755–9) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–85. 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 Purposes; Alabama; Redesignation of the Birmingham 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Nonattainment Area to Attainment'' (FRL No. 9771–2) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–86. 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; Massachusetts and New Hampshire; Enhanced Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program'' (FRL No. 9754–6) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–87. 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; Alabama; Redesignation of the Birmingham 1997 Annual Fine Particulate Matter Nonattainment Area to Attainment'' (FRL No. 9771–1) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–88. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Labeling of Pesticide Products and Devices for Export; Clarification of Requirements'' (FRL No. 9360–8) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–89. 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 Pollutants for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines; New Source Performance Standards for Stationary Internal Combustion Engines'' (RIN2060–AQ58) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–90. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan; Revision to Increase Public Availability of the Administrative Record File'' (FRL No. 9772–9) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–91. 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 Mexico; Infrastructure and Interstate Transport Requirements for 2006 PM2.5NAAQS'' (FRL No. 9770–9) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–92. 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; West Virginia; Requirements for Determining General Conformity of Federal Actions to Applicable State Implementation Plans'' (FRL No. 9770–4) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–93. 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; Maryland; Reasonably Available Control Technology Requirements for Volatile Organic Compounds'' (FRL No. 9770–6) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–94. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Findings of Failure to Submit a Complete State Implementation Plan for Section 110(a) Pertaining to the 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard'' (FRL No. 9769–4) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–95. 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; New Mexico; Revisions to the New Source Review (NSR) State Implementation Plan (SIP); Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Nonattainment New Source Review (NNSR) Permitting'' (FRL No. 9770–8) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–96. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Enforcement, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Dispositioning Boiling Water Reactor Licensee Noncompliance with Technical Specification Containment Requirements During Operations with a Potential for Draining the Reactor Vessel'' (EGM 11–003, Rev 1) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–97. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Enforcement, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Dispositioning Violations of NRC Requirements Implementing the Decommisioning Planning Rule'' (EGM 12–002) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–98. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Enforcement, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Determining the Technical Adequacy of Probabilistic Risk Assessment for RISK–INFORMED LICENSE Amendment Requests After Initial Fuel Load (ADAMS) Accession No. ML12193A107'' (Updating SRP NUREG–0800 Guidance to Chapter 19.1 Rev. 3) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 14, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–99. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Enforcement, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Guidance for Performing a Tsunami, Surge, or Seiche Hazard Assessment'' (JLD–ISG–2012006) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–100. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Fiscal Year 2011 Superfund Five-Year Review Report to Congress''; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–101. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Golden Nematode; Removal of Regulated Areas in Livingston and Steuben Counties, NY'' (Docket No. APHIS–2012–0079) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–102. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Traceability for Livestock Moving Interstate'' ((RIN0579–AD24) (Docket No. APHIS–2009–0091)) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–103. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Farm Service Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Microloan Operating Loans'' (RIN0560–AI17) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–104. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Epoxy Polymer; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9369–7) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 18, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–105. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Spiromesifen; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9374–3) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–106. A communication from the Director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; New Qualifying Country—Poland'' ((RIN0750–AH82) (DFARS Case 2011–D049)) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–107. A communication from the Secretary of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the U.S. Army Audit Agency's review of an audit of the American National Red Cross's Annual Statement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–108. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a proposed change by the Air Force Reserve to the Fiscal Year 2011 National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation (NGREA) procurement; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–109. A communication from the President of the United States of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to

the continuation of the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 12947 with respect to terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–110. A communication from the Senior Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Determination of Foreign Exchange Swaps and Foreign Exchange Forwards Under the Commodity Exchange Act'' received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 7, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–111. 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 January 3, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–112. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Lost Security Holders and Unresponsive Payees'' (RIN3235–AL11) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–113. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Removal of Persons From the Entity List Based on Removal Request; Implementation of Entity List Annual Review Changes; and Implementation of Modifications and Corrections to the Entity List'' (RIN0694–AF82) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–114. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendments to Existing Validated End User Authorizations: Advanced Micro Devices China, Inc., Lam Research Corporation, SK hynix Semiconductor (China) Ltd., and SK hynix Semiconductor (Wuxi) Ltd. in the People's Republic of China; Clarification of Scope of Entries in Supplement No. 7 to Part 748 of the EAR'' (RIN0694–AF84) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–115. 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 Chile; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–116. 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 South Korea; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–117. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Report for fiscal year 2012 of the Commerce Department's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–118. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of Commerce's 2013 Report of Foreign Policy-Based Export Controls; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–119. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to Electric Reliability Organization Definition of Bulk Electric System and Rules of Procedure'' (RIN1902–AD51) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–120. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regional Reliability Standard PRC–006–SERC–01—Automatic Underfrequency Load Shedding Requirements'' (RIN1902–AE53) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 17, 2013; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–121. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Review of Medicare Contractor Information Security Program Evaluations for Fiscal Year 2010''; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–122. A communication from the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Limited Supplier Solicitation of Prescribing Physicians Under Medicare DMEPOS Competitive Bidding Program''; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–123. 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 ''Announcement of the Results of the 2011–2012 Allocation Round of the Qualifying Advance Coal Project Program'' (Announcement 2013–2) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–124. 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 ''2013 Cost-of-Living Adjustments to Certain Tax Items'' (Rev. Proc. 2013–15) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–125. 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 ''Patel v. Commissioner'' (AOD 2012–05) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–126. 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 2013–2) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–127. A communication from the Executive Secretary, U. S. Agency for International Development (USAID), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2013; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–128. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of an item not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–129. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the export to the People's Republic of China of an item not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–130. 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 12–188); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–131. 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 12–089); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–132. 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 2013–0000—2013–0006); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–133. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Provisional Unlawful Presence Waivers of Inadmissibility for Certain Immediate Relatives'' (RIN1615–AB99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 4, 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–134. A communication from the Clerk of Court, United States Court of Federal Claims, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Court's annual report for the year ended September 30, 2012; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–135. A communication from the Federal Liaison Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Setting and Adjusting Patent Fees'' (RIN0651–AC54) received during recess of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 15, 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. VITTER:

S. 64. A bill to prohibit authorized committees and leadership PAC's from employing the spouse or immediate family members of any candidate or Federal office holder connected to the committee; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 65. A bill to repeal the provision of law that provides automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. NELSON):

S. 66. A bill to establish a pilot program to evaluate the cost-effectiveness and project delivery efficiency of non-Federal sponsors as the lead project delivery team for authorized civil works flood control and navigation construction projects of the Corps of Engineers; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 67. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to reduce or eliminate the risk of releases of hazardous chemicals from public water systems and wastewater treatment works, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG:

S. 68. A bill to enhance the security of chemical facilities and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 69. A bill for the relief of Anton Dodaj, Gjyljana Dodaj, Franc Dodaj, Kristjan Dodaj, and Kanto Macotaj; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 70. A bill for the relief of Marcos Antonio Sanchez-Diaz; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 71. A bill for the relief of Josephina Valera Lopez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 72. A bill for the relief of Luay Hadad; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 73. A bill for the relief of Miguel Santillan; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 74. A bill for the relief of Momo Krcic; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 75. A bill for the relief of Ibrahim Parlak; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 76. A bill for the relief of Guy Yang, Genevieve Chong Foung, Caroline Yang, and Melanie Vang; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 77. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate for lower prices for Medicare prescription drugs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 78. A bill for the relief of Hussein Bazzi; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 79. A bill for the relief of Al-Housseynou Ba; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BURR, and Mr. KIRK):

S. 80. A bill 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 Reporting System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 81. A bill to provide guidance and priorities for Federal Government obligations in the event that the debt limit is reached; read the first time.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 82. A bill to provide that any executive action infringing on the Second Amendment has no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 83. A bill to provide for continuing operations of Government in a fiscally responsible manner; read the first time.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 84. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 85. A bill to provide incentives for States to invest in practices and technology that are designed to expedite voting at the polls and to simplify voter registration; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 86. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the Coverdell education savings accounts to allow home school education expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 87. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax deduction for itemizers and nonitemizers for expenses relating to home schooling; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 88. A bill to amend the public charter school provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 89. A bill to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to authorize hunting under certain circumstances; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 90. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to allow workers who attain age 65 after 1981 and before 1992 to choose either lump sum payments over four years totaling $5,000 or an improved benefit computation formula under a new 10-year rule governing the transition to the changes in benefit computation rules enacted in the Social Security Amendments of 1977, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 91. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify eligibility for the child tax credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 92. A bill to require that the Government give priority to payment of all obligations on the debt held by the public and payment of Social Security benefits in the event that the debt limit is reached; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 93. A bill to provide tax relief with respect to the Hurricane Isaac disaster area; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 94. A bill to terminate the $1 presidential coin program; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 95. A bill to withhold United States contributions to the United Nations until the United Nations formally retracts the final report of the ''United Nations Fact Finding Mission on the Gaza Conflict''; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 96. A bill to authorize the use of certain offshore oil and gas platforms in the Gulf of Mexico for artificial reefs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 97. A bill to amend title 44 of the United States Code, to provide for the suspension of fines under certain circumstances for first-time paperwork violations by small business concerns; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 98. A bill to ensure efficiency and fairness in the awarding of Federal contracts in connection with natural disaster reconstruction efforts; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 99. A bill to provide for full and open competition for Federal contracts related to natural disaster reconstruction efforts; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 100. A bill to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to repeal certain designation authority of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, to repeal the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Supervision Act of 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 101. A bill to prohibit the provision of Federal funds to State and local governments for payment of obligations, to prohibit the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System from financially assisting State and local governments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 102. A bill to reduce the amount of financial assistance provided to the Government of Mexico in response to the illegal border crossings from Mexico into the United States, which serve to dissipate the political discontent with the higher unemployment rate within Mexico; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. 103. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of P.S. 103 in West Baltimore, Maryland, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 104. A bill to provide for congressional approval of national monuments and restricts on the use of national monuments; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 105. A bill to direct the General Accountability Office to conduct a full audit of hurricane protection funding and cost estimates associated with post-Katrina hurricane protection; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 106. A bill to provide for the establishment, on-going validation, and use of an official set of data on the historical temperature record, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 107. A bill to prohibit the regulation of carbon dioxide emissions in the United States until China, India, and Russia implement similar reductions; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 108. A bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. VITTER (for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BURR, Mr. COBURN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 109. A bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 110. A bill to establish a procedure to safeguard the Social Security Trust Funds; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 111. A bill to require all public school employees and those employed in connection with a public school to receive FBI background checks prior to being hired, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 112. A bill to expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness in the State of Washington, to designate the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River and Pratt River as wild and scenic rivers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 113. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require certain creditors to obtain certifications from institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. REED, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 114. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, with respect to certain exceptions to discharge in bankruptcy; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 115. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit for increasing payroll; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 116. A bill to revise and extend provisions under the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. SANDERS, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 117. A bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate covered part D drug prices on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. UDALL of Colorado):

S. 118. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the use of public funds for political party conventions; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 119. A bill to prohibit the application of certain restrictive eligibility requirements to foreign nongovernmental organizations with respect to the provision of assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 120. A bill to expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 121. A bill to establish the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking to review Federal Government policy on human trafficking; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 122. A bill to promote freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity by repealing the income tax and other taxes, abolishing the Internal Revenue Service, and enacting a national sales tax to be administered primarily by the States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. COONS):

S. 123. A bill to modernize voter registration, promote access to voting for individuals with disabilities, protect the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BURR, Mr. COBURN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. FLAKE, and Mr. VITTER):

S. 124. A bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills; read the first time.

By Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. COBURN, Mr. LEE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. TOOMEY, and Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin):

S.J. Res. 2. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to limiting the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. VITTER):

S.J. Res. 3. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to limiting the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve to 3 in the House of Representatives and 2 in the Senate; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S.J. Res. 4. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to United States citizenship; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. JOHANNS, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 8. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress holds the sole authority to borrow money on the credit of the United States and shall not cede this power to the President; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 9. A resolution designating January 2013 as ''National Mentoring Month''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. Res. 10. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and its actions relating to the Stanford Financial Group fraud; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. Res. 11. A resolution expressing support for prayer at school board meetings; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 4

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4, a bill to create jobs and strengthen our economy by rebuilding our Nation's infrastructure.

S. 5

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 5, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 5, supra.

S. 6

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 6, a bill to reauthorize the VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011, to provide assistance to small businesses owned by veterans, to improve enforcement of employment and reemployment rights of members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes.

S. 8

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 8, a bill expressing the sense of the Senate on the need to enact legislation to eliminate wasteful tax loopholes.

S. 10

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 10, a bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

S. 21

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill to secure the United States against cyber attack, to improve communication and collaboration between the private sector and the Federal Government, to enhance American competitiveness and create jobs in the information technology industry, and to protect the identities and sensitive information of American citizens and businesses.

S. 29

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 29, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

S. 32

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 32, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.

S. 40

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 40, a bill to restore Americans' individual liberty by striking the Federal mandate to purchase insurance.

S. 41

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 41, a bill to provide a permanent deduction for State and local general sales taxes.

S. 43

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 43, a bill to require that any debt limit increase be balanced by equal spending cuts of the next decade.

S. 47

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 47, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

S. 51

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 51, a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Establishment Act.

S. RES. 4

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 4, a resolution to limit certain uses of the filibuster in the Senate to improve the legislative process.

S. RES. 5

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 5, a resolution amending the Standing Rules of the Senate to provide for cloture to be invoked with less than a three-fifths majority after additional debate.

S. RES. 7

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 7, a resolution to permit the Senate to avoid unnecessary delay and vote on matters for which floor debate has ceased.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BURR, AND MR. KIRK):

S. 80. A bill 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 Reporting System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

S. 80

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 ''Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting Act of 2013'' or the ''SAFER Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. DEBBIE SMITH GRANTS FOR AUDITING SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE BACKLOGS.

Section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(7) To conduct an audit consistent with subsection (n) of the samples of sexual assault evidence that are in the possession of the State or unit of local government and are awaiting testing.

''(8) To ensure that the collection and processing of DNA evidence by law enforcement agencies from crimes, including sexual assault and other violent crimes against persons, is carried out in an appropriate and timely manner and in accordance with the protocols and practices developed under subsection (o)(1).'';

(2) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) ALLOCATION OF GRANT AWARDS FOR AUDITS.—For each of fiscal years 2014 through 2017, not less than 5 percent, but not more than 7 percent, of the grant amounts distributed under paragraph (1) shall, if sufficient applications to justify such amounts are received by the Attorney General, be awarded for purposes described in subsection (a)(7), provided that none of the funds required to be distributed under this paragraph shall decrease or otherwise limit the availability of funds required to be awarded to States or units of local government under paragraph (3).''; and

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

''(n) USE OF FUNDS FOR AUDITING SEXUAL ASSAULT EVIDENCE BACKLOGS.—

''(1) ELIGIBILITY.—The Attorney General may award a grant under this section to a State or unit of local government for the purpose described in subsection (a)(7) only if the State or unit of local government—

''(A) submits a plan for performing the audit of samples described in such subsection; and

''(B) includes in such plan a good-faith estimate of the number of such samples.

''(2) GRANT CONDITIONS.—A State or unit of local government receiving a grant for the purpose described in subsection (a)(7)—

''(A) may not enter into any contract or agreement with any non-governmental vendor laboratory to conduct an audit described in subsection (a)(7); and

''(B) shall—

''(i) not later than 1 year after receiving the grant, complete the audit referred to in paragraph (1)(A) in accordance with the plan submitted under such paragraph;

''(ii) not later than 60 days after receiving possession of a sample of sexual assault evidence that was not in the possession of the State or unit of local government at the time of the initiation of an audit under paragraph (1)(A), subject to paragraph (4)(F), include in any required reports under clause (v), the information listed under paragraph (4)(B);

''(iii) for each sample of sexual assault evidence that is identified as awaiting testing as part of the audit referred to in paragraph (1)(A)—

''(I) assign a unique numeric or alphanumeric identifier to each sample of sexual assault evidence that is in the possession of the State or unit of local government and is awaiting testing; and

''(II) identify the date or dates after which the State or unit of local government would be barred by any applicable statutes of limitations from prosecuting a perpetrator of the sexual assault to which the sample relates;

''(iv) provide that—

''(I) the chief law enforcement officer of the State or unit of local government, respectively, is the individual responsible for the compliance of the State or unit of local government, respectively, with the reporting requirements described in clause (v); or

''(II) the designee of such officer may fulfill the responsibility described in subclause (I) so long as such designee is an employee of the State or unit of local government, respectively, and is not an employee of any governmental laboratory or non-governmental vendor laboratory; and

''(v) comply with all grantee reporting requirements described in paragraph (4).

''(3) EXTENSION OF INITIAL DEADLINE.—The Attorney General may grant an extension of the deadline under paragraph (2)(B)(i) to a State or unit of local government that demonstrates that more time is required for compliance with such paragraph.

''(4) SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EVIDENCE REPORTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—For not less than 12 months after the completion of an initial count of sexual assault evidence that is awaiting testing during an audit referred to in paragraph (1)(A), a State or unit of local government that receives a grant award under subsection (a)(7) shall, not less than every 60 days, submit a report to the Department of Justice, on a form prescribed by the Attorney General, which shall contain the

information required under subparagraph (B).

''(B) CONTENTS OF REPORTS.—A report under this paragraph shall contain the following information—

''(i) the name of the State or unit of local government filing the report;

''(ii) the period of dates covered by the report;

''(iii) the cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence that, at the end of the reporting period—

''(I) are in the possession of the State or unit of local government at the reporting period;

''(II) are awaiting testing; and

''(III) the State or unit of local government has determined should undergo DNA or other appropriate forensic analyses;

''(iv) the cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence in the possession of the State or unit of local government that, at the end of the reporting period, the State or unit of local government has determined should not undergo DNA or other appropriate forensic analyses, provided that the reporting form shall allow for the State or unit of local government, at its sole discretion, to explain the reasoning for this determination in some or all cases;

''(v) the cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence in a total under clause (iii) that have been submitted to a laboratory for DNA or other appropriate forensic analyses;

''(vi) the cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence identified by an audit referred to in paragraph (1)(A) or under paragraph (2)(B)(ii) for which DNA or other appropriate forensic analysis has been completed at the end of the reporting period;

''(vii) the total number of samples of sexual assault evidence identified by the State or unit of local government under paragraph (2)(B)(ii), since the previous reporting period; and

''(viii) the cumulative total number of samples of sexual assault evidence described under clause (iii) for which the State or unit of local government will be barred within 12 months by any applicable statute of limitations from prosecuting a perpetrator of the sexual assault to which the sample relates.

''(C) PUBLICATION OF REPORTS.—Not later than 7 days after the submission of a report under this paragraph by a State or unit of local government, the Attorney General shall, subject to subparagraph (D), publish and disseminate a facsimile of the full contents of such report on an appropriate internet website.

''(D) PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—The Attorney General shall ensure that any information published and disseminated as part of a report under this paragraph, which reports information under this subsection, does not include personally identifiable information or details about a sexual assault that might lead to the identification of the individuals involved.

''(E) OPTIONAL REPORTING.—The Attorney General shall—

''(i) at the discretion of a State or unit of local government required to file a report under subparagraph (A), allow such State or unit of local government, at their sole discretion, to submit such reports on a more frequent basis; and

''(ii) make available to all States and units of local government the reporting form created pursuant to subparagraph (A), whether or not they are required to submit such reports, and allow such States or units of local government, at their sole discretion, to submit such reports for publication.

''(F) SAMPLES EXEMPT FROM REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—The reporting requirements described in paragraph (2) shall not apply to a sample of sexual assault evidence that—

''(i) is not considered criminal evidence (such as a sample collected anonymously from a victim who is unwilling to make a criminal complaint); or

''(ii) relates to a sexual assault for which the prosecution of each perpetrator is barred by a statute of limitations.

''(5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) AWAITING TESTING.—The term 'awaiting testing' means, with respect to a sample of sexual assault evidence, that—

''(i) the sample has been collected and is in the possession of a State or unit of local government;

''(ii) DNA and other appropriate forensic analyses have not been performed on such sample; and

''(iii) the sample is related to a criminal case or investigation in which final disposition has not yet been reached.

''(B) FINAL DISPOSITION.—The term 'final disposition' means, with respect to a criminal case or investigation to which a sample of sexual assault evidence relates—

''(i) the conviction or acquittal of all suspected perpetrators of the crime involved;

''(ii) a determination by the State or unit of local government in possession of the sample that the case is unfounded; or

''(iii) a declaration by the victim of the crime involved that the act constituting the basis of the crime was not committed.

''(C) POSSESSION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'possession', used with respect to possession of a sample of sexual assault evidence by a State or unit of local government, includes possession by an individual who is acting as an agent of the State or unit of local government for the collection of the sample.

''(ii) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to create or amend any Federal rights or privileges for non-governmental vendor laboratories described in regulations promulgated under section 210303 of the DNA Identification Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14131).

''(o) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROTOCOLS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND DEFINITIONS.—

''(1) PROTOCOLS AND PRACTICES.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the SAFER Act of 2013, the Director, in consultation with Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies and government laboratories, shall develop and publish a description of protocols and practices the Director considers appropriate for the accurate, timely, and effective collection and processing of DNA evidence, including protocols and practices specific to sexual assault cases, which shall address appropriate steps in the investigation of cases that might involve DNA evidence, including—

''(A) how to determine—

''(i) which evidence is to be collected by law enforcement personnel and forwarded for testing;

''(ii) the preferred order in which evidence from the same case is to be tested; and

''(iii) what information to take into account when establishing the order in which evidence from different cases is to be tested;

''(B) the establishment of a reasonable period of time in which evidence is to be forwarded by emergency response providers, law enforcement personnel, and prosecutors to a laboratory for testing;

''(C) the establishment of reasonable periods of time in which each stage of analytical laboratory testing is to be completed;

''(D) systems to encourage communication within a State or unit of local government among emergency response providers, law enforcement personnel, prosecutors, courts, defense counsel, crime laboratory personnel, and crime victims regarding the status of crime scene evidence to be tested; and

''(E) standards for conducting the audit of the backlog for DNA case work in sexual assault cases required under subsection (n).

''(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.—The Director shall make available technical assistance and training to support States and units of local government in adopting and implementing the protocols and practices developed under paragraph (1) on and after the date on which the protocols and practices are published.

''(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection, the terms 'awaiting testing' and 'possession' have the meanings given those terms in subsection (n).''.

SEC. 3. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

Not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year for which a grant is made for the purpose described in section 2(a)(7) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000, as amended by section 2, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) lists the States and units of local government that have been awarded such grants and the amount of the grant received by each such State or unit of local government;

(2) states the number of extensions granted by the Attorney General under section 2(n)(3) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000, as added by section 2; and

(3) summarizes the processing status of the samples of sexual assault evidence identified in Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reports established under section 2(n)(4) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000, including the number of samples that have not been tested.

SEC. 4. REDUCING THE RAPE KIT BACKLOG.

Section 2(c)(3) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135(c)(3)) is amended—

(a) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''2014'' and inserting ''2018''; and

(b) by adding at the end the following:

''(C) For each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018, not less than 75 percent of the total grant amounts shall be awarded for a combination of purposes under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).''.

SEC. 5. OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

All grants awarded by the Department of Justice that are authorized under the SAFER Act of 2013 shall be subject to the following:

(1) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—Beginning in fiscal year 2013, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of grants under this Act to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The Inspector General shall determine the appropriate number of grantees to be audited each year.

(2) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipient of grant funds under this Act that is found to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be eligible to receive grant funds under this Act during the 2 fiscal years beginning after the 12-month period described in paragraph (5).

(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this Act, the Attorney General shall give priority to eligible entities that, during the 3 fiscal years before submitting an application for a grant under this Act, did not have an unresolved audit finding showing a violation in the terms or conditions of a Department of Justice grant program.

(4) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an entity is awarded grant funds under this Act during the 2-fiscal-year period in which the entity is barred from receiving grants under paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall—

(A) deposit an amount equal to the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the

grantee into the General Fund of the Treasury; and

(B) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment to the fund from the grant recipient that was erroneously awarded grant funds.

(5) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term ''unresolved audit finding'' means an audit report finding in the final audit report of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice that the grantee has utilized grant funds for an unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost that is not closed or resolved within a 12-month period beginning on the date when the final audit report is issued.

(6) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section and the grant programs described in this Act, the term ''nonprofit organization'' means an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

(B) PROHIBITION.—The Attorney General shall not award a grant under any grant program described in this Act to a nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(C) DISCLOSURE.—Each nonprofit organization that is awarded a grant under a grant program described in this Act and uses the procedures prescribed in regulations to create a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness for the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees and key employees, shall disclose to the Attorney General, in the application for the grant, the process for determining such compensation, including the independent persons involved in reviewing and approving such compensation, the comparability data used, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision. Upon request, the Attorney General shall make the information disclosed under this subsection available for public inspection.

(7) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Unless otherwise explicitly provided in authorizing legislation, not more than 7.5 percent of the amounts authorized to be appropriated under this Act may be used by the Attorney General for salaries and administrative expenses of the Department of Justice.

(8) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.—

(A) LIMITATION.—No amounts authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Justice under this Act may be used by the Attorney General or by any individual or organization awarded discretionary funds through a cooperative agreement under this Act, to host or support any expenditure for conferences that uses more than $20,000 in Department funds, unless the Deputy Attorney General or the appropriate Assistant Attorney General, Director, or principal deputy as the Deputy Attorney General may designate, provides prior written authorization that the funds may be expended to host a conference.

(B) WRITTEN APPROVAL.—Written approval under subparagraph (A) shall include a written estimate of all costs associated with the conference, including the cost of all food and beverages, audio/visual equipment, honoraria for speakers, and any entertainment.

(C) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on all conference expenditures approved by operation of this paragraph.

(9) PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING ACTIVITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts authorized to be appropriated under this Act may not be utilized by any grant recipient to—

(i) lobby any representative of the Department of Justice regarding the award of grant funding; or

(ii) lobby any representative of a Federal, state, local, or tribal government regarding the award of grant funding.

(B) PENALTY.—If the Attorney General determines that any recipient of a grant under this Act has violated subparagraph (A), the Attorney General shall—

(i) require the grant recipient to repay the grant in full; and

(ii) prohibit the grant recipient from receiving another grant under this Act for not less than 5 years.

SEC. 6. SUNSET.

Effective on December 31, 2018, subsections (a)(7) and (n) of section 2 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135(a)(7) and (n)) are repealed.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 85. A bill to provide incentives for States to invest in practices and technology that are designed to expedite voting at the polls and to simplify voter registration; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Mr. COONS. Mr. President, we are no longer in an election year, which makes this the perfect time for this Congress to take action on real and meaningful election reform. Regardless of which candidates we voted for last November, we can all agree that in the world's greatest democracy, in the year 2013 we should put in place systems which ensure every voter will be able to cast their ballot without unnecessary delays, redtape, or restriction in our next elections. That is why I am looking forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate, with leaders in State and local governments across the country, and with folks in the U.S. Department of Justice to discuss ways we can reform our election process to make voting more accessible for more Americans.

In his second inaugural address delivered just this Monday, President Obama made a point to tie voting rights to civil rights. President Obama spoke of the long American march toward justice. He said:

> And the first steps of that march—of the journey toward a better, fairer, more equal society, one where every American, regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation or economic status, has the same shot at success—has always started at the ballot box.

President Obama mentioned Seneca Falls, a central moment in the movement for women's suffrage, and Selma, the emotional heart of the fight for equal access to voting rights for African Americans. He said:

> Our journey is not complete until no citizen is forced to wait for hours to exercise the right to vote.

He is right.

The 2012 elections were a wake-up call to those of us who treasure the right to vote. All over our country—in blue States and red States—Americans saw their fundamental right to vote eroded by exceptionally long lines, confusing rules, and widespread voting machine malfunctions. There were problems in more than a dozen States documented in the media.

There were voting machine irregularities in Pennsylvania and Colorado; error-ridden voter rolls in Ohio; delays counting ballots in Arizona; voters waiting in lines 5 hours long in Virginia and 8 hours long in Florida. We have to do better than this.

As Americans, the right to vote is in our DNA. So just days after these 2012 elections, which had such widespread problems, I introduced the FAST Voting Act, the Fair, Accurate, Secure, and Timely Voting Act, along with Senator WARNER and colleagues in the House, Congressman CONNOLLY and Congressman LANGEVIN.

Our bill challenges States to implement commonsense changes well before the next election. It would provide incentives and competitive grants to those States that can turn around their poorest performing polling places, improve the administration of their elections, and make voting faster and more accessible to all voters.

As a former county executive myself, I know States and local governments are laboratories of democracy. When it comes to administering elections, many States and counties are getting it right. We can learn from them and replicate their successes elsewhere in the country to ensure these same problems do not plague the next national elections.

For example, Florida was one of many States with rampant election problems in 2012. There were long lines, limited early voting, and other issues that may have disenfranchised as many as 49,000 Floridians, according to a study by Professor Theodore Allen of Ohio State University.

Floridians such as Richard Jordan waited more than 3 hours in a line that just was not moving to try and cast his ballot on election day 2012. He had already worked a 10-hour shift that day. He was exhausted, his back hurt, he was hungry, and ultimately in anger decided he could not wait anymore. He simply gave up and walked away. He was denied the opportunity to cast his ballot by an unprepared, underresourced, or just incompetent election system.

On behalf of voters across the State such as Richard, earlier this month Florida's elections administrators presented Florida's Governor Rick Scott with a list of reforms they would like to see implemented to prevent these problems from happening again. Governor Scott admitted that his own State's election process was clearly in need of improvement. He said he agreed with some of the election supervisors' proposals. In my view, this is a very positive step forward, and one which should be undertaken in every State where there is documented need for stronger, fairer, faster, and freer elections.

In my view, the government can and should play a role in incentivizing that process to ensure that election improvements are made to last. It can help States move forward in using available technology, and it can ensure States do a better job of enforcing laws that are already on the books.

For example, the National Voter Registration Act, commonly known as the motor voter law, requires States to allow voters to register when they renew their driver's license at the DMV or at other governmental agencies. Yet there are substantial and credible allegations that some States all across this country—whether blue, red, or purple—are not fulfilling their obligations under this act.

In talking with elections administrators from around the country, it is clear to me that compliance with existing law is not complete. We have to do more to ensure voters are afforded the rights given to them under current law and that State agencies are doing what is required to simplify the registration process to maintain uniform and nondiscriminatory voter rolls and provide widespread registration opportunities. Enforcing existing law is just part of the solution to the voting problems we saw across our country in 2012.

We also have to look forward at ways to deliver the best and most efficient voting process to all Americans. There is still much more we can do to meet that goal, and I think part of the solution is the mechanism of the FAST Voting Act.

Our legislation focuses on cost-effective reforms, such as making it easier to register online and ensuring citizens who move to a new jurisdiction can easily transfer their voter registration. If we use modern technology that we already have at our disposal, we can make it easier for all eligible American citizens to cast their ballot and ensure every vote is counted.

President Obama was right to mention election reform alongside the most essential civil rights struggles in our country's history in his inaugural address on Monday. Making it harder for citizens to vote is a violation of their civil rights. Long lines are just another form of voter disenfranchisement. Running out of ballots can be just another form of voter suppression. The fact is access to vote is denied when registration is cumbersome or inaccessible and when early voter vote-by-mail options are just not available.

Let's do something now when we are no longer hamstrung by election year politics in the Senate so that changes that last and make a difference can be implemented well before the next election.

As someone who serves on the Foreign Relations Committee and who often speaks with foreign heads of State, civil society leaders, and voting advocates from around the world, it is an embarrassment that in 2012 our Nation could not overcome the simple challenges to ensuring fair and accurate elections all across our country.

If we ignore these assaults on America's civil rights that we saw last November, we are certain to have to endure them the next time around. We cannot stand by and allow that to happen. Our democracy needs to be a model to the rest of the world for how to ensure that every citizen gets to exercise the right to vote.

Let's find a way to come together to put meaningful election reforms in place now before we deny one more American their fundamental right to vote for the candidate of their choice.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 85

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 ''Louis L. Redding Fair, Accurate, Secure, and Timely Voting Act of 2013'' or the ''FAST Voting Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. INCENTIVES FOR STATES TO INVEST IN PRACTICES AND TECHNOLOGY THAT ARE DESIGNED TO EXPEDITE VOTING AT THE POLLS AND SIMPLIFY VOTER REGISTRATION.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are to—

(1) provide incentives for States to invest in practices and technology that are designed to expedite voting at the polls; and

(2) provide incentives for States to simplify voter registration.

(b) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—From the amount made available to carry out this section for a fiscal year, the Attorney General may reserve not more than 10 percent of such amount to carry out activities related to—

(1) technical assistance; and

(2) outreach and dissemination.

(c) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—From the amounts made available under subsection (h) for a fiscal year and not reserved under subsection (b), the Attorney General shall award grants, on a competitive basis, to States in accordance with subsection (d)(2), to enable the States to carry out the purposes of this section.

(2) NUMBER OF GRANTS.—A State may not receive more than 1 grant under this section per grant period.

(3) DURATION OF GRANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A grant under this section shall be awarded for a period of not more than 4 years.

(B) CONTINUATION OF GRANTS.—A State that is awarded a grant under this section shall not receive grant funds under this section for the second or any subsequent year of the grant unless the State demonstrates to the Attorney General, at such time and in such manner as determined by the Attorney General, that the State is—

(i) making progress in implementing the plan under subsection (d)(1)(C) at a rate that the Attorney General determines will result in the State fully implementing such plan during the remainder of the grant period; or

(ii) making progress against the performance measures set forth in subsection (e) at a rate that the Attorney General determines will result in the State reaching its targets and achieving the objectives of the grant during the remainder of the grant period.

(d) APPLICATIONS.—

(1) APPLICATIONS.—Each State that desires to receive a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Attorney General at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Attorney General may reasonably require. At a minimum, each such application shall include—

(A) documentation of the applicant's record, as applicable—

(i) in providing various voter registration opportunities;

(ii) in providing early voting;

(iii) in providing absentee voting;

(iv) in providing assistance to voters who do not speak English as a primary language;

(v) in providing assistance to voters with disabilities;

(vi) in providing effective access to voting for members of the armed services;

(vii) in providing formal training of election officials;

(viii) in auditing or otherwise documenting waiting times at polling stations;

(ix) in allocating polling locations, equipment, and staff to match population distribution;

(x) in responding to voting irregularities and concerns raised at polling stations;

(xi) in creating and adhering to contingency voting plans in the event of a natural or other disaster; and

(xii) with respect to any other performance measure described in subsection (e) that is not included in clauses (i) through (xi);

(B) evidence of conditions of innovation and reform that the applicant has established and the applicant's proposed plan for implementing additional conditions for innovation and reform, including—

(i) a description of how the applicant has identified and eliminated ineffective practices in the past and the applicant's plan for doing so in the future;

(ii) a description of how the applicant has identified and promoted effective practices in the past and the applicant's plan for doing so in the future; and

(iii) steps the applicant has taken and will take to eliminate statutory, regulatory, procedural, or other barriers and to facilitate the full implementation of the proposed plan under this subparagraph;

(C) a comprehensive and coherent plan for using funds under this section, and other Federal, State, and local funds, to improve the applicant's performance on the measures described in subsection (e), consistent with criteria set forth by the Attorney General, including how the applicant will, if applicable—

(i) provide flexible registration opportunities, including online and same-day registration and registration updating;

(ii) provide early voting, at a minimum of 9 of the 10 calendar days preceding an election, at sufficient and flexible hours;

(iii) provide absentee voting, including no-excuse absentee voting;

(iv) provide assistance to voters who do not speak English as a primary language;

(v) provide assistance to voters with disabilities, including visual impairment;

(vi) provide effective access to voting for members of the armed services;

(vii) provide formal training of election officials, including State and county administrators and volunteers;

(viii) audit and reduce waiting times at polling stations;

(ix) allocate polling locations, equipment, and staff to match population distribution;

(x) respond to any reports of voting irregularities or concerns raised at the polling station;

(xi) create contingency voting plans in the event of a natural or other disaster; and

(xii) improve the wait times at the persistently poorest performing polling stations within the jurisdiction of the applicant;

(D) evidence of collaboration between the State, local election officials, and other stakeholders, in developing the plan described in subparagraph (C), including evidence of the commitment and capacity to implement the plan;

(E) the applicant's annual performance measures and targets, consistent with the requirements of subsection (e); and

(F) a description of the applicant's plan to conduct a rigorous evaluation of the effectiveness of activities carried out with funds under this section.

(2) CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING APPLICATIONS.—

(A) AWARD BASIS.—The Attorney General shall award grants under this section on a competitive basis, based on the quality of the applications submitted under paragraph (1), including—

(i) each applicant's record in the areas described in paragraph (1)(A);

(ii) each applicant's record of, and commitment to, establishing conditions for innovation and reform, as described in paragraph (1)(B);

(iii) the quality and likelihood of success of each applicant's plan described in paragraph (1)(C) in showing improvement in the areas described in paragraph (1)(A), including each applicant's capacity to implement the plan and evidence of collaboration as described in paragraph (1)(D); and

(iv) each applicant's evaluation plan as described in paragraph (1)(F).

(B) EXPLANATION.—The Attorney General shall publish an explanation of how the application review process under this paragraph will ensure an equitable and objective evaluation based on the criteria described in subparagraph (A).

(e) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—Each State receiving a grant under this section shall establish performance measures and targets, approved by the Attorney General, for the programs and activities carried out under this section. These measures shall, at a minimum, track the State's progress—

(1) in implementing its plan described in subsection (d)(1)(C);

(2) in expediting voting at the polls or simplifying voter registration, as applicable; and

(3) on any other measures identified by the Attorney General.

(f) USES OF FUNDS.—Each State that receives a grant under this section shall use the grant funds for any purpose included in the State's plan under subsection (d)(1)(C).

(g) REPORTING.—A State that receives a grant under this section shall submit to the Attorney General, at such time and in such manner as the Attorney General may require, an annual report including—

(1) data on the State's progress in achieving the targets for the performance measures established under subsection (e);

(2) a description of the challenges the State has faced in implementing its program and how it has addressed or plans to address those challenges; and

(3) findings from the evaluation plan as described in subsection (d)(1)(F).

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. 103. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of P.S. 103 in West Baltimore, Maryland, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I am proud to introduce the Justice Thurgood Marshall's Elementary School Study Act. The elementary school that Justice Marshall attended, known as PS 103, located in my hometown of Baltimore, is a place of national significance because it marks the site where one of our Nation's greatest legal minds began his education.

Thurgood Marshall is well known as one of the most significant historical figures of the American civil rights movement. By the time he was 32, he was appointed the chief legal counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. He served at the NAACP a total of 25 years and was a key strategist to end racial segregation throughout the United States.

Perhaps the greatest illustration of this effort was his victory before the Supreme Court overturning the Plessy doctrine effectively ending school segregation with the landmark decision in Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, KS, in 1954. Not only did this case open up educational opportunity and sparked the civil rights movement in this Nation, it also marked the beginning of Thurgood Marshall's career, still a young attorney from Baltimore, as one of the greatest legal minds in all the land. This case was just one of the 29 cases he won before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Fittingly, Marshall was the first African American confirmed to the Supreme Court. He was nominated by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1967 and served 24 years, until 1991. On the high court, Marshall continued his fight for the Constitutional protection of individual human rights.

But Thurgood Marshall was not always a legal giant. He was once a young boy growing up in West Baltimore. He received the first 6 years of his public education at PS 103. An apocryphal story goes that a young Thurgood Marshall studied the U.S. Constitution in the basement of the building while serving detention. Regardless of whether or not this is true, the building powerfully tells the story of racial segregation in America, PS 103 was a ''blacks only'' school when Justice Marshall was a student, and marks the academic beginning of one of the country's most brilliant legal thinkers and a pioneer of the civil rights movement.

The building is located at 1315 Division Street in the Upton Neighborhood of Old West Baltimore. The building is part of the Old West Baltimore National Register Historic District, and is listed as a contributing historic resource for the neighborhood. The Old West Baltimore historic district is one of the largest predominately African American historic districts in the country, and its significance is centered on the African American experience in the area.

In Baltimore, we are fortunate to have the National Park Service operate two historical sites, Fort McHenry and the Hampton Mansion. Adding PS 103 is a unique opportunity for the National Park Service to work in Baltimore's inner-city and to reach out and engage people about African American history.

Needless to say, Thurgood Marshall's legacy is one that should be preserved. He was one of our country's greatest legal minds and a prominent historical figure of one chapter of our country's great history—the civil rights movement. This bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of PS 103 to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of establishing the building as a unit of the National Park Service. Preserving the building that was Justice Marshall's elementary school will give Americans insight into Justice Marshall's childhood.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

S. 103

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 ''Thurgood Marshall's Elementary School Study Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) STUDY AREA.—The term ''study area'' means P.S. 103, the public school located in West Baltimore, Maryland, which Thurgood Marshall attended as a youth.

SEC. 3. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a special resource study of the study area.

(b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate the national significance of the study area;

(2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the study area as a unit of the National Park System;

(3) consider other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of the study area by the Federal Government, State or local government entities, or private and nonprofit organizations;

(4) consult with interested Federal agencies, State or local governmental entities, private and nonprofit organizations, or any other interested individuals;

(5) identify cost estimates for any Federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives; and

(6) identify any authorities that would compel or permit the Secretary to influence local land use decisions under the alternatives.

(c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 8 of the National Park System General Authorities Act (16 U.S.C. 1a–5).

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes—

(1) the results of the study; and

(2) any conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 113. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require certain creditors to obtain certifications from institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to reintroduce two pieces of legislation: the Know Before You Owe Act and the Fairness for Struggling Students Act. These bills will take critical steps toward addressing the student debt crisis facing America.

Every week my office is contacted by young people and their families who share with me their horror stories about student debt. Many of them are college students or graduates who are getting crushed by student loans the size of mortgages. All too often, these young people were lured into attending worthless, for-profit colleges that left them with worthless diplomas and mountains of debt. It is disgraceful. But it is not only young people facing this debt crisis, it is their parents, their siblings, even their grandparents who did them a favor by cosigning on these loans. They, too, are being held responsible when the loans go into default.

Many of these people contact my office because they don't know where to turn. Their debt loan leaves them feeling helpless. They are putting off major life decisions such as buying a home or even starting a family because of crushing student debt. We can't stand idly by any longer and ignore this reality. We have to step up and recognize that this student debt bomb is ticking away.

Student loan debt among college students surpassed $1 trillion last year. The New York Fed reports that balances of student loans have now exceeded the balances on automobile loans and credit card debt in America—student loans. That makes student loans the largest form of consumer debt outside of home mortgages.

Last year, 37 million borrowers held student loan debt. That is more than 10 percent of the population of this country. The average balance is $24,300. But, remember, that is an average. This is a massive amount of debt, and it is having a profound impact on the lives of students and their families across America.

The overall growth in student debt is troubling. The most pressing concern is what is known as private student loans. If a student goes to college, they could qualify for a government-guaranteed loan with dramatically lower interest rates with accommodations based on their employment and even some loan forgiveness. Not so when it comes to private student loans in most cases. Students who take out Federal loans receive affordable interest rates, a lot of protections and repayment options. Private student loans are totally different. Private student loans often have high variable interest rates, hefty origination fees, lack of repayment options, and, unfortunately, crushing penalties.

In 2012 the amount of outstanding private student loans exceeded $150 billion. Students are being steered into these private loans while they are still eligible for the better government loans. Why? Because somebody is making more money when they sign up for private student loans. As a result, many students are being saddled with debt they don't have to be saddled with and sometimes debt they can never repay.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau last year reported that at least 850,000 individual private student loans were in default amounting to more than $8 billion.

Let me tell my colleagues about one of those students. I have opened on my official Web site a place where those who have student loans and want to share their stories can come. Anna Wilcox, who is 31 years old, did. She attended the Brooks Institute of Photography, a for-profit college owned by the Career Education Corporation.

Anna Wilcox saw a TV ad one day about this so-called Brooks Institute of Photography and decided she would call and inquire. The school called her twice a day until she finally enrolled. The recruiter at the school—this Career Education Corporation School—told her that a Brooks degree would help her make $85,000 a year as a photographer. So Anna enrolled, and when she graduated in 2006, she had a debt of about $170,000, almost all of it in private student loans.

Anna was 24 years old with $170,000 in student debt from this for-profit school. With a variable interest rate that went as high as 18 percent, her balance just kept growing. Her monthly payments on her private student loan now exceed $1,000 a month. Her Federal loans she took out as well had low interest rates. She said those payments are reasonable, and she can handle them. Her parents decided to help her out and cosigned on the loans. Now her parents, in their sixties, are on the hook as well. They have to change their life plans because they wanted to help their daughter, and now they are stuck with a debt of $170,000 for a worthless diploma from a for-profit school.

Well, Anna did find a job, but the job doesn't pay anywhere near $85,000 a year. She just can't keep up with these staggering monthly loan payments. She said she would like to file for bankruptcy, clean the slate, and start over. She can't borrow money to go to a real school. She has wasted her borrowing power on these for-profit schools.

It doesn't do her any good to want to file for bankruptcy. Private student loans are not dischargeable for bankruptcy. If a person signs up as a college student for one of these student loans, it is debt that will follow that person for a lifetime. There is no way to escape it. It is something to think about long and hard when students make that decision.

Anna is very blunt and despondent. She said she made a big mistake going to the school. It was a waste. She thought she would get a better life by going to college. She didn't realize these for-profit schools by and large are a waste of money and cause debt that most students can never pay back. She has bad credit now and a mountain of debt to show for it.

So what are we going to do about it? Are we going to say: Well, Anna, you should have been a little bit smarter when you were 19 years old and sat across the desk from somebody who said: We want you as a college student. You made your mistake, girl. That is the way it works in America, and now you have to pay the price. Is that the answer? Is that the answer when these for-profit schools depend on the Federal Government and taxpayers for 85 to 95 percent of all of the revenue they take in?

These for-profit schools, if we took the Federal money we send their way—if these for-profit schools were a Federal agency, it would be the ninth largest Federal agency in America. That is how much money we are pouring into these for-profit schools.

Let me just put three numbers out for people to reflect on: 12 percent of the students out of high school go to for-profit schools. We know their names. They are students who gather in Washington and come to the galleries. They know what I am talking about. Go on the Internet and try to escape an ad for a for-profit school: University of Phoenix, DeVry, Kaplan. Ring a bell? Well, I can tell my colleagues these are the biggies, but there are hundreds of them. Twelve percent of the students after high school go to for-profit schools.

For-profit schools, though, account for 25 percent of all of the Federal aid to education. They just soak it up. Students borrow and turn it over to the for-profit schools. The student is stuck with the debt. The for-profit school may never graduate you, but they have their money.

There is a third number to remember. The first is 12, the second is 25. The third number is 47. Forty-seven percent of the student loan defaults in America are students from for-profit schools, students being dragged into these schools that charge way too much for tuition and then the student either can't finish the school or gets out of school and can't find a job and they are stuck.

I tell my students back home, if you are not sure, start at a community college. It is affordable. It has a wide array of courses to be offered to you. You will learn a lot about yourself, you will learn a lot about what you want to

do in school, and you will not end up sunk in debt like these for-profit schools want to do to you.

We have to do something about Anna Wilcox's plight and many others just like her.

I wish to commend especially one community college in my State, the Elgin Community College. I have been visiting that school regularly and always come home thinking: This college gets it. They have implemented a financial counseling program that goes above and beyond anything I would put into law. All of the students at Elgin Community College in Elgin, IL, must submit a monthly budget detailing all their costs when they are seeking financial aid. The student then has a mandatory, one-on-one meeting with a counselor to review the loan balance, the repayment options, and what happens if they default. This community college has implemented a workshop for students who will be graduating during the upcoming semester to discuss repayment options and give them a complete summary of every loan they have taken out.

These students are facing debt the likes of which they have never seen in their lives. They are motivated by all of the preaching they have heard from their parents, like me, saying: Go to school. Get a degree. They are ready to sign up because they want to do what they think is the right thing. They do not know that the for-profit school is worthless, they do not know that the thousands and thousands of dollars of debt will never be able to be repaid, and they do not know that debt will be with them for a lifetime. So here are some bills I am introducing to address it.

I believe students will benefit more if they have the kind of loan counseling we see at the Elgin Community College. I am joining Senator TOM HARKIN of Iowa, chairman of the HELP Committee, in reintroducing the Know Before You Owe Private Student Loan Act of 2013.

The legislation requires colleges to confirm a student's enrollment status, cost of attendance, and estimated Federal financial aid assistance before any private student loan can be approved for that student. In other words, if you are eligible for the government loan, for goodness' sakes, take that first. The private student loan is much more expensive, and it is tougher to pay it back. So we want to make sure students who are eligible for government loans know that before they sign up for the private student loans. Often, students have not even applied for Federal aid before they are encouraged by some of these schools to apply for private student loans, or students have not exhausted their eligibility for Federal aid. Requiring school certification would give the school the opportunity to make students aware of Federal student aid options and the most affordable options.

The bill would also require schools to counsel the students about their loan options. Schools would be required to inform students about the differences between Federal student loans and private student loans, and they are stark and dramatic. For students who decide to take out private student loans, the bill would require lenders to provide them with quarterly up-to-date information about their balance and interest accrued. It is not one of these deals where you just keep borrowing and borrowing and borrowing, and finally when you are about to finish school—or years later—they give you the total, and you look at it and say: My goodness, I did not realize I had signed up for all of that debt.

This legislation is supported by a large coalition of educational, student, and consumer organizations and has been recommended by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

The other bill I am reintroducing today is the Fairness for Struggling Students Act. This bill, cosponsored by Senators WHITEHOUSE, FRANKEN, HARKIN, and JACK REED, would restore the Bankruptcy Code's pre-2005 treatment of private student loans.

As I said earlier, since 2005 private student loans have enjoyed a privileged status under the Bankruptcy Code. They cannot be discharged in bankruptcy except under the most extreme circumstances. Only a few other types of debt cannot be discharged in bankruptcy—criminal fines, child support, taxes, and alimony. In contrast, nearly all types of private, unsecured debt—credit card debt, doctor bills—are dischargeable in bankruptcy, but not student loans.

There was no good reason for Congress to give such preferred treatment to these financial institutions that are peddling these private student loans. It was a provision—a sweetheart provision—tucked into a massive bankruptcy reform bill with very little debate and even less justification. There is no evidence that private student loan borrowers were abusing the bankruptcy system before this law was changed. In fact, the private student loan market has been growing—even before this measure was enacted into law. But the private student loan industry got a sweetheart deal out of Congress, and now we are in a situation where many students have overwhelming private student loan debt, and they cannot repay, and they cannot escape. This is devastating for those students and a drag on our overall economy.

There was an article a few months ago in the New York Times, and it talked about a grandmother who was having her Social Security check garnished because she had signed on as a cosigner of her granddaughter's student loan. Her granddaughter dropped out of college and could not pay back the loan, and now we are going after grandma's Social Security check. That is how serious this can be.

A large coalition of student, educational, civil rights, and consumer organizations support this bill. I hope we can move forward with legislation this year. It is time to restore fairness to our Bankruptcy Code when it comes to student debt.

Let me be clear: When used appropriately, student loans are valuable and important. I would not be standing here today if I had not borrowed money from the Federal Government to go to college and law school. I never could have afforded it otherwise. It was called the National Defense Education Act. If I told you the numbers that I borrowed, you would realize how old I am. But at the time, it was scary to have that much debt coming fresh out of law school. I paid it back just like I was supposed to so the next generation could take over. But what I faced, the debt I incurred to go to school and law school, does not even come close to matching what many students have to borrow in the first semester, and that, unfortunately, leads to a debt that some will be crushed with for a lifetime. In many instances, student loans help Americans get a quality higher education and the job skills they need to repay their loans and have a rewarding life and career. But, unfortunately, there are far too many Americans who have been steered into high-cost private loans that will burden them for life and prevent them from fully contributing to our economy.

It is about time we woke up to the reality of what students—millions of students—across America are facing, and their families. We have a responsibility to them over and above the profits that are being earned by for-profit schools and the financial institutions peddling these private student loans with these outrageous interest rates and terms. It is time for this Congress to listen to working families and their kids all across America to restore transparency, fairness, and common sense to private student loans. I urge my colleagues to support these bills.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bills be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bills was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

S. 113

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 ''Know Before You Owe Private Student Loan Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE TRUTH IN LENDING ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 128(e) of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1638(e)) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) INSTITUTIONAL CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), before a creditor may issue any funds with respect to an extension of credit described in this subsection, the creditor shall obtain from the relevant institution of higher education where such loan is to be used for a student, such institution's certification of—

''(i) the enrollment status of the student;

''(ii) the student's cost of attendance at the institution as determined by the institution under part F of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965; and

''(iii) the difference between—

''(I) such cost of attendance; and

''(II) the student's estimated financial assistance, including such assistance received under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and other financial assistance known to the institution, as applicable.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a creditor may issue funds with respect to an extension of credit described in this subsection without obtaining from the relevant institution of higher education such institution's certification if such institution fails to provide within 15 business days of the creditor's request for such certification—

''(i) the requested certification; or

''(ii) notification that the institution has received the request for certification and will need additional time to comply with the certification request.

''(C) LOANS DISBURSED WITHOUT CERTIFICATION.—If a creditor issues funds without obtaining a certification, as described in subparagraph (B), such creditor shall report the issuance of such funds in a manner determined by the Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (9), (10), and (11) as paragraphs (10), (11), and (12), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

''(9) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—

''(A) PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO STUDENTS.—

''(i) LOAN STATEMENT.—A creditor that issues any funds with respect to an extension of credit described in this subsection shall send loan statements, where such loan is to be used for a student, to borrowers of such funds not less than once every 3 months during the time that such student is enrolled at an institution of higher education.

''(ii) CONTENTS OF LOAN STATEMENT.—Each statement described in clause (i) shall—

''(I) report the borrower's total remaining debt to the creditor, including accrued but unpaid interest and capitalized interest;

''(II) report any debt increases since the last statement; and

''(III) list the current interest rate for each loan.

''(B) NOTIFICATION OF LOANS DISBURSED WITHOUT CERTIFICATION.—On or before the date a creditor issues any funds with respect to an extension of credit described in this subsection, the creditor shall notify the relevant institution of higher education, in writing, of the amount of the extension of credit and the student on whose behalf credit is extended. The form of such written notification shall be subject to the regulations of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

''(C) ANNUAL REPORT.—A creditor that issues funds with respect to an extension of credit described in this subsection shall prepare and submit an annual report to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau containing the required information about private student loans to be determined by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, in consultation with the Secretary of Education.''.

(b) DEFINITION OF PRIVATE EDUCATION LOAN.—Section 140(a)(7)(A) of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1650(a)(7)(A)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii);

(2) in clause (i), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon; and

(3) by adding after clause (i) the following:

''(ii) is not made, insured, or guaranteed under title VII or title VIII of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 292 et seq. and 296 et seq.); and''.

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 365 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau shall issue regulations in final form to implement paragraphs (3) and (9) of section 128(e) of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1638(e)), as amended by subsection (a). Such regulations shall become effective not later than 6 months after their date of issuance.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENT TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965.

(a) AMENDMENT TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF 1965.—Section 487(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)) is amended by striking paragraph (28) and inserting the following:

''(28)(A) The institution shall—

''(i) upon the request of a private educational lender, acting in connection with an application initiated by a borrower for a private education loan in accordance with section 128(e)(3) of the Truth in Lending Act, provide certification to such private educational lender—

''(I) that the student who initiated the application for the private education loan, or on whose behalf the application was initiated, is enrolled or is scheduled to enroll at the institution;

''(II) of such student's cost of attendance at the institution as determined under part F of this title; and

''(III) of the difference between—

''(aa) the cost of attendance at the institution; and

''(bb) the student's estimated financial assistance received under this title and other assistance known to the institution, as applicable; and

''(ii) provide the certification described in clause (i), or notify the creditor that the institution has received the request for certification and will need additional time to comply with the certification request—

''(I) within 15 business days of receipt of such certification request; and

''(II) only after the institution has completed the activities described in subparagraph (B).

''(B) The institution shall, upon receipt of a certification request described in subparagraph (A)(i), and prior to providing such certification—

''(i) determine whether the student who initiated the application for the private education loan, or on whose behalf the application was initiated, has applied for and exhausted the Federal financial assistance available to such student under this title and inform the student accordingly; and

''(ii) provide the borrower whose loan application has prompted the certification request by a private education lender, as described in subparagraph (A)(i), with the following information and disclosures:

''(I) The availability of, and the borrower's potential eligibility for, Federal financial assistance under this title, including disclosing the terms, conditions, interest rates, and repayment options and programs of Federal student loans.

''(II) The borrower's ability to select a private educational lender of the borrower's choice.

''(III) The impact of a proposed private education loan on the borrower's potential eligibility for other financial assistance, including Federal financial assistance under this title.

''(IV) The borrower's right to accept or reject a private education loan within the 30-day period following a private educational lender's approval of a borrower's application and about a borrower's 3-day right to cancel period.

''(C) For purposes of this paragraph, the terms 'private educational lender' and 'private education loan' have the meanings given such terms in section 140 of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1650).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the effective date of the regulations described in section 2(c).

SEC. 4. REPORT.

Not later than 24 months after the issuance of regulations under section 2(c), the Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the Secretary of Education shall jointly submit to Congress a report on the compliance of institutions of higher education and private educational lenders with section 128(e)(3) of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1638(e)), as amended by section 2, and section 487(a)(28) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094(a)), as amended by section 3. Such report shall include information about the degree to which specific institutions utilize certifications in effectively encouraging the exhaustion of Federal student loan eligibility and lowering student private education loan debt.

S. 114

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 ''Fairness for Struggling Students Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. EXCEPTIONS TO DISCHARGE.

Section 523(a)(8) of title 11, United States Code, is amended by striking ''dependents, for'' and all that follows through the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting ''dependents, for an educational benefit overpayment or loan made, insured, or guaranteed by a governmental unit or made under any program funded in whole or in part by a governmental unit or an obligation to repay funds received from a governmental unit as an educational benefit, scholarship, or stipend;''.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 116. A bill to revise and extend provisions under the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I am pleased to be joined by Senators MURKOWSKI, DURBIN, COLLINS, TOM UDALL, MURRAY, LAUTENBERG, BLUMENTHAL, COONS, KLOBUCHAR, and STABENOW in the introduction of the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act Reauthorization.

This legislation is named for the son of Senator Gordon Smith, our former colleague, who took his own life at the young age of 22. After this tragedy, Senator Smith rallied support from members across the aisle and in both chambers to prevent other children from doing the same with passage of the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act in 2004. Since then, it has retained its bipartisan support among Members of Congress and over 40 member organizations of the Mental Health Liaison Group.

However, the recent horrific mass shooting in Newtown, CT shows that more work must be done to address the mental and behavioral health of children and young adults before they hurt themselves and others. Indeed, what is so clear now from this terrible tragedy is that we have young people who desperately need help. Parents also need help in identifying early warning signs of mental illness and accessing the appropriate treatment before it is too late.

The Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act authorizes critical resources for schools, elementary schools through college where children and young adults spend most of their time, to be able to reach at risk youth. Currently, this law supports 40 States, 38 tribes and tribal organizations, and 85 colleges and universities in their efforts to address mental health and prevent suicides among their youth.

The bill my colleagues and I are introducing today would increase the authorized grant level to States, tribes, and college campuses for the implementation of proven programs and initiatives designed to address mental illness and reduce youth suicide. It will enable more schools to offer critical services to students and provide greater flexibility in the use of funds, particularly on college campuses.

Suicide is now the second leading cause of death for adolescents and young adults age 10 to 24, up from the third leading cause of death in this population just a few years ago, and results in 4,800 lives lost each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Additionally, the CDC reports that 157,000 young adults in this age group are treated for self-inflicted injuries annually, often as the result of a failed suicide attempt.

We can play a role in helping these children and their families. I am pleased that President Obama and Vice President BIDEN recognized this and included in their Plan to Protect Our Children and Our Communities by Reducing Gun Violence a recommendation to increase support for young adults ages 16 to 25, a population with high rates of mental illness, substance abuse, and suicide that is unlikely to seek help. Indeed, passing the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act Reauthorization is one way we can better address the mental health needs of this population.

My colleague, Chairman HARKIN, will be holding a hearing on the status of the mental health system in our country tomorrow. I look forward to continuing to work with him and others to act on the President's recommendations to improve mental and behavioral health care services, particularly for children and young people. This should be something that we do automatically when it comes to the welfare of our children but is even more urgently required in the wake of the terrible recent tragedies in Connecticut and elsewhere.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 122. A bill to promote freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity by repealing the income tax and other taxes, abolishing the Internal Revenue Service, and enacting a national sales tax to be administered primarily by the States; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise to speak today about our Tax Code as well as our economic future. There is a problem with our Tax Code, one that hits home with nearly all Americans; that is, its complexity. In the past few years I have met with hundreds of constituents who are worried about this issue. Individuals, small businesses, farms, and large corporations alike struggle with meeting their obligations to the IRS because of the complexity of our current Tax Code.

Earlier this month the IRS Taxpayer Advocate revealed some startling figures in the Agency's annual report to Congress. It estimates that individuals and businesses spend 6.1 billion hours each year complying with the IRS tax filing requirements. The complexity of the Tax Code is so burdensome that 9 out of 10 taxpayers now pay a professional preparer or use often costly commercial software to assist in tax preparation.

Then there is the problem with our corporate taxes. The United States has the highest marginal effective tax rate among the largest developed nations in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. According to recent studies by the Cato Institute, that rate for U.S. corporations is almost 36 percent. In fact, only Argentina, Chad, and Uzbekistan have higher tax rates than does the United States. While the U.S. corporate rates have remained high, other countries are lowering their rates. Sweden, for example, has become the latest country to announce that it will lower corporate tax rates, in part to help attract more foreign investment. Our corporate tax rates continue to be higher than they should, and we lose our competitive advantage to other nations in part because of that high tax rate.

I want to talk about a way to fix both these problems. Since joining the Senate, I have introduced in each new Congress the Fair Tax Act. Today I am reintroducing this legislation because of my belief that the Fair Tax Act can fix the problems built into our current Tax Code. The fair tax will promote freedom and economic opportunity by eliminating our current archaic and inefficient Tax Code and replacing it with a simpler, fairer means of collecting tax revenue. It will repeal the individual income tax, the corporate income tax, capital gains taxes, all payroll taxes, self-employment taxes, and the estate and gift tax in lieu of a 23-percent tax on the final sale of goods and services. Elimination of these inefficient taxing mechanisms will not only bring about equality within our tax system, it will also bring about simplicity. It will provide tax relief for business-to-business transactions. These transactions, including those for used goods that have already been taxed, are not subject to the sales tax, so there would be no double taxation.

Some of my colleagues have asked how the fair tax would affect our revenue on our entitlement programs. Social Security and Medicare benefits would remain untouched under the Fair Tax Act. There would be no financial reductions to either of these vital programs. Instead, the source of the trust fund revenue for these two programs would be replaced simply by the sales tax revenue instead of by payroll tax revenue.

Another question I get is how the fair tax would affect impoverished Americans. Under the Fair Tax Act, every American would receive a monthly rebate check equal to the spending up to the Federal poverty level, according to Department of Health and Human Services guidelines. This rebate would ensure that no American pays taxes on the purchase of necessities.

We have made nearly 5,000 changes to the Tax Code since 2001—I have supported some of them, and I have not supported others—all in the name of improvement and economic benefit. I believe we can do better than simply lowering our taxes. I know we can make a bigger impact on our economic future by ridding ourselves of a tax structure that is holding us back.

Ronald Reagan once said:

> I believe we really can, however, say that God did give mankind virtually unlimited gifts to invent, produce and create. And for that reason alone, it would be wrong for governments to devise a tax structure or economic system that suppresses and denies those gifts.

With that statement, I could not agree more.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 8—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT CONGRESS HOLDS THE SOLE AUTHORITY TO BORROW MONEY ON THE CREDIT OF THE UNITED STATES AND SHALL NOT CEDE THIS POWER TO THE PRESIDENT

Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. JOHANNS, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 8

Whereas it is Congress' prerogative and duty to decide how much the Nation will borrow and for what purposes;

Whereas Congress has the responsibility under the Constitution to regulate the terms and conditions under which the Nation borrows funds;

Whereas Congress has the power and the obligation to ensure that payments are made on the national debt;

Whereas Congress is directly accountable to the people concerning any tax and spending burdens placed upon the public;

Whereas these Constitutional powers and responsibilities create an appropriate check on the executive branch and preclude the President from raising taxes and issuing debt;

Whereas on November 29, 2012, the Secretary of the Treasury, on behalf of the President, proposed that Congress should surrender its authority to establish the debt limit of the United States to the executive branch; and

Whereas for 6 decades Congress and the President have routinely used the necessity of increasing the debt limit as a vehicle for debate and broader reforms on the path of spending and future deficits: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that Congress—

(1) should not relinquish its long utilized authority vested in article 1, section 8 of the Constitution to ''borrow money on the credit of the United States'' by refusing to debate, amend, and vote on a bill to address the debt limit; and

(2) should not provide the executive branch with exclusive power to issue debt on behalf of the United States Government.

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I am rising to submit a resolution making it absolutely clear that Congress, and only Congress, has the authority and responsibility to set the Federal debt limit. I should not even have to submit a resolution such as this, but I feel it is absolutely necessary.

Raising the Federal debt limit—the limit we place on government borrowing—as everybody knows, has been a hot topic around Washington. It is a key issue for the start of the 113th Congress. It is another case where if we could just maintain regular order, regular authority to address our problems, that is the best way for us to approach the task of getting our fiscal house in order.

I know there is a lot of dispute over what breaching the limit means. There is a lot of talk about that. It is clear a great deal of the public and our financial markets are extremely concerned about the Federal Government's ability to meet its financial obligations once we do hit the limit.

The President has asked for a very large increase in the debt ceiling, and some in the administration have called for no limit at all. Others of the administration and in the House are calling for Congress to give up its authority to set the debt limit—rather amazing—thus giving the executive branch unilateral authority to borrow. This is not a good idea.

If the Federal Government does not collect enough revenue to pay for all its spending obligations, it must borrow to make up the shortfall. Everybody knows that. We are borrowing now about 42 cents of every $1 we are obligated to spend.

This is clearly—I think everybody would agree on either side of the aisle and the public—an unsustainable situation which will only get worse if we do not begin meaningful discussions over our spending priorities, including—including—entitlement spending to strengthen and preserve those programs for future generations.

The national debt is growing. Everybody has seen that chart. It is about $16.4 trillion. The total public debt outstanding at the end of the third quarter just passed was $16.07 trillion. That is up from $15.86 trillion reported in June 2012. We are on the wrong path.

The Federal debt is now equivalent to at least 73 percent of the Nation's gross domestic product—nearly double the level as a percentage of GDP that we had back in 1990. That is not too long ago.

According to some measures, there has been a 60-percent increase in the debt limit since 2009. At the rate we are going, in a few short years we will be spending more to pay interest on the debt than we will on all discretionary programs outside of defense. Even defense now is going through a very difficult time with the sequester and has already been cut about one-half trillion dollars.

Let me just say that means no money for education. That means no money for agriculture. That means no money for the environment. That means no money for health care. It all goes to pay off interest on the debt.

The Federal debt is the accumulation of this borrowing, including all bills, notes, and bonds issued by the Department of the Treasury.

The current statutory debt limit is $16.394 trillion, which was established on January 28 of last year, 2012—about 1 year ago—under the procedures of the Budget Control Act of 2011.

According to the Department of the Treasury, as of December 31—just last month—total debt outstanding subject to the limit was only $25 million—million; it used to be a lot of money—below the current limit.

Once the amount of outstanding debt reaches the debt limit, the government can no longer issue additional debt to cover the cash shortfalls needed to fund government operations and meet legal obligations.

Similar to the power of the purse, Congress's powers over borrowing are firmly rooted in our constitutional traditions. The Founders understood the potential danger of permitting the executive branch to unilaterally incur new public debt. Article I of the Constitution empowers only—only—Congress ''to borrow money on the credit of the United States.''

The debt limit is the means by which Congress—Congress—exercises this critical legislative responsibility.

I can remember well that lesson, that lecture, if you will, from Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia, the institutional flame of the Senate, who would have repeated that Congress cannot give debt limit authority to the executive, should not, cannot. It is not constitutional.

To implement this congressional prerogative, the amount of money the Federal Government is allowed to borrow is subject to a specific statutory limit.

From time to time, Congress considers and adopts legislation to change this limit and has done so more than 100 times since the first modern debt limit was set way back in 1939, and we will do so again shortly. We have to.

So preserving this role and establishing the debt limit is vital to encourage deficit reduction and to uphold our constitutional tradition of legislative control over borrowing. Not only does the debt limit provide an essential check on executive borrowing, it provides public accountability—everybody is talking about transparency—for Congress's borrowing and debt management practices. We cannot duck that responsibility. We cannot pass this debt limit simply to the Executive and duck our responsibility and the public accountability.

In other words, debates over the debt limit, as difficult and as contentious as they are—and they are; I know that—shed the light of day on the overall financial condition of the Federal Government. Precluding these discussions by removing Congress's authority over the debt limit would lead to a less well-informed decisionmaking over fiscal policy. That is probably the understatement of my remarks. It is a nice way to put it.

We can do this. In the past, legislation to raise the debt limit has frequently been coupled with legislation to reduce the overall Federal debt and deficit. That is the way we should do it. These extensions, often approved on a bipartisan basis, have been important catalysts for fiscal reform. In this respect, the debt limit is a strong mechanism, a strong tool, a way for Congress to evaluate fiscal policy and to maintain control over such policy.

Abdicating this role would fundamentally alter the checks and balances embedded in the Constitution. This is a power that should not be bargained away.

The necessary and critical battle to control spending is far from over. I view the debt ceiling debate as a critical means in what has to be an ongoing effort to tighten the government's fiscal belt—if we can just do that. But we cannot settle our national finances by fundamentally altering the constitutional structure and processes governing those finances. We cannot cavalierly give up one of our most important tools in evaluating and reining in the Federal Government's runaway spending.

Equally clear, we cannot keep spending what we do not have. We must continue to fight for spending cuts, for debt reduction, and against tax increases and, I might add, the tidal wave of regulations that continue to pour out of Washington.

In response to calls to give up this vital congressional authority over debt issuance, I am submitting today a simple resolution. Let's put the Senate on record. The Congress holds the sole authority to borrow money on the credit

of the United States and cannot cede this power to the President.

I invite everybody to cosponsor this important measure and look forward to passage of this resolution. This should be a bipartisan effort, and it is absolutely necessary.

SENATE RESOLUTION 9—DESIGNATING JANUARY 2013 AS ''NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH''

Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 9

Whereas mentoring is a longstanding tradition in which a dependable, caring adult provides guidance, support, and encouragement to facilitate the social, emotional, and cognitive development of a young person;

Whereas continued research on mentoring shows that formal, high-quality mentoring focused on developing the competence and character of the mentee promotes positive outcomes, such as improved academic achievement, self-esteem, social skills, and career development;

Whereas further research on mentoring provides strong evidence that mentoring successfully reduces substance use and abuse, academic failure, and delinquency;

Whereas mentoring, in addition to preparing young people for school, work, and life, is extremely rewarding for the people who serve as mentors;

Whereas more than 5,000 mentoring programs in communities of all sizes across the United States focus on building strong, effective relationships between mentors and mentees;

Whereas approximately 3,000,000 young people in the United States are in formal mentoring relationships due to the remarkable vigor, creativity, and resourcefulness of the thousands of mentoring programs in communities throughout the United States;

Whereas, in spite of the progress made in increasing mentoring, the United States has a serious ''mentoring gap'', with nearly 15,000,000 young people in need of mentors;

Whereas mentoring partnerships between the public and private sectors bring State and local leaders together to support mentoring programs by preventing duplication of efforts, offering training in industry best practices, and making the most of limited resources to benefit young people in the United States;

Whereas the designation of January 2013 as ''National Mentoring Month'' will help call attention to the critical role mentors play in helping young people realize their potential;

Whereas a month-long celebration of mentoring will encourage more individuals and organizations, including schools, businesses, nonprofit organizations, faith institutions, and foundations, to become engaged in mentoring across the United States; and

Whereas, most significantly, National Mentoring Month—

(1) will build awareness of mentoring; and

(2) will encourage more people to become mentors and help close the mentoring gap in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the month of January 2013 as ''National Mentoring Month'';

(2) recognizes with gratitude the contributions of the millions of caring adults and students who are already volunteering as mentors; and

(3) encourages more adults and students to volunteer as mentors.

SENATE RESOLUTION 10—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA AND ITS ACTIONS RELATING TO THE STANFORD FINANCIAL GROUP FRAUD

Mr. VITTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 10

Whereas the Government of Antigua and Barbuda has committed numerous acts against the interests of United States citizens and operated the financial sector and judicial system of Antigua and Barbuda in a manner that is manifestly contrary to the public policy of the United States;

Whereas 20,000 investors, including many United States citizens, lost $7,200,000,000 in an alleged Ponzi scheme involving fictitious certificates of deposit from Stanford International Bank, an offshore bank chartered in Antigua and Barbuda;

Whereas the Government of Antigua and Barbuda violated the order of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas regarding the receivership proceeding initiated at the request of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (referred to in this preamble as the ''Securities and Exchange Commission''), in which the court took exclusive control of all the assets owned by Allen Stanford and Stanford-affiliated entities around the world and documents relating to those assets;

Whereas the Government of Antigua and Barbuda challenged the authority of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas by—

(1) initiating a separate and competing liquidation proceeding for Stanford International Bank; and

(2) appointing liquidators who have defied the orders of the court in multiple jurisdictions around the world by litigating for control of hundreds of millions of dollars in bank accounts in the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Canada;

Whereas the Government of Antigua and Barbuda challenged the authority of the United States Department of Justice by seeking to obtain control of hundreds of millions of dollars in bank accounts in the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Canada that had been frozen at the request of the Department of Justice in accordance with multilateral criminal asset forfeiture treaties;

Whereas the courts of Antigua and Barbuda have denied recognition of the United States district court-appointed receiver for all assets of Allen Stanford and Stanford-affiliated entities;

Whereas the Stanford International Bank liquidators appointed by the Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeals now seek recognition of the Antigua and Barbuda liquidation proceeding as a foreign insolvency proceeding under chapter 15 of title 11, United States Code, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas;

Whereas the Government of Antigua and Barbuda acknowledged in a statement in March 2010 that—

(1) Stanford International Bank ''was operating in Antigua as a transit point and for purposes of registration and regulation''; and

(2) ''[t]he business of Stanford International Bank, Ltd. was run from Houston, Texas, and its books maintained in Memphis, Tennessee'';

Whereas Allen Stanford, the Stanford Financial Group, and the Government of Antigua and Barbuda enjoyed a mutually beneficial business relationship involving numerous economic development projects and loans to the government of at least $85,000,000, and forensic accounting reports have identified those loans as having been made from Stanford International Bank certificate of deposit funds;

Whereas, in June 2010, the Securities and Exchange Commission alleged that Allen Stanford bribed Leroy King, the chief executive officer of the Financial Services Regulatory Commission of Antigua and Barbuda, to persuade Leroy King to—

(1) not investigate Stanford International Bank;

(2) provide Allen Stanford with access to the confidential files of the Financial Services Regulatory Commission;

(3) allow Allen Stanford to dictate the response of the Financial Services Regulatory Commission to inquiries by the Securities and Exchange Commission about Stanford International Bank; and

(4) withhold information from the Securities and Exchange Commission;

Whereas, in June 2010, the United States Department of Justice indicted Leroy King on criminal charges and ordered Leroy King to be extradited to the United States;

Whereas the Government of Antigua and Barbuda has failed to complete the process of extraditing Leroy King to the United States to stand trial;

Whereas Dr. Errol Cort, who served as the Minister of Finance of Antigua and Barbuda from 2004 to 2009, allegedly received more than $1,000,000 of fraudulently transferred Stanford investor funds either directly or indirectly through his law firm, Cort & Cort;

Whereas Cort & Cort, the law firm of Dr. Errol Cort, served as the official registered agent for Stanford International Bank until June 2009;

Whereas the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, along with the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank—

(1) seized control and possession of the Allen Stanford-owned Bank of Antigua without compensation to the United States district court-appointed receiver;

(2) renamed that bank the ''Eastern Caribbean Amalgamated Bank''; and

(3) allocated a 40 percent ownership position to the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and 60 percent ownership to 5 Eastern Caribbean Central Bank member banks;

Whereas, after the fraud that the Stanford Financial Group allegedly perpetrated was made public, the Government of Antigua and Barbuda expropriated numerous Allen Stanford-owned properties in Antigua and Barbuda worth up to several hundred million dollars, and the government has not turned over those properties to the United States district court-appointed receiver;

Whereas the Government of Antigua and Barbuda expropriated without compensation the property known as the Half Moon Bay Resort, which is owned by a group of 12 United States citizens; and

Whereas the Government of Antigua and Barbuda—

(1) has sought and obtained loans from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (commonly known as the ''World Bank'') and the International Monetary Fund; and

(2) is the recipient of other direct and indirect aid from the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) provision of all further direct or indirect aid or assistance, including assistance

derived from Federal funds, by the United States Government to the Government of Antigua and Barbuda should be suspended until the Government of Antigua and Barbuda provides complete redress of the issues described in the preamble, including through—

(A) the full cooperation of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and any appointee of that government, including the joint liquidators of Stanford International Bank, with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission, the United States Department of Justice, the United States district court-appointed receiver, and the United States district court-appointed Stanford Investors Committee, in investigating the Stanford Financial Group fraud and marshaling the assets of Allen Stanford and all Stanford-affiliated entities;

(B) an agreement by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to be subject to the jurisdiction and bound by the judgment of any United States court that adjudicates the claims relating to the Stanford Financial Group fraud;

(C) the transfer of the assets seized by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, or obtained by the joint liquidators of Stanford International Bank, to the United States district court-appointed receiver for the benefit of victims of the Stanford Financial Group fraud;

(D) a contribution by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to the United States receivership estate for the benefit of victims of the Stanford Financial Group fraud, in an amount equal to the amount of any funds that Allen Stanford or any Stanford-affiliated entity provided to the Government or government officials of Antigua and Barbuda;

(E) a contribution by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to the United States receivership estate for the benefit of victims of the Stanford Financial Group fraud, in an amount equal to any payments that Allen Stanford or the Stanford Financial Group made to Leroy King or any other official of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda for the purpose of subverting regulatory oversight of Stanford International Bank;

(F) the fulfillment by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda of its obligations relating to the expropriation of the Half Moon Bay Resort; and

(G) an agreement by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to not—

(i) interfere with the receivership commenced by the United States Government; and

(ii) seek control of assets claimed by the United States Government; and

(2) the Secretary of the Treasury should direct the United States Executive Directors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (commonly known as the ''World Bank'') and the International Monetary Fund to use the voice and vote of the United States to ensure that any future loan made by the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund to the Government of Antigua and Barbuda is conditioned on providing complete redress of the matters, and satisfaction of the requirements, described under paragraph (1).

SENATE RESOLUTION 11—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR PRAYER AT SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Mr. VITTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 11

Whereas the freedom to practice religion and to express religious thought is acknowledged to be a fundamental and unalienable right belonging to all individuals;

Whereas the United States was founded on the principle of freedom of religion and not freedom from religion;

Whereas the framers of the Constitution of the United States intended that the First Amendment to the Constitution would prohibit the Federal Government from enacting any law that favors one religious denomination over another, not that the First Amendment to the Constitution would prohibit any mention of religion or reference to God in civic dialogue;

Whereas, in 1983, the Supreme Court held in Marsh v. Chambers, 463 U.S. 783, that the practice of opening legislative sessions with prayer has become part of the fabric of our society and invoking divine guidance on a public body entrusted with making the laws is not a violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution, but rather is simply a tolerable acknowledgment of beliefs widely held among the people of the United States;

Whereas voluntary prayer by elected bodies should not be limited to prayer in State legislatures and Congress;

Whereas school boards are deliberative bodies of adults, similar to a legislature in that they are elected by the people, act in the public interest, and hold sessions that are open to the public for voluntary attendance; and

Whereas voluntary prayer by an elected body should be protected under law and encouraged in society because voluntary prayer has become a part of the fabric of our society, voluntary prayer acknowledges beliefs widely held among the people of the United States, and the Supreme Court has held that it is not a violation of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution for a public body to invoke divine guidance: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that prayer before school board meetings is a protected act in accordance with the fundamental principles upon which the United States was founded; and

(2) expresses support for the practice of prayer at the beginning of school board meetings.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mrs. McCASKILL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 23, 2013, at 9 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled, ''Benghazi: The Attacks and the Lessons Learned.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mrs. McCASKILL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on January 23, 2013, at 10 a.m., in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Judicial Nominations.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jacqueline Emanuel, who is a fellow in Senator MARK UDALL's office, be granted floor privileges for the Senate's sessions of the 113th Congress for the remainder of the month of January 2013.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that from Wednesday, January 23, through Monday, January 28, the majority leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. 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. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME EN BLOC—S. 81, S. 82, S. 83, AND S. 124

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told there are four bills at the desk, and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the titles of the bills en bloc.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 81) to provide guidance and priorities for Federal Government obligations in the event that the debt limit is reached.

A bill (S. 82) to provide that any executive action infringing on the Second Amendment has no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes.

A bill (S. 83) to provide for continuing operations of Government in a fiscally responsible manner.

A bill (S. 124) to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask for a second reading en bloc, and I object to my own request on all four of these measures.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bills will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2013

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 24, 2013; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be

approved to date and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business for debate only until 12 noon, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each during that time, with the majority controlling the first half-hour and the Republicans controlling the second half-hour.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:39 p.m., recessed until Thursday, January 24, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE ARMY

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 general

GENERAL LLOYD J. AUSTIN III

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

LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERT L. CASLEN, JR.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

KORY D. BINGHAM

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MICHAEL A. COOPER
LOREN J. JANKE
SUSAN MICHELLE MILLER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

VICTOR DOUGLAS BROWN
DAVID P. DOROFF
DAVID L. MOYER
RODNEY M. WAITE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

WALTER S. ADAMS
RANDY A. MARSHALL
DAVID L. SUMRALL
CARL E. SUPPLEE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

JOHN J. BARTRUM
WILLIAM H. CRAIG
KRISTIN A. HILLERY
GREGORY C. STAUDENMAIER
ANTHONY A. TREZZA
GEORGE L. VALENTINE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

KIMBERLY L. BARBER
DIANE DIFRANCESCO
MARY C. GOETTER
THOMAS M. HANSEN
JO ANNE HOWARD
LIESELOTTE J. KENNEDY
DOROTHY ANNE KLEINERT
JANET L. SETNOR

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

DINA L. BERNSTEIN
CHRISTOPHER DAVID CAREY
MICHELLE S. CRAMER
GEORGE A. KIRKPATRICK
LORRAINE M. MINK
JULIA D. RIVERA
DANIEL L. ROUSE
CHRISTOPHER A. SANTORO
RANDALL G. SNOW
CORNELIA P. WEISS
WILLIAM R. YOUNGBLOOD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

TIMOTHY LEE BRININGER
JEANINE M. CZECH
DAVID L. DAWSON
KARL J. EDELMANN
ERIC S. JOHNSON
COLLEEN ELIZABETH KELLEY
JOHN T. LANGELL
DAVID J. LUTHER
MARY E. NEWMAN
BRIAN S. PINKSTON
THOMAS E. QUINN, JR.
CHRISTOPHER J. RYAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

FRANCIS XAVIER ALTIERI
MICHAEL EDWARD AMIRAULT
BRYAN G. ANDERS
BRADFORD T. ANDERSON
ANTHONY P. ANGELLO
DAVID SCOTT ARGYLE
CHARLES D. ASSUMMA
KEVIN J. AUNAPU
ROBERT E. BALSERAK
PAUL NATHAN BARNES
BRIAN CHRISTOPHER BATAILLE
DAVID B. BAYSINGER
LESLIE A. BEAVERS
PAMELA ANNE BERGESON
RICARDO J. BERUVIDES
ROBERT M. BLAKE
BRETT A. BOLAN
BRIAN S. BOWMAN
ANN L. BROWN
STEPHEN M. BROWNING
PAMELA JUNE BRUNER
ROBERT OTIS BUCHANAN
MICHAEL ALPHONS BUONICONTI
GREGORY P. BUTLER
ERIC MARTIN BUTTER
DEAN C. CALDWELL
LEE WILLIAM CAREY
BARBARA ELISABETH CARSON
JOHN YOUNG CHOL CARTER
ELIZABETH J. CHAMBERLAIN
TODD WILLIAM CHAVANNE
MICHAEL A. CHRISTOPH
MELISSA ANN COBURN
CHRISTINA M. COLLINS
GLENN COLLINS
JOSEPH A. COLLINS
DAVID J. CONDIT
MATTHEW CHRISTOPHER CONRAD
ARTHUR T. COPPAGE
STANLEY D. CROW, JR.
PETER V. CULLINAN
CHRISTOPHER C. CUNNINGHAM
RAYMOND J. DANOWSKI
LISA D. DAY
MICHAEL P. DAY
JOSEPH LOUIS DELLARCIPRETE
LAWRENCE R. DISALVI
TIMOTHY SEAN DONNELLY
VANESSA J. DORNHOEFER
BARNABAS DUDAS
ROBERT GREEN DUNHAM
SAM T. DUPRE
ALAN M. EDMIASTON
BRIAN M. FARRAR
TERRY J. FRADY
KENNETH T. FRANKENBERY
RALPH L. FREED
CHESTER V. FROST III
DARRIN L. GAMBLIN
SEAN ALAN GARRETT
ROBERT P. GRAHAM
MARK M. GRUENEWALD
ROBERT A. HADDIX
GREGORY D. HALEN
JEROME S. HAYES
LYNNETTE J. HEBERT
WILLIAM M. HEISER
DIANE L. HIGGINBOTHEM
JEFFREY FRANK HILL
MARK D. HOLTEN
MELANI S. HOWARD
PAUL B. HOWARD
GERALD L. HROMOWYK
WILLIAM T. HUBBARD
THOMAS WILSON HUDNALL
MARTY A. HUGHES
BRYAN D. HUNTLEY
ERIC P. JENKINS
ERIC R. JENKINS
BARRY K. JONES
FRANCEEN KAKAVOULISPERERA
CATHERINE J. KASSUBE
JAMES W. KELLOGG, JR.
JOSEPH W. KING
JOHN L. KITCHELL III
DETLEF KLANN
ANN P. KNABE
STEPHEN R. KOENIG
ROBERT BRYAN KOWNACKY
TANYA R. KUBINEC
NEAL J. LANDEEN
MICHAEL J. LATTANZI
ANDREW J. LEONE
HAROLD W. LINNEAN III
JEFFRY S. LONG
KAREN L. MAGNUS
JAMES D. MARSHALL
DOUGLAS S. MARTIN
JACQUELYN L. MARTY
THOMAS C. MATSCHEK, JR.
KURT A. MATTHEWS
JEANINE M. MCANANEY
TERRY W. MCCLAIN
SCOTT T. MCLEAN
THOMAS CHRIS MCNURLIN
RUTH MEYER
JOEL M. MILTON
THOMAS O. MOFFATT, JR.
MARTHA M. MONROE
LEON H. MORRIS
CHARLES E. MORTON
BRIAN J. MUELLER
NICHOLAS W. MYERS
MARK A. NEVILLE
CHRISTOPHER D. OGREN
SHANNON OHARREN
ERIC J. OISTAD
MICHAEL J. OTT
RAYMOND C. OTTO
DAVID A. OWENS, JR.
EDWARD G. PAYLOR
JAMES M. PAYNE II
REX EUGENE PELTO
LINDA N. PEPIN
ROBERT L. PERCY
ROBERT E. PEREZ
ANTHONY M. PERKINS
DEAN E. PETERS
KURT M. PETERS
MICHAEL H. PHAN
DAVID A. PIFFARERIO
PAUL RICHARD PINKSTAFF
RAYMOND M. PLATT
DAVID C. POLACHECK
ANTHONY G. POLASHEK
RICHARD C. POSTON
SCOTT M. REED
JOSEPH MATTHEW REVIT
DAVID WAYNE ROBERTSON
STANLEY ROGERS
KATHRYN A. RUSSEL
PAUL A. SAINSBURY
SCOTT D. SANDBERG
GREGORY R. SAUNDERS
JOHN L. SCHMIDT III
DAVID E. SCHOBEL
TODD MICHAEL SEGER
LORENZA H. SHAW III
JAMES M. SHEALY II
CRAIG B. SHENKENBERG
DORNEEN W. SHIPP
JEFFREY B. SHORES
LENNIE J. SIMPSON
MARK V. SLOMINSKI
DAVID L. SMITH
GEORGE HUMPHREY SMITH III
MICHAEL J. SMITH
SCOTT A. SNYDER
ADAM J. SPEARS
RANDY P. SPEARS
ROBERT J. STANTON
CLIFTON D. STARGARDT
STEPHEN J. STASO
ROBERT J. STEFANOWICZ
CHRISTOPHER L. STEGNER
ANDREW H. STEPHAN
PAUL K. STERNAL
CAROLYN ANN STICKELL
MICHAEL A. STOLT
MICHAEL LEROY TAYLOR
SHERRY L. TEAGUE
KIMBERLY G. TEBRUGGE
KEVIN B. THOMAS
STUART A. TOFT
MIGUEL F. TORREALDAY
STEVEN G. TREE
CHARLES D. TUCK
LUTHER L. UPTON, JR.
ANTHONY DOMINIC VALLERA
CAROL ANN MARIE VELDHUIZEN
SAMUELL R. VENEY
NICHOLAS A. VOLPE
ANNE M. VONLUHRTE
JEFFREY S. WALLACE
CLIFFORD W. WALLER
ROBERT J. WALTZ
JAMES F. WARD

JOHN K. WELCH
CRAIG R. WELLS
ADRIAN K. WHITE
MARIA EARNHARDT WHITE
CHRISTOPHER T. WHITEHEAD
ROBERT D. WHITEHOUSE
STEPHANIE W. WILLIAMS
ADAM B. WILLIS
GARY A. WOLF
SHANNON L. YENCHESKY
KEVIN M. ZELLER

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 lieutenant colonel

JONATHAN A. FOSKEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MARION J. PARKS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

KAREN A. PIKE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUALS 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

DEREK S. REYNOLDS
BRIAN D. VOGT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

EDWARD A. FIGUEROA
MICHAEL C. VANHOVEN

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

JACK C. MASON
TODD B. WAYTASHEK

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

RUTH E. APONTE
EDWARD R. ARMSTRONG
WARREN F. BACOTE
TIMOTHY O. BANE
MARSHALL D. BANKS
CRAIG A. BARKLEY
ROSBELL BARRERA
THOMAS E. BARTOW
HARRY C. BLANCO
ROBERT I. BLAND
CURTIS T. BOTH
NORMA J. BRADFORD
MIGUEL A. CASTELLANOS
DOUGLAS A. CHERRY
TYRONE D. CLIFTON
ELIZABETH A. COBLE
MARK W. COLVIS
ROSANNA L. DOLPHIN
MICHAEL J. FAGNANT
JON M. GOFORTH
NIKKI L. GRIFFINOLIVE
WILLIAM I. GRYMES
KENNETH M. HAMMOND
MICHAEL T. HARVEY
CURTIS R. HENRY
SEAN P. HIGGINS
DEBRA A. HOWER
DAVID R. JAMES
RICARDO A. JAVIER
CHARLES M. JENKS
LINDA C. JOHNSON
PATRICK N. JOYNER
MICHAEL L. KASNIC
DANIEL A. KELLER
ROBERT J. KENNEDY
ERIC A. LAWSON
SAMUEL E. LICORISH, JR.
TERRY D. LINDON
RONALD L. LUNDY
JOSE M. MADERA
GASPARE MAGADDINO
JOHN D. MANNING
EDWARD B. MCEACHERN
THOMAS P. MCLEARY
GREGORY S. MCMILLAN
ELIZABETH A. MEDINA
DONNA M. MIKULIC
WILLIAM N. NUTTER
JAMES R. ORBOCK
THOMAS B. PENTECOST
WILLIAM PHILLIPS
LUIS POMALES
DEREK W. PRUITT
DEREK J. REMINGTON
DALE B. RIVERS
PAUL R. ROSEWITZ
MICHAEL C. ROWELLS
GLENN W. SANDERS
EDUARDO C. SANNICOLAS
EASTER K. SHARPE
RICHARD T. SHEVLIN
DUSTIN A. SHULTZ
ROBERT F. SINGLER, JR.
GREGORY W. SMITH
PAUL M. SOEHNLEIN
MICHAEL P. SPEARS
MARK A. TOWNE
MICHAEL J. TROMBLEY
MICHAEL J. VARGAS
FRANCISCO S. VELEZ III
JOHN B. VINZANT
THERESA J. WALSH
FLETCHER V. WASHINGTON
KURT H. L. WEINAND
BRADLEY P. WELCH
MATTHEW Z. WEST
PAMELA L. WRIGHT
TWANDA E. YOUNG
MICHAEL J. ZINNO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be major

LESLIE E. AKINS
RONALD ALCALA
ADRIAN T. ALLISON
NATHANIEL H. BABB
JASON S. BALLARD
SEAMUS K. BARRY
KRISTA L. BARTOLOMUCCI
CHRISTOPHER B. BERHOW
TRICIA L. BIRDSELL
KENNETH W. D. BORGNINO
CARL J. BROMLEY
JAY S. BURNS
JOHN W. CAULWELL
CINNAMON J. CHIELENS
JOHN CIULLA, JR.
GILBERT J. COMLEY
BRENDAN R. CRONIN
CHRISTOPHER J. CURRAN
MELISSA DASGUPTASMITH
NICHOLES D. DEMBINSKI
JOHN G. DOYLE
BRADLEY ENDICOTT
CHAD M. FISHER
CHRISTOFER T. FRANCA
JEFFREY A. GILBERG
MEGHAN D.B. GLUSHENKO
BRENT A. GOODWIN
CLYDE B. GORE
TERRY J. GRIDER
JOHN R. GUENARD
RAUDEL GUERRA
BRAD T. GWILLIM
JEREMY A. HAUGH
JENNIFER M. HEALY
THOMAS S. HONG
LARRIS HUTTON
STEWART HYDERKHAN
MATTHEW W. JEPPSON
DURWARD JOHNSON
JOSHUA W. JOHNSON
ASHLEY A. JOLISSAINT
JOSEPH E. JORGENSEN
CAOILTE K. JOY
TAKASHI KAGAWA
BRIAN J. KARGUS
SAMUEL K. KIM
MICHAEL KORTE
JOSHUA W. KRUPA
CHRISTOPHER A. LACOUR
BRETT A. LAMBORN
MICHAEL H. LAMPHIER
SANDRA N. LEEBER
SHAUN B. LISTER
MARK W. MALCOLM
ROBERTO C. MARTENS
DANIEL D. MAURER
ALLISON D. MCFEATTERS
JENNIFER A. MCKEEL
MARCUS L. MISINEC
JODEAN MORROW
DUSTIN P. J. MURPHY
ALAN J. NEF
WILLIAM A. OBRINGER
GREGORY T. OMALLEY
MEGHAN OSULLIVAN
BENJAMIN M. OWENSFILICE
JOY L. PREMO
ARMANDO RANCANO
JESS R. RANKIN
THEODORE B. REITER
JAMAL RHINEHARDT
STEPHEN J. RUETER
ANDREW W. SCOTT
BRETT C. SHEPARD
JOSHUA J. SMITH
NATHANIEL G. SMITH
SHAHARA T. TIMBROOK
VIRGINIA H. TINSLEY
BRUCE TYLER
KYLE C. VANDEWATER
STEVEN VARGO
CHRISTOPHER C. WAITE
RYAN T. WARDLE
JOSEPH H. WHEELER
MELVIN L. WILLIAMS
JASON D. WRIGHT
MATTHEW E. WRIGHT
MARC W. ZELNICK

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

TIMOTHY G. ABRELL
SCOTT E. ADAMS
ROBERT C. ALLISON, JR.
JOHN C. ANDONIE
RAMON M. ANGELUCCI
GARY P. APPEL
NICHOLAS R. ARANDA
BRUCE C. BALZANO
THOMAS C. BARNETT, JR.
MARTIN J. BASHAM
JEFFREY K. BECKER
MATTHEW J. BEDWELL
MAUREEN E. BELLAMY
JANEEN L. BIRCKHEAD
ROBYN J. BLADER
RONALD L. BRAZELL II
THERESA L. BROWN
JONATHAN D. BUONAMICI
JOHN E. BURICK
TODD R. BURTON
JAMES J. CARUOLO
DAVID G. CHACON
PAUL B. CHAUNCEY III
KENNETH D. CHAVEZ
PHILIP W. CLAYTON
DENNIS S. CLEAVELAND
CHRISTOPHER J. COLE
SCOTT E. COLLINS
MARGARET L. COMPTON
DAVID M. COOLEY
JEFFREY L. COPELAND
ROBERT C. COVERT
HOLLIE A. CRISSEY
LISA CRUM
DAVID M. DAHLE
DARRELL W. DANIELS
JONATHAN T. DAVENPORT
MATTHEW L. DAVIS
BARRY A. DEATON
DARRELL W. DEMENT
JODY L. DEW
MICHAEL P. DIETZ
AMANDA E. DIGRE
MARTIN C. DINAN
TONY D. DIVISH
JONATHAN R. DOLS
ROBERT A. DWAN, SR.
ANITA R. EASLEY
ROBERT D. EDGERLY
FRANK D. EMANUEL
DAVID H. ESTES
GREGORY L. ESTES
MICHAEL V. ETCHEVERRY
CURTIS W. FAULK
RICHARD B. FENNELL
KYLE G. FERLEMANN
JOHN W. FINDLEY
MICHAEL S. FINER
GEORGE L. FISHER
THOMAS C. FISHER
ADAM R. FLASCH
CHRISTOPHER M. FLEMING
DANIEL M. FRICKENSCHMIDT
MARTIN S. FRIES
MARK S. FRITZ
DOUGLAS C. GAGNON
ELIZABETH K. GAYTON
FREDERICK P. GILSON
NEIL C. GLAD
NORBERT L. GLADNICK, JR.
MICHAEL J. GLISSON
SETH M. GOLDBERG
CHRISTOPHER M. GOLNICK
ESTEBAN L. GONZALES
SAMUEL W. GOULD
DOUGLAS T. GRAGERT
RODNEY M. GRAHAM
ANDREW L. GRANTHAM
JON R. GREENHAW
WARREN R. GRIFFIS
STEVEN T. GRIGSBY
FORREST M. GRIMES, JR.
DAVID A. GUIDO
JEFFREY J. HAFNER
WILLIAM M. HALL
JOHN P. HARDY
TODD R. HARLESS
TERRY B. HARPER
GEORGE J. HARRINGTON
CYRO D. HARRISON
JOHN F. HARRISON
JET M. HAYS
ROBERT F. HEPNER, JR.
BARBARA A. HERRINGTONCLEMENS
STEVEN L. HIBLER
GARY M. HOFFMANN
DEDRICK W. HOSKINS
ANDREW F. HUTCHINSON
ENIS A. JAMES
ROGER L. JENNINGS, JR.
DANIEL M. JOHNSON
ANDREA J. JOHNSONHARVEY
JOHN D. JOHNSON
LYNDON C. JOHNSON
ANGELA B. JONES
DAVID V. JORDAN
PETER D. JORDAN
TROY D. JOSLIN

JOHN E. KAJANDER
RAYMOND M. KENT
THOMAS J. KILMARTIN
CECIL W. KING
DANIEL J. KNIGHT
JOHN D. KOVAC
GARY D. LADD
GENE K. LAMBRECHT
RICHARD J. LEBEL
JOHN J. LEE
DAVID A. LEGER
DAVID C. LEONARD
THOMAS R. LEONARD
TODD W. LEWIS
JAMES D. LORD
SONJA M. LUCAS
CLYDE A. LYNN III
AMY S. LYONS
MICHAEL A. LYONS
MICHAEL D. LYTLE
THOMAS M. MALEE II
BARRY W. MANLEY
TERRY L. MAST, JR.
JUDY M. MAVROLEON
SCOTT C. MAYLATH
DANIEL C. MCCARROLL
GARY L. MCGINNIS
EDWARD M. MCINNIS
LES A. MELNYK
MICHAEL K. MESSICK
STEVEN E. METZE
MARK K. MIERA
MILO W. MOODY
RENE MORENO
ALBERT C. MORRIS
ROBERT E. MOSCARELLO
MAX E. MOSS, JR.
ERIC T. MULLAI
RALPH R. MYERS, JR.
MARTY R. NICHOLS
LEE G. NORDIN
DANIEL A. NORMAN
NATALIE D. NORTHERN
JEFFREY A. OLIVE
KEVIN A. OLSON
JOHN E. PARKER
MICHAEL E. PATTERSON
LISA A. PEAKE
WILLIAM H. POPPLER
DAVID C. POULTON
ROGER A. PRESLEY, JR.
RICKY C. PRESSNELL
MIGUEL A. RAMOSNIEVES
JASON J. RECKARD
RAFAEL A. RIBAS
MARK T. RICCARDI
RYON A. RICHMOND
TIMOTHY R. RICKERT
TIMOTHY L. RIEGER
GARY A. ROBINSON II
ROBERT D. ROBINSON II
JEFFREY L. RYAN
MARK J. SCHINDLER
RONALD J. SCHWICKERATH
LAWRENCE P. SEABERG
JAMES S. SELCHERT
JOHN A. SEPRODI
DAVID P. SHAFER
DAVID R. SHAUL
TODD C. SHEALY
JAMES T. SHUTO
JAMES B. SLAGOWSKI
ELIZABETH B. SMART
RONALD J. SPENCER
DEAN T. SPENZOS
CHRISTOPHER S. STANGER
JEFFREY S. STEVENS
JOHN A. STEVENS
LORI A. STRODE
ANTHONY K. SUTTER
GERALD A. TAKASE
WILLIAM H. TAYLOR
STUART J. TOMASA
KENNETH S. TOUSSAINT
DANIEL L. TOWNSEND
THEODORE F. TRACY
TRYGVE B. TROSPER
HERMAN P. VALENTINE
VINCENT L. VANNOORBEECK
LARRY B. VAUGHN
KEVIN A. VEDDER
ADAM C. VOLANT
MICHELE R. VOORHEES
DAVID L. WARD
LOREN A. WEEKS
JOHN M. WELLS
ROBERT M. WHITE
MICHAEL D. WICKMAN
DAVID L. WILLIAMS
MICHAEL W. WILLIAMS
WARREN R. WINTRODE
STEVEN F. WOLF
ANDREW M. WOOD
RUSSELL W. WOODLIEF
JOHN J. WRANEK III
RICHARD M. WRIGHT
WILLIAM R. YOUNG
JAMES A. ZOLLAR
JOHN A. ZULFER

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

RAFAEL E. ABREU
LESLIE L. ACHTERBERG
THOMAS B. ADAMS
DAVID F. ALBANESE
RANDELL ALICEAORTIZ
DERRIC H. ANDERSON
JON T. ANDERSON
TRAVIS J. ANGLIN
TROY J. ANHALT
MICHAEL T. ANSAY
DANIEL E. ARZONICO
EDGARDO AVILES
LISA D. A. BACA
MICHELLE M. BAILEY
GREGORY L. BAISCH
HARLAN E. BALLARD
DANIEL J. BASIK
MILLER L. BELMONT
CURTIS A. BENNETT
JAMES M. BERRY
KARL J. BERSCHEID
ANDREW P. BESSMER
HERALD E. BIRCHFIELD, JR.
BARRY N. BIRDWELL
GARY A. BISSELL
MICHAEL L. BLAND
JON T. BLATT
RICHARD J. BOEHNING
GLENN A. BOGDANSKI
JIMMY D. BOWIE
MICHAEL W. BRANER
STEPHEN J. BROADFOOT
BUDDY B. BROOK
MICHAEL E. BROWNE
JAMES C. BULKOWSKI
JOHN W. BUSTERUD
CLARENCE D. BUTLER
WINDSOR S. BUZZA
KENNETH W. CARLSON
ANGELO J. CARMELLO
DONALD E. CARTER, JR.
WILLIAM E. CARTER
WALTER C. CATLETT
SHAWN R. CHENEY
WALTER J. CHWASTYK
RICHARD E. CIOCHON
ELIZABETH L. COFFMAN
ROYELLE D. COMER
GEORGE W. COOK, JR.
TIMOTHY P. COON
THOMAS M. COONEY
MICHAEL D. CRADER
GEORGE C. CRESSMAN, JR.
KENNETH R. DASILVA
GLENN M. DAVIS
STEVEN A. DAVIS
DONALD L. DEAS
STEVEN J. DEBRUIN
GENE J. DELBIANCO
STEVEN E. DEVORE
TERRY L. DEWITT
BRIAN T. DIEFFENBACHER
GEORGE K. DIXON
RONALD D. DIZ
ROY J. DOWNEY
JOHN M. DRESKA
TIMOTHY D. DYE
JOSEPH F. DZIEZYNSKI
MATTHEW P. EASLEY
VALERIE D. ECHOLS
HOWARD W. ECKSTEIN
ANNE D. EDGECOMB
JOSEPH A. EDWARDS II
GREGORY T. ELPERS
JOHN T. FARNSWORTH
RICHARD A. FAULKNER, JR.
MICHAEL A. FITZGERALD
KENNETH W. FORMELLA
LOVOYD L. FOUNTAIN
MITCHELL H. FRIDLEY
SAMUEL A. FRYER
JAMES W. FULKS
GERALD J. GAFFORD
DANIEL A. GAJEWSKI
WILLIAM H. GALBREATH
THOMAS M. GANTT
THOMAS C. GEORGES
DARREL A. GERMAN
SCOTT A. GIACOBBI
TONI A. GLOVER
SCOTT J. GORDON
PETER GORKY
SUZANNE M. GOULETTE
ELIZABETH L. GROSSI
MICHAEL W. GROSZ
ROBERT A. GRUMBERG
MICHELE M. HABERLACH
TYRA A. HARDING
JEROME R. HEATH
RALPH D. HENNING
JON A. HEWITT
ROBERT HILDEBRANDT
JOHN A. HILL
EDWARD HRICZOV, JR.
TEDDY R. HUGHART
RONALD S. HUNTER
GARTHA INGRAM III
LAWRENCE M. IWANSKI
BRYDON D. JACKSON
JAY S. JACKSON
MATTHEW A. JENKINS
SHAWN M. JIRIK
GARRETT P. JOHNSON
KIT D. JONES
REX W. JONES
WOLFGANG E. JUNGE
TIMOTHY W. KELLEY
PHILIP E. KEYES
GOTTFRIED H. KOBLITZ
STANLEY J. KORYTA, JR.
FRANK A. KUCZYNSKI
KELLY E. KYBURZ
STEVE J. LANCASTER
RUBY R. LARDENT
RICHARD E. LAUBER
KENNETH J. LAVOY
TODD M. LAZAROSKI
SCOTT R. LEATHERMAN
PETER H. LEE
BRUCE R. LEMOINE
BETHANY I. LENDERMAN
EVAN K. LITTMAN
WILLIAM S. LONGINO
JOHN C. LOOMIS
DOUGLAS A. LUEHE
MARK J. MAIER
GAYNA C. MALCOLMPACKNETT
RODNEY C. MANOR
PABLO MANZO
DANIEL J. MAROUN
DANIEL F. V. MCCARTHY
JULIANA K. MCCAUSLIN
REX E. MCCULLOUGH
JAMES A. MCDONALD
FRANCESCA M. MCFADDEN
MOLLY S. MCGLAUGHLIN
ERIC J. MCGRAW
KEVIN W. MCKELVY
JEFFERY W. MCKONE
WILLIAM J. MCLAEN
WILLIAM H. MILLARD
CAROL S. MOMOHARA
THOMAS O. MONAHAN
JOHN C. MOORE, JR.
DION B. MOTEN
DAVID C. MUNDFROM
KARL E. NELL
GARY L. NICHOL
MILFORD C. NICHOLS
LUIS F. NIEVES
MICHAEL D. NYENHUIS
MICHAEL A. OHEARN
CLARE P. OKEEFFE
MICHAEL G. OLIVERI
TERI L. OMAN
ANDREW PARKER
MICHAEL D. PARRISH
RICHARD A. PEMBER
ELDON D. PENCE III
GEORGE C. PENROD
JOHN H. PHILLIPS
JOHN S. PHILLIPS
LAURENCE K. PIKE
JAMES O. POSEY, JR.
JONATHAN M. PULEO
RONALD QUIETT
PETER J. RAYNA
GEORGE W. REAGAN
ANNA L. REGO
DAVID A. ROSCOE
RONALD A. SALAS
DAVID W. SCHEIDELER
KARL R. SCHELLY
MARTIN C. SCHULZ
WILLIAM P. SCHWAB
KIMBERLY G. SELL
CHARLES S. SENTELL III
MITCHELL R. SHAFFER
DARYL N. SHRYOCK
JOHN W. SIMMA, JR.
DOUGLAS S. SMITH
JAMES E. SMITH
GEOFFREY M. SMYTH
SUSAN M. SOISSON
JOHN C. SPEAR
GREGORY W. SPEARS
ROBERT W. SPINELLI
JOHN E. STEFULA
DONALD P. STEWART
KEITH F. STUBBS
PETER T. SULLIVAN
BRIAN TACKETT
AMY M. TAITANO
AMY L. TALBERT
CARL D. TAYLOR
JEANETTE L. THOMPSON
DAVID G. TORGERSEN
ANDREW J. TROSKE
LAWRENCE L. TUBBS
DARRYL L. UNDERWOOD
ALOK K. UPADHYAYA
PETER A. VANDERLAND, JR.
ALEXANDER J. VERRET, JR.
EDWARD D. WAGNER
HOWARD G. WENGER
RICHARD P. WHITAKER
ROBERT M. WILKINSON
JOHN D. WILLIAMSON
CHRISTOPHER J. WILSON
GARY W. WINCH, JR.
TERESA B. WOLFGANG
MICHAEL J. WORTH
HARRY G. YOUNGER
JAMIE D. ZUCKER
R010075

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

DARREN M. GALLAGHER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE

UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

DUSTY C. EDWARDS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JACKIE W. MORGAN, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

DANA R. FIKE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

SAMUEL W. SPENCER III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

LARRY MIYAMOTO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

SAL L. LEBLANC

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

MAURO MORALES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

GEORGE L. ROBERTS
PAUL A. SHIRLEY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

RICHARD D. KOHLER
GARY J. SPINELLI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JAMES B. THOMPSON
JASON A. WOODWORTH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

ERIC T. CLINE
ROBERT S. SCHMIDT, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JOSE L. SADA
BRIAN J. SPOONER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

FREDERICK L. HUNT
PARIMA IN
CHAD E. TIDWELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

TODD E. LOTSPEICH
DAVID L. OGDEN, JR.
DONALD E. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JASON B. DAVIS
JOHN DIGIOVANNI
JOHN F. REYNOLDS, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

TRAVIS M. FULTON
MARK L. HOBIN
GARY S. LIDDELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

BRYAN DELGADO
MARK R. DOEHRMANN
KELLY M. JONES
RODOLFO D. QUISPE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

DAVID B. BLANN
KEVIN J. GOODWIN
WILLIAM W. INNS III
ALLEN L. LEWIS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

MICHAEL GASPERINI
THESOLINA D. HUBERT
ERIC S. KIRCHNER
DAVID P. KRAKLOW
TIMOTHY W. WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

STEPHEN R. BYRNES
LUKE A. CROUSON
CRAIG A. ELLIOTT
JASON C. FLORES
MICHAEL J. MALONE
JAMES N. TIMMER, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED LIMITED DUTY OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

PETER K. BASABE, JR.
JAMES R. BURNS, JR.
KENNETH E. CUPP
KURT D. GARRIOTT
BRIAN KOVAL
SEAN M. MELANPHY
MICHAEL A. YOUNG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MICHAEL A. BROWN
DAVID W. EDSON
STEVEN G. GODINHO
DERRICK R. HEYL
BART L. PESTER
FRANCIS P. PICCOLI
MICHAEL E. SAMPLES, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

CHRISTOPHER C. ABRAMS
GEOFFREY M. ANTHONY
STEPHEN P. ARMES
JOHN B. ATKINSON
STEPHEN C. AUGUSTIN
PAUL D. BAKER
SCOTT A. BALDWIN
JOHN M. BARNETT
TIMOTHY E. BARRICK
WILLIAM C. BERRIS
CHAD A. BLAIR
BRET A. BOLDING
ROBERT J. BRAATZ
DAVID P. BRADNEY
RONALD C. BRANEY
ROLLIN D. BREWSTER III
VICTOR J. BUNCH
RUSSELL C. BURTON
MICHAEL J. CALLANAN
JENNIFER E. CARTER
MELVIN G. CARTER
IAN R. CLARK
WILLIAM P. CLARK
JAIME O. COLLAZO
SAMUEL C. COOK
ROBERT D. COOPER
PAUL D. CUCINOTTA
DREW E. CUKOR
MATTHEW C. CULBERTSON
ROMIN DASMALCHI
CHARLES M. DUNNE
THOMAS C. EULER III
THOMAS M. FAHY, JR.
TODD W. FERRY
CHRISTOPHER A. FEYEDELEM
JAMES W. FREY
ROBERT C. FULFORD
JAMES R. FULLWOOD, JR.
PETER S. GADD
DOUGLAS V. GLASGOW
DAVID P. GRANT
DANIEL Q. GREENWOOD
JAMES F. HARP
CLARENCE T. HARPER III
MARK D. HOROWITZ
LAWRENCE E. HUGGINS, JR.
PETER D. HUNTLEY
JAN M. JANUARY
JEFFREY L. JAROSZ
DAVID E. JONES
SEKOU S. KAREGA
DANIEL R. KAZMIER
PATRICK J. KEANE III
JEFFREY J. KENNEY
SCOTT S. LACY
FRANK N. LATT
WENDELL B. LEIMBACH, JR.
JOSEPH P. LEVREAULT
JOSEPH A. LORE
LORNA M. MAHLOCK
GEORGE G. MALKASIAN
THOMAS G. MCCANN II
WILLIAM P. MCCLANE
DONALD B. MCDANIEL
JOHN E. MCDONOUGH
ELDON E. METZGER
MICHAEL J. MOONEY
JASON L. MORRIS
PAUL J. NUGENT
DAVID S. OWEN
PATRICK R. OWENS
LOUIS J. PALAZZO
CHRISTOPHER D. PATTON
THOMAS A. PECINA
SCOTT W. PIERCE
ROBERT J. PLEVELL
MARVIN REED
BRENDAN REILLY
GEORGE B. ROWELL IV
JOSEPH J. RUSSO
JOHN M. SCHAAR
FREDERICK G. SCHENK
WILLIAM H. SWAN
MICHAEL J. TARGOS III
TODD S. TOMKO
CASEY C. TRAVERS
HENRY E. VANDERBORGHT
WILLIAM H. VIVIAN
GAINES L. WARD
MICHAEL R. WATERMAN
PAUL R. WEAVER
JAMES B. WELLONS
STEVEN M. WOLF
CRAIG R. WONSON
KEVIN S. WOODARD
MICHAEL P. WYLIE
DANIEL L. YAROSLASKI
JOSEPH J. ZARBA, JR.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JESSICA L. ACOSTA
BRIAN S. ALBON
MICHAEL F. ARNONE
ERIC M. ASCHENBRENNER
RICHARD B. ASHFORD
SHERIF A. AZIZ
MICHAEL J. BABILOT
MATTHEW A. BALDWIN
DAX C. BATTAGLIA
GINGER E. BEALS
BRADLEY P. BEAN
JAMES M. BECHTEL
DAVID A. BECKER
ERIC M. BECKMANN
EDWARD Y. BLAKISTON
DAVID A. BOGLE
JONATHAN A. BOSSIE
KEVIN H. BRIGHT
CHRISTIAN J. BROADSTON
KAREN B. BROCKMEIER
BRANDON C. BROOKS
JEFFREY T. BROOKS
MICHAEL L. BROOKS
JOSEPH D. BROOME
MAURICE A. BROWN
DESMOND F. BROWNE, JR.
CHRISTOPHER A. BROWNING
SAMUEL G. BRYCE
BENEDICT G. BUERKE
ASHLEY K. BURCH
DOUGLAS R. BURKE, JR.
GREGORY K. BUTCHER
TAMARA L. CAMPBELL
TROY H. CAMPBELL

CHRISTOPHER K. CANNON
EDWARD M. CARICATO, JR.
FOSTER T. CARLILE
BRADFORD R. CARR
ROBERT E. CATO II
JOSHUA B. CHARTIER
JOHN R. CHERRY
DARREL L. CHOAT
ANDREW CHRISTIAN
LEE K. CLARE
CHRISTOPHER J. COLLINS
JAMES A. COOPER
LEE K. COOPER
MARK E. COVER
ROBERTO CUEVAS
GREGORY R. CURTIS
ROBERT B. DAVIS
TIMOTHY A. DAVIS
JOSE M. DELEON, JR.
ANDREW M. DELGAUDIO
BRIAN P. DENNIS
SAMUEL N. DEPUTY
KEVIN B. DEWITT
PATRIZIA M. DIENHARTSTABILE
JEFFREY S. DINSMORE
JOHN F. DOBRYDNEY
KEVIN M. DOHERTY
HENRY DOLBERRY, JR.
LINA M. DOWNING
CHARLES E. DUDIK
DAVID D. FAIRLEIGH
JENNIFER M. FARINA
RORY M. FEELY
WILLIAM B. FENWICK
FRANK E. FILLER
RYAN M. FINN
MARY K. FLATLEY
DUANE C. FORSBERG
JOHN M. FRASER
JASON A. GADDY
ROBERT B. GARRISON
WILLIAM J. GIBBONS
CARL D. GIDEON
BRIAN J. GILBERTSON
MAXX GODSEY
MATTHEW J. GORBATY
BRANDON W. GRAHAM
MICHAEL A. GRAZIANI
CHRISTOPHER D. HAFER
DENNIS L. HAGER II
JASON M. HAMILTON
AMEDE I. HANSON
DANE HANSON
GREGORY A. HANWECK
DAVID J. HART
CRAIG L. HARVEY
BRYAN C. HATFIELD
TREVOR A. HEIDENREICH
MONROE H. HENDERSON
PHILIP R. HERSCHELMAN
JASON W. HEUER
BRENT E. HEYL
JIMMY S. HICKS
BRADLEY D. HITCHCOCK
SEAN P. HOEWING
MARK D. HOWARD
HENRY E. HURT III
DAVID C. HYMAN
TIMOTHY W. IRWIN
JOHN J. JAESKI
CHARLES D. JENNINGS
FERNANDO V. JIMENEZ
GRANT M. JOHNSON
JASON JOHNSON
KIMBERLY A. JOHNSON
PAUL K. JOHNSON III
GREGORY L. JONES
KEMPER A. JONES
DAVID C. JOSEFORSKY
GREGORY K. JOSEPH
JAY J. KAJS
ANDREW M. KELLEY
MARK A. KIEHLE
JOHN P. KIRBY
JONATHAN D. KNOTTS
NOAH J. KOMNICK
PAUL B. KOPACZ
SPEROS C. KOUMPARAKIS
PETER J. LANG II
LANCE J. LANGFELDT
JEFFREY J. LARSON
GOTTFRIED H. LAUBE, JR.
ISAAC G. LEE
SAMUEL K. LEE
ADAM V. LEFRINGHOUSE
LEONARD J. LEVINE
CARL A. LEWANDOWSKI
JON B. LIVINGSTON
ROBERT J. LIVINGSTON, JR.
DAVID S. LOWERY
JOHN P. MAHER
MICHAEL J. MANIFOR
RHONDA C. MARTIN
DAVID M. MARTINEZ
IRVIN MARTINEZ
JAMES K. MCBRIDE
JOHN S. MCCALMONT
MATTHEW N. MCCONNELL
JEFFREY S. MCCORMACK
FREDERICK J. MCELMAN
AMY M. MCGRATH
JAMES R. MCGRATH
GREGORY A. MCGUIRE
ELVINO M. MENDONCA, JR.
JASON B. MITCHELL
JAMES D. MULLIN
BRIAN T. MULVIHILL
PETER J. MUNSON
GERALD E. MURPHY
CHRISTOPHER M. MURRAY
KATHRYN M. NAVIN
ANDREW J. NELSON
LAWRENCE D. NICHOLS
EDWIN NORRIS
CHARLES M. NUNALLY III
NICHOLAS C. NUZZO
DEREK S. OST
ANDREW M. OTERO
MICHAEL C. PALMER
VASILIOS E. PAPPAS
ANDREW J. PETRUCCI
STEPHANIE M. POLESNAK
CASEY J. POLKINGHORNE
JAMES P. POPPY
MONTE S. POWELL
EDWARD W. POWERS
CARL C. PRIECHENFRIED
CHRISTOPHER D. PRITCHETT
RONALD J. REGA, JR.
JACOB L. REYNOLDS
PATRICK J. REYNOLDS, JR.
JAMES E. RICHARDSON, JR.
DUANE T. RIVERA
CHRISTOPHER D. ROBERSON
NATHANIEL K. ROBINSON
GREGORY S. ROOKER
COLLEEN J. SABAT
MARK D. SADOWSKY
ANDRE P. SALVANERA
AARON C. SAMSEL
BRIAN K. SANCHEZ
KURT M. SANGER, JR.
TODD R. SCHIRO
KARL T. SCHMIDT
TIMOTHY W. SCHNELLE
WILLIAM J. SCHRANTZ
ANTONIO SCOFFIELD
ROBERTO C. SCOTT
GEORGE J. SEEGEL
MARISA P. SERANO
JACK A. SILE
DAVID B. SLAY
TIMOTHY M. SLINGER
LISA M. SOUDERS
DAVID W. SPANGLER
ROBERT A. STEELE
DAVID R. STENGRIM
JONATHAN M. STOFKA
ERIC A. STRONG
JOSEPH C. TAMMINEN
BRIAN R. TAYLOR
THOMAS N. TAYLOR
ROGER N. THOMAS
ROBERT A. TOMLINSON
RENE TORRES
JONATHAN E. TOWLE
RENE TREVINO
RANDALL G. TURNER
JOSHUA B. TUTTLE
QUENTIN R. VAUGHN
ROMAN P. VITKOVITSKY
JARED C. VONEIDA
MATTHEW L. WALKER
MELVILLE J. WALTERS IV
MICHAEL P. WARD
LARRY R. WARFIELD II
THOMAS M. WARREN
ALTON A. WARTHEN
LISA M. WEBB
MICHAEL E. WEBB
PATRICK WEINERT
JAMES W. WEIRICK
JODY E. WHITE
JOHNNY J. WIDENER
ANDRE L. WILLIAMS
HILARY H. WILLIAMS
WADE L. WORKMAN
MATTHEW S. YOUNGBLOOD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

RICO ACOSTA
MICAH L. ADKISON
KYLE J. ANDREWS
MATTHEW A. ANKER
PETER E. ANKNEY
ANDREW R. APETZ
ROBIN J. ARANT
RICHARD M. ARBOGAST
JAMES G. ARGENTINA, JR.
KELLY R. ATTWOOD
MICHAEL J. AUBRY
DOUGLAS P. BAHRNS
LUCAS A. BALKE
DAVID S. BARBER
BRANDON W. BARNETT
NEWEL R. BARTLETT
MATTHEW J. BAUMANN
GARY R. BECHTOLD
JOSEPH C. BEGLEY
BRIDGET N. BEMIS
CASEY BENEFIELD
STEVEN G. BERCH
PAUL R. BERTOLONE
DAVID C. BJERKE
JUSTIN L. BLACKMON
CASEY R. BLASINGAME
MATTHEW D. BOHMAN
WYATT J. BORSHEIM
STEVEN M. BOST
OWEN M. BOYCE
JONATHAN H. BRANDT
AMANDA M. BRANNON
MATTHEW D. BRONSON
STEVEN R. BROUSSARD
JASON P. BROWN
ANDREW M. BUDENZ
SCOTT S. BUERSTATTE
JOSEPH T. BUFFAMANTE
AARON D. BURCIAGA
KIMBERLY R. BYRD
JOHN A. CACIOPPO
JEFFREY J. CAHILL
MOLLY S. CAHILL
BRENT J. CANTRELL
JAMES W. CARLSON
JUSTIN E. CARLSON
ERIC A. CATTO
RYAN M. CAULDER
ARTHUR CHAPMAN III
JOSEPH E. CLEMMEY, JR.
MATTHEW P. COOK
BRANDON A. CORDILL
TRAVIS J. COVEY
ERIC P. CRECELIUS
JOSEPH C. DADIOMOFF
ANDREW D. DAMBROGI
BRAD A. DANKS
RAMIRO DEANDA, JR.
ANTHONY C. DELLACOSTA III
THOMAS J. DENEVAN
ANDREW P. DIMITRUK
NATHAN P. DMOCHOWSKI
THOMAS R. DOLAN
CASEY C. DORAN
BRYAN A. DUDLEY
IAN J. DUNCAN
WESLEY J. EARHART
BARRY L. EDWARDS
DUSTIN B. ELLIOTT
JASON M. ELLIS
PATRICK J. FAHEY
JOSEPH I. FARINA
STEPHEN R. FELTS
TIMOTHY J. FENTON
JOHN L. FERRITER
DEREK A. FILIPE
CAMERON A. FITZSIMMONS
DANIEL L. FLATLEY
RAYMOND A. FORBES
ROBERT A. FOULKES
MAX D. FRANK
RYAN J. FRANZEN
JAMES R. FRIEDLEIN
ANTHONY L. FRIEL
PETER K. FUKUSHIMA
DONALD L. GALLOWAY
CLAYTON D. GARD III
JEFFREY A. GARZA
LYLE L. GILBERT
MARC H. GINEZ
DANIEL E. GOOD
EVAN R. GORDON
NATHANIEL D. GREEN
JOSHUA A. GREGORY
MATTHEW E. GREY
WILLIAM H. GRIMBALL
GIDEON P. GRISSETT
JEREMY H. GROEFSEMA
MATTHEW S. GUNESCH
JOHN D. HAFEMANN
RHETT A. HANSEN
JOHN P. HARLEY
EDWARD B. HART
TYLER J. HART
KIRBY C. HARWELL
JEREMY C. HAWKINS
JASON P. HAYES
JEREMY L. HENDERSON
JOSE R. HERNANDEZ
ROBERT J. HILLERY
ALDEN E. HINGLE III
BRIAN E. HOLLIER
JOHN A. HOOKS, JR.
JOSEPH L. HORNACKY
DOUGLAS H. HOWARD
ETHAN M. HOWELL
MICHAEL S. HRITZ
JASON A. HVIZDAK
LEIGH G. IRWIN
MARVIN L. JACKSON
KIRK A. JOHNSON
CHARLES R. JOHNSTON
MICHAEL L. JONES
SEAN D. JONES
CHRISTOPHER M. KAPRIELIAN
ANDRE A. KARPOWICH
KEVIN M. KEENE
ERIK A. KEIM
TRAVIS B. KEMPF
JUSTIN O. KENNEDY
SUNG G. KIM
RYAN T. KING
MICHAEL T. KINGEN
PATRICK E. KINSER
ADAM W. KINTOP
BRET J. KNICKERBOCKER
ZACHARY M. KNIGHT
TOPHER S. KOREIS
ROMAN Y. KOSHKIN
CHIP D. KOSKINIEMI
KEVIN H. KOYAMA
MICHAEL P. KUSNERAK
MARK A. LAQUIHON
PATRICK V. LAVOIE
BENJAMIN D. LAWLESS
JARED W. LEDBETTER
BOBBY W. LEE, JR.

DOUGLAS G. LEE
TIMOTHY J. LEONARD
GARY A. LINGEN
GARRETT G. LITFIN
THOMAS R. MACKESY
ROGELIO MAESE
MATTHEW J. MAHONEY
JASON J. MARAFFI
DANIEL C. MARTIN
QUINCI D. MARTIN
TRISTAN G. MARTINEZ
JESSICA G. MARTZ
ROHIT Y. MASIH
SETH W. MCCOLLOUGH
MICHAEL J. MCDONALD
BLAISE T. MCFADDEN
SCOTT J. MCGUIGAN
GREGORY S. MCSWEEN
MATTHEW T. MELLOTT
MELINA MESTA
JOHN R. MILLSAP
DIEGO A. MIRANDA
JOSEPH F. MONAHAN
PETER S. MOON
JASON C. MOORE
NATHAN M. MOORE
SAMUEL C. MOORE
MATTHEW S. MORENO
JASON L. MORRIS
BRET W. MORRISS
CHRISTOPHER J. MYETTE
JAMES R. NEAGLE
CHRISTOPHER M. NELSON
DENNIS R. NICHOLS
JOSHUA N. NUNN
STEVEN D. NYLAND
BRANDON J. OATES
DANA R. OGLE
DOUGLAS R. ORR
BYRON J. OWEN
JUSTIN D. OWENS
ROBERT E. PATMORE
JEFFREY J. PATTERSON II
NICHOLAS R. PERGAR
MICHELLE L. PETERS
JONATHAN L. PETERSON
TROY M. PETERSON
JONATHAN J. PFUNTNER
MICHAEL A. PIGFORD
CHRISTOPHER F. POLIDORA
LOTTIE A. PORTELLI
JASON W. POTTER
MICHAEL J. PRUDEN
MICHAEL A. REEL
KELLY J. REPAIR
LAWRENCE G. RIBBLE, JR.
CHRISTOPHER R. RICHARDELLA
CATHERINE E. RICHARDSON
JAMES A. RICHARDSON
ANDREW S. ROBERSON
PHILLIP G. ROBERTS, JR.
JOSHUA J. ROBINSON
ERIC R. RODRIGUEZ
ROBERT A. ROGERS
DOUGLAS M. ROSENSTOCK
PETER B. ROTTKAMP
GIANOULIS ROUSSOS
DUSTIN R. ROWLAND
GREGG SAFINSKI
DANIEL M. SCHIERLING
KARL W. SCHLEGEL
SCOTT M. SCHMITZ
AARON P. SCHNETZLER
RYAN D. SCHRAMEL
DANIEL H. SCHWARTZ
GREGORY R. SCOTT
MATTHEW A. SEAVITTE
DAVID C. SEGRAVES
MORRIS M. SHARBER, JR.
CHRISTOPHER R. SHERWOOD
NATHAN B. SHIVELY
DOUGLAS B. SHORES
CURTIS I. SHREVE
ROBERT E. SHUFORD
MICHAEL J. SHULL
CHRISTOPHER M. SIEKMAN
MICHAEL D. SIMON
JENNIFER A. SIMPSON
DANIEL M. SINGER
COREY J. SMITH
JAMES N. SNYDER
GREGORY S. SORELLE
MICHAEL J. SOUZA
REBECCA G. SPAHR
ROBERT E. SPALLA
RICHARD B. STANDARD
JEFFERY L. STARR
ROLLIN A. STEELE
JEFF M. STEINKAMP
CHRISTOPHER A. STEPHENSON
JILL L. STEPHENSON
THOMAS J. STONA
JOSHUA T. SUMMERS
BRETT R. SWAIM
MARK C. SYKES
PAULA D. TAIBI
RYAN E. THOMPSON
KURT R. THORMAHLEN
MARC R. TILNEY
RALPH B. TOMPKINS
JOHN W. TORRESALA
CHRISTOPHER A. TRENT
JULIAN M. TSUKANO
JUAN O. TURNER
DAVID W. VANDYNE
MICHAEL J. VANWYK
SABRINA M. VILLARREAL
MICHAEL E. VINCENT
SAMUEL F. WATTS
MICHAEL A. WEATHERS
MATTHEW J. WEAVER
JUSTIN M. WELAN
NATHAN E. WERVE
ROBERT A. WILHELMSEN
ERIC M. WILLIAMS
SEAN M. WILLIAMS
GREGORY A. WILSON
SCOTT A. WILSON
WILLIAM C. WOODWARD, JR.
JUSTIN M. WORTENDYKE
GREGORY J. YOUNGBERG
JOHN A. ZAAL
ESTEBAN ZAMORA
ANDREW J. ZETTS

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be commander

HARRY E. HAYES

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

SHEMEYA L. GRANT

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

CHRISTOPHER J. KANE

To be lieutenant commander

LUKE C. SUBER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 5721:

To be lieutenant commander

JEANINE F. BENJAMIN
TIMOTHY S. BREWER
JUSTIN M. BUMMARA
LLOYD R. EDWARDS
BRIAN J. EHRHARDT
PAUL K. EVANS
BALTAZAR FERNANDEZ III
ALEXANDER J. FRANZ
DAEHYUN J. GILLESPIE
NICHOLAS E. GURLEY
FREDERICK G. HETTLING
NICHOLAS G. HOFFMAN
MICHAEL JACKSON
DEREK C. JASKOWIAK
JADA E. JOHNSON
RYAN D. JOHNSON
DAVID W. KING
LUCIAN D. KINS
DONALD E. LEE II
GREGORY E. LEVEQUE
TYLER B. MCDONALD
ERNEST L. MILLER III
JOHNNY L. MINCEY
DANIEL C. PATRICK
ANDREW D. PYLE
JOSEPH R. SHERMAN
MARK D. STANLEY
JAMIE E. VANDYKE
BENJAMIN F. VISGER

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ROOSEVELT'S PANAMA CANAL AND TAXES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following. Disease. Death. Bankruptcy. That's how the Panama Canal got started. At the time, the nineteenth century, trade and economic activity boomed in this part of the world and with it, other nations tried to cash in. As the U.S., Britain and France competed to assert their influence in the region, they ran into one problem: land. They didn't have a way to ship goods from the Atlantic to the Pacific without making the treacherous and lengthy journey around the tip of Cape Horn in South America. All three nations knew there was a need for a shorter sea lane connecting the two oceans. Unfortunately, the French got there first.

In 1881, the French sent veteran builder Ferdinand de Lesseps, who oversaw the successful construction of the Suez Canal in Egypt, to build a canal in Panama, then a province of Colombia. In the first nine years of construction, the French spent hundreds of millions of dollars, lost 20,000 workers to malaria and yellow fever and only completed eleven miles of the canal. The project went bankrupt and failed. The dream of a connection between east and west seemed all but dead . . . then came Teddy Roosevelt. The former Roughrider knew an opportunity when he saw one and seized upon it.

The U.S. was emerging as a world power and Roosevelt saw that having a shorter route to the Pacific and beyond was a way to expand American Naval Power and Economic opportunity. Such foresight proved correct in WWII. Roosevelt quickly got to work, having his Secretary of State, John Hay negotiate the Hay-Herran Treaty to purchase land in the Colombia province of Panama. The U.S. Senate ratified the treaty. But there was a big hiccup: the Colombians wanted more money and refused to approve the treaty.

Roosevelt wasn't about to be duped and pour more money in the project, perhaps ending up like the French. He knew that the Panamanians wanted the U.S. to complete the 51-mile canal and he knew that they wanted independence. (Some claim that Roosevelt took advantage of the unrest and stirred up Panama's revolution against the Colombians, but that's for historians to debate). The U.S. did not get involved in the fight, but helped the Panamanians by sending the gunboat, the U.S.S. Nashville, and ten other warships from both the Atlantic and Pacific to show support. This is now known as "gunboat diplomacy". Panama's non-violent coup-de-tat was successful, and the nation of Panama was born. With that, the U.S. and Panama ratified a treaty and construction of the canal began. One revolution, $700 million and ten years later the Panama Canal Zone—now U.S. Territory—was completed in 1914.

Fast forward 99 years. After President Carter returned the canal zone to Panama, it has since maintained control of the security and operation of the canal. Panama has undertaken a critically important expansion of the canal. One that will add a third channel and a new set of locks, allowing larger cargo ships to pass through. Approved in 2006, this new expansion—dubbed PanamEx—will finally completed next year. Surprisingly, no Panamanian chapter of the EPA held it up, and only a few environmental groups opposed. Perhaps it's a transportation miracle.

Of course, Panama benefits from this widening and deepening of the canal, but so will the United States. The recent implementation of the U.S.–Panama Free Trade Agreement approved by Congress, along with this $5.25 billion canal expansion project, ensures that free trade between the U.S. and Panama will continue to grow. And, because of our geographic location, this expansion will "expand Texas' position as a global gateway for the nation," according to the Panama Canal Working Group. That means a huge increase in exports from the gulf coast and our Great State, including the Port of Houston, to countries around the world.

Trade in Texas and Houston drives our economy, and the engine for trade is ports. With that, we'll see more exports of dry and liquid bulk, agriculture products, coal, petrochemicals, military cargo, and consumer goods. Larger and wider vessels, like tankers carrying liquefied natural gas, will now be able to enjoy quick, reliable transit through the canal. That's good news for us here in Houston and good news for our State.

Next year, we celebrate 100 years since Roosevelt's dream became a reality. Thanks to Teddy's dream, the U.S. built the canal and our economy and security have benefitted from the opportunities that it created. God bless Teddy. And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE CAREER OF RICHARD EDWARDS, SR.

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and accomplishments of a distinguished member of my Western New York community, Richard Edwards, Sr.

Richard has been a lifelong resident of Amherst, New York, where he has served for over 50 years as a dedicated and valued member of Main-Transit Fire Department. During his years at Main-Transit, Richard served as the Fire Police Lieutenant and Fire Police Captain.

Richard and his colleagues are American heroes. Every day they courageously place themselves in harm's way to protect the lives and properties of others. Their sacrifices are invaluable to our community and I thank him for his half-century of service.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Richard Edwards, Sr. on his exemplary career.

HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE ANDROSCOGGIN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorees of the 2013 Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet Dinner. The Androscoggin County Chamber of Commerce serves the people and business community of the greater Lewiston/Auburn area, working hard to strengthen economic opportunity throughout the region and the State.

Each year, the Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce recognizes local businesses, business leaders, and individuals who promote and advance a vital and healthy business environment. These individuals and businesses are committed to strengthening opportunity and prosperity in Maine.

This year's award recipients include Barbara Dagley of Carbonite Inc, recipient of Business Leadership Award for a Larger Company; Kurk Lalemand of Next Level Business Coaching and John Stass of Katahdin Furniture, recipients of the Business Leadership Awards for Smaller Companies; Larry Raymond of Issacson and Raymond, recipient of the Ray Geiger Award; Rita Dube, Julia Sleeper and Kim Pelletier, recipients of the Community Service Leadership Awards; Rick Jones of Jones Associates, recipient of the Poland Business Award; Nick Benoit of Benoit's Bakery and Wine Cellar, recipient of the Lisbon Business Award; Nancy Ricker of Ricker Hill Orchards, recipient of the Turner Business Award; Russ Barlow, Principal of the Franklin Alternative School in Auburn is the recipient of the Education Award; Sherry Spencer of Proctor and Gamble-Tambrands, recipient of the "Cool Chamber Award;" Dick Roy of Mechanics Savings Bank, recipient of the Ken Addition Small Business Advocate Award; Kim Jacques of Revelation Massage, recipient of the 2013 New Member of the Year Award; and Susan Hall of The Vault and Kevin Dean and Emil Clavet of Electricity Maine, recipients of the President's Award.

These recipients are among the best that Maine has to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities and the region, Maine is a better place to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the Androscoggin Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.

REMEMBERING RALPH FRESE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, last month the city of Chicago lost a legendary canoe-maker and conservationist. Ralph Frese, known as ''Mr. Canoe,'' got his first boat when he was just 14, and spent the next 50 years championing the conservation of Chicago-region rivers.

Starting in the 1960s, Ralph was active with the Clean Streams Committee, reporting waterway conditions, pollution and blockages to government agencies. In recognition of his efforts, he was inducted into the National Rivers Hall of Fame, and in 2007 a stretch of the Chicago River was renamed ''The Ralph Frese River Trail.''

Ralph is responsible for introducing thousands of people to the pleasures of paddling a canoe across Illinois' waterways and loved nothing more than sharing his knowledge with other would-be conservationists.

I once had the pleasure of canoeing down the Chicago River with Ralph and learned so much during our time together. More than anything, I left fully inspired by his love for the natural world around us, even in big cities like Chicago.

We will miss Ralph cracking jokes or sharing his stories on the river trail. But his environmental legacy will live on for generations, and for that we should be forever thankful.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ''TAX CODE TERMINATION ACT''

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, our Nation watched as we recently ended another battle over our Nation's tax-and-spend policies. While many Americans are now left trying to decipher how their taxes will be changing for the coming year, all Americans are, yet again, forced to comply with a tax code that is no longer working in a fair manner for our Nation's citizens. While almost every Member would acknowledge that our tax code is no longer working in a fair manner for Americans, nothing has been done to create a more equitable tax code. So today I rise to reintroduce the Tax Code Termination Act.

The Tax Code Termination Act will force Congress to finally debate and address fundamental tax reform. This bi-partisan legislation is simple. It will abolish the Internal Revenue Code by December 31, 2017, and call on Congress to approve a new Federal tax system by July of the same year.

As recently shown, Congress will not reach a consensus on a contentious issue, such as tax reform, unless it is forced to do so. My bill will do exactly that: force Congress to finally address fundamental tax reform.

Though many questions and ideas remain about the best way to reform our tax system, I am certain that if Congress is forced to address the issue we can create a tax code that is simpler, fairer, and better for our economy than the one we are forced to comply with today.

Whichever tax system is adopted, the key ingredients should be: a low rate for all Americans; tax relief for working people; protection of the rights of taxpayers and reduction in tax collection abuses; promotion of savings and investment; and encouragement of economic growth and job creation. Taxes may be unavoidable but they don't have to be unfair and overcomplicated.

Once the Tax Code Termination Act becomes law, today's oppressive tax code would survive for only 4 more years, at which time it would expire and be replaced with a new tax code that will be determined by Congress, the President, and the American people. This legislation will allow us, as a nation, to collectively decide what the new tax system should look like. Having a date-certain to end the current tax code will force the issue to the top of the national agenda.

America cannot continue down this path of irresponsible tax-and-spend policies. There is widespread consensus that the current system is broken, and keeping it is not in America's best interest. The American people deserve a certainty, fairness, and assurance that our current tax code cannot provide them. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and end the broken tax system that exists today and provide a tax code that the American people deserve.

HONORING BILL McBRIDE

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and highlight the distinguished life of Bill McBride. Mr. McBride's contributions to the Tampa Bay community, the State of Florida, and the country are worthy of recognition by all.

Born on May 10, 1945, Mr. McBride moved to Florida at the age of 9 and spent most of his childhood in Leesburg, Florida where he attended high school and distinguished himself on the football field as a fullback and linebacker. While attending the University of Florida on a football scholarship, his football career was derailed by a knee injury. Mr. McBride then turned to public service, becoming an active member in Florida Blue Key honor society and president of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity.

At the height of the Vietnam War, Mr. McBride dropped out of law school and enlisted in the U.S. Marines. He volunteered for combat duty, rose to the rank of captain, and was awarded a Bronze Star with a Combat V for valor for his wartime service. After returning from Vietnam, Mr. McBride finished law school. At that time, he became a civic leader in such organizations as the United Way and the Florida Holocaust Museum. He also became a managing partner of Holland and Knight, one of Florida's largest law firms.

Bill McBride was a force for good in the Tampa Bay community and a strong advocate for public education and civil rights in Florida. As a gubernatorial candidate in 2002, he championed smaller class sizes, greater support for teachers, and encouraged greater investment in education. Throughout his life he promoted equality in Florida as well, advocating for the survivors of the Rosewood racial massacre, pro bono legal work, and gay rights. His mission in life was to serve Florida, and he accomplished that in innumerable ways. His selfless dedication to our community and State will be greatly missed.

The Tampa Bay community is proud to recognize Bill McBride for his lifelong dedication to improving the lives of Floridians. His outstanding commitment to the State made him an inspirational community leader. I ask that you and all Americans recognize such a remarkable citizen for his service to our community and our State.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. JAMES A. COOGAN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Mr. James A. Coogan, who passed away on January 5, 2013, at the age of 73.

A resident of the city of Tonawanda for the better part of his life, James Coogan was very active in community affairs and local Democratic politics, serving the people of Tonawanda for many years.

James was a dedicated public servant who was Second Ward Alderman for the City of Tonawanda for two terms, from 1980 to 1983. In 1984, James was appointed Tonawanda City Clerk and held the position for ten years, until 1993. Additionally, James was a member of the Erie County Town Clerk's Association.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and Members of the House to express our deepest condolences to the family of the late James Coogan, and join with me in recognizing the many good works of service he performed during his long and full life.

BLACK JANUARY IN AZERBAIJAN

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 23rd anniversary of the events that marked the beginning of the end of Soviet rule over our ally Azerbaijan, an occupation that existed for much of the 20th Century.

This time period is referred to in Azerbaijan as ''Black January,'' when violence erupted in Azerbaijan's capital city of Baku on January 19th and 20th, 1990. During the conflict, Soviet troops killed over 100 nationalist demonstrators and wounded another 700 Azeri citizens demanding freedom. Azerbaijan eventually declared its independence from the U.S.S.R. on October 18, 1991.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in commemorating—with our ally, Azerbaijan—the events of Black January in 1990, events which began in tragedy but culminated in the birth of an independent nation and ally of the United States.

HONORING SLAIN POLICE OFFICER KEVIN TONN

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I make this statement today to recognize the life and service of police officer Kevin Tonn. Officer Tonn served in the Galt police department for three years, protecting a community in California that I am honored to represent. Tragically, Officer Tonn was killed in the line of duty this past week while pursuing a criminal suspect.

Officer Tonn was the example of a model citizen. As a teenager who grew up in Roseville, California, he joined the Roseville Police Explorers; after he graduated high school, he joined the U.S. Army as a military police officer. Officer Tonn also served as a firefighter in New York before returning to California to join the Sacramento Sherriff's Academy. In 2009, he was sworn into the Galt police force as a K–9 officer. Kevin Tonn's character and selfless commitment to his fellow citizens is evidenced by his years of service, working in multiple capacities and uniforms.

Anyone who encountered Officer Tonn was impressed by his integrity, his ability to use humor to diffuse difficult situations, and his dedication to serving the community, especially our younger citizens. The Galt community was fortunate to have such a dedicated individual, and his memory will live on. It is never easy to lose a loved one, but my thoughts and prayers are with his family and the community at this difficult time, as I know the Nation has lost a true American hero.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NANOTECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENT AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES ACT

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Nanotechnology Advancement and New Opportunities (NANO) Act.

The NANO Act is a comprehensive bill to promote the development and responsible stewardship of nanotechnology in the United States. The legislation draws upon the findings of the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Nanotechnology, which I convened. The Task Force included nanotechnology experts with backgrounds in established industry, startup companies, consulting groups, non-profits, academia, government, medical research, and venture capital from around my home State of California, which is a leader in the field of nanotechnology.

Nanotechnology has the potential to create entirely new industries and radically transform the basis of competition in other fields, and I am proud of my work with former Science Committee Chairman Sherry Boehlert on the Nanotechnology Research and Development Act of 2003 to foster research in this area.

But one of the things I have heard from experts in the field is that while the United States is a leader in nanotechnology research, our foreign competitors are focusing more resources and effort on the commercialization of those research results than we are.

In its report Thinking Big About Thinking Small, which can be found on my website, the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Nanotechnology made a series of recommendations for ways that the nation can promote the development and commercialization of nanotechnology. The NANO Act includes a number of these recommendations.

In addition, the bill addresses concerns that have been raised about whether the Federal Government is doing enough to address potential health and safety risks associated with nanotechnology. The NANO Act requires the development of a nanotechnology research strategy that establishes research priorities for the Federal Government and industry that will ensure the development and responsible stewardship of nanotechnology. This strategy will help to resolve the uncertainty that is one of the major obstacles to the commercialization of nanotechnology—uncertainty about what the risks might be and uncertainty about how the Federal Government might regulate nanotechnology in the future.

The NANO Act also includes a number of provisions to create partnerships, raise awareness, and implement strategic policies to resolve obstacles and promote nanotechnology. It will: create a public-private investment partnership to address the nanotechnology commercialization gap; establish a tax credit for investment in nanotechnology firms; authorize a grant program to support the establishment and development of nanotechnology incubators; establish a Nanoscale Science and Engineering Center for ''nano-CAD'' tools; establish grant programs for nanotechnology research to address specific challenges in the areas of energy, environment, homeland security, and health; establish a tax credit for nanotechnology education and training program expenses; establish a grant program to support the development of curriculum materials for interdisciplinary nanotechnology courses at higher education institutions; direct NSF to establish a program to encourage manufacturing companies to enter into partnerships with occupational training centers for the development of training to support nanotechnology manufacturing; and call for the development of a strategy for increasing interaction on nanotechnology interests between DOE national labs and the informal science education community.

I look forward to working with Science, Space and Technology Committee Chairman LAMAR SMITH and Ranking Member EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON on this bill and their committee's other efforts to reauthorize the Nation's nanotechnology research and development program.

IN HONOR OF LT. MIKE ''CHIP'' CHIAPPERINI, THOMASZ KACZOWKA AND THE WEST WEBSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Mike ''Chip'' Chiapperini and Tomasz Kaczowka of Webster, NY. These two heroes will be forever remembered for their brave and selfless commitment to the people they called neighbors, friends and family and the place they were proud to call home.

Chip and Tomasz devoted their lives to public service. For 19 years, Chip worked his way through the ranks of the Webster Police Department—from Dispatcher, to Police Officer, Investigator, Sergeant and Lieutenant. Yet when each shift at the Police Department was complete, Chip's public service continued as a volunteer firefighter with the West Webster Fire Department. For 25 years Chip served as a volunteer firefighter and rose to be Fire Chief and advisor to the Fire Department's Fire Explorer Post.

It was in his role as a firefighter that Chip oversaw a young volunteer firefighter and good family friend.

Tomasz Kaczowka had the passion bestowed by youth, yet a dedication to service that went far beyond his years. From serving as an emergency dispatch operator for the City of Rochester, to responding to calls as a volunteer firefighter with the West Webster Fire Department, Tomasz showed an unrivaled commitment to helping others and a selflessness that set the bar high for future generations to come.

As brothers in service, Tomasz viewed Chip as a mentor; in turn, Chip tutored and protected Tomasz as if he were a son.

It is in the line of public service that these two friends would be taken from this Earth. On December 24, 2012, Chip and Tomasz were responding to a fire in the early morning darkness when a gunman opened fire and took their lives. Tomasz, as was his selfless nature, was on duty that morning so that other firefighters who are fathers could be at home with their families on Christmas Eve.

There is little we can say to provide comfort to the neighbors, friends and family of Chip and Tomasz. Words, no matter their eloquence, fail to heal a pain which cannot be forgotten, and a loss that cannot be undone.

Together Chip and Tomasz served alongside the distinguished men and women of the West Webster Fire Department—a family they loved like their own. When Chip and Tomasz were fallen by gun fire, their fellow firefighters had to persevere through the fear and pain, and bravely put out the fires that threatened to take more lives. Now, these brave firefighters grieve for the loss of their family members, while honoring them the best way they know how—through the work they do every day.

I urge my fellow Members of Congress to follow the example of the West Webster Fire Department and honor Chip and Tomasz with the actions we take. Over the last two months, more than 900 Americans, including Chip and Tomasz, have been killed with a gun. This endless string of tragedies must be no more. Now is the time for Congress to enact a comprehensive and commonsense reform to our nation's gun laws, and renew our commitment to a mental health system that has been neglected for far too long.

While no legislation can bring back Chip and Tomasz, nor fill the void left at their dinner tables every night, putting an end to senseless acts of gun violence can ensure that even in death, these two brave heroes will continue to save lives.

Chip and Tomasz were a shining example of what we know to be true: that in America

we are united, that as long as we walk this Earth we are committed to protecting one another and in so doing we will realize the promise of a better world. In their brave and selfless actions Chip and Tomasz lived this promise to each other, and now it is our turn to do the same.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF JOHN MARKOWICZ

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor a fierce and passionate advocate for southeastern Connecticut, John Markowicz.

John was well known in southeastern Connecticut for the many hats he wore over the course of his life. Graduating the U.S. Naval Academy in 1965, John achieved the rank of captain in the Navy where he served in the submarine force in a variety of posts, including the USS *Pargo* (SSN 650) and USS *Guitarro* (SSN 665). Following active duty service, John continued in the Naval Reserve to achieve 34 years in the service of our Nation. In his life in the private sector, John helped found Sonalysts in 1976, a defense contractor in Waterford, Connecticut that is one of the region's largest employers today. Following his time at Sonalysts, John served in a number of positions to promote economic development in eastern Connecticut, most notably as Executive Director of the Connecticut Enterprise Region (seCTer).

As impressive as these achievements are, he is best and rightly remembered by the southeastern Connecticut region as the leader of the fight to save Naval Submarine Base New London from closure during the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process.

When the submarine base was placed on the BRAC list in 2005, John activated a nonpartisan and diverse group of experts tasked with the seemingly insurmountable challenge of overturning the Pentagon's recommendation. John and his team burrowed into the data, found critical flaws, and constructed the airtight argument against closing this unique and irreplaceable naval asset.

Although I was not in Congress at the time, I vividly remember attending the Boston regional meeting of the BRAC commission in the summer of 2005. With John and his case at the lead, Connecticut's delegation picked apart the misguided decision to close the base—stressing the economic harm, the strategic impact and, most importantly, the various flaws underpinning the case to close the base.

It worked. In September 2005 the base was removed from the list and spared closure. While there were many involved in the successful effort to save the base, it was John's leadership, attention to detail, and unsparing devotion to the mission that was rightly credited with making it possible.

As importantly, John understood that the work of promoting and defending the base did not end with the decision to remove the base from the BRAC list. In the years following, John stressed the need for the creation of a state Office of Military Affairs and a historic new partnership between Connecticut and the Navy to invest in the infrastructure of the base—both of which are in place now and under way. He also worked closely with my staff and me in monitoring the latest rumors about new BRACs and following Congressional debates about submarine production like a box score.

In my years of knowing him, I always found John to be a quiet but effective professional. He never pursued the spotlight, never wanted the glory—he sought only to accomplish the mission. In his passing, eastern Connecticut has lost a fierce advocate for the "Submarine Capitol of the World" and all of us will long remember all he gave to our region and our state. His memory will live on in the thousands of people at work every day at a more modem submarine base that he helped to save—and the countless businesses and employees across the region that rely on it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of John Markowicz and sharing our condolences with the family he leaves behind.

HONORING THE VILLAGE OF MINOA, NEW YORK

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my congratulations to the Village of Minoa on the occasion of its Centennial Celebration. I am honored to join the Central New York community in celebrating Minoa on this historic occasion.

The Village of Minoa's founding tells an interesting story about the character of the people who have lived there and about Central New York as a whole. In 1913, during the incorporation of the Village of Minoa, a group of Minoa women banded together in solidarity to vote for incorporation in the village election. Although national law prohibited these women from voting, village law afforded them the ability to do so in this local election. These united women were able to have their voices heard several years before the 19th amendment was passed. As a result of this group's support and solidarity, Minoa officially became incorporated on January 12, 1913. The Village of Minoa demonstrates how then and now, Central New Yorkers have unlimited potential when every person has a fair shot.

For 100 years, Minoa has served as a vital part of Onondaga County and Central New York. It was a prominent railroad community for many years and continues to be a wonderful place to live and raise a family. I am grateful and fortunate to have such a vibrant community within the district I represent.

Once again, congratulations to the Village of Minoa and I wish its residents the best of luck in the next 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO DAPHNE MAYOR BAILEY YELDING

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a beloved public servant who defined leadership in his community by reaching out to all points of view. I am speaking of Daphne, Alabama Mayor Bailey Yelding, who passed away on January 22, 2013, after a brief illness.

Born and raised in Daphne, Mayor Yelding loved his community so much that he never really left it. He was always proud of his home town, noting to the Mobile Press-Register, "You live and work in a place where it's all been great for you, why not love it?"

And he gave back so much to the community he loved. After graduating from the Baldwin County Training School in Daphne in 1957, and receiving a degree from Alabama State University, he set his sights on helping young people in Daphne. He soon began a career in local education that would encompass 39 years of his life, changing lives and racking up an impressive record as both a football and basketball coach.

At Baldwin County Training School, Coach Yelding earned a 49–16–1 record at the helm of the school's football program. After he transitioned to Fairhope High School in 1970, he went on to become the first African American coach of an integrated high school team in Baldwin County. As head varsity basketball coach, he led the team to a 302–130 record.

After nearly four decades of educating the young people of Baldwin County, Coach Yelding then turned his attention to a different challenge—serving his community in elected office. In 2000 he ran for and was elected to the Daphne City Council. For the next 11 years, Councilman Yelding was a reliable voice for all the people of Daphne, reaching out to his fellow councilmen and the community to put the city first.

In 2011, the Daphne City Council appointed Yelding to serve the unexpired term of Mayor Fred Small who retired early from office. In 2012, Mayor Yelding ran for a full term on the platform of experience and stability. He survived a lively campaign and a runoff in October 2012 to become Daphne's first popularly elected African American mayor.

To everyone who knew him and worked with him, Mayor Yelding was more than the chief executive of the city. He was a pillar of integrity and a consensus builder. In short—a leader. It's not surprising that he was successful in public office. He took the skills he honed as a winning football and basketball coach to city hall, forging teamwork while motivating city employees and the community to greater heights.

Mayor Yelding will be remembered not only as a trail blazer, but also as a wise and steady hand at Daphne City Hall.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I wish to extend my condolences to Mayor Yelding's family, many friends and to the people of Daphne. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MERCER COUNTY GOLDEN EAGLES FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding results achieved by the Mercer County Golden Eagles against the Alhoff Crusaders in the 2A Illinois state football championship game this past month.

The game was a defensive battle with both sides tied at 7 in the second half. During the third quarter Mercer County linebacker Devin Morford recovered a fumble at his own five yard line, and returned it 95 yards for the game winning touchdown. It was the type of moment that seemed as if it was straight from a movie!

I congratulate the Golden Eagles for winning the Illinois 2A state championship. This hard fought victory by Mercer County gives the school its fourth state title. The school and the entire community should be very proud to see such a hard earned trophy added to their case.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Mercer County football team, both on and off the field, and I am honored to salute them today.

TRIBUTE TO EAGLE SCOUT ALEX BARRETT

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Alex Barrett of Boy Scout Troop 188 in Ankeny, Iowa for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well-maintained over the past century.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. For his project, Alex constructed and installed duck nesting platforms at the Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt in Polk County. The work ethic Alex has shown in his Eagle Project and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank speaks volumes of his commitment to serving a cause greater than himself and assisting his community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Alex and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him on obtaining the Eagle Scout ranking, and I wish him continued success in his future education and career.

A TRIBUTE TO KENTUCKY RIGHT TO LIFE

HON. GARLAND "ANDY" BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I rise today to recognize my friends and members of the Kentucky Right to Life Association, who in 2013 will celebrate 40 years of nobly and steadfastly defending the rights of all human life, born and unborn, young and old, regardless of ability or disability.

The Kentucky Right to Life Association came together 40 years ago in response to the 1973 Roe vs. Wade U.S. Supreme Court decision which disregarded the ethical traditions of countless Americans by superseding the traditional prerogative of states and local communities to protect life. Today, the Kentucky Right to Life Association is comprised of thousands of individuals working together to restore the law to protect the lives of the unborn and the most vulnerable among us, and to uphold the belief that every human being has a right to live—a belief that I strongly share. Right to Life is comprised of individuals of different faiths, political beliefs, and backgrounds, all united in one purpose. Their special union sets a strong example of organizational leadership for other movements and causes of moral consequence.

Today, I congratulate my friends with the Kentucky Right to Life Association for their 40 years of leadership on this, the most consequential moral issue of our time. I also would like to personally welcome those members joining me in Washington, DC this Friday, January 25, 2013, to participate in the annual March for Life on the National Mall. I hold each and every one of you in the highest regard and firmly stand behind you in this great endeavor.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JAMES HOOD: A CIVIL RIGHTS PIONEER

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of Dr. James Hood, one of the first African-Americans to attend The University of Alabama, who passed away Thursday, January 17 at the age of 70. Dr. Hood was a trailblazer in the quest for civil rights and equality. I am deeply saddened by his passing but I am comforted in knowing that his legacy will live on.

Dr. Hood was born on November 10, 1942 in Gadsden, Alabama. He attended Gadsden public schools and he enrolled at the University of Alabama in 1963.

On June 11, 1963, Dr. Hood along with fellow student Vivian Malone attempted to enroll at the University of Alabama. Upon his arrival to the Tuscaloosa campus, then Alabama Governor George Wallace physically blocked Dr. Hood from entering Foster Auditorium to register for classes. As the world watched, Gov. Wallace's efforts to block Dr. Hood and Ms. Malone were recorded in our Nation's history as "The Stand in the Schoolhouse Door." Later that day, Dr. Hood, with the support of a federal court order and members of the Alabama National Guard, was eventually allowed to register for classes and pursue his degree.

However, despite his bravery and courage, Dr. Hood's time as a student at the University of Alabama was short. On August 11, 1963, Dr. Hood left the University after numerous threats and constant harassment. He would later return to the University of Alabama in 1997 to obtain a doctorate in interdisciplinary studies.

After his short time at the University of Alabama, Dr. Hood went on to obtain a bachelor's degree from Wayne State University and a master's degree from Michigan State. Dr. Hood also studied at the University of London. He later served as deputy police chief in Detroit and as a chairman of the police science program at the Madison Area Technical College in Wisconsin before retiring in 2002. During his extraordinary life, Dr. Hood was also a devoted father to five children and nine grandchildren.

Today, as we mourn the passing of this American hero, we are reminded of his sacrifices for our Nation. Dr. Hood's courage was a testament to his commitment to education and equality. On behalf of a grateful Nation, we honor Dr. Hood's personal sacrifices and commit to sharing his story with future generations.

Today, "The Stand in the Schoolhouse Door" is remembered as a pivotal moment in the Civil Rights Movement. Dr. Hood's quest for educational equality served as a catalyst for the opportunities that many of us enjoy today. As a benefactor of Dr. Hood's contributions, I am humbled by this opportunity to further solidify his place in American history. As the first African-American woman elected to Congress from the state of Alabama, I know that my journey would not be possible without the contributions of foot soldiers like Dr. Hood. Let his life serve as a testament to the courage and strength of one individual's ability to change the trajectory of our Nation. On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this Nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Dr. James Hood.

RECOGNIZING MRS. PURA DELGADO ANDINO

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Pura Delgado Andino, a shining example of leadership and inspiration to us all. Mrs. Delgado's distinguished career in community advocacy deserves our acknowledgement.

Mrs. Delgado was born in Yabucoa, Puerto Rico on February 2, 1931. At age sixteen, she moved from Puerto Rico to New York. There Mrs. Delgado met her late husband, Jose Caraballo, and became a mother to two wonderful children.

In 1967, Mrs. Delgado moved to Connecticut, where her lasting commitment to civic

engagement and community participation began. Mrs. Delgado was instrumental in the creation of the Hill Health Center for Children and Youth at Yale University. Recognizing the need for a youth-oriented and minority-focused health care center, Mrs. Delgado obtained a grant to better serve these children and her community. Because of her leadership on this issue, Mrs. Delgado served as Health Education Assistant to the Center's Director.

Working alongside the Dean of the Yale School of Medicine, Mrs. Delgado helped guide the school's implementation of its affirmative action program. At the time, affirmative action policies were often limited to African American students, but Mrs. Delgado encouraged the school to extend their efforts to other minority communities, such as Puerto Ricans and Mexicans. Thanks to Mrs. Delgado's involvement, the school graduated twenty-five minority students. One of these students who went on to serve his community is the Honorable Judge Wilfredo Martinez of Orlando, Florida.

Drawing again on her intimate knowledge of the community and innate ability to express its needs, Mrs. Delgado obtained another grant to begin operation of the Fair Haven Health Clinic. This clinic recently celebrated its forty-third anniversary.

Though Mrs. Delgado retired at age seventy-two, her record of accomplishments in the physical and mental health areas remains impressive. She has served on a variety of public service and community advisory boards, including on the Board for Progressive Action, which aimed to empower low-income communities through education, counseling, and occupational training.

In 1991 Mrs. Delgado relocated to Irma Shores Lake in Orlando, Florida, where she began several small businesses and became an active member of the community. Mrs. Delgado served as a Regional Field Operator for President Bill Clinton in 1996 and helped coin the term ''I–4 Corridor''.

Mrs. Delgado is a proud member of the Asociación Borinqueña de la Florida Central and currently serves as Vice Chair for the Black-Latino and Puerto Rican Alliance for Justice of Florida.

Please join me in recognizing Mrs. Delgado's lifetime of civic achievement and community involvement.

HONORING MONA REIS

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mona Reis, a courageous advocate for women's reproductive freedom. Ms. Reis runs the Presidential Women's Center in West Palm Beach, Florida which has provided quality individualized health care for thousands of women since its founding in 1980. Without this exceptional resource, many women in South Florida would go without needed wellness and reproductive health care services.

Today, as we commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark Roe v. Wade decision, which affirmed a woman's right to reproductive choice, I thank Mona Reis for her compassionate, dedicated, and unrelenting pursuit of women's reproductive freedom.

THE DEDICATION OF A MONUMENT HONORING NAVY SEAL AARON VAUGHN

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Navy SEAL Aaron Vaughn, whose memory was recently honored by a monument being dedicated in tribute to his service and sacrifice at the Sailfish Splash Water Park in Stuart, Florida.

It is most appropriate that the memorial is located at the Sailfish Splash Water Park. As Aaron's mother, Karen Vaughn, described at the memorial service, it is ''most fitting since inside those gates there will always be living, breathing representations of the things Aaron held most dear—love, laughter, family, friends and fun.''

Aaron Vaughn grew up in Florida's 18th Congressional district, where he attended Martin County High School and was a member of the football team. Aaron then received his Associate's Degree from Indian River State College, studying turf grass science. Aaron later enlisted in the Navy and became a member of the elite Navy SEALs.

Aaron bravely served as a Navy SEAL, a lifelong dream of his. Aaron's father, Billy Vaughn, said that ''the commander of SEAL Team Six said he was a fearless leader who was headed to the top.'' In August 2011, Aaron lost his life when his helicopter was shot down in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, Aaron Vaughn dedicated his life to this country and I am proud that the city of Stuart has recognized his service by dedicating this memorial in his honor. It is truly humbling to recognize his life and his great service to our country here today.

THE INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 12, THE VOTER EMPOWERMENT ACT

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Voter Empowerment Act.

I am proud to be joined by my friends and colleagues—the Gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the Gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the Gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRADY), the Gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS), and over 160 of our Democratic colleagues in sponsoring this landmark legislation. Our good friend, Senator GILLIBRAND, is also introducing the companion to the Voter Empowerment Act in the Senate.

Today, January 23rd marks the 49th anniversary of the 24th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This is the amendment which ended poll taxes, a tool used to undermine the right to vote for millions of African Americans. On this day, we must recommit ourselves in mind, body, and spirit to fight both overt and covert impediments to the most powerful nonviolent tool we have in a democratic society.

The right to vote is precious, almost sacred, yet millions of Americans are still not registered to vote. How can we continue to be global leaders in promoting democratic values and principles, when so many citizens still face barriers to participating in an electoral democracy?

When my colleagues and I introduced this legislation last year, we urged prompt action to ensure access, accountability, and integrity in our nation's electoral system. Last November, we all watched aghast as Americans stood in line for hours on end determined to cast their vote. Some were able to weather the difficulties, while others were forced to give up. Mr. Speaker, this is unacceptable. Earlier this week, the President stated in his inaugural address that, ''Our journey is not complete until no citizen is forced to wait for hours to exercise the right to vote.''

The Voter Empowerment Act responds to that call to action with a plan. H.R. 12 modernizes the voter registration system in this nation. It helps voters with disabilities, members of the military and young people to fully access their right to vote and to have their vote counted.

The VEA also restores the integrity of the voting system, by providing well-informed, well-trained poll workers who know the law, and ensuring that election officials don't have a vested interest in the outcome of political campaigns. This bill protects voters from deceptive practices and intimidation and prohibits voter caging, and will ensure that every vote is counted. H.R. 12 creates a national hotline so that problems are reported, corrected and prevented in real time, and it reauthorizes the Election Assistance Commission, the only agency with election administration expertise, to ensure the highest standards are being met nationwide.

People sacrificed their lives for this precious right. We have a duty to honor this legacy and the lives that were lost by ensuring this sacred right. We must all come together to guarantee open, fair, free access to democracy in our great country. I hope that each and every one of my colleagues will join me in support of this landmark legislation.

THE INTRODUCTION OF CENTER TO ADVANCE, MONITOR, AND PRESERVE UNIVERSITY SECURITY SAFETY ACT OF 2013

HON. ROBERT C. ''BOBBY'' SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Center to Advance, Monitor and Preserve University Security (''CAMPUS'') Safety Act of 2013. The CAMPUS Safety Act previously passed the House of Representatives by voice vote as a standalone bill in the 110th and 111th Congresses and was included in the House-passed versions of the College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2008 in the 110th Congress and the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2012 in the 112th Congress. It is my hope that the CAMPUS Safety Act will be signed into law during the 113th Congress.

The purpose of the legislation is to enable our institutions of higher education to more easily obtain the best information available on how to keep our campuses safe and how to respond in the event of a campus emergency. The bill creates a National Center for Campus Public Safety ("Center"), which will be administered through the Department of Justice. The Center is designed to train campus public safety agencies in state of the art practices to assure campus safety, encourage research to strengthen college safety and security, and serve as a clearinghouse for the dissemination of relevant campus public safety information. The Director of the Center will have authority to award grants to institutions of higher learning to help them meet their enhanced public safety goals.

Over the past few years we have seen numerous tragedies occur at colleges and universities, including the disastrous events that occurred at Virginia Tech, Northern Illinois University and more recently at Old Dominion University that took the life of Congressman ELIJAH CUMMINGS' nephew. Unfortunately, these events were the first of their kind at their schools and there was insufficient knowledge on how to prevent the tragedies or how to most effectively respond in their aftermath. While there is growing awareness that such threats are possible anywhere, many schools still have not developed safety protocols that would prepare them to maximize the prospects of preventing such tragedies or to effectively respond to them should they occur despite sound prevention efforts.

Our nation's colleges and universities play a large role in the development of our next generation of leaders and we should assist them in their efforts to keep our campuses and our students safe. The Clery Act already requires schools to have safety plans in order to participate in the Title IV deferral student aid programs; unfortunately there is no one place for schools to obtain reliable and useful information. It makes little sense to require the thousands of institutions of higher education to start from scratch and individually go through the cost and effort to develop comprehensive plans. Instead, they ought to be able to obtain guidance and assistance, including best practices, from a "one stop shop" like the Center.

The CAMPUS Safety Act will help institutions of higher learning understand how to prevent such tragedies from occurring, and how to respond immediately and effectively in case they do. Although this bill was originally drafted in direct response to the Virginia Tech shootings to specifically assist college and university campuses, I should note that in the wake of the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, public elementary and secondary schools and their governing agencies will be able to access the informational and training benefits of the Center.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation to ensure that our institutions of higher education have access to the information necessary to keep their schools safe.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF WILLIAM J. UGGIANO

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, January 26, marks the 115th anniversary of Council 302 of the Wilkes-Barre Knights of Columbus, and I rise today to congratulate the Knights of Columbus on this remarkable accomplishment and to recognize the leadership and community service of William J. Uggiano, the immediate past Grand Knight of the organization. Mr. Uggiano served the Council for the period July 2010–June 2012, and he is being honored by the Knights of Columbus as part of the 115th anniversary celebration.

William Uggiano previously served his country with distinction during a long career in the Navy, which included tours of duty on four different warships, the last of which was the USS *Guam*. He was even baptized at sea on the *Guam* off the coast of Liberia. He retired in 1999 and enrolled in Luzerne Community College where he received an Associates degree in computer information systems. While attending college to get the degree, he began working at the Wilkes-Barre Veterans Administration hospital as an IT specialist in the Office of Information and Technology, and he is still employed there today.

Mr. Uggiano is a past Commander of the Italian American Veterans of Luzerne County—Post No. 1, Treasurer of the American Federal of Government Employees (AFGE)—Local 1699, and Treasurer of the Diamond City chapter of the American Wine Society. He is married to the former Javette Swinney of Portsmouth, Virginia, and he and Javette have six children and thirteen grandchildren.

Willam Uggiano exemplifies the Knights of Columbus founding core principles of charity toward others, unity for the good of us all, fraternity with one another, and patriotism marked by devotion to both God and country. Please accept my congratulations on this momentous occasion.

TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUED LEASE OR EVENTUAL CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN FEDERAL LAND WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF FORT WAINWRIGHT MILITARY RESERVATION IN FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to continue the conversation on how to preserve and protect an important neighborhood in Fairbanks, Alaska from eventual destruction.

In 1987, the Army entered into a Section 801 build-to-lease housing contract for a 400-home community on 76 acres of land. These homes, consisting of 3, 4, and 5 bedroom units, a maintenance and leasing facility, associated roads and parking areas, landscaping, 18 playgrounds, and a central heating system including 39 boiler houses, are an important source of housing for military families and the local area. This group of homes is more than just housing or a neighborhood, it is a community.

The housing lease for this Section 801 contract expired in 2007 and the ground lease is scheduled to expire on June 26, 2018. Without an extension of the ground lease, the 400 houses must be removed from their current location no later than 180 days following the expiration of the lease. The most likely outcome of this situation is a complete demolition of these properties.

Currently, these 400 houses are nearly 100% occupied (99% in August of 2012) which is an unbiased testament to the value of these houses. Additionally, the four and five bedroom units are a valuable but very limited resource for the large number of military families with multiple children stationed in the area. In fact, seeing the value of these homes to both the military community and the local tax base, several community leaders and interests have written to me over the past couple of years to express their support for extending the ground-lease under these homes.

While I understand that this is a sensitive issue, it simply does not make sense for 400 high-use and high-value homes to be torn down. There must be a better solution. This bill may not be that solution, but it is a critical step in the direction to finding one.

HONORING ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOR 108 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Rotary International for selflessly working for 108 years to improve communities around the world and to recognize the Rotary Clubs of the State of Florida for the important work they do in our communities. The organization's motto of "Service Above Self" inspires its members to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards, and promote good will and peace in the world.

Founded in 1905, Rotary International has become one of the world's largest non-profit service organizations. In my home State of Florida, there are nearly 400 Rotary clubs throughout 8 Rotary districts. These clubs represent thousands of Floridians who actively sponsor service projects throughout the State and internationally. Through their charitable spirit, these clubs provide solutions to problems impacting society, including poverty, hunger, illiteracy, and more. Since its founding, Rotary has contributed more than one billion dollars and countless volunteer hours in the fight to eradicate polio. Last year alone, the organization raised more than $200 million for global polio eradication.

Rotary is also the world's largest privately-funded source of international scholarships. Annually, more than 7,000 secondary school students are able to study abroad through the organization's Youth Exchange Programs.

Mr. Speaker, for more than 100 years, Rotary International has represented the best of

the human spirit, and the organization and its State and local chapters have become pillars in their communities. Their humanitarian efforts and successes exemplify the strength of compassion, and I commend them for their contributions.

IN HONOR OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF UPS AIRLINES

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of UPS Airlines, which on January 25, 2013, celebrates 25 years of exemplary service.

This anniversary date marks an inauspicious beginning. A quarter-century ago, the Federal Aviation Authority offered its initial approval of the UPS Air Carrier Operating Certificate. Starting with two DC–8s, UPS Airlines would quickly become one of the largest airlines in the world. And with Worldport, UPS Airlines' innovative international hub, they have helped make Louisville, KY—my District and hometown—a global leader in logistics.

Today, United Parcel Service delivers more than 15 million packages every day in more than 220 countries and territories around the world. And Louisville's Worldport has revolutionized American logistics through technological advancements that are the envy of innovators across the globe. At Worldport, more than 20,000 local employees process 416,000 packages an hour in a facility the size of 90 football fields. The operation is as extraordinary as it is expansive.

Not only have UPS Airlines and Worldport made Louisville a world leader in logistics; the company has been pivotal in generating economic development throughout our community. Countless businesses have moved to Louisville and are now thriving because of what UPS Airlines brings—and ships out. And through the Metropolitan College partnership with the University of Louisville and Jefferson Community and Technical College, UPS has provided more than 2,600 employees tuition reimbursement since 1998.

Good corporate citizenship means creating high-quality, good-paying jobs and new economic opportunities for communities. But it also means contributing to the greater whole, whether through strategic investments or programs that help expand opportunity beyond the walls of any single institution. UPS and Worldport have spent decades providing a model for corporate citizenship in Louisville.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this corporate leader on the 25th anniversary of UPS Airlines.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SAMUEL KEKER

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. VANHOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the remarkable life and legacy of a great American, Samuel Keker.

Sam was born to Greek immigrants in Pueblo, Colorado in 1917. He attended American University, where he was elected vice-president of the student government and wrote for the college newspaper.

A member of the ''greatest generation'', Sam served with distinction in the Navy during World War II, escorting convoys in the Atlantic and commanding a minesweeper in the Pacific. Sam's commitment to country would later cause him to return to duty during the Korean War, where he served as an executive officer on destroyers. He remained in the naval reserve until 1962, retiring with the rank of Commander.

Sam spent the entirety of his professional career at U.S. News and World Report, rising from the position of assistant to the circulation manager in 1946 to becoming Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in 1982. Under Sam's leadership, U.S. News and World Report reached over two million readers and earned a well-deserved reputation for high-quality reporting and excellence in journalism.

Sam Keker was the embodiment of the American Dream—a person who through hard work, motivation and smarts rose to the highest level of his profession. Throughout that journey, he remained humble and treated those around him with dignity and kindness.

I was privileged to know Sam Keker and will miss his intelligence, counsel and extraordinary wit. He was an inspiration to me, and his life was a good example for all. Sam and his loving wife Lucy have been leaders in our community, giving generously of their time and resources to help the less fortunate.

I extend my deepest sympathies to Lucy, Sam's sons John and Jerry, and the rest of the Keker family. As we mourn Sam's loss, we are also grateful for the lessons he taught and the life that he lived.

DEFENSE OF A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, forty years ago this month, the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed a woman's constitutional right to choose in Roe v. Wade. This landmark decision ensures that women can make their own health decisions, and if they want to, consult with their doctor, family, and faith.

Four decades later, even though abortion remains legal, women still face enormous barriers—barriers that wholly violate the spirit of the Roe v. Wade decision. I support efforts to increase access to affordable healthcare services which can contribute to fewer unplanned and teen pregnancies, a goal we should all support.

This monumental Supreme Court ruling remains under attack, as the ability for women to be free to make what is often the most difficult decision in their lives, is constantly challenged. Now more than ever, we must remain steadfast in our defense of a woman's right to choose.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EQUAL REPRESENTATION ACT AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOUSE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce two bills that provide different approaches for obtaining voting representation for the more than 600,000 American citizens who reside in the nation's capital and pay the full array of federal taxes that support the government of the United States, but have no voting representation in Congress. These bills are the District of Columbia Equal Representation Act and the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act. I have introduced these bills during different periods in the past. I introduce them today after listening to residents at the many Community Conversations I have held in each ward of the District since a dangerous gun amendment—which would have eliminated all of the District's gun safety laws and would have done much more—forced us to decline to move to final passage of the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act in April 2010.

I introduce these bills today, in the same month that the House majority again eliminated the District's vote in the Committee of the Whole, despite rulings by the federal courts that this vote is constitutional. It therefore is clear that the House would not consider any approach to representation and full democracy for D.C. residents at this time. As my first bill of the 113th Congress, I introduced the New Columbia Admission Act, to make the District of Columbia the 51st state, the only option that affords the residents of the District of Columbia equality with other American citizens, and the option we will always seek. However, today, I am reintroducing two bills that residents have indicated would have their continued support on the way to statehood, which they deserve. Residents embraced these approaches because they were possible at the time. Today's bills will help ensure that there is no weakening in the momentum that these bills helped build here and throughout the country over the past several years.

The District of Columbia Equal Representation Act would give the District of Columbia two senators and, initially, one House member. With statehood delayed, then-Senator Joseph Lieberman and I introduced this bill for several years as the No Taxation Without Representation Act. The House, which was controlled by Republicans, did not act on the bill. The Senate held hearings and marked up the bill in 2002, but did not bring it to the floor.

The second bill, the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act, to give D.C., initially, one House member, almost became law. In 2005, when I continued to be in the minority, then-Representative Tom Davis and I partnered on a bipartisan bill giving House votes to Democratic D.C. and Republican Utah. The D.C. House Voting Rights Act marked the first time in decades that we achieved large majority votes in the House and Senate for voting rights for D.C. residents, and brought the city closer than we have ever come to voting representation in more than two centuries. This bill likely would be law

today had the gun lobby not insisted on adding an amendment that would not only have eliminated the District's gun safety laws, but also would have added measures making the nation's capital one of the most permissive gun jurisdictions in the country.

In introducing these bills, we lay down a marker of our determination to never relent or retreat until we have obtained each and every right to which we are entitled, whether through the frustration and anguish of the incrementalism that Congress has always forced upon the District or through statehood. We will be watchful to both make and seize every opportunity to pursue our rights, regardless of who controls Congress. We accept no imposed limit on our equal rights as American citizens, and we will pursue them all until the day when there is no difference in citizenship between residents of the District of Columbia and other American citizens.

REINTRODUCING THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY CENTERS ESTABLISHMENT ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the National Emergency Centers Establishment Act, a bill that I first introduced in the 109th Congress. This legislation authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to make use of already closed military facilities to coordinate emergency response and provide voluntary humanitarian assistance to Americans displaced by natural disasters.

From Hurricane Katrina to Hurricane Sandy, and numerous other destructive disasters, we have seen time and time again how emergency relief efforts can be complex, expensive, and oftentimes chaotic. Despite the extraordinary efforts can be complex, expensive, and oftentimes chaotic. Despite the extraordinary efforts of agencies like FEMA, the American Red Cross, and other local and national organizations to provide immediate relief, natural disasters can leave tens of thousands of Americans struggling for long periods of time. Sixteen months after Hurricane Katrina, 60,000 Americans were still ill-housed, and struggling to access adequate food and health care, education and jobs. I have seen similar effects following hurricanes in my home state of Florida.

While disaster preparedness, response, and recovery has improved greatly in recent years, difficult challenges remain. I believe that we must increase the availability of temporary housing in times of national emergencies, and improve training and preparedness for national emergencies in order to ensure that we can mitigate as much as possible the humanitarian catastrophes that occurred in the Gulf Coast, the Atlantic Coast, and elsewhere in the nation.

My legislation authorized FEMA to establish six National Emergency Centers throughout the United States. The Centers will be used to provide temporary housing, medical and humanitarian assistance for individuals and families displaced due to an emergency. The Centers will also serve as a centralized location for the training and coordination of first responders in the instance of an emergency. In addition, the Centers will improve the coordination of preparedness, response, and recovery efforts between governments, private companies, not-for-profit entities and faith-based organizations.

I would like to point out, Mr. Speaker, that the use of these facilities would be totally voluntary on the part of displaced Americans. No federal agency is authorized under this legislation to force anyone to evacuate to these facilities, nor to force those who voluntarily arrive there to remain longer than they wish. The goal is to provide the facility and means for Americans displaced by disasters to continue leading their lives as much as possible.

The National Emergency Centers will be located on military bases that have been closed during the most recent Base Realignment and Closures (BRAC) round. I am proposing these sites because the necessary infrastructure to house, feed, and care for evacuees over an extended period of time is already in place, thus limiting the cost and time needed to construct these facilities. Military bases often contain large warehouses or hangers, ideal locations for storing large amounts of supplies and equipment. Finally, military bases are often accessible by a wide range of transportation links, and may themselves have train yards or airstrips capable of facilitating the rapid disbursement of supplies or relief efforts.

Mr. Speaker, we have an obligation to better prepare and more adequately respond to the needs of communities hit by natural disasters. Furthermore, we must ensure that basic needs of disaster victims are met immediately following the devastation. The goal of this legislation is to improve humanitarian relief to individuals and families displaced and suffering from the effects of a natural disaster. The idea is to have an accessible central location that can house large numbers of people while providing for their immediate medical and daily needs.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation, and urge the House Leadership to bring this bill to the floor for its swift consideration.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF EVELYN FILICE STANTON

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Evelyn Filice Stanton who died peacefully while on a family vacation on December 29, 2012.

Evelyn was born on December 17, 1926, in Hollister, California, at the apricot and prune ranch of her parents. She lived there until World War II when her father moved the family to San Francisco, where she entered Lowell High School, graduating with the Class of 1944. She earned her A.B. degree from U.C. Berkeley where she met her future husband, returning war veteran Emmett Stanton, whom she married in 1949.

Evelyn earned a teaching credential from San Francisco State University, and taught at El Cerrito High School while Emmett practiced dentistry. The couple moved to San Mateo County in 1952, where they raised their four sons.

Evelyn Stanton served as the President or as a board member of the United Way of the Bay Area; Mills Peninsula Hospital; Belmont Hills Psychiatric Center; AAUW Education Foundation; San Mateo County League of Women Voters; Family Services Association; American Heart Association; Poplar Center for the Developmentally Disabled; the Hillsborough Concours D'Elegance, which she co-chaired with her husband, and for which they were honored as Hillsborough's Citizens of the Year in 1979; San Mateo High School and Crocker Middle School PARENT Groups; Admiralty Home Owners Association; and the Citizen Task Force to study county government operations in 1975–1977.

In 1979, Evelyn began working for the Mental Health Association of San Mateo, her first foray into the paid workforce since her years as a teacher. She became Executive Director in 1979 and served in that post until 2003. Evelyn Stanton distinguished herself in every community organization she was part of but her extraordinary leadership in the mental health community of San Mateo County was legendary. She was "Mrs. Mental Health", shaping and making the system the best in California.

Together we were founding members of the San Mateo County General Hospital Foundation. She was a member of the AIDS Community Board, and Chair of the Mental Health Contract Agencies. Evelyn earned and was awarded many honors—the Soroptomist Woman of the Year; the Evelyn F. Stanton Endowed Fellowship established by AAUW; the Seaton Manning Outstanding Agency Professional Award; and she was inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame in 1987.

Evelyn will be deeply missed by her four devoted sons, Gary of San Mateo, Greg of San Diego, Dave of San Francisco, Emmett of San Francisco and her nine beloved grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a great and good woman who served the people of San Mateo County with honor and generosity, earning the respect of the entire community, as well as her colleagues in public service. I ask my colleagues to extend to her family our most sincere sympathy for their loss. Evelyn Stanton will be missed by everyone who had the good fortune to know her, and I count myself among those so blessed. Our community has been strengthened by her life and her service, and our country has been immensely bettered by her extraordinary contributions and a life lived exceedingly well.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2009, the day I took office, the national debt was $10,627,961,295,930.67.

Today, it is $16,432,619,424,703.06. We've added $5,804,658,128,772.39 to our debt in 4 years. This is a $5.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a Balanced Budget Amendment. We must stop this unconscionable accumulation of debt.

THE INDUCTION OF JACQUELINE DOUGLAS INTO THE CALIFORNIA OUTDOORS HALL OF FAME

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jacqueline Douglas upon her induction into the California Outdoors Hall of Fame. This is a terrific and well-deserved honor for a mainstay of the California sport fishing community

Jacky, known affectionately as ''Wacky Jacky,'' is a San Francisco native and the only female fishing charter boat skipper in the Bay Area. She is a legendary voice within San Francisco's sport fishing community, respected by fisherman of both Golden Gate and Pacific Coast Salmon fisheries, and one of the Bay Area's most passionate voices for protecting salmon and their habitat. She is a fervent fighter for conservation and water issues, as well as a tremendous advocate for salmon, wildlife, and the California coast.

Jacky has also been a great help to the members of the Bay Area congressional delegation in our efforts to achieve a water policy in California that will sustain all of our state's interests, including the important fisheries that yield so many jobs for people up and down the west coast.

Wacky Jacky was confirmed by a record 40 of 41 votes from peers, the highest vote tally of any member to gain entry into the California Outdoors Hall of Fame. She was nominated due to the fact that she has inspired thousands of Californians to take part in the great outdoors and conservation. She was also previously inducted at the International Sportsmen's Exposition at Sacramento's Cal Expo and honored by the Bay Institute for her dedicated advocacy. And in further recognition of her many accomplishments, Jacky was also inducted into her high school's Abraham Lincoln High School Wall of Fame in May 2002.

With 29 years of fishing experience, she is still taking people from all over the world fishing out the Golden Gate. At 84, she is a hero among her fellow fishing captains, and is one of the most popular party boat captains in America. She was the first and remains the only woman to own and skipper her own commercial boat in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Douglas passed her Coast Guard examination in 1972, purchased her first party boat and has mastered boating, safety and fishing ever since. She started fishing on San Francisco area boats in 1955, and became a deckhand in 1970, after which she skippered a private boat and fished commercially for several years. She became the skipper of the Wacky Jacky in 1973, unheard of for a woman at the time.

Jacky is well known for taking good care of her customers, and says the most important thing is, ''to have my customers leave with a smile on their face.'' In the meantime, Jacky, continually improves her sailing skills, has now earned her master mariner's license which permits her to skipper boats up to 100 tons. Over her career, she has taken an estimated 150,000 people out to fish.

Her unique position on the bay has made Jacky a part of what makes San Francisco such an incredible place. She has inspired numerous newspaper articles as well as television spots on CNN and National Geographic. During her career, Jacky has won a number of awards, including honors from the Commonwealth Club and the Golden Gate Fisherman's Association. Her work with newspapers, radio show hosts and TV broadcasts has made it easier for Californians to connect to the world of the outdoors. She was married to George Douglas and has four daughters.

I invite our colleagues to join me in congratulating Jacqueline Douglas, a woman beloved by all that meet her, for her lifelong efforts in fishing and conservation and her dedication to educating others about the outdoors.

HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN JO ANN EMERSON

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an incredible woman, role model, public servant, and friend.

Over the past several decades putting people before politics has been a way of life for Congresswoman Jo Ann Emerson. Whether it was an agricultural issue, flood control problems, a small business in trouble or a Veteran who needed help—there were no Democrats or Republicans to Jo Ann, just constituents.

Jo Ann truly represents the people of Missouri's 8th District by listening to them and then working hard to make a difference. Putting people before politics was not just a slogan to her—it was the way the gentlelady from Missouri's sprawling 8th District operates. She epitomized what being a Member of the People's House should be.

Her legacy of service and that of her late husband Bill Emerson will not be forgotten and she remains an example for all of us in this body. Her service will be remembered because of the lives she has touched by doing what was right because it was right.

While I am excited for Congresswoman Emerson in her new endeavor, I am sad for the great loss to this chamber and to the people of Missouri's 8th District.

INTRODUCING A BILL TO REQUIRE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO CONGRESS ON PAYMENT RATES FOR SCHOOL MEALS AND SUPPLEMENTS

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation that will provide this Congress with the information we need to determine whether the U.S. Department of Agriculture is correctly reimbursing schools in the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands for student meals.

Congress has already recognized that there may be costs in the insular and non-contiguous areas of our nation that are different than those in the continental United States and for this reason gave the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to set adjusted reimbursement rates in 42 U.S.C. 1760(f):

> In providing assistance for breakfasts, lunches, suppers, and supplements served in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Secretary may establish appropriate adjustments for each such State to the national average payment rates prescribed under sections 1753, 1759a, 1761 and 1766 of this title and section 4 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966, to reflect the differences between the costs of providing meals and supplements in those States and the costs of providing meals and supplements in all other States.

[Here ''States'' means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the named U.S. insular areas.]

The Secretary has used this authority to set adjusted—and place-appropriate rates—for both Alaska and Hawaii, where transportation and other factors add to the cost of providing meals in the schools. In the other insular areas—the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands—however, where distance and reverse economies of scale can increase costs just as in Alaska and Hawaii, schools are reimbursed at the standard national rate that applies throughout the continental U.S.

Those of us who shuttle between our duties in Congress and the insular areas we represent are familiar with the costs of food and other services both here and at home. We know that there are differences. And, if these differences mean that children in our areas are receiving less food or less nutritious food or no food at all because the current reimbursement rates are inadequate, then we need that information. By the same token—though this is not my expectation—if the federal government is overpaying, then Congress needs to know that, as well.

The legislation I am introducing today requires the Secretary of Agriculture to report to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate on:

1. the difference between the costs of providing meals and supplements under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 in the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands and the average cost of providing these meals and supplements in the 50 States and the District of Columbia; and

2. the relationship of those cost differences and the reimbursement rates offered to the insular areas.

Accurate information, such as this legislation will provide to Congress, is essential for accurate policy-making. I urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this bill and thank them for their support.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, on January 22, 2013, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall Nos. 24 and 25. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 24: "yes"—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 307

Rollcall No. 25: "no"—On Motion to Adjourn

HONORING ROSA PARKS' 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rosa Parks' 100th Birthday.

Rosa Parks is a true American icon and a civil rights activist. She is best known for refusing to give up her seat on a bus in Alabama to a white passenger in 1955. Consequently, she was arrested for civil disobedience.

Rosa Parks' actions were a catalyst for the Montgomery Bus Boycott. African Americans in Montgomery, Alabama boycotted local buses and used other methods of transportation to get to work. The boycott lasted 381 days and helped bring about the repeal of the law requiring segregation on public buses. Her actions helped bring additional national attention to race inequality throughout the United States.

Her courage and resolve was emblematic of the efforts made during the civil rights movement. Her actions remain part of the story of the fight to secure every individual's right to share the American dream.

Rosa Parks' legacy continues to resonate throughout the country. For example, in my own district, the Aspire Rosa Parks Academy in Stockton, California celebrates Rosa Parks' birthday. This tremendous event serves as an important reminder of how far we have come as a nation and serves as an educational and historical tool. It brings the community together to recognize one of the true pioneers of the civil rights movement.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing not only one of our nations' most well-regarded activists and her contributions to American history, but the countless schools and groups like the Aspire Rosa Parks Academy who celebrate her legacy every year.

HONORING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROE V. WADE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because 40 years ago our Supreme Court determined that every woman has the right to decide whether or not to continue her pregnancy. While that ruling stands today, we must remain vigilant.

As we speak, anti-choice activists are working to erode that right, not only by making abortions illegal, but by making them unavailable. In 2011, a record 92 abortion-regulating laws passed in 24 states, imposing onerous waiting periods, invasive ultrasounds, and dangerous parental consent requirements—All in an effort to make such services inaccessible.

As President Obama said on Monday, "while these truths may be self-evident, they have never been self-executing." Yes, abortion is legal, but we have to fight to ensure it remains accessible. The good news is, most Americans are with us. A recent Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll found 7 in 10 Americans believe Roe v. Wade should stand.

On the 40th Anniversary of Roe v. Wade let's reflect on the rights we have won, and renew the fight to protect them.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of 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 Committee—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 Thursday, January 24, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JANUARY 29

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. S–116

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Primary Health and Aging

To hold hearings to examine primary care. SD–430

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH–219

JANUARY 30

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. S–116

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine gun violence in America. SH–216

JANUARY 31

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Charles Timothy Hagel, of Nebraska, to be Secretary of Defense; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC–217 following the open session. SD–G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. S–116

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH–219

CORRECTION

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S189–S232

Measures Introduced: Sixty-one bills and seven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 64–124, S.J. Res. 2–4, and S. Res. 8–11. **Pages S212–14**

Signing Authority—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that from Wednesday, January 23, 2013, through Monday, January 28, 2013, the Majority Leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions. **Page S226**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

2 Army nominations in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S227–32**

Messages from the House: **Page S210**

Measures Referred: **Page S210**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S210, S226**

Executive Communications: **Pages S210–12**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S214–15**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S215–26**

Additional Statements: **Pages S208–09**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S226**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S226**

Recess: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and recessed at 6:39 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 24, 2013. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on pages S226–27.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

BENGHAZI

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Benghazi, focusing on the attacks and lessons learned, after receiving testimony from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary of State.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Nelson Stephen Roman, and Analisa Torres, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, and Claire R. Kelly, of New York, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade, who were introduced by Senator Gillibrand, Raymond P. Moore, to be United States District Judge for the District of Colorado, who was introduced by Senators Udall (CO) and Bennet, and Derrick Kahala Watson, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii, who was introduced by Senator Schatz, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 65 public bills, H.R. 12, 351–414; 1 private bill, H.R. 415; and 5 resolutions, H. Res. 42–46 were introduced. **Pages H277–81**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H283–84**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by a yea-and-nay vote of 291 yeas to 129 nays with 2 answering "present", Roll No. 28. **Pages H236–37**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the resignation of the gentlewoman from Missouri, Mrs. Emerson, the whole number of the House is 432.

Page H225

No Budget, No Pay Act of 2013: The House passed H.R. 325, to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until May 19, 2013, by a recorded vote of 285 ayes to 144 noes, Roll No. 30. **Pages H237–50**

Rejected the Murphy (FL) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 151 yeas to 277 nays, Roll No. 29. **Pages H248–50**

Pursuant to the rule, the amendment printed in H. Rept. 113–2 shall be considered as adopted.

Page H237

H. Res. 39, the rule providing for consideration of the bill, was agreed to by a recorded vote of 234 ayes to 190 noes, Roll No. 27, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 232 yeas to 193 nays, Roll No. 26. **Pages H227–36**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 42, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Pages H250–51**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Friday, January 25th; and when the House adjourns on that day, it adjourn to meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, January 29th. **Page H251**

Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution—Appointment: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following Members on the part of the House to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Representatives Sam Johnson (TX) and Cole. **Page H251**

Governing Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics—Appointments: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of the following individuals to serve as the Governing Board of the Office of Congressional Ethics, pursuant to section 4(d) of H. Res. 5, 113th Congress, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013: Nominated by the Speaker with the concurrence of the Minority Leader: Mr. Porter J. Goss of Florida, Chairman; Mr. James M. Eagen III of Colorado; Ms. Allison R. Hayward of Virginia; and Mr. Bill Frenzel of Virginia, Alternate. Nominated by the Minority Leader with the concurrence of the Speaker: Mr. David Skaggs of Colorado, Co-Chairman; Mrs. Yvonne Brathwaite Burke of California; Ms. Karan English of Arizona; and Mr. Mike Barnes of Maryland, Alternate. **Page H251**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H235, H235–36, H236–37, H249–50, H250. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Committee Meetings

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee met for organizational purposes. The Committee adopted its rules for the 113th Congress.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee met for organizational purposes. The Committee adopted its rules for the 113th Congress.

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT BY BASIC TRAINING INSTRUCTORS AT LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee met to receive testimony on a review of sexual misconduct by basic training instructors at Lackland Air Force Base. Testimony was heard from General Mark A. Welsh III, USAF, Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force; General Edward A. Rice, Jr., USAF, Commander, Air Education and Training Command, U.S. Air Force; and public witnesses.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a markup to adopt the rules of the Committee on Financial Services pursuant to clause 2 of Rule XI of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes. The Committee adopted its rules for the 113th Congress.

TERRORIST ATTACK IN BENGHAZI: THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S VIEW

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Terrorist Attack in Benghazi: The Secretary of State's View''. Testimony was heard from Hillary Rodham Clinton, Secretary, Department of State.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee met for organizational purposes. The Committee adopted its rules for the 113th Congress.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee met for organizational purposes. The Committee approved its rules for the 113th Congress.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee met for organizational purposes. The Committee adopted its rules for the 113th Congress.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee met for organizational purposes. The Committee adopted its rules for the 113th Congress.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee met for organizational purposes. The Committee adopted its rules for the 113th Congress.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee met for organizational purposes. The Committee adopted its rules for the 113th Congress.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 2013

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of John Forbes Kerry, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of State, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: to hold hearings to examine the state of America's mental health system, 10 a.m., SD–430.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Thursday, January 24

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will be in a period of morning business until 12 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2 p.m., Friday, January 25

House Chamber

Program for Friday: The House will meet in pro forma session at 2 p.m.

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