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# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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# House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. LAWRENCE).

## DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
*September 26, 2019.*

I hereby appoint the Honorable BRENDA L. LAWRENCE to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

## MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

## RECOGNIZING FORMER REPRESENTATIVE FRANK GUARINI

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SIRES) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great generosity and service of Frank Guarini, a former Member of this institution.

He was born and raised in Jersey City, New Jersey, and has served his State and country through many numerous roles: as a naval officer, a state senator, a representative to the General Assembly of the United Nations, and a Member of this House of Representatives for seven terms.

During his years on the House Committee on Ways and Means, Frank Guarini was a committed advocate for education.

Since retiring from Congress, he has remained a dedicated champion of education and public service, donating millions of dollars to support local universities and organizations.

He has provided funding to establish numerous institutes, including the Guarini Institute for Government and Leadership at St. Peter's University, a nonpartisan forum that drives conversation about public policy and New Jersey's key issues.

He has donated to the New Jersey City University to support performing arts and scholarships designed for interdisciplinary urban studies, planning, and development.

Most recently, Frank Guarini has announced a $10 million gift to St. Peter's University School of Business to expand and update the school's established new initiatives.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Frank Guarini for his generosity, his public service, his longstanding commitment to bolster education, and his support for his hometown of Jersey City. I thank Frank Guarini.

## THE OPIOID CRISIS AND THE AICDAC GRANT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to an ongoing epidemic that is plaguing most communities across the Nation. I am talking about the opioid crisis.

Far too many people have fallen victim to opioid abuse, and the statistics in Pennsylvania are frightening. In the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it is reported that 5,388 people died from drug overdose in 2017, many of them from opioid abuse.

Addiction does not discriminate. It does not see race, gender, or socioeconomic status. There is not a community in our Nation that hasn't been impacted by opioid addiction in some way.

Before my time in Congress, I spent 28 years as a therapist and rehabilitation services manager. I have seen firsthand how addiction impacts families and our communities.

September is Recovery Month, and it is an opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of substance abuse disorders.

To celebrate those who are helping combat the opioid crisis and those who are on the road to recovery, Clarion County recently celebrated Recovery Month by honoring first responders who have made an impact on the community.

Together, John Greenway, Farrah Murray, and Bridget Murray have saved 38 lives by delivering naloxone, the medication that counters the effects of opioid overdose.

At the award ceremony, Clarion resident Dustin Parsons told his story about his struggle with addiction, noting the help he received from the AICDAC, the Armstrong Indiana Clarion Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Dustin said: ''During the last few years of my addiction, I was in a position where I could meet the AICDAC. They helped me get a lot of resources. I want to give back to the community. I try to convince other people that there is a way out of this.''

The AICDAC works to prevent addiction and treat those who have fallen victim to opioid abuse, and they are the recent recipient of a $1 million grant from the Department of Health and Human Services.



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These funds will ensure the region will have substance abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment services, especially when it comes to combating the opioid crisis affecting our communities.

The grant is being used to expand the commission's Addiction Recovery Mobile Outreach Team that services the three area hospitals to provide treatment and recovery 24/7.

Kami Anderson, Executive Director of AICDAC, said: ''The commission will continue its work with county overdose task forces which are committed to reducing and eliminating the number of fatal opioid overdoses in the three-county area.''

Recovery is incredibly important. The care the therapists, first responders, doctors, and addiction specialists provide can, in many cases, be the difference between life and death, but we must not overlook the critical importance of prevention efforts.

Earlier this month, the Trump administration announced $1.8 billion to help States combat the opioid crisis. It is my hope that this will be a step in the right direction in healing and to rid this Nation of this health crisis.

## RECOGNIZING RAY O'CANTO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. COSTA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredible individual, a man who is a beloved member of the San Joaquin Valley from Fresno, California, Mr. Ray O'Canto.

Sadly, Ray passed away 2 weeks ago after a short battle with cancer.

He was a native of the San Joaquin Valley, born in Visalia, and played baseball at the College of the Sequoias and his beloved Fresno State Bulldogs. He also served for many years as the voice of the Fresno State baseball team.

In 2008, when the Bulldogs went from the underdogs to the wonder dogs and made their improbable run to win the College World Series, the collegiate national championship, Ray was there with his excitement and his enthusiasm that spread throughout the valley.

He was also a popular media personality, hosting a show that showcased the food and history of the great San Joaquin Valley and the incredible cornucopia of products that we produce.

Those who knew Ray said he radiated positivity and enthusiasm in everything he did, and that was the case.

He loved our community, and his loss will be felt for a very long time.

Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring our friend, Ray O'Canto.

### NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Hispanic Heritage Month and the countless Hispanic Americans who have contributed so much to the richness and diversity of our Nation.

Ray O'Canto was an example, but there are so many, many, many examples.

In my district, again in the San Joaquin Valley of California, the majority of our constituents trace their origin to Hispanic communities. Actually, in California, it goes back to the very origins of the State, about 400 years ago.

They, in so many different ways, reflect the diversity and the breadth and the width in our community and in our Nation in business, in education, in the military, in labor, in sports; meaningful contributions, working people that make a difference every day giving back.

The Hispanic community throughout our country reflects the American story, and that is the story, I believe, of the immigrant, immigrants past and immigrants present, all wanting to make a contribution and to live what we call the American Dream. The dream that is held near and dear by everyone throughout the world who admires and appreciates that America is a beacon of light, and certainly it has been for the Hispanic communities.

There are so many different individuals that I could recognize in my congressional district. I would like to mention a couple of individuals that I think reflect the temerity, the tenaciousness, and the willingness to give back.

Mr. Aguilera, a first-generation immigrant, worked his way from being homeless to owning his own business. He founded the Merced Soccer Academy, a local nonprofit organization which brings young people together to compete and to learn from one another. Every Monday, he hosts meetings for community members to share in events.

Another individual that I work with from the California Highway Patrol is Officer Aldo Garcia, also known as ''El Protector''. ''The Protector'' is a community outreach officer that focuses toward the Hispanic community. His emphasis on education, not just law enforcement, has broken down barriers for peace officers and created a more approachable situation.

There are so many examples: Jose Ramirez, a world champion boxer and an Olympic competitor; Tom Flores, two-time Superbowl championship coach for the Oakland Raiders. The list just goes on and on and on.

And guess what? All of these individuals and their families reflect immigrant origins coming to live the American Dream.

Isn't that really what it is all about? I believe so.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month and the noteworthy accomplishments that Hispanic Americans make throughout our country, serving in our Armed Forces, making the sacrifices that all Americans make. It is what makes our country the great country it is.

## NATIONAL FAMILY MEALS MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about one of my favorite topics: supper.

Growing up a farm kid in rural Kansas, supper was always a great time, a special time. As a matter of fact, most everything I needed to ever learn, I learned at the supper table.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the celebration and importance of September as National Family Meals Month, a grassroots movement to raise awareness of the benefits of bringing families together around the supper table for frequent family meals.

Family meals are at a critical intersection in our Nation. The will to return to the table exists, but families need a friendly familiar voice to show them the way.

As a physician, a husband, a father, and now a grandfather, I can speak to the positive impact having one or more family meals around the table each week can create for families and communities.

I believe there are Main Street issues, economic issues, and then there are suppertime issues as well. It is the issues at the dinner table we need to be more focused on.

In my house, we traditionally have dinner each day at 6 p.m., no exceptions. My wife, Laina, has an open invitation policy at our dining table. Our family and friends, whoever is over at our house, knows they can always have a seat, and as my dad used to say: ''We will just throw another potato in the pot.'' But one rule, they can't be late. And number two, you have to leave your cellphone in your bedroom.

We take the time to sit down without the day's distractions and discuss the issues impacting our lives and how we can provide support to one another.

Frequent family meals create stronger family relationships and provide opportunities to connect with loved ones and talk about your day. Eating together feeds the emotional well-being of all family members.

With the growing influence of social media and so many distractions, the table is one of the safe places left where families consistently can have a conversation together.

It is our local grocery stores that are helping bring families back to the table. They work to provide busy customers like you and me easy mealtime solutions and to realize the health and social benefits they contain.

□ 1015

With our very trusted neighborhood grocery stores assisting us with our mealtime challenges, I know we can get back to the table.

Right now, let's each of us promise to have more family meals and to get together at least once a week, because at home, together, is how Kansans and

Americans across this great Nation want, and need, to eat.

RECOGNIZING NEW BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to talk about the biggest news of the week, a new story I have yet to see the national media cover.

Yesterday, in New York City, the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Japan signed a bilateral trade agreement, a historic trade agreement. It is historic because the United States has never had a trade agreement with Japan.

I want to, first of all, thank Prime Minister Abe and all the Japanese for their business. Their business is so important to Kansas agriculture, to Kansas farmers, and to Kansas ranchers. I thank the Prime Minister and his staff for working so hard on this historic free and reciprocal trade agreement and for getting it done in record time. The speed that this agreement was done shows and proves the commitment of President Trump to our agricultural producers that the President values agriculture and knows that we feed not just our Nation but the entire world.

As many of you already know, Japan is the number one market for United States beef, pork, and wheat, all very important to Kansas farmers and ranchers.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. Prime Minister and Mr. President for showing their leadership.

Now, once again, I ask the Speaker of the House to show leadership and bring the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement to this floor. That agreement is the most important issue that this Congress can be facing. I cannot control what the Chinese are going to do in trade negotiations, but we can control the USMCA trade agreement. That is what is important to Kansans. That is what Kansans want us working on.

## HONORING OFFICER JUAN JOSE DIAZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. GOMEZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Juan Jose Diaz, a valuable member of the East Los Angeles community and a lifelong resident of California's 34th Congressional District. He was taken from us far too early this July at the age of 24.

He was full of potential and an inspiration to the people around him. His sense of duty extended beyond his uniform, being deeply engrained in him from a young age.

Growing up in Cypress Park, he had a profound understanding of his community and the problems they faced. He wanted to be a police officer since he was in preschool, the kind that young men of color, like himself, could reach out to for help, someone they could trust.

Officer Diaz put his life on the line to better his community and protect those who call it home.

One night, as he was at a taco stand in Lincoln Heights with his girlfriend and her brothers, he saw a man tagging gang graffiti on a wall nearby. Officer Diaz took his duty to serve and protect seriously, so even though he was not on the clock at that particular moment, he confronted the man and told him to stop.

Ultimately, this man who was doing the tagging left and returned and shot at Officer Diaz and his friends. Even in his last moments, this young hero, this officer, looked out for the people around him, helping his friends and others escape the gunfire. But Officer Diaz was shot and killed. You don't see that kind of commitment and courage every single day.

I mourn the passing of Officer Juan Jose Diaz with his family, his community, and his colleagues on the force. His legacy will live on with those who were lucky enough to have known him and with all the people who he inspired by his bravery and dedication to the people of East Los Angeles.

## RECOGNIZING MUNDO LATINO ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BACON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today during Hispanic Heritage Month to recognize Mundo Latino, a Hispanic publication originating from my district in Omaha, Nebraska, that has had a lasting impact on our Hispanic community for the last two decades.

Mundo Latino is a weekly newspaper serving the local Hispanic population. Founded by Abril Garcia, it is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.

Abril was born in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, in 1973, and is a graduate of the prestigious Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education, or Tec de Monterrey.

Abril immigrated to the United States in 1996 and invested her time and money in the success of her very own business, all while working multiple jobs during its inception. The goal was to create a communication medium that understood the language and culture of the Hispanic community and, more importantly, the needs of immigrants residing here in the United States.

Her degree in mass communication studies gave her the knowledge she needed to ensure the success of her startup newspaper. In 1999, Mundo Latino was born and had a distribution of 3,000 copies per month, all while Abril was still working as a cashier at a local grocery store. By 2003, Mundo Latino was printing 20,000 copies per month, an outstanding feat for a 4-year-old newspaper. In 2011, the success of Abril and her staff enabled them to start a second publication exclusively serving the Omaha area.

Today, Mundo Latino produces four different publications with a circulation of nearly 40,000 copies a week across the State of Nebraska and has become a cherished voice throughout the Latino community. Mundo Latino is considered the main Spanish newspaper for the Hispanic community in Nebraska and northwest Iowa.

Through the years, Mundo Latino has received numerous accolades, including Small Business of the Year and Business of the Year in Nebraska and Iowa, the Organization Award from the Nebraska Latino American Commission, and many others.

Mundo Latino exemplifies the American Dream. Our Nation provides us the opportunities to work hard and prosper, and Abril is doing just that. Again, I congratulate Mundo Latino and Abril Garcia on achieving 20 years of excellence in business and journalism.

## HONORING LOUIS O'NEIL DORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the brilliant life of Louis O'Neil Dore.

Dore was everything the Lowcountry could ask for in a hometown hero. Born in Beaufort in 1945, he attended Morehouse College and worked three jobs to put himself through college. After graduating, he returned home to teach high school and helped guide the desegregation of Beaufort's school system. He eventually obtained his law degree at the University of Georgia, where he was one of only four Black Americans in his class.

Dore was a tireless advocate for civil rights and a champion of voting rights, education, and improved health standards for the people of the Lowcountry. Dore served as the legal officer for the Beaufort-Jasper-Hampton Comprehensive Health Services, fighting for the rights of Black doctors to treat patients in Beaufort and Jasper Counties.

As chairman of the South Carolina Board of Education, Dore worked with leaders and legislators to pass the Education Improvement Act of 1984, which is considered some of the most comprehensive education reform legislation of its time.

Throughout the course of his life, Dore would return home to Beaufort to break historic ground, including becoming the first Black lawyer to be named partner at a South Carolina firm.

I know that I speak for the entire State when I say that Louis Dore is one of the greats, and we are honored that he shaped our history.

## HONORING COLONEL JOSEPH S. HICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, with solemn remembrance and a heavy heart, I rise today to honor the life of my uncle, Colonel Joseph S. Hice.

We knew him as Uncle Spurge. He was a great husband, a father, a friend to everyone who knew him, and an amazing American patriot.

Colonel Hice was born in 1928 in Cherry Log, Georgia. He attended the University of Georgia, where he graduated with a degree in aeronautical engineering.

His passion for flight led him to an amazing career in the United States Air Force, where he served with honor for 21 years. He was among the first jet pilots in our Nation's history who commanded the P–80, F–84, F–86, F–100, F–104, KC–135, and B–52.

During his distinguished career, he earned the World War II Victory Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with oak leaf cluster, the Air Force Commendation Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Bronze Star service medal.

Colonel Hice served his Nation with great honor during both the Korean and Vietnam wars and led the first squadron of jet aircraft to circumnavigate the globe nonstop.

During the October 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, Colonel Hice served at Strategic Air Command headquarters at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, where he helped coordinate various branches involved in Operation Looking Glass, and he was responsible for briefing President John Kennedy in real time.

Following his career in the Air Force, Colonel Hice celebrated a 20-year career with Eastern Air Lines in Miami, Florida, as a chief flight instructor. Later, he worked in real estate in both south Florida and Atlanta, Georgia, after his retirement from the airline.

Colonel Hice was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Phil Blankley Hice. He is survived by his children, Joseph Hice, Jr., Charles N. Hice, Leslie Jane Hice Coleman; his brother, my father, Thomas Hice; 10 grandchildren and great-grandchildren; his many nieces and nephews; and his beloved pup, Louie.

Colonel Hice led an illustrious life of great honor and marked dignity in service and commitment to his family, his friends, and his Nation. He will receive full military honors during a ceremony at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, Georgia, on Friday, October 4, 2019—10/4/2019.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this amazing American hero, Colonel Joseph S. Hice: Fly low and slow, and keep the doors open. 10–4.

## CONGRESS MUST ACT TO LOWER INSULIN COSTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. RUSH) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the scourge of the diabetes disease in lower income communities all across our Nation.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, over 30 million Americans are living with the dreaded diabetes, and many cannot properly manage this potentially deadly disease due to the high cost of their medication.

Insulin is a critical and necessary treatment for those with diabetes. Since 1996, the cost of the most frequently prescribed forms of insulin has increased from just $25 to over $250 per bottle.

According to a 2018 Yale University survey, one in four patients were forced to ration their insulin due to these skyrocketing costs, a potentially deadly practice.

□ 1030

No one, Madam Speaker, should ever have to forgo or ration their lifesaving medication, which is the very reason why I introduced H.R. 366, the Insulin Access for All Act.

This bill would prevent the most vulnerable citizens from having to choose between taking their insulin or paying their household bills by eliminating the out-of-pocket costs for Medicare and Medicaid patients.

I encourage all of my colleagues, Madam Speaker, to join me in supporting this very necessary bill.

Additionally, Madam Speaker, the Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health held a hearing yesterday to begin discussions on H.R. 3, the Lower Drug Costs Now Act. I am a proud cosponsor of this bill. I firmly believe that passing this piece of legislation would be an important step in relieving the burden of rising pharmaceutical costs experienced by all of our citizens. This legislation would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate fairer prices for some of the 250 most costly drugs, including insulin.

Madam Speaker, no American should ever have to wonder if they can afford the lifesaving insulin that they must depend on. Congress must take bold action to lower insulin costs. Lives are depending on it.

Madam Speaker, healthcare is a human right, and access to insulin is righteous and just and good.

## EASTERN HANCOCK HIGH SCHOOL WINS COLTS LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. PENCE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Eastern Hancock High School football team for being one of four Indiana high schools to win the Colts Leadership Challenge.

The Colts Leadership Challenge is a competition that encourages high school football teams to host blood drives and encourages donations throughout the summer.

Hundreds of donations are needed each day to meet the needs of the Versiti Blood Center of Indiana. We are so proud of the Royals for helping to deliver these critical, lifesaving measures.

I want to thank the Eastern Hancock High School football team for their outstanding service to the community and to the State of Indiana. Well done.

### RECOGNIZING BEC WICKER'S WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Rush County resident Bec Wicker, who was recently awarded the Women in Agriculture Achievement Award. The annual award recognizes Indiana women who have contributed significantly to the success of Indiana agriculture.

Bec joined Wicker Farms in 1976 and has since built a dairy milking operation, a calf and cow operation, and produces corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa, and hay.

I thank Mrs. Bec Wicker for her outstanding contributions and support for the agriculture community.

### FARMERS IN INDIANA'S SIXTH DISTRICT RECEIVE HOOSIER HOMESTEAD AWARD

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the outstanding achievement of 27 family farms in Indiana's Sixth Congressional District.

The Hoosier Homestead Award is given out by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture to family farms that have been farming for over 100 years, 150 years, and 200 years. I am proud that, in my district alone, 15 family farms earned the Hoosier Homestead centennial award, 8 earned the sesquicentennial award, and 4 earned the bicentennial award.

Future generations of Hoosier farmers can look up to these family farms and know that hard work and dedication pays off.

Congratulations to all of these families for earning the recognition as a Hoosier homestead.

### INDIANA'S BEIRUT MEMORIAL MONUMENT

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, this weekend, I joined my fellow veterans and Gold Star families in dedicating the Beirut Memorial monument to Hoosiers killed in the terrorist attack in Beirut, Lebanon, on October 23, 1983.

As a Beirut veteran myself, I understand that our first duty is to remember. I am proud that Indiana now has our own memorial to commemorate the Indiana servicemen who sacrificed their lives in the name of peace, and we will never forget:

James Baynard, USMC
Danny Estes, USMC
Michael Gorchinski, USN
Maurice Hukill, USMC
George McVicker, USN; and
Thomas Thorstad, USMC.

Madam Speaker, I will always be faithful.

Semper fi.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BLUMENAUER) at noon.

PRAYER

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

God, Father of us all, thank You for giving us another day.

All the world, and certainly all Americans, know that this is a time of rare historic significance here in the Capital.

Bless Your children, the men and women of the peoples' House, with grace, patience, good judgment, and honesty in the deliberations of this day and the many to come.

Lord, have mercy on us all. May all that is done be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO 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 PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOSE J. GONZALEZ

(Mrs. NAPOLITANO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Master Sergeant Jose J. Gonzalez of La Puenta, California, from my district, who died on August 21 during combat operations in Faryab province in Afghanistan.

Master Sergeant Gonzalez was a Green Beret who served with distinction in the military for 17 years and deployed seven times during his career as a marine, Army infantryman, and special forces engineering sergeant.

He was recently assigned to the 1st Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

Master Sergeant Gonzalez served with incredible courage and bravery and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, the Purple Heart Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, and many other high honors.

Mr. Speaker, I intend to recognize and extend my deepest sympathy to Master Sergeant Gonzalez' wife, his children, his mother, his father, family, friends, and his fellow soldiers in the 1st Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, to the Gonzalez family, please know that the Congress of the United States grieves with you. The courage, character and sacrifice that he has made to our country will never be forgotten.

God bless the Gonzalez family. God bless America.

SUPPORT CLEAN ENERGY

(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, as part of National Clean Energy Week, I am grateful for clean energy and its advances in South Carolina.

The success of President Donald Trump has been the achievement of energy independence for America.

South Carolina is home to seven nuclear power reactors that produce 95 percent of the State's emission-free electricity. In addition, nuclear energy facilities in South Carolina employ over 2,800 South Carolinians. Nuclear energy is a reliable source, providing over half of the State's electricity.

Solar energy is also a reliable form of clean energy. Currently, there is enough solar installed in South Carolina to power over 90,000 homes.

I have been impressed by visiting Cypress Creek Renewables, a solar farm in Gaston-Swansea, Lexington County, welcomed by Wannelle Lefkowitz; NARENCO solar farm in Orangeburg County, welcomed by Michael Cox; and Green Energy Biofuel in Aiken County, reprocessing cooking oil, welcomed by Joe Renwick; along with Ameresco, clearing woody debris at the Savannah River Site.

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

NEGOTIATED DRUG PRICING SHOULD BE ENACTED NOW

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, this week, the Committee on Ways and Means released a report highlighting the disparities between the cost of prescription drugs in the United States and other developed nations.

This report found that on average, drug prices in the United States were nearly four times higher than prices in similar countries.

The sky-high cost of prescription drugs affects all of our communities, and too many Americans cannot afford the medications they need. The Medicare Program alone last year spent $135 for prescription drugs.

It is a lot of money, but it is also a lot of leverage, a lot of leverage that should be used to negotiate lower drug prices for Medicare and for the American people.

Negotiated drug pricing should be enacted now.

NATIONAL LITERACY MONTH

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as National Literacy Month.

Reading is a fundamental part of learning and expanding our knowledge of the world around us. It is especially important to form strong reading habits in childhood that we can carry with us throughout our adult lives.

Parents, educators, and the local community can all play a role in encouraging young people to pick up a book and to exercise their imaginations.

A great resource that schools, museums, and public libraries can take advantage of is the Library of Congress' Surplus Book Program. This initiative offers surplus books of all kinds and for all ages to organizations and institutions nationwide to help build their book collections, and I encourage those interested to visit the library's website for more information.

Mr. Speaker, reading at a young age is important, but a passion for books can form at any stage of life.

During National Literacy Month, let's all pick up a new book and share the reading experience with the children in our lives.

WHISTLEBLOWER

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

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, a whistleblower brought a complaint to the DNI, who sent it to the inspector general—

that they found to be a credible person and a credible complaint threatening the security of our country—that a phone conversation had taken place between our President and the President of Ukraine suggesting that he should, the President of Ukraine, go into a criminal investigation that would affect the election of 2020, and conditioned it through actions on military aid to Ukraine.

This is suborning the Constitution and threatening our national security.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Speaker PELOSI for calling for an impeachment inquiry. It is the right time. It is the right issue. This is an egregious subversion of our Constitution.

Long may the United States survive and live as a true democracy.

## HONORING SERGEANT VERNON JUDD

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

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, like more than a million Americans, Vernon Judd was drafted into service during the Korean war. Leaving his hometown in Stark County, Ohio, to serve in the Army, Vernon Judd was one of ten children, with whom he left behind fond memories.

His younger brother, Ken, recalled fireworks shows Vernon would put on for the community.

Sergeant Judd was just 6 weeks away from being relieved of duty when he went missing in action in 1950.

Being taken to a Korean prisoner of war camp, Judd survived just a few months before succumbing to starvation, dysentery, and exposure to the elements, according to a fellow POW military doctor. It was not until 1954 that Judd's family learned of his death.

Nearly 70 years after his death, Sergeant Vernon Judd was identified and returned home to Ohio.

On Tuesday, he was laid to rest at Ohio Western Reserve National Cemetery, and the homecoming celebration attracted thousands.

Vernon Judd is one of many Americans who lost their life in service to our Nation. His homecoming may be delayed, but it was welcomed. It brings peace, relief, and comfort to the Judd family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in celebrating and honoring Sergeant Vernon Judd and pray the families of the remaining servicemembers missing in action find the same peace.

## NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

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

Mr. DELGADO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight National Recovery Month.

The opioid crisis is deeply prevalent in upstate New York, and my district is home to some of the highest overdose rates in the State. Overdose deaths have increased by 83 percent from 2016 in my home county, Dutchess.

Combating this crisis must include addressing the prevalence of opioids, holding Big Pharma accountable, and treating addiction like the disease that it is.

Earlier this year, I introduced the bipartisan Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment Act.

This act does away with seeking special waivers as a requirement for providers to prescribe buprenorphine, a proven treatment for addiction. Making this medication more accessible will save lives and destigmatize addiction so folks will see it for what it is: a disease that requires treatment.

As we recognize National Recovery Month, let us honor those we have lost with action on bipartisan legislation to help those suffering with this disease.

Inaction costs us lives every day. Let's pass H.R. 2482.

## HELP FOR OUR DAIRY INDUSTRY

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

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, while our Nation's farmers continue to bear the brunt of the obstruction stopping passage of the USMCA, there is a lot we can do to help our struggling dairy industry.

Currently, I am a proud cosponsor of three bills that would do just that and implement the priorities of not just farmers in Pennsylvania's 12th Congressional District, but farmers across our Nation.

The bipartisan Dairy Pride Act would provide truth in labeling by preventing nondairy products made from nuts, algae, seeds, and plants from using dairy terms.

The Whole Milk for Healthy Kids Act of 2019, introduced by Pennsylvania's own G.T. THOMPSON, would increase consumption of whole milk in our schools, allowing children to reap the taste and nutritional benefits of whole milk, and is a win-win for both children and dairy producers alike.

In addition, the School Milk Nutrition Act of 2019, also sponsored by Congressman THOMPSON, would roll back another bad policy from the Obama years and would codify that schools may offer flavored low-fat milk in the National School Lunch Program.

Mr. Speaker, if Democrat leaders will not bring up the USMCA for a vote and help our dairy farmers by doing things like eliminating Canada's Class 7 milk, then we should act to find other ways to solve these problems for our dairy farmers. These are three bills that are a great start.

## END THE RECKLESS TRADE WAR

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

Mr. CISNEROS. Mr. Speaker, the President continues to talk about how the tariffs are working, how China is struggling, their economy is hurting, and they are ready to make a deal.

The reality is American businesses are suffering. The trade tariffs have had a negative impact on small businesses and consumers in my district.

I recently met with SEMA, the Specialty Equipment Market Association, an organization that represents nearly 8,000 businesses across the country, 1 million workers, and revenue of over $45 billion. Seventy-five of those businesses are in California's 39th Congressional District.

The ongoing uncertainty and threats of new tariffs create an atmosphere of unpredictability and uncertainty that can inhibit growth and innovation.

Mr. Speaker, while businesses want to address unfair trade practices, they disagree with the administration's reckless approach to impose tariffs. These tariffs have increased prices for American consumers, hurt businesses, and harmed American families, not foreign countries.

China is no closer to making a deal than it was 6 months ago.

Let's end this reckless trade war for the sake of our consumers, our businesses in California's 39th, and across the country.

## HONORING CAPTAIN JASON JONES

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Captain Jason Jones from Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania.

Captain Jones graduated at the top of his class from the United States Military Academy at West Point. After graduating, he served as team leader for the U.S. Army's 1st Battalion, 3rd Group Special Forces.

While deployed overseas, he was tragically killed in action on June 2, 2014, in Afghanistan.

Jason is survived by his wife, Dr. Amy Jones; parents, Jay and Suzy Jones; and sister and brother-in-law, Drs. Elizabeth and Alex Gambogi.

I recently attended an event that raised funds to honor Jason's service and ultimate sacrifice. The fundraiser was attended by hundreds of family and friends. The event raises money for scholarships, benefiting those in the community who are interested in following Jason's patriotic pursuit of military service.

Mr. Speaker, let us never forget and always support those, like Captain Jason Jones, who made the ultimate sacrifice to safeguard our freedoms.

Jason is so lovingly remembered by his family and his community. He has left behind a great legacy and a proud and grateful community and country.

□ 1215

## HONORING MARCA BRISTO

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

Ms. SHALALA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of a friend, Marca Bristo, the brilliant advocate for people with disabilities. She passed away recently at the age of 66.

In 1977, she became paralyzed from the chest down after a diving accident at the age of 23. As she adjusted to life in a wheelchair, she struggled to navigate in an often deeply inaccessible world.

Before long, she founded what is now Access Living, a Chicago-based nonprofit organization focusing on service and advocacy for people with disabilities. She served as CEO until shortly before her death.

Marca helped write the Americans with Disabilities Act, landmark legislation that extended the Civil Rights Act to people with disabilities. The bill was signed into law in 1990.

Four years later, President Clinton appointed her to serve as Chair of the National Council on Disability, where she continued working to increase accessibility and to fight disability discrimination.

Her work revolutionized disability rights. She melded an unparalleled sense of legislative strategy with deep compassion for people with disabilities.

We will remember her with pride as we continue to work to expand disability rights.

## AMERICA MUST LEAD ON CLIMATE CHANGE

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

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, this week, the United Nations is hosting its Climate Action Summit. Robust funding and sound policies are needed to ensure we effectively combat climate change.

Threatened by increasingly more frequent and extreme changes in our climate, territories like the U.S. Virgin Islands stand at the front line of this quickly escalating climate crisis.

Within the past decade, my district has reduced fossil fuel use by 20 percent and has become a regional leader in clean energy. States and territories have also passed regional and State-specific legislation to combat climate change, but we need a comprehensive, forward-looking national plan to address this threat to our children and our children's children.

While we don't yet have all the tools to address rapid climate change, we must create them through increased Federal investment in research, development, and deployment of emerging technologies.

Across the Nation, climate change is threatening our economy and our lives. Hurricanes like Irma and Maria collectively cost $140 billion, according to NOAA, and, most importantly, they cost thousands of lives.

America must lead the charge to preserve our planet.

## END HIDDEN TRAVEL FEES

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this summer, we witnessed a record number of Americans take the opportunity to travel. Unfortunately, this also meant a record number of travelers were subjected to hidden fees charged by hotels, motels, and other places of accommodation.

It is projected that, in 2019 alone, over $3 billion in revenue will be collected from consumers due to these deceptive hidden fees.

That is why I, along with my colleague Mr. FORTENBERRY from Nebraska, have introduced H.R. 4489, the Hotel Advertising Transparency Act. This bill would require the prices regularly advertised by hotels and online travel agencies to include all mandatory fees that will be charged to a consumer, excluding taxes.

Mr. Speaker, consumers deserve full transparency when making their travel plans. They should be able to enjoy their vacations without being ripped off and financially burdened with almost twice as much as the room that had been advertised.

## RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on the Budget:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
*September 26, 2019.*

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI, I write to respectfully tender my resignation as a member of the Committee on the Budget. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,
WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV,
*Member of Congress.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

## RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Education and Labor:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
*September 26, 2019.*

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I write to respectfully tender my resignation as a member of the Committee on Education and Labor. It has been an honor to serve in this capacity.

Sincerely,
WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV,
*Member of Congress.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

## RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
*Washington, DC, September 25, 2019.*

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, House of Representatives,*
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I write to first thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve in the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology for the last several months. I am pleased to have represented the people of Puerto Rico and their interests on the advancement of science and research in this capacity. However, I understood this assignment was temporary in nature. Hence, I respectfully and sadly offer my resignation as a member of this Committee. It has been an honor to serve in this role and I remain available pending any future vacancies. I look forward to collaborating with my colleagues in the Committee in other endeavors.

Sincerely,
JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-CÓLON,
*Member of Congress.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted.

There was no objection.

## PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S.J. RES. 54, TERMINATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT ON FEBRUARY 15, 2019

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 591 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 591

*Resolved,* That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 54) relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019. All points of order against consideration of the joint resolution are waived. The joint resolution shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the joint resolution are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure; and (2) one motion to commit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New York is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman

from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 591, providing for consideration of S.J. Res. 54, relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019, under a closed rule.

The rule provides 1 hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and provides one motion to commit.

Mr. Speaker, this joint resolution, pursuant to the National Emergencies Act, would terminate the national emergency declared by the President issued in July of this year. The same day that President Trump declared a state of emergency at our southern border, he, himself, said, ''I didn't need to do this.'' It is now clear that statement is true.

The President used an authority commonly used for construction at military bases in foreign countries during a time of emergency. That authority is now being used to divert $3.6 billion away from needed military construction projects to build a wall that does not have the needed political support in the House and Senate to be funded through normal appropriations.

This emergency declaration was a politically motivated power grab seeking to undermine congressional authority to oversee Federal spending.

The executive cannot run roughshod over this constitutional principle when the President fails to gain enough support for his policies. And exaggerating the threat posed by asylum seekers at our border has not been a convincing argument.

The American people have spoken. Over 60 percent of the public opposed this emergency declaration.

What has been the result of the Presidential proclamation? Life safety violations and fire risks at dilapidated military facilities are going unaddressed. The Pentagon has been forced to defund billions of dollars from 127 different military construction projects around the Nation and the globe.

In Portsmouth, Virginia, a warehouse has life-threatening conditions, but 330 servicemembers and civilian workers will continue to work in a building without enough fire exits and without a working fire alarm or sprinkler system. That doesn't seem to matter to President Trump, though. Fencing and barriers along the border are more important to our Commander in Chief.

In Maryland, money is being diverted from a planned childcare facility to help soldiers balance their family commitments with their service to our country.

In Kentucky, a middle school has lost out on $66 million in construction funding.

In South Carolina, they won't be getting the fire station approved and funded by Congress.

Our Armed Forces are also being denied a drone pilot training facility, a ballistic missile field, a submarine maintenance building, multiple training facilities, access improvements, and safety upgrades.

In my home State of New York, a $160 million appropriation is being taken away from projects at the United States Military Academy at West Point, including a state-of-the-art engineering facility to support the Center for Innovation and Engineering.

After being promised that Mexico would be paying for this wall, we are, instead, harming military readiness, safety, and innovation in response to a politically exaggerated threat.

We, in Congress, have already done our job to put military construction dollars where they are needed most. Now it is time for Congress to do our duty again and prevent this overreach by the President.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for this rule and for the underlying resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from New York for yielding me the customary 30 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I am usually pretty excited to be down here on the House floor talking about the rule. It is always an opportunity to set the stage for what the House is getting ready to do, and this is a body that is filled with men and women who want to get something done. The honor that Mr. MORELLE and I have to come down and always begin that conversation is a special one.

Today, unfortunately, we are not coming down here to get new business done. We are coming down here on the exact same language that we have already considered this year, the exact same language that the House has already passed this year, the exact same language that the President has already vetoed this year, and absolutely no expectation that anything different is going to happen this time.

Mr. Speaker, when we talk about emergencies, the irony is not lost on me that I do consider it to be an emergency when thousands upon thousands of unaccompanied children are crossing the southern border in need of housing, in need of healthcare, and in need of food, clothing, and care.

I do consider it an emergency when we have a southern border that is porous, that is the transit point for drugs, for human trafficking, and for weapons trafficking. I do consider that an emergency.

My friends on the other side of the aisle take issue with the President and his declaration of that emergency. Again, the irony is that we had an emergency meeting in the Rules Committee last night so that we could come down here and declare this a nonemergency.

It is a bipartisan, bicameral goal to provide safety and security on every border of the United States of America. I would encourage my colleagues to take a look at what happened in this body yesterday.

Again, I thank my friend from New York for his role in it on the Rules Committee. We brought a resolution to the floor with the rule that was going to demand the production of documents from the White House. When we considered that resolution in the Rules Committee, it was full of partisan accusation after partisan accusation after partisan accusation before it got down to a request for a document.

That was going to come to the floor, and it was going to pass, but it was going to pass in a strictly partisan vote. I would argue that diminishes the institution and diminishes the cause that the majority was seeking.

To the majority's credit, during consideration of the rule, they rescinded all of those whereases, took all the partisan material out of that resolution, brought the very same document request to the floor, and it passed unanimously.

There is so much that we have in common, Mr. Speaker, that gets overshadowed by the partisan nonsense that occurs here day in and day out.

I want to ask my friends—and I regret that I didn't do it last night in the Rules Committee; I should have—to take a look at H.R. 1410.

□ 1230

H.R. 1410 is a bipartisan bill that does what I know we both want to do as Article I Members, and that has changed the language of the National Emergencies Act so that Congress does reclaim the power from the administration.

Today, as you know, Mr. Speaker, the President gets to decide what is an emergency. We delegated that authority to him. Right or wrong, the Congress—not this Congress, but a previous Congress—delegated that opportunity.

Mr. REED from New York, again, in a bipartisan way, introduced language in February of this year, as this was unfolding the first time, to say let's fix this language once and for all. Let's not have ourselves in a partisan debate on the House floor about whether we like what one President or another did. Let's reclaim Article I's power and decide that no President is going to be able to disburse funds as he or she seats fit, that Congress is going to reclaim that responsibility.

To the best of my knowledge, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1410 has not moved through committee. It certainly has not been considered by the Rules Committee, and it certainly is not headed to this floor.

We have a choice, Mr. Speaker. We can continue to find things to argue about, or we can unite around those things that we all know to be right.

I don't disagree with my friends on the other side of the aisle who want to reclaim Article I's authority. I share that goal, support that goal, and would gladly apply my vote to that goal.

What I do disagree with is a Congress that has failed to create a functioning budget process—that is functioning by continuing resolution now through November—and, instead of responding to what I think are very legitimate requests from this White House for additional resources on the southern border, has chosen again to bring a bill that may well pass this House but will not be signed by the President and will not impact the future goings on in this government, as I know we all want to do.

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

Mr. MORELLE. I yield myself such time as I may consume, and thank my colleague. Let me just point out, I will admit, when I arrived here in November, having been elected in a special election, I was somewhat curious that—I think the last emergency meeting of the Rules Committee in the 115th Congress, the last one dealt with cheese curds. So I am not exactly sure how my friend and colleague defines emergencies.

What I do know is that this section of the National Emergencies Act, really, was constructed to help the President and the country deal with emergencies that arise before the Congress can act, but it is not intended to overrule congressional action. The Congress did act on this issue—there can be no question about that—during the last appropriations process.

The other thing that the gentleman mentions, which I do want to make clear, is the reason that we are doing this now, it is different. Perhaps the resolution is not different, but we now have a complete list of all of the projects that are now being defunded in order to move dollars over to the wall.

I would also just point out that, not only was the original resolution bipartisan in the Senate, but the resolution which passed within the last few days had 11 Republican Senators support it. I think one was unavailable who had supported it in the past and indicated that he would continue to support the resolution. So it is bipartisan.

This is truly the act of Congress. I know that my friend and colleague is well-associated with Article I, Section 9, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution: ''No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law. . . . ''

So we are bound, and the Congress has acted. The Congress made the decision not to fund this. The President is using powers in a way that were not intended and diverting dollars away from much-needed, necessary projects that enhance our military readiness.

I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am not certain that I disagree with my friend from New York about the language being used as it was intended; what I am certain about is the language is being used as it is written. It is incumbent upon this Congress, if we don't like the way the laws were drafted—that we drafted—that we go back and we change those laws.

As the Speaker well knows, yesterday, we dealt with marijuana on the floor of the House. We didn't decide we were going to repeal the schedule I classification of marijuana. We just decided that, for those States that were ignoring Federal law, we were going to let them ignore more Federal law, too, and go ahead and get involved in the banking system as well.

It is lost upon me why it is that this body has concluded that, rather than changing things we don't like, we should just ignore those things or complain about those things. It is the United States Congress, and we have an opportunity to do things. We weren't elected to talk about it. We were elected to get it done, and I know my friend from New York shares that same passion.

Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question today, we will have an opportunity to get something done together. If we defeat the previous question, I will bring up an amendment to the rule to make in order debate on S. 820, the Debbie Smith Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, this authorization language is set to expire at the end of this month, and it provides Federal grants to States to reduce the DNA backlog in criminal investigations.

You don't have to turn on two news stations in your district, Mr. Speaker, just turn on one. You will see the impact of what going back and testing that DNA using technologies that are available today that were not available years ago has meant, particularly in rape and sexual assault cases.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous materials, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, we have subject matter experts and almost everything in this institution, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to yield to one of our passionate advocates and experts on this issue. I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. WOODALL), for his tremendous service and for yielding to me this time to talk about this very pressing and important issue.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to defeat the previous question so that the House of Representatives can finally debate and vote on the Debbie Smith Reauthorization Act.

While my colleagues on the other side of the aisle play partisan games on border security and impeachment, critical programs authorizing the testing of DNA evidence across the country are set to expire in just 4 days, on September 30.

Along with my colleague CAROLYN MALONEY, I introduced and am the lead Republican sponsor on the Debbie Smith Act, with the support of the Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network.

Debbie Smith programs provide funding to crime labs to process DNA evidence and strengthen the national DNA database that provides justice to victims.

The legislation requires that States like mine, Missouri, create plans for the reduction of backlogs and the testing of rape kits and other DNA evidence.

Since this program was created on a bipartisan basis, nearly 200,000 DNA matches have been made in criminal cases, since 2005, providing justice to the victims in cases that may otherwise have gone unsolved. The number of DNA samples collected is skyrocketing, sadly, and we need the Debbie Smith programs now more than ever.

The Senate has already unanimously sent their version of the legislation over to the House, but House leadership continues to refuse to bring it to the floor. This, Mr. Speaker, is unconscionable.

Every Member of the House Republican Conference is demanding that we bring the Debbie Smith Act to the floor, but our pleas for justice for victims of sexual violence are being ignored.

Mr. Speaker, I beg of my colleagues to please join me in defeating the previous question and urge House leadership to put politics aside and reauthorize these critical programs to convict dangerous predators and help end sexual violence in our country.

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

Mr. Speaker, with all due respect, this is nothing more than smoke and mirrors. The bipartisan Debbie Smith Act was included in the Violence Against Women Act that was supported by this House and was funded in the CR which we just enacted, which I was proud to support. I am not sure all Members voted for the CR, but I did, and the funding for the Debbie Smith Act is included in that.

Obviously, to suggest that this majority in this House is not interested in supporting women and women who are victims of violence, is, frankly, reprehensible.

But let me move back to the rule of law, which is what we are actually debating here, and it relates to our authority under the Emergency Powers Act.

I do want to note, to Mr. WOODALL's point, we are not adding new law. This is a resolution, which is clearly a provision in the National Emergencies Act that allows the Congress to make the point that the emergency, if it ever existed, no longer exists and this funding is inappropriate, this shift of funding.

This is, again, a simple resolution passed by the Senate, and it indicates that, in our view, the congressional authority is where the appropriations process lies. It is articulated well in the Constitution, and the Congress has acted, has acted before and will act again.

The projects that are necessary for military construction around the globe and throughout the United States are vital, and support of this resolution and the rule would be something that I would think Mr. WOODALL and Members of the House would agree to.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, again, I enjoy working with the gentleman from New York. When I think about folks who are able to work across the aisle to get things done around here, the gentleman from New York is up at the top of that list.

If you have not tuned into the Rules Committee, Mr. Speaker, number one, shame on you. It is a vibrant discussion. It happens every Monday at 5 o'clock, at least once, if not twice, at least for an hour, if not for 5 or 6. It is rare that Mr. MORELLE is questioning witnesses up there that I don't learn something new, that I don't gain from his perspective.

He is absolutely right when he talks about the resolution that the Rules Committee is trying to send to the floor being a bipartisan resolution. When it passed the United States Senate, there were 11 Republicans who supported it along with all of the Democrats.

What Mrs. WAGNER is proposing that we replace it with isn't something that was passed by just 11 bipartisan votes; it is something that was passed unanimously, Mr. Speaker.

It is true what my friend from New York says; we included this language in the VAWA bill that passed the House earlier. That was a partisan exercise, too. That bill hasn't moved through the United States Senate.

In contrast to decades of reauthorizations here, Mr. Speaker, where this DNA testing authorization passes as a standalone bill with broad, bipartisan support, this Congress, this year, for reasons unbeknownst to me, decided to play a political game with it.

What Mrs. WAGNER is offering us the opportunity to do is to bring a bill that passed unanimously in the United States Senate to the House floor, where it can pass unanimously here, too.

Again, my friend from New York is right. What this Congress has done is provide funding for this bill all the way through the month of November—not the entire month of November, but 3 weeks in November. That is absolutely true that Congress has done this important work for at least a month and a half.

What Mrs. WAGNER is offering us the opportunity to do is do this important work for another 5 years, which I know my friends on the other side want to do.

To speak on this issue, I told my friend from New York that I didn't have any speakers on the underlying bill. It is true. I expect that to be another partisan exercise. But on this language, Mr. Speaker, I do have another speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from North Dakota (Mr. ARMSTRONG), one of our new Members, if he is willing.

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Mr. Speaker, I understand how CRs work, but also the set-asides go away. We have a standalone bill from the Senate right now. We could put it on the Consent Calendar.

Just to give a little history, the Debbie Smith Act originally passed in 2004, and in 2008, under Democrat control, the House passed the reauthorization under a suspension of the rules by voice vote. The Senate, which was under Republican control, passed the bill with an amendment by unanimous consent. The House subsequently passed the Senate amendment version, and it was signed into law by George W. Bush.

□ 1245

In 2014 under Republican control, the House passed the bill under suspension by voice vote. The Democratic-controlled Senate passed it under unanimous consent. It was signed by President Barack Obama.

So the question is: Why can't we take a standalone bill?

Why, all of a sudden, in this Congress did it need to be part of a larger bill that turns into partisan gamesmanship and a fight between the two Chambers and the two parties?

In 2017 there were approximately 136,000 rapes. Only four in ten rapes even go reported. That is actually an improvement. Not so many years ago it was only two in ten. Mr. Speaker, 90,671 of those rapes are unsolved. Many of them are never charged. Out of every 1,000 sexual assaults, 995 perpetrators will go unpunished.

Just earlier this week I sat in the Rules Committee, and we argued on the repeal of forced arbitration. By the way, I agree with my Democratic colleagues. Sexual assault should never be forced into arbitration. But if we are going to make the argument of forced arbitration and deal with that in a civil proceeding or an employment proceeding or those types of issues, clearly, we can all agree that the single best way to put violent sexual predators behind bars in jail and in prison is with DNA testing.

Mr. Speaker, I said it yesterday, and I will say it again: You have the best ability to convict criminals—the worst kind of criminals—and you have the ability to do it without revictimizing the victim through a criminal process, through a deposition, through a jury trial. Many of the reasons these crimes go unreported or unconvicted, particularly child victims of sexual abuse, are because of the trauma associated with a criminal proceeding.

Do you know what happens in a criminal proceeding with DNA evidence?

You get guilty pleas, because you can't beat the evidence.

So conservative estimates say that the number of rape kits is around 170,000 which are untested. Every single one of those kits represents a human being, and it is somebody's mother, sister, daughter, or granddaughter. That person has gone through a horrible, terrible, and grotesque trauma, and they deserve justice.

This is easy. This is easy to do. We could do it today. We could do it tomorrow before we go home. But here's the deal: it expires in 14 days, and while we are gone for 2 weeks in recess, 5,000 more rapes will be committed.

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

Mr. Speaker, I acknowledge I am a bit of a football fan—not much of an expert, but a fan—and I know that from time to time a play will be called and a quarterback will follow all the offensive line moving to the right of the field and follow behind them and appear to be handing the ball off to a running back behind the offensive line, but actually the quarterback has the ball, turns around, and goes the other way. It is called misdirection. And that is what is happening on the floor, as we speak.

I understand why my colleagues don't want to talk about the President's actions. I understand why the Members on the other side don't want to talk about actions that we consider to be considerably outside what was intended by the national emergency powers given to the President. So I would like to get back, if I may, though, to the issue at hand.

I want to just read something.

''We will vote on a resolution to reverse the President's ill-advised national emergency declaration that funds the construction of a border wall using money that Congress has appropriated and the President has signed into law for other purposes, such as military construction. . . .''

''By declaring a national emergency, the President's action comes into direct conflict with Congress' authority to determine the appropriation of funds—a power vested in Congress by the Framers of our Constitution in Article I, Section IX. That is why this

issue is not about strengthening our border security, a goal that I support and have voted to advance. Rather, Mr. President, it is a solemn occasion involving whether or not this body will stand up for its institutional prerogatives and will support the separation of powers enshrined in our Constitution.

''Throughout our history, the courts have consistently held that, 'Only Congress is empowered by the Constitution to adopt laws directing moneys to be spent from the U.S. Treasury.'

''For the past 65 years, the courts have determined the boundaries of Presidential authority, vis-a-vis Congress, under the doctrine of Youngstown Steel Sheet & Tubing, the 1952 Supreme Court case which reversed President Truman's seizure of U.S. steel companies during the Korean war. As Justice Robert Jackson explained in his profoundly influential concurrence in that case, the question of whether a President's actions are constitutionally valid should be determined by examining the source of the President's authority, and in this concurrence, the Justice goes through three scenarios in which he assesses the President's power.

''According to Justice Jackson, when acts taken by the President are against the express or implied will of Congress, the President's power is at its lowest ebb. Mr. President, President Trump's declaration clearly falls in that category.

''Now, the President rests his declaration on the National Emergencies Act, and that act fails to define precisely what constitutes an emergency, but there is a commonsense rule that we can apply. It is a five-part test that was used by the Office of Management and Budget under former President George Herbert Walker Bush to determine whether or not requested funding merited an emergency designation under our budget rules. Under that test, a spending request was designated as an emergency only if the need for spending met a five-part test. It had to be necessary, sudden, urgent, unforeseen, and not permanent. Now, whether or not one agrees with President Trump that more should be done to secure our southern border—and I do agree with him on that goal—his decision to fund a border wall through a national emergency declaration would never pass all of this five-part test.

''Another concern that I have with the President's declaration is that it shifts funding away from critical military construction projects. We don't know which ones. We have not been able to get a list, but this could have very real national security implications. And, again, I would note that the military construction appropriations bill incorporated projects recommended by the President and his Department of Defense, was passed by both bodies and signed into law by the President.

''Let me emphasize once again that the question presented by this resolution is not whether you are for a border wall or against a border wall. It is not whether you believe that border security should be strengthened or whether it is sufficient. It is not whether or not we support or oppose President Trump. Rather, the question is a far more fundamental and significant one. The question is this: Do we want the executive branch now or in the future to hold the power of the purse—a power that the Framers deliberately entrusted to Congress?

''We must stand up and defend Congress' institutional powers as the Framers intended that we would, even when doing so is inconvenient or goes against the outcome that we might prefer.

''I urge my colleagues to support the resolution of disapproval and our Constitution.''

Now, some might think that was authored by a Democrat, but it was not. Senator SUSAN COLLINS of Maine issued that back in March of 2019 when we considered the resolution for the first time, and, frankly, she is far more eloquent than I.

I think I will let it stand at that, Mr. Speaker, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I know my friend from Maine to be an eloquent speaker. I thought that was classic MORELLE there. It sounded exactly like what I would have expected my friend to say.

As you would imagine, Mr. Speaker, I don't disagree with Senator COLLINS, and I don't disagree with Mr. MORELLE. That is just not what this resolution does.

Whenever anybody starts talking about constitutional law—that is why I thought it was classic MORELLE, Mr. Speaker, because he knows how much the law gets me going. He is not a lawyer and makes that point regularly in the Rules Committee, but I am, and when we start talking about the foundation of self-governance in this country I get excited.

But this isn't a resolution about a constitutional question, Mr. Speaker. Read this resolution: Pursuant to section 202 of the National Emergencies Act—that is the act that this Congress passed in a previous Congress and a previous President signed—the national emergency declared by the finding of the President on February 15 is hereby terminated.

That is exactly one of the procedures that can be used—one of three—to end a Presidential declaration of emergency. What we are doing here today has nothing to do with reclaiming powers of Article I. We are just following the law that folks already wrote. We are just following the law that folks already have said is insufficient.

If you believe this law is insufficient, as I do, Mr. Speaker, and as I know the majority does, H.R. 1410 is the bill to bring to the floor to reclaim our power that we delegated away.

If you believe it is unconstitutional, the Court is the place to go and reclaim that power.

This resolution simply says we disagree. It is the same one we passed earlier this year. It is the same one the President vetoed earlier this year. And we are going to have that same conversation again.

I pledge to my friend on the other side of the aisle, when we get ready to reclaim constitutional power, count me in. I told my friend that in the Rules Committee 2 days ago that I wanted to support Article 1 over Article 2. I cast that vote yesterday. I will cast that vote again tomorrow.

But, Mr. Speaker, what my amendment will do if we defeat the previous question is in no way a partisan exercise. It is in no way a divisive exercise. It is not even the subject of disagreement passing unanimously out of the United States Senate and historically passing unanimously out of this House. As my good friend from North Dakota described, it has been passed by Republican Congresses and signed by Democratic Presidents; it has been passed by Democratic Congresses and signed by Republican Presidents.

We do not disagree on the need to provide these dollars to those communities to reduce that DNA backlog. I don't understand why since May of this year when the Senate passed it unanimously this House has failed to take it up at all.

Instead of spending our time taking up a bill that was unanimously passed by the Senate and never considered here in the House, we are using our time to take up a bill that has already been passed by the House once and vetoed by the President once, so that we can pass it by the House again and have it vetoed by the President again.

I get the headlines. I understand what the press releases look like. I watch the Twitter feeds. I see the Facebook posts. I get the communications narrative of ''look at us and look what we are doing.'' I just grow weary of it, as I know my friends on other side of the aisle do, too.

I am ready to be out of the business of ''look at what I am saying.'' I am ready to get out of the business of ''look at what I am passing.'' I am ready to get into the business of ''look at what we are doing together that is getting signed into law and actually making a difference.''

S.J. Res. 54 won't fall into that category. It didn't in the spring, and it doesn't today.

But DNA testing does, Mr. Speaker. I urge my colleagues to think about what our choices are today: go down the same road we have been down already and do nothing. Or go down a road that we have traveled in a bipartisan way in every single authorization going back decades, and let's repeat that success together today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I don't disagree with my colleague that we all grow weary. I never do of spending time with him on the floor. I just want to acknowledge that.

I would say a couple of things, because there is a lot to unpack here. But fundamentally this resolution should—I think he read it—say that, Pursuant to the National Emergencies Act, the emergency declaration finding is hereby terminated. That is actually in the law.

What we are doing in this resolution that was already passed by the Senate and it, hopefully, will pass—not only the rule, but the underlying resolution as well—and do exactly what the law does. There is no need to change the law.

We may disagree, and obviously we do, about whether or not the President's use of the provisions violates the Constitution. I say, yes, my learned colleague differs, but what is clear is we are using this within the context of the existing law, and so that is why we are here.

I think the one difference, however—and I apologize, I have to put my eyeglasses on to see this fine print—but one of the differences that I note is—and I may have noted this earlier, I apologize if I am repeating myself—but we now have a specific list of projects. So when I look at, for instance, in Virginia the Joint Base Langley-Eustis in January of 2020 is expected to have dollars for the construction of a cyber-ops facility. That is money that is being redirected.

If you look at in Oregon, Klamath Falls, replacing fuel facilities at the base there. If you look at—I mentioned the child development center, I believe. In Florida the Fire/Crash Rescue Station at Tyndale Air Force Base. The list goes on and on.

We now have more evidence of the fact that these projects are vitally needed by the military and by members of our Armed Forces and advance the security interests of the people of the United States and around the world.

So we have details now of, in my view, what amounts to an unconstitutional move of dollars without congressional approval. We have that. We are acting, once again, in conjunction with our colleagues in the Senate to end the national emergency declaration by the President. While we might agree or disagree as to whether or not that is really an emergency, and we might disagree or agree on whether or not the use by the President of the act in the way he did is constitutional.

What is incontrovertible is that the current law allows us to do what we are doing today to end the emergency, and that is really the question before us.

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

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Mr. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, it pleases me to see you in the chair. It has been a Northwestern day so far, but the State of Washington has a proud tradition on the Rules Committee.

A lot of folks don't understand what the Rules Committee does up there. If you look over here on this side of the aisle, Mr. Speaker, it looks like a representative sample of most of the Congress, but, really, it is a lot of folks with some Rules Committee passion. You can't get to the House floor without going through the Rules Committee.

As I think back on folks who have served, I certainly think about Doc Hastings as being in that category that labored on the Rules Committee year after year.

Mr. NEWHOUSE labored on the Rules Committee, and I appreciate him being down here to bring us to a close.

It is important what we do on the Rules Committee. We bring two kinds of bills to this floor, Mr. Speaker.

We bring things that are worked through the process. They are collaborative; they are agreeable. We get everybody on board, and we bring those under the suspension calendar. That is that calendar for things that we have already sorted out.

Then there are those bills that we hadn't quite sorted out, those things that might be a little controversial. In fact, when we bring a rule to the floor, almost every rule vote is an entirely partisan vote because of disagreements about the way the underlying process was structured.

I have an amendment and a motion in a defeating of the previous question and amending the rule that has passed this House through that suspension process, through that collaborative process, that is undisputed in the way that it is going to help families and communities across this community—again, passed the Senate unanimously in May of this year.

In the alternative, we are going to bring a resolution that has already passed this institution, only to be vetoed. It will pass this institution again, only to be vetoed.

We often talk about how many legislative days we have left on the calendar. We often talk about what it is that we can get done together. In fact, I just came from a hearing on civility in the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress with folks bemoaning how partisanship gets in the way of productivity.

Candidly, I don't see that in most of my day. The men and women on both sides of the aisle that I have the honor of working with day in and day out, Mr. Speaker, prioritize productivity over partisanship across the board.

But as the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE), my friend, observed in his football analogy, there is a quarterback who calls the plays in this institution. That quarterback calls the plays, and one team runs with the quarterback, and the other team runs against them.

This happened for decade upon decade upon decade. Occasionally, Mr. Speaker, we have an opportunity to get outside of that ''who is going to score, who is going to win, who is going to lose.'' We have an opportunity for us all to win, for us all to win.

Support the previous question today, and we are going to have another opportunity for one side to claim victory, one side to claim defeat, and nothing to get done for the American people. But defeat the previous question, have my amendment added to the rule, and then pass that rule, and we have an opportunity to do something that I say with no doubt every single Member of this institution believes needs to be done.

The choice is with the Members as they vote here in just a few minutes. Defeat this previous question, and then let's pass the rule.

In the absence of that, Mr. Speaker, if the previous question is not defeated, then we are going to have to defeat this rule, lest we go through the same partisan exercise that this House has already gone through time and time again this year.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE), my friend, both for his friendship and for his mentorship. He says he never gets tired of visiting with me on the House floor, Mr. Speaker, but inevitably, he only yields me 30 minutes and keeps the rest of the time for himself. I don't fault him for that. I am actually grateful for that.

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

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

First of all, I should note that I probably shouldn't get into a football argument with the distinguished gentleman from Georgia, with its long history of that sport. I also shouldn't do it because if my wife is watching, she will be very unhappy that I used a sports analogy, which she decidedly does not like.

But just to torture the analogy a little more, because Mr. WOODALL raised it, misdirection does have a quarterback, but the whole point is to fool the opposition.

I think that is what, frankly, some of my colleagues here today were trying to do, is to fool the American public about what this resolution before us is all about. I think that is unfortunate because the resolution on the floor is critically important.

Before I close, I want to compliment my friend. I do enjoy this. I know this is a serious topic—and no one should see it as anything else—but I always appreciate his passion, his intellect, his eloquence. It is always a joy to be with him in the Rules Committee and here on the floor, and I so appreciate that.

Mr. Speaker, I do want to thank all of my colleagues in the Rules Committee for their support of S.J. Res. 54, relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15,

2019, and I urge a ''yes'' vote on the rule and a ''yes'' vote on the previous question.

The material previously referred to by Mr. WOODALL is as follows:

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 2. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the bill (S. 820) to strengthen programs authorized under the Debbie Smith Act of 2004. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of S. 820.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HECK). 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. WOODALL. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

## STEM OPPORTUNITIES ACT OF 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2528) to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

### H.R. 2528

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

***SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS; FINDINGS.***

*(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''STEM Opportunities Act of 2019''.*

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

*Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; findings.*
*Sec. 2. Purposes.*
*Sec. 3. Federal science agency policies for caregivers.*
*Sec. 4. Collection and reporting of data on Federal research grants.*
*Sec. 5. Policies for review of Federal research grants.*
*Sec. 6. Collection of data on demographics of faculty.*
*Sec. 7. Cultural and institutional barriers to expanding the academic and Federal STEM workforce.*
*Sec. 8. Research and dissemination at the National Science Foundation.*
*Sec. 9. Research and related activities to expand STEM opportunities.*
*Sec. 10. Tribal Colleges and Universities Program.*
*Sec. 11. Report to Congress.*
*Sec. 12. Merit review.*
*Sec. 13. Definitions.*

*(c) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:*

*(1) Many reports over the past decade have found that it is critical to our Nation's economic leadership and global competitiveness that the United States educates and trains more scientists and engineers.*

*(2) Research shows that women and minorities who are interested in STEM careers are disproportionately lost at nearly every educational transition and at every career milestone.*

*(3) The National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics at the National Science Foundation collects, compiles, analyzes, and publishes data on the demographics of STEM degrees and STEM jobs in the United States.*

*(4) Women now earn nearly 37 percent of all STEM bachelor's degrees, but major variations persist among fields. In 2017, women earned only 20 percent of all bachelor's degrees awarded in engineering and 19 percent of bachelor's degrees awarded in computer sciences. Based on Bureau of Labor Statistics data, jobs in computing occupations are expected to account for nearly 60 percent of the projected annual growth of newly created STEM job openings from 2016 to 2026.*

*(5) In 2017, underrepresented minority groups comprised 39 percent of the college-age population of the United States, but only 18 percent of students who earned bachelor's degrees in STEM fields. The Higher Education Research Institute at the University of California, Los Angeles, found that, while freshmen from underrepresented minority groups express an interest in pursuing a STEM undergraduate degree at the same rate as all other freshmen, only 22.1 percent of Latino students, 18.4 percent of African-American students, and 18.8 percent of Native American students studying in STEM fields complete their degree within 5 years, compared to approximately 33 percent of White students and 42 percent of Asian students who complete their degree within 5 years.*

*(6) In some STEM fields, including the computer sciences, women persist at about the same rate through doctorate degrees. In other STEM fields, women persist through doctorate degrees at a lower rate. In mathematics, women earn just 26 percent of doctorate degrees compared with 42 percent of undergraduate degrees. Overall, women earned 38 percent of STEM doctorate degrees in 2016. The rate of minority students earning STEM doctorate degrees in physics is 9 percent, compared with 15 percent for bachelor's degree. Students from underrepresented minority groups accounted for only 11.5 percent of STEM doctorate degrees awarded in 2016.*

*(7) The representation of women in STEM drops significantly from the doctorate degree level to the faculty level. Overall, women hold only 26 percent of all tenured and tenure-track positions and 27 percent of full professor positions in STEM fields in our Nation's universities and 4-year colleges. Black and Hispanic faculty together hold about 6.8 percent of all tenured and tenure-track positions and 7.5 percent of full professor positions. Many of the numbers in the American Indian or Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander categories for different faculty ranks were too small for the National Science Foundation to report publicly without potentially compromising confidential information about the individuals being surveyed.*

*(8) The representation of women is especially low at our Nation's top research universities. Even in the biological sciences, in which women now earn more than 50 percent of the doctorates and passed the 25 percent level 37 years ago, women make up only 25 percent of the full professors at the approximately 100 most research-intensive universities in the United States. In the physical sciences and mathematics, women make up only 11 percent of full professors, in computer sciences only 10 percent, and across engineering fields only 7 percent. The data suggest that approximately 6 percent of all tenure-track STEM faculty members at the most research-intensive universities are from underrepresented minority groups, but in some fields the numbers are too small to report publicly.*

*(9) By 2050, underrepresented minorities will comprise 52 percent of the college-age population of the United States. If the percentage of female students and students from underrepresented minority groups earning bachelor's degrees in STEM fields does not significantly increase, the United States will face an acute shortfall in the overall number of students who earn degrees in STEM fields just as United States companies are increasingly seeking students with those skills. With this impending shortfall, the United States will almost certainly lose its competitive edge in the 21st century global economy.*

*(10) According to a 2014 Association for Women in Science survey of over 4,000 scientists across the globe, 70 percent of whom were men, STEM researchers face significant challenges in work-life integration. Researchers in the United States were among the most likely to experience a conflict between work and their personal life at least weekly. One-third of researchers surveyed said that ensuring good work-life integration has negatively impacted their careers, and, of researchers intending to leave their current job within the next year, 9 percent indicated it was because they were unable to balance work and life demands.*

*(11) Female students and students from underrepresented minority groups at institutions of higher education who see few others ''like themselves'' among faculty and student populations often do not experience the social integration that is necessary for success in all disciplines, including STEM.*

*(12) One in five children in the United States attend school in a rural community. The data shows that rural students are at a disadvantage with respect to STEM readiness. Among STEM-interested students, 17 percent of students in rural high schools and 18 percent of students in town-located high schools meet the ACT STEM Benchmark, compared with 33 percent of students in suburban high schools and 27 percent of students in urban high schools.*

*(13) A substantial body of evidence establishes that most people hold implicit biases. Decades of cognitive psychology research reveal that most people carry prejudices of which they are unaware but that nonetheless play a large role in evaluations of people and their work. Unintentional biases and outmoded institutional structures are hindering the access and advancement of women, minorities, and other groups historically underrepresented in STEM.*

*(14) Workshops held to educate faculty about unintentional biases have demonstrated success in raising awareness of such biases.*

*(15) In 2012, the Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity of the National Aeronautics and*

*Space Administration (in this Act referred to as ''NASA'') completed a report that—*

*(A) is specifically designed to help NASA grant recipients identify why the dearth of women in STEM fields continues and to ensure that it is not due to discrimination; and*

*(B) provides guidance that is usable by all institutions of higher education receiving significant Federal research funding on how to conduct meaningful self-evaluations of campus culture and policies.*

*(16) The Federal Government provides 55 percent of research funding at institutions of higher education and, through its grant-making policies, has had significant influence on institution of higher education policies, including policies related to institutional culture and structure.*

***SEC. 2. PURPOSES.***

*The purposes of this Act are as follows:*

*(1) To ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging the entire talent pool of the United States.*

*(2) To promote research on, and increase understanding of, the participation and trajectories of women, minorities, and other groups historically underrepresented in STEM studies and careers, including persons with disabilities, older learners, veterans, and rural, poor, and tribal populations, at institutions of higher education and Federal science agencies, including Federal laboratories.*

*(3) To raise awareness within Federal science agencies, including Federal laboratories, and institutions of higher education about cultural and institutional barriers limiting the recruitment, retention, promotion, and other indicators of participation and achievement of women, minorities, and other groups historically underrepresented in academic and Government STEM research careers at all levels.*

*(4) To identify, disseminate, and implement best practices at Federal science agencies, including Federal laboratories, and at institutions of higher education to remove or reduce cultural and institutional barriers limiting the recruitment, retention, and success of women, minorities, and other groups historically underrepresented in academic and Government STEM research careers.*

*(5) To provide grants to institutions of higher education to recruit, retain, and advance STEM faculty members from underrepresented minority groups and to implement or expand reforms in undergraduate STEM education in order to increase the number of students from underrepresented minority groups receiving degrees in these fields.*

***SEC. 3. FEDERAL SCIENCE AGENCY POLICIES FOR CAREGIVERS.***

*(a) OSTP GUIDANCE.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in consultation with relevant agencies, shall provide guidance to each Federal science agency to establish policies that—*

*(1) apply to all—*

*(A) research awards granted by such agency; and*

*(B) principal investigators of such research who have caregiving responsibilities, including care for a newborn or newly adopted child and care for an immediate family member who is sick or disabled; and*

*(2) provide—*

*(A) flexibility in timing for the initiation of approved research awards granted by such agency;*

*(B) no-cost extensions of such research awards;*

*(C) grant supplements, as appropriate, to research awards for research technicians or equivalent positions to sustain research activities conducted under such awards; and*

*(D) any other appropriate accommodations at the discretion of the director of each such agency.*

*(b) UNIFORMITY OF GUIDANCE.—In providing guidance under subsection (a), the Director shall encourage uniformity and consistency in the policies established pursuant to such guidance across all Federal science agencies.*

*(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICIES.—Consistent with the guidance under subsection (a), Federal science agencies shall—*

*(1) maintain or develop and implement policies for individuals described in paragraph (1)(B) of such subsection; and*

*(2) broadly disseminate such policies to current and potential grantees.*

*(d) DATA ON USAGE.—Federal science agencies shall—*

*(1) collect data on the usage of the policies under subsection (c), by gender, at both institutions of higher education and Federal laboratories; and*

*(2) report such data on an annual basis to the Director in such form as required by the Director.*

***SEC. 4. COLLECTION AND REPORTING OF DATA ON FEDERAL RESEARCH GRANTS.***

*(a) COLLECTION OF DATA.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal science agency shall collect, as practicable, with respect to all applications for merit-reviewed research and development grants to institutions of higher education and Federal laboratories supported by that agency, the standardized record-level annual information on demographics, primary field, award type, institution type, review rating, budget request, funding outcome, and awarded budget.*

*(2) UNIFORMITY AND STANDARDIZATION.—The Director, in consultation with the Director of the National Science Foundation, shall establish a policy to ensure uniformity and standardization of the data collection required under paragraph (1).*

*(3) RECORD-LEVEL DATA.—*

*(A) REQUIREMENT.—Beginning not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and on an annual basis thereafter, each Federal science agency shall submit to the Director of the National Science Foundation record-level data collected under paragraph (1) in the form required by such Director.*

*(B) PREVIOUS DATA.—As part of the first submission under subparagraph (A), each Federal science agency, to the extent practicable, shall also submit comparable record-level data for the 5 years preceding the date of such submission.*

*(b) REPORTING OF DATA.—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall publish statistical summary data, as practicable, collected under this section, disaggregated and cross-tabulated by race, ethnicity, gender, and years since completion of doctoral degree, including in conjunction with the National Science Foundation's report required by section 37 of the Science and Technology Equal Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885d; Public Law 96–516).*

***SEC. 5. POLICIES FOR REVIEW OF FEDERAL RESEARCH GRANTS.***

*(a) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal science agency shall implement the policy recommendations with respect to reducing the impact of implicit bias at Federal science agencies and grantee institutions as developed by the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the 2016 report entitled ''Reducing the Impact of Bias in the STEM Workforce'' and any subsequent updates.*

*(b) PILOT ACTIVITY.—In consultation with the National Science Foundation and consistent with policy recommendations referenced in subsection (a), each Federal science agency shall implement a 2-year pilot orientation activity for program officers and members of standing review committees to educate reviewers on research related to, and minimize the effects of, implicit bias in the review of extramural and intramural Federal research grants.*

*(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICIES.—Drawing upon lessons learned from the pilot activity under subsection (b), each Federal science agency shall maintain or develop and implement evidence-based policies and practices to minimize the effects of implicit bias in the review of extramural and intramural Federal research grants.*

*(d) ASSESSMENT OF POLICIES.—Federal science agencies shall regularly assess, and amend as necessary, the policies and practices implemented pursuant to subsection (c) to ensure effective measures are in place to minimize the effects of implicit bias in the review of extramural and intramural Federal research grants.*

***SEC. 6. COLLECTION OF DATA ON DEMOGRAPHICS OF FACULTY.***

*(a) COLLECTION OF DATA.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and at least every 5 years thereafter, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall carry out a survey to collect data from grantees on the demographics of STEM faculty, by broad fields of STEM, at different types of institutions of higher education.*

*(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—To the extent practicable, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall consider, by gender, race, ethnicity, citizenship status, and years since completion of doctoral degree—*

*(A) the number and percentage of faculty;*

*(B) the number and percentage of faculty at each rank;*

*(C) the number and percentage of faculty who are in nontenure-track positions, including teaching and research;*

*(D) the number and percentage of faculty who are reviewed for promotion, including tenure, and the percentage of that number who are promoted, including being awarded tenure;*

*(E) faculty years in rank;*

*(F) the number and percentage of faculty to leave tenure-track positions;*

*(G) the number and percentage of faculty hired, by rank; and*

*(H) the number and percentage of faculty in leadership positions.*

*(b) EXISTING SURVEYS.—The Director of the National Science Foundation, may, in modifying or expanding existing Federal surveys of higher education (as necessary)—*

*(1) take into account the considerations under subsection (a)(2) by collaborating with statistical centers at other Federal agencies; or*

*(2) award a grant or contract to an institution of higher education or other nonprofit organization to take such considerations into account.*

*(c) REPORTING DATA.—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall publish statistical summary data collected under this section, including as part of the National Science Foundation's report required by section 37 of the Science and Technology Equal Opportunities Act (42 U.S.C. 1885d; Public Law 96–516).*

*(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Director of the National Science Foundation $3,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2020 through 2022 to develop and carry out the initial survey required under subsection (a).*

***SEC. 7. CULTURAL AND INSTITUTIONAL BARRIERS TO EXPANDING THE ACADEMIC AND FEDERAL STEM WORKFORCE.***

*(a) BEST PRACTICES AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND FEDERAL LABORATORIES.—*

*(1) DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDANCE.—Not later than 12 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in consultation with the interagency working group on inclusion in STEM, shall develop written guidance for institutions of higher education and Federal laboratories on the best practices for—*

*(A) conducting periodic climate surveys of STEM departments and divisions, with a particular focus on identifying any cultural or institutional barriers to the recruitment, retention, or advancement of women, racial and ethnic minorities, and other groups historically underrepresented in STEM studies and careers; and*

*(B) providing educational opportunities, including workshops as described in subsection*

*(b), for STEM faculty, research personnel, and administrators to learn about current research on implicit bias in recruitment, evaluation, and promotion of undergraduate and graduate students and research personnel.*

*(2) EXISTING GUIDANCE.—In developing the guidance under paragraph (1), the Director shall utilize guidance already developed by Federal science agencies.*

*(3) DISSEMINATION OF GUIDANCE.—Federal science agencies shall broadly disseminate the guidance developed under paragraph (1) to institutions of higher education that receive Federal research funding and Federal laboratories.*

*(4) ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICIES.—Consistent with the guidance developed under paragraph (1)—*

*(A) the Director of the National Science Foundation shall develop a policy that—*

*(i) applies to, at a minimum, doctoral degree granting institutions that receive Federal research funding; and*

*(ii) requires each such institution, not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, to report to the Director of the National Science Foundation on activities and policies developed and implemented based on the guidance developed under paragraph (1); and*

*(B) each Federal science agency with a Federal laboratory shall maintain or develop and implement practices and policies for the purposes described in paragraph (1) for such laboratory.*

*(b) WORKSHOPS TO ADDRESS CULTURAL BARRIERS TO EXPANDING THE ACADEMIC AND FEDERAL STEM WORKFORCE.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in consultation with the interagency working group on inclusion in STEM, shall recommend a uniform policy for Federal science agencies to carry out a program of workshops that educate STEM department chairs at institutions of higher education, senior managers at Federal laboratories, and other federally funded researchers about methods that minimize the effects of implicit bias in the career advancement, including hiring, tenure, promotion, and selection for any honor based in part on the recipient's research record, of academic and Federal STEM researchers.*

*(2) INTERAGENCY COORDINATION.—The Director shall, to the extent practicable, ensure that workshops supported under this subsection are coordinated across Federal science agencies and jointly supported as appropriate.*

*(3) MINIMIZING COSTS.—To the extent practicable, workshops shall be held in conjunction with national or regional STEM disciplinary meetings to minimize costs associated with participant travel.*

*(4) PRIORITY FIELDS FOR ACADEMIC PARTICIPANTS.—In considering the participation of STEM department chairs and other academic researchers, the Director shall prioritize workshops for the broad fields of STEM in which the national rate of representation of women among tenured or tenure-track faculty or nonfaculty researchers at doctorate-granting institutions of higher education is less than 25 percent, according to the most recent data available from the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics.*

*(5) ORGANIZATIONS ELIGIBLE TO CARRY OUT WORKSHOPS.—A Federal science agency may carry out the program of workshops under this subsection by making grants to organizations made eligible by the Federal science agency and any of the following organizations:*

*(A) Nonprofit scientific and professional societies and organizations that represent one or more STEM disciplines.*

*(B) Nonprofit organizations that have the primary mission of advancing the participation of women, minorities, or other groups historically underrepresented in STEM.*

*(6) CHARACTERISTICS OF WORKSHOPS.—The workshops shall have the following characteristics:*

*(A) Invitees to workshops shall include at least—*

*(i) the chairs of departments in the relevant STEM discipline or disciplines from doctoral degree granting institutions that receive Federal research funding; and*

*(ii) in the case of Federal laboratories, individuals with personnel management responsibilities comparable to those of an institution of higher education department chair.*

*(B) Activities at the workshops shall include research presentations and interactive discussions or other activities that increase the awareness of the existence of implicit bias in recruitment, hiring, tenure review, promotion, and other forms of formal recognition of individual achievement for faculty and other federally funded STEM researchers and shall provide strategies to overcome such bias.*

*(C) Research presentations and other workshop programs, as appropriate, shall include a discussion of the unique challenges faced by different underrepresented groups, including minority women, minority men, persons from rural and underserved areas, persons with disabilities, gender and sexual minority individuals, and first generation graduates in research.*

*(D) Workshop programs shall include information on best practices for mentoring undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral women, minorities, and other students from groups historically underrepresented in STEM.*

*(7) DATA ON WORKSHOPS.—Any proposal for funding by an organization seeking to carry out a workshop under this subsection shall include a description of how such organization will—*

*(A) collect data on the rates of attendance by invitees in workshops, including information on the home institution and department of attendees, and the rank of faculty attendees;*

*(B) conduct attitudinal surveys on workshop attendees before and after the workshops; and*

*(C) collect follow-up data on any relevant institutional policy or practice changes reported by attendees not later than one year after attendance in such a workshop.*

*(8) REPORT TO NSF.—Organizations receiving funding to carry out workshops under this subsection shall report the data required in paragraph (7) to the Director of the National Science Foundation in such form as required by such Director.*

*(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall submit a report to Congress that includes—*

*(1) a summary and analysis of the types and frequency of activities and policies developed and carried out under subsection (a) based on the reports submitted under paragraph (4) of such subsection; and*

*(2) a description and evaluation of the status and effectiveness of the program of workshops required under subsection (b), including a summary of any data reported under paragraph (8) of such subsection.*

*(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Director of the National Science Foundation $1,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024 to carry out this section.*

***SEC. 8. RESEARCH AND DISSEMINATION AT THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.***

*(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National Science Foundation shall award research grants and carry out dissemination activities consistent with the purposes of this Act, including—*

*(1) research grants to analyze the record-level data collected under section 4 and section 6, consistent with policies to ensure the privacy of individuals identifiable by such data;*

*(2) research grants to study best practices for work-life accommodation;*

*(3) research grants to study the impact of policies and practices that are implemented under this Act or that are otherwise consistent with the purposes of this Act;*

*(4) collaboration with other Federal science agencies and professional associations to exchange best practices, harmonize work-life accommodation policies and practices, and overcome common barriers to work-life accommodation; and*

*(5) collaboration with institutions of higher education in order to clarify and catalyze the adoption of a coherent and consistent set of work-life accommodation policies and practices.*

*(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Director of the National Science Foundation $5,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024 to carry out this section.*

***SEC. 9. RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES TO EXPAND STEM OPPORTUNITIES.***

*(a) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION SUPPORT FOR INCREASING DIVERSITY AMONG STEM FACULTY AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—Section 305 of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s–5) is amended—*

*(1) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (g) and (h), respectively; and*

*(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:*

*''(e) SUPPORT FOR INCREASING DIVERSITY AMONG STEM FACULTY AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—*

*''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Foundation shall award grants to institutions of higher education (or consortia thereof) for the development and assessment of innovative reform efforts designed to increase the recruitment, retention, and advancement of individuals from underrepresented minority groups in academic STEM careers.*

*''(2) MERIT REVIEW; COMPETITION.—Grants shall be awarded under this subsection on a merit-reviewed, competitive basis.*

*''(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Activities supported by grants under this subsection may include—*

*''(A) institutional assessment activities, such as data analyses and policy review, in order to identify and address specific issues in the recruitment, retention, and advancement of faculty members from underrepresented minority groups;*

*''(B) implementation of institution-wide improvements in workload distribution, such that faculty members from underrepresented minority groups are not disadvantaged in the amount of time available to focus on research, publishing papers, and engaging in other activities required to achieve tenure status and run a productive research program;*

*''(C) development and implementation of training courses for administrators and search committee members to ensure that candidates from underrepresented minority groups are not subject to implicit biases in the search and hiring process;*

*''(D) development and hosting of intra- or inter-institutional workshops to propagate best practices in recruiting, retaining, and advancing faculty members from underrepresented minority groups;*

*''(E) professional development opportunities for faculty members from underrepresented minority groups;*

*''(F) activities aimed at making undergraduate STEM students from underrepresented minority groups aware of opportunities for academic careers in STEM fields;*

*''(G) activities to identify and engage exceptional graduate students and postdoctoral researchers from underrepresented minority groups at various stages of their studies and to encourage them to enter academic careers; and*

*''(H) other activities consistent with paragraph (1), as determined by the Director of the Foundation.*

*''(4) SELECTION PROCESS.—*

*''(A) APPLICATION.—An institution of higher education (or a consortium of such institutions) seeking funding under this subsection shall submit an application to the Director of the Foundation at such time, in such manner, and containing such information and assurances as*

*such Director may require. The application shall include, at a minimum, a description of—*

*''(i) the reform effort that is being proposed for implementation by the institution of higher education;*

*''(ii) any available evidence of specific difficulties in the recruitment, retention, and advancement of faculty members from underrepresented minority groups in STEM academic careers within the institution of higher education submitting an application, and how the proposed reform effort would address such issues;*

*''(iii) how the institution of higher education submitting an application plans to sustain the proposed reform effort beyond the duration of the grant; and*

*''(iv) how the success and effectiveness of the proposed reform effort will be evaluated and assessed in order to contribute to the national knowledge base about models for catalyzing institutional change.*

*''(B) REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.—In selecting grant recipients under this subsection, the Director of the Foundation shall consider, at a minimum—*

*''(i) the likelihood of success in undertaking the proposed reform effort at the institution of higher education submitting the application, including the extent to which the administrators of the institution are committed to making the proposed reform effort a priority;*

*''(ii) the degree to which the proposed reform effort will contribute to change in institutional culture and policy such that greater value is placed on the recruitment, retention, and advancement of faculty members from underrepresented minority groups;*

*''(iii) the likelihood that the institution of higher education will sustain or expand the proposed reform effort beyond the period of the grant; and*

*''(iv) the degree to which evaluation and assessment plans are included in the design of the proposed reform effort.*

*''(C) GRANT DISTRIBUTION.—The Director of the Foundation shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that grants awarded under this section are made to a variety of types of institutions of higher education.*

*''(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $8,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.''.*

*(b) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION SUPPORT FOR BROADENING PARTICIPATION IN UNDERGRADUATE STEM EDUCATION.—Section 305 of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s–5), as amended by subsection (b), is further amended by inserting after subsection (e) the following:*

*''(f) SUPPORT FOR BROADENING PARTICIPATION IN UNDERGRADUATE STEM EDUCATION.—*

*''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Foundation shall award grants to institutions of higher education (or a consortium of such institutions) to implement or expand research-based reforms in undergraduate STEM education for the purpose of recruiting and retaining students from minority groups who are underrepresented in STEM fields.*

*''(2) MERIT REVIEW; COMPETITION.—Grants shall be awarded under this subsection on a merit-reviewed, competitive basis.*

*''(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Activities supported by grants under this subsection may include—*

*''(A) implementation or expansion of innovative, research-based approaches to broaden participation of underrepresented minority groups in STEM fields;*

*''(B) implementation or expansion of bridge, cohort, tutoring, or mentoring programs, including those involving community colleges and technical schools, designed to enhance the recruitment and retention of students from underrepresented minority groups in STEM fields;*

*''(C) implementation or expansion of outreach programs linking institutions of higher education and K–12 school systems in order to heighten awareness among pre-college students from underrepresented minority groups of opportunities in college-level STEM fields and STEM careers;*

*''(D) implementation or expansion of faculty development programs focused on improving retention of undergraduate STEM students from underrepresented minority groups;*

*''(E) implementation or expansion of mechanisms designed to recognize and reward faculty members who demonstrate a commitment to increasing the participation of students from underrepresented minority groups in STEM fields;*

*''(F) expansion of successful reforms aimed at increasing the number of STEM students from underrepresented minority groups beyond a single course or group of courses to achieve reform within an entire academic unit, or expansion of successful reform efforts beyond a single academic unit or field to other STEM academic units or fields within an institution of higher education;*

*''(G) expansion of opportunities for students from underrepresented minority groups to conduct STEM research in industry, at Federal labs, and at international research institutions or research sites;*

*''(H) provision of stipends for students from underrepresented minority groups participating in research;*

*''(I) development of research collaborations between research-intensive universities and primarily undergraduate minority-serving institutions;*

*''(J) support for graduate students and postdoctoral fellows from underrepresented minority groups to participate in instructional or assessment activities at primarily undergraduate institutions, including primarily undergraduate minority-serving institutions and two-year institutions of higher education; and*

*''(K) other activities consistent with paragraph (1), as determined by the Director of the Foundation.*

*''(4) SELECTION PROCESS.—*

*''(A) APPLICATION.—An institution of higher education (or a consortia thereof) seeking a grant under this subsection shall submit an application to the Director of the Foundation at such time, in such manner, and containing such information and assurances as such Director may require. The application shall include, at a minimum—*

*''(i) a description of the proposed reform effort;*

*''(ii) a description of the research findings that will serve as the basis for the proposed reform effort or, in the case of applications that propose an expansion of a previously implemented reform, a description of the previously implemented reform effort, including data about the recruitment, retention, and academic achievement of students from underrepresented minority groups;*

*''(iii) evidence of an institutional commitment to, and support for, the proposed reform effort, including a long-term commitment to implement successful strategies from the current reform beyond the academic unit or units included in the grant proposal;*

*''(iv) a description of existing or planned institutional policies and practices regarding faculty hiring, promotion, tenure, and teaching assignment that reward faculty contributions to improving the education of students from underrepresented minority groups in STEM; and*

*''(v) how the success and effectiveness of the proposed reform effort will be evaluated and assessed in order to contribute to the national knowledge base about models for catalyzing institutional change.*

*''(B) REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS.—In selecting grant recipients under this subsection, the Director of the Foundation shall consider, at a minimum—*

*''(i) the likelihood of success of the proposed reform effort at the institution submitting the application, including the extent to which the faculty, staff, and administrators of the institution are committed to making the proposed institutional reform a priority of the participating academic unit or units;*

*''(ii) the degree to which the proposed reform effort will contribute to change in institutional culture and policy such that greater value is placed on faculty engagement in the retention of students from underrepresented minority groups;*

*''(iii) the likelihood that the institution will sustain or expand the proposed reform effort beyond the period of the grant; and*

*''(iv) the degree to which evaluation and assessment plans are included in the design of the proposed reform effort.*

*''(C) GRANT DISTRIBUTION.—The Director of the Foundation shall ensure, to the extent practicable, that grants awarded under this subsection are made to a variety of types of institutions of higher education, including two-year and minority-serving institutions of higher education.*

*''(5) EDUCATION RESEARCH.—*

*''(A) IN GENERAL.—All grants made under this subsection shall include an education research component that will support the design and implementation of a system for data collection and evaluation of proposed reform efforts in order to build the knowledge base on promising models for increasing recruitment and retention of students from underrepresented minority groups in STEM education at the undergraduate level across a diverse set of institutions.*

*''(B) DISSEMINATION.—The Director of the Foundation shall coordinate with relevant Federal agencies in disseminating the results of the research under this paragraph to ensure that best practices in broadening participation in STEM education at the undergraduate level are made readily available to all institutions of higher education, other Federal agencies that support STEM programs, non-Federal funders of STEM education, and the general public.*

*''(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.''.*

***SEC. 10. TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES PROGRAM.***

*(a) GRANTS TO BROADEN TRIBAL COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN COMPUTER SCIENCE.—Section 525 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–13) is amended by inserting after subsection (c) the following:*

*''(d) GRANTS TO BROADEN TRIBAL COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN COMPUTER SCIENCE.—*

*''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director, as part of the program authorized under this section, shall award grants on a competitive, merit-reviewed basis to eligible entities to increase the participation of tribal populations in computer science and computational thinking education programs to enable students to develop skills and competencies in coding, problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity and collaboration.*

*''(2) PURPOSE.—Grants awarded under this subsection shall support—*

*''(A) research and development needed to bring computer science and computational thinking courses and degrees to tribal colleges and universities;*

*''(B) research and development of instructional materials needed to integrate computer science and computational thinking into programs that are culturally relevant to students attending tribal colleges and universities;*

*''(C) research, development and evaluation of distance education for computer science and computational thinking courses and degree programs for students attending tribal colleges and universities; and*

*''(D) other activities consistent with the activities described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (b), as determined by the Director.*

*''(3) PARTNERSHIPS.—A tribal college or university seeking a grant under this subsection, or a consortia thereof, may partner with an institution of higher education or nonprofit organization with demonstrated expertise in academic program development.*

*''(4) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this subsection, the Director shall consult and cooperate with the programs and policies of other relevant Federal agencies to avoid duplication with and enhance the effectiveness of the program under this subsection.*

*''(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Director of the Foundation $2,000,000 in each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024 to carry out this subsection.''.*

*(b) EVALUATION.—*

*(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall evaluate the grant program authorized under section 525 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–13), as amended.*

*(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In conducting the evaluation under paragraph (1), the Director of the National Science Foundation shall, as practicable—*

*(A) use a common set of benchmarks and assessment tools to identify best practices and materials developed or demonstrated by the research conducted pursuant to grants programs under section 525 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010 (42 U.S.C. 1862p–13);*

*(B) include an assessment of the effectiveness of such grant programs in expanding access to high quality STEM education, research, and outreach at tribal colleges and universities, as applicable;*

*(C) assess the number of students who participated in such grant programs; and*

*(D) assess the percentage of students participating in such grant programs who successfully complete their education programs.*

*(3) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the evaluation under paragraph (1) is completed, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall submit to Congress and make available to the public, a report on the results of the evaluation, including any recommendations for legislative action that could optimize the effectiveness of the grant program authorized under section 525 of the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010, as amended by subsection (a).*

***SEC. 11. REPORT TO CONGRESS.***

*Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit a report to Congress that includes—*

*(1) a description and evaluation of the status and usage of policies implemented pursuant to section 3 at all Federal science agencies, including any recommendations for revising or expanding such policies;*

*(2) with respect to efforts to minimize the effects of implicit bias in the review of extramural and intramural Federal research grants under section 5—*

*(A) what steps all Federal science agencies have taken to implement policies and practices to minimize such effects;*

*(B) a description of any significant updates to the policies for review of Federal research grants required under such section; and*

*(C) any evidence of the impact of such policies on the review or awarding of Federal research grants; and*

*(3) a description and evaluation of the status of institution of higher education and Federal laboratory policies and practices required under section 7(a), including any recommendations for revising or expanding such policies.*

***SEC. 12. MERIT REVIEW.***

*Nothing in this Act shall be construed as altering any intellectual or broader impacts criteria at Federal science agencies for evaluating grant applications.*

***SEC. 13. DEFINITIONS.***

*In this Act:*

*(1) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.*

*(2) FEDERAL LABORATORY.—The term ''Federal laboratory'' has the meaning given such term in section 4 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3703).*

*(3) FEDERAL SCIENCE AGENCY.—The term ''Federal science agency'' means any Federal agency with at least $100,000,000 in research and development expenditures in fiscal year 2018.*

*(4) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ''institution of higher education'' has the meaning given such term in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).*

*(5) INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON INCLUSION IN STEM.—The term ''interagency working group on inclusion in STEM'' means the interagency working group established by section 308 of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 6626).*

*(6) STEM.—The term ''STEM'' means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, including computer science.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 2528, the STEM Opportunities Act of 2019. I thank the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS), the ranking member, for joining me in introducing this bill. I also thank the committee cosponsors on both sides of the aisle and the endorsing organizations.

Mr. Speaker, this bill has been a long time coming. Over a decade ago, in 2007, I introduced an early version of this legislation in response to the National Academies' report titled ''Beyond Bias and Barriers.''

This report was a call to action to address the biases and outdated institutional structures in universities that perpetuate the underrepresentation of women in many STEM fields. The report made clear that it is not a lack of talent but external factors, like limited access to support and campus resources, pay disparity, bias, and discrimination, that have hindered the advancement of women in academic STEM careers. The National Academies is conducting a follow-up study under the leadership of former NASA astronaut Dr. Mae Jemison.

While progress has been made, the fact remains that women are woefully underrepresented at all levels of STEM studies and in STEM careers. We need action, and we need bold leadership.

Women already comprise 50 percent of the population. By the year 2050, racial and ethnic minorities will also comprise 50 percent of our Nation's population. Many of these groups are woefully underrepresented in STEM fields. Our Nation will not continue to lead in science and innovation if we do not tap into all the talent this Nation has to offer.

While there are unique challenges for different groups underrepresented in STEM, there are also many common themes and many common solutions.

Eventually, I combined my legislation focused on the advancement of women in STEM with another piece of legislation focused on underrepresented minorities in STEM. That combined legislation became the STEM Opportunities Act.

The STEM Opportunities Act addresses both the uniqueness and similarities, the challenges and solutions. Over the years, I have updated this legislation to incorporate new expert recommendations and stakeholder feedback to reflect emerging needs.

The STEM Opportunities Act of 2019 provides for research and demographic data collection to better understand the participation and career trajectories of women and underrepresented minorities in STEM research careers.

The bill directs the Office of Science and Technology Policy to develop consistent policies at Federal science agencies to minimize the effects of implicit bias in the grant review process, to help universities identify and address barriers for women and underrepresented minorities in STEM research careers, and to accommodate the needs of grant recipients who have caregiving responsibilities.

The bill also directs the National Science Foundation to award grants to support computer science education at the Nation's Tribal colleges and universities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2528, the STEM Opportunities Act of 2019. As a cosponsor of the legislation with Chairwoman JOHNSON, I am pleased the House is taking this up for consideration today.

H.R. 2528 continues the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology's long history of bipartisan support for STEM education.

The United States is in a race to remain the world's leader in science and technology. The only way we will win is by utilizing America's most valuable resources—our people. This means developing a diverse, STEM-capable workforce at every education level and from every background.

The administration has recognized this need, and the President's 5-year STEM strategic plan specifically calls for an increase of diversity, equality, and inclusion in STEM programs.

This legislation supports and builds upon that plan, authorizing activities at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy and the National Science Foundation.

The U.S. invests over $1 billion a year in Federal STEM education programs, but we have not made enough progress in growing a STEM-capable workforce. One of the key provisions of H.R. 2528 is a requirement for more comprehensive data collection and analysis on the students, researchers, and faculty receiving Federal science grants.

This data will help us identify and reduce the barriers that prevent underrepresented groups from entering and advancing in STEM. It will also help us measure the success of Federal STEM programs.

The bill also includes a provision directing NSF to support computer science education through the existing Tribal Colleges and Universities Program.

Access to computer science resources and the development of computing skills is critical in today's economy. STEM employment in the U.S. continues to grow faster than any other sector. Employers in all sectors, including agriculture, energy, healthcare, and defense, are desperate for workers with STEM skills. In order to meet this demand, the development of talent from all groups is essential.

H.R. 2528 takes important steps to ensure we are fully engaging America's entire talent pool and maintaining our global leadership in science and technology.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS), the ranking member, and the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON), the chairwoman, for introducing this great bill.

Today, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2528, the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Opportunities Act, introduced by those two great colleagues.

STEM fields provide a great opportunity for academic and professional advancement. According to the Department of Commerce, STEM occupations are projected to grow by close to 9 percent, compared to approximately 6 percent for non-STEM occupations.

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On average, students with a STEM degree are expected to have greater job prospects and to earn close to 12 percent more in wages than their non-STEM counterparts.

We should expect this growing trend to continue, and, therefore, we need to ensure we bolster STEM capabilities in education and in the workforce to meet the demand for STEM professionals and remain at the forefront of scientific endeavors.

H.R. 2528 helps guarantee that the STEM community is diverse and representative of women, minorities, rural students, students with disabilities, and other underrepresented groups.

Specifically, this bill directs the Office of Science and Technology Policy to develop best practices on how to support STEM researchers who are also caregivers, how to best reduce the impact of bias in the review of grant proposals, and how to better identify cultural and institutional barriers at science agencies and Federal labs.

It also requires Federal science agencies to collect demographic information on grant proposals, awards, and faculty, and it directs the National Science Foundation to support the research and dissemination of best practices to increase recruitment, retention, and advancement of underrepresented groups in STEM degree programs and research careers.

Puerto Rico has a strong STEM academic and professional sector as well. We even created a caucus with universities—the Arecibo Observatory, among others—to help bolster this area. I, myself, graduated from a STEM school. We have remarkable STEM students and researchers who are engaged with their communities and are ready to contribute to their fields by producing innovative work for the benefit of the island and for the Nation.

The objectives of this bill are key to increasing the scope of the scientific population and meeting the current demands and challenges in STEM.

I am a proud cosponsor of this bill, and I would like to thank Chairwoman JOHNSON and Ranking Member LUCAS for their leadership, not just in this area, but on many other important issues, and I encourage my colleagues to vote in favor.

I would also like to thank them for their leadership on the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and for helping me and helping us harness the capabilities of the Federal Government for the advancement of science and technology on behalf of the American people.

Unfortunately, I will be parting with the committee. However, I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle on science and many other issues in the future.

I commend them both and their staffs for all their assistance during these months, and I wish them all the best as they continue their great work. I really enjoyed my stay with that committee.

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

First, let me take a moment to note that the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico will indeed be missed on the Science, Space, and Technology Committee.

The Committee on Science, Space, and Technology—and I think I can say this about the beloved chair—is a committee that still reflects many of the traditions of this House: working together for the common good, trying to drive this great Nation and all of our good citizens forward.

So, hopefully, at some future time, the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico will have the opportunity to come rejoin us, and I look forward to that very day.

That said, in my closing remarks, I would like to thank Chairwoman JOHNSON and her staff for working in a bipartisan fashion on this legislation and for incorporating our feedback and ideas. I look forward to continuing to work with her to advance STEM education efforts in this Congress that will support, encourage, and develop the next generation of STEM workers.

Maintaining our global leadership in science and technology is critical to our economic and national security. We will not be able to lead without a STEM-capable workforce for the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 2528, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to close and simply request that all Members support this bill. It is a bill that we need for the Nation and for our Nation's future in innovation, in order to maintain any activity on the world stage in innovation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2528, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## SOUTH FLORIDA CLEAN COASTAL WATERS ACT OF 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 335) to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 335

*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 ''South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019''.

**SEC. 2. SOUTH FLORIDA HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of

1998 (Public Law 105–383; 33 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 605 through 609 as sections 606 through 610, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 604 the following:

**"SEC. 605. SOUTH FLORIDA HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA.**

''(a) SOUTH FLORIDA.—In this section, the term 'South Florida' means—

''(1) all lands and waters within the administrative boundaries of the South Florida Water Management District;

''(2) regional coastal waters, including Biscayne Bay, the Caloosahatchee Estuary, Florida Bay, and Indian River Lagoon; and

''(3) the Florida Reef Tract.

''(b) INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 540 days after the date of enactment of the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019, the Task Force, in accordance with the authority under section 603, shall complete and submit to Congress and the President an interim integrated assessment. Not later than 3 years after such date of enactment, the Task Force shall finalize, and submit to Congress and the President, such assessment. Such assessment shall examine the causes, consequences, and potential approaches to reduce harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and the status of, and gaps within, current harmful algal bloom and hypoxia research, monitoring, management, prevention, response, and control activities that directly affect the region by—

''(1) Federal agencies;

''(2) State agencies;

''(3) regional research consortia;

''(4) academia;

''(5) private industry;

''(6) nongovernmental organizations; and

''(7) Indian tribes (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)).

''(c) ACTION PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years and 6 months after the date of the enactment of the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019, the Task Force shall develop and submit to Congress a plan, based on the integrated assessment under subsection (b), for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida.

''(2) CONTENTS.—The plan submitted under paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) address the monitoring needs identified in the integrated assessment under subsection (b);

''(B) develop a timeline and budgetary requirements for deployment of future assets;

''(C) identify requirements for the development and verification of South Florida harmful algal bloom and hypoxia models, including—

''(i) all assumptions built into the models; and

''(ii) data quality methods used to ensure the best available data are utilized; and

''(D) propose a plan to implement a remote monitoring network and early warning system for alerting local communities in the region to harmful algal bloom risks that may impact human health.

''(3) REQUIREMENTS.—In developing the action plan, the Task Force shall—

''(A) consult with the State of Florida, and affected local and tribal governments;

''(B) consult with representatives from regional academic, agricultural, industry, and other stakeholder groups;

''(C) ensure that the plan complements and does not duplicate activities conducted by other Federal or State agencies, including the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force;

''(D) identify critical research for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal bloom events and their effects;

''(E) evaluate cost-effective, incentive-based partnership approaches;

''(F) ensure that the plan is technically sound and cost-effective;

''(G) utilize existing research, assessments, reports, and program activities;

''(H) publish a summary of the proposed plan in the Federal Register at least 180 days prior to submitting the completed plan to Congress; and

''(I) after submitting the completed plan to Congress, provide biennial progress reports on the activities toward achieving the objectives of the plan.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT AND CORRECTION.—The table of contents in section 2 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–383) is amended by striking the items relating to title VI and inserting the following new items:

''TITLE VI—HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA

''Sec. 601. Short title.
''Sec. 602. Findings.
''Sec. 603. Assessments.
''Sec. 603A. National Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Program.
''Sec. 603B. Comprehensive research plan and action strategy.
''Sec. 604. Northern Gulf of Mexico hypoxia.
''Sec. 605. South Florida harmful algal blooms and hypoxia.
''Sec. 606. Great Lakes hypoxia and harmful algal blooms.
''Sec. 607. Protection of States' Rights.
''Sec. 608. Effect on other Federal authority.
''Sec. 609. Definitions.
''Sec. 610. Authorization of appropriations.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. LUCAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 335, the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 335, the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019.

I want to thank the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST) for introducing this bill and for his commitment to this important issue.

South Florida has been suffering from economically and ecologically costly blooms of harmful algae in both its marine and freshwater systems for years, and it continues to get worse. Last year, south Florida was plagued with one of the most severe harmful algal bloom, or HABs, events on record.

Simultaneous toxic red tide and massive freshwater blue-green algae blooms choked waterways and coastlines. This caused a mass mortality of wildlife, including, dolphins, manatees, and sea turtles. Hundreds of tons of dead fish washed up on the shores.

Beyond the millions of dollars of lost revenue for businesses, red tide and other HABs also pose health risks to humans from direct exposure and from eating infected seafood.

Low oxygen, known as hypoxia, can result when the algae die, sink to the bottom of the water bodies, and decay. It is a problem in the Gulf of Mexico ''dead zone'' and is a growing problem along coastlines where HABs persist.

The South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act authorizes a scientific assessment and action plan to help address the problem of HABs and hypoxia in south Florida.

The assessment and action plan will be conducted by the interagency Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Task Force, led by NOAA and the EPA. This task force researches, monitors, addresses, and mitigates HABs and hypoxia.

The assessment and action plan will help identify research gaps and detailed methods for mitigating and controlling HABs and hypoxia in south Florida. These documents will help serve as a blueprint for Federal, State, and local decisionmakers and other stakeholders to coordinate actions to reduce the HABs and hypoxia in the region.

Mr. Speaker, this bill takes an important step in helping address the HABs and hypoxia issue in south Florida. I strongly support this good, bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Representative MAST's bill, H.R. 335, the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019.

This bill tasks the interagency task force on harmful algal blooms and hypoxia to provide an integrated assessment on the causes and consequences of HABs, along with potential mitigation options in south Florida.

Additionally, the task force will look at the current status of research and identify gaps in research, monitoring, and management efforts. This will lead to the development of an action plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling HABs and hypoxia.

Although this bill is focused on the south Florida region, these harmful algal blooms have become an environmental problem in all 50 States, even in the freshwater of landlocked States like Oklahoma.

With the passage of this legislation, we will gain more knowledge of the dangers associated with HABs as well as potential mitigation strategies that could be applied to every State and region.

I want to thank Representative MAST and Representative WALTZ for encouraging this interagency collaboration to conduct research that will protect our environment and health.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST), who has worked so diligently on this bill.

Mr. MAST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding; I thank the gentlewoman for her support; and I thank the committee for their work on this piece of legislation.

Now, HABHRCA is what we are talking about here. That is what a lot of people know it as.

Since 1998 and the creation of HABHRCA, the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act, this interagency task force has done incredible work in different areas across the country, and they have done incredible work by working collaboratively across a number of different agencies.

Whether you are talking about the Department of Commerce, Interior, HHS, CDC, EPA, and looping in there the Corps of Engineers, the work has been outstanding, and it is what is needed: collaborative efforts to go out there and research and find real results, mitigate the occurrences of these harmful algal blooms and hypoxia, and do this in waterways across our Nation.

Now, H.R. 335, the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019, focuses that interagency capability on the Nation's most devastating example of harmful algal blooms and hypoxia to date: those that have occurred in the south Florida area.

It truly is an environmental emergency that, unfortunately, many have witnessed on the news and seen in other places, and it has been a result of what has happened for almost a century: The U.S. Government has embarked on a piecemeal compilation of infrastructure projects across Florida that really contorted and misshaped the natural waterways of Florida.

Now, decades ago, it was realized that this patchwork of uncoordinated and often very conflicting flows of water design resulted in toxic concentrations of nutrients in one area or the elimination of natural filtration systems that used to purify the waters of Florida. So south Florida, today, is now riddled with environmental catastrophes from north to south, like harmful algal blooms, red tide, and hypoxia, these toxic overgrowths from these ecological disasters.

We have seen far too many of the devastating effects: massive fish kills around the Florida peninsula, carcasses of whale sharks, dolphins, manatee, millions of pounds of sea life washing up on our shores, results of deaths of many other animals, and, unfortunately, unknown health effects to humans that come in contact with this.

Now, a couple important factors that have played into this:

In July, the Corps of Engineers testified that, for decades, it had knowingly discharged enormous quantities of toxic, harmful algal bloom-laden water from the 730-square-mile lake in the middle of south Florida, Lake Okeechobee, and one of those toxins that makes up harmful algal blooms that is so dangerous: cyanobacteria.

After many requests, the EPA, this year, made a report that said harmful algal blooms that had cyanobacteria of over 8 parts per billion, humans should not come in contact with.

To put that into perspective, we were having discharges of these kinds of algal blooms to the tune of 495 parts per billion last summer, so very, very serious health risks going on there.

□ 1330

They crippled the economy. They crippled small businesses. Tourism, fisheries, those things get destroyed. It devastates, obviously, the environment. It creates dying ecosystems.

It is in that that I thank the committee for their support on this because it is very serious to our community.

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WALTZ), a member of the Science, Space, and Technology Committee who also is very focused on these issues.

Mr. WALTZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank my delegation colleague, Congressman MAST, for drafting this important bill, the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019, to address the HABs problem, the harmful algal blooms, and improve water quality in Florida.

I also thank Senator RUBIO for introducing the Senate companion, and I give credit to my predecessor in Congress, now-Governor DeSantis, for prioritizing clean water at the State level.

Red tides and green algae have plagued Florida in recent years. As we have discussed here today, it impacts Lake Okeechobee, the Everglades, Indian River Lagoon in my district, and both of Florida's coasts.

Last Congress, the Interagency Task Force on HABs was reauthorized, which was a very important step. This bill ensures that the task force will produce an integrated assessment on the causes, consequences, and approaches to reduce HABs; identify the current gaps in research; and, very importantly, produce an action plan to deal with it.

The focus of the task force is the Everglades, and the health of the Everglades impacts water quality across the State.

The scope of the introduced version for H.R. 335 attempted to take this into account by including ''contiguous coastal near-shore water'' in the definition of eligible waterways. However, ''contiguous'' could be interpreted by the task force—this was my concern—in any number of ways, potentially excluding the northern reaches of the Indian River Lagoon.

The entire Indian River Lagoon is part of the National Estuary Program, and the southern section is an Army Corps of Engineers authorized reservoir included in the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

According to the Army Corps, Indian River Lagoon is ''home to more than 3,000 species of plants and animals'' and ''considered the most biologically diverse estuarine system in the continental United States.''

This dynamic ecosystem is sensitive. It is important to the environment for those reasons, but critically, it is also important to our economy. A 2016 economic valuation study found that the output of the lagoon is about $7.6 billion annually.

For these reasons, it is the right thing to do to ensure the Interagency HABs Task Force includes the entire lagoon.

In coordination with Congressman MAST, I offered a management amendment in the Science, Space, and Technology Committee markup that lists the entire Indian River Lagoon in the definition of waterways to be included in this bill.

We are not just seeing HABs in southern Florida. It is now spreading to other parts of my district and all parts of Florida. We have already seen blue-green algae in the St. Johns River and even spreading into our springs. Protecting the springs in central Florida is an ongoing effort.

It is for this reason that the task force's integrated assessment is so important. It will improve water quality management and prevent harmful algal blooms across the entire lagoon.

Moving forward, the Congress should examine the Clean Water State Revolving Fund allotment formula, which has not been updated since 1987.

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

Mr. LUCAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. WALTZ. Importantly, in 2018, Florida received the third lowest allotment per capita, according to the EPA, yet it has the third most significant infrastructure needs in the country. This is unacceptable, particularly for a program so important in a State where water is so critical to our way of life.

I thank Congressman LUCAS. I again thank Congressman MAST for his work on HABs and this important legislation before us today.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 335 provides critical research on the harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in southern Florida and will develop an action plan to mitigate and control this environmental threat.

I thank Representative MAST, and my Science, Space, and Technology Committee colleague, Representative WALTZ, for their leadership on this bill. I strongly encourage all of my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I simply urge the passage of H.R. 335, and I thank all the staff, as well, for the bipartisan support of this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 335, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## CYBERSECURITY VULNERABILITY REMEDIATION ACT

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3710) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for the remediation of cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3710

*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 ''Cybersecurity Vulnerability Remediation Act''.

**SEC. 2. CYBERSECURITY VULNERABILITIES.**

Section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

''(6) the term 'cybersecurity vulnerability' has the meaning given the term 'security vulnerability' in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501); and''.

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C);

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

''(B) sharing mitigation protocols to counter cybersecurity vulnerabilities pursuant to subsection (n); and''; and

(iv) in subparagraph (C), as so redesignated, by inserting ''and mitigation protocols to counter cybersecurity vulnerabilities in accordance with subparagraph (B)'' before ''with Federal'';

(B) in paragraph (7)(C), by striking ''sharing'' and inserting ''share''; and

(C) in paragraph (9), by inserting ''mitigation protocols to counter cybersecurity vulnerabilities,'' after ''measures,'';

(3) in subsection (e)(1)(G), by striking the semicolon after ''and'' at the end; and

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

''(n) PROTOCOLS TO COUNTER CYBERSECURITY VULNERABILITIES.—The Director may, as appropriate, identify, develop, and disseminate actionable protocols to mitigate cybersecurity vulnerabilities, including in circumstances in which such vulnerabilities exist because software or hardware is no longer supported by a vendor.''.

**SEC. 3. REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY VULNERABILITIES.**

(a) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on how the Agency carries out subsection (m) of section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to coordinate vulnerability disclosures, including disclosures of cybersecurity vulnerabilities (as such term is defined in such section), and subsection (n) of such section (as added by section 2) to disseminate actionable protocols to mitigate cybersecurity vulnerabilities, that includes the following:

(1) A description of the policies and procedures relating to the coordination of vulnerability disclosures.

(2) A description of the levels of activity in furtherance of such subsections (m) and (n) of such section 2209.

(3) Any plans to make further improvements to how information provided pursuant to such subsections can be shared (as such term is defined in such section 2209) between the Department and industry and other stakeholders.

(4) Any available information on the degree to which such information was acted upon by industry and other stakeholders.

(5) A description of how privacy and civil liberties are preserved in the collection, retention, use, and sharing of vulnerability disclosures.

(b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

**SEC. 4. COMPETITION RELATING TO CYBERSECURITY VULNERABILITIES.**

The Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department, may establish an incentive-based program that allows industry, individuals, academia, and others to compete in providing remediation solutions for cybersecurity vulnerabilities (as such term is defined in section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by section 2).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3710, the Cybersecurity Vulnerability Remediation Act, and I thank Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON for his work in securing the Nation against terrorist threats, including cybersecurity vulnerabilities that target critical infrastructure, civilian agency networks, and private-sector cyber resources.

I also thank subcommittee Chairman RICHMOND and the Committee on Homeland Security staff for working with my staff and me on H.R. 3710.

I thank the ranking member of the full committee, Mr. ROGERS from Alabama, and the ranking member of the subcommittee.

Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago, we saw technology in the form of drones be utilized to attack, with explosives, refineries in Saudi Arabia. I think the basis of my legislation speaks to the point that it is crucial that this Congress and this Nation prepare itself for new forms of technology.

We have not had that incident here in the United States, but if we recall, in 9/11, no one could fathom using loaded airplanes, fully filled with the material, fuel, that could be utilized as a weapon to attack the World Trade Center, to kill the brave at the Pentagon and the brave in Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3710 is to speak to those vulnerabilities, in particular, cybersecurity vulnerability remediation, which directs the DHS to prioritize efforts to help network operators address known vulnerabilities.

It requires DHS' Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to widely share mitigation protocols that counter cybersecurity vulnerabilities, authorizing the DHS Science and Technology Directorate to establish an incentive-based program to allow industry, individuals, agencies, and academia to compete in providing remediation solutions for the highest priority cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

We must be ever vigilant and diligent as we look to these new levels and subsets of technology. It requires the CISA to report to Congress on its efforts to share mitigation protocols and coordinate vulnerability disclosure with its partners.

H.R. 3710 authorizes, for the first time, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency to develop and distribute playbooks, in consultation with private-sector experts, to provide procedures and mitigation strategies for the most critical known vulnerabilities, especially those affecting software or hardware that is no longer supported by a vendor.

One of the statistics that we really know is that 80 percent—maybe even higher now—to 85 percent of the Nation's vulnerabilities—technology, infrastructure—is in the private sector. Those are the sites that our enemies would look eagerly to attack. The World Trade Center; in Saudi, the refineries; maybe some of our beautiful national monuments, outstanding sites here in Washington, D.C.; our national parks, these are the examples and the exhibits of the freedom of this Nation. Those are some government, some private sector.

Many know the terror that New York collectively faced, but there are other sites along the West Coast, in the Midwest, and in the Deep South that would also exhibit what the freedom of America is all about.

The playbooks that we would make available to Federal agencies, industry, and other stakeholders would help them prepare a network defense in the event of a cyberattack based upon vulnerability. I would like to think that we could prevent that attack.

A zero-day vulnerability is a software bug or exploit that has not been patched. Hackers can use these bugs and exploits based upon the vulnerability to steal data or damage networks before a patch can be developed to prevent a breach.

There are some vulnerabilities that cannot be patched. These require the resources provided by the playbook that will be provided in my bill.

H.R. 3710 authorizes the DHS Science and Technology Directorate, in consultation with CISA, to establish a competition program for industry, individuals, academia, and others to provide remediation solutions for cybersecurity vulnerabilities that are no longer supported.

The good news is that it seeks to have the consultation of Americans who have expertise and to be able to work with them to provide the remediation but also the playbook for prevention.

The vulnerabilities that will receive an entry in the playbook are serious and, if used by an adversary, can lead to significant costs and disruption of vital goods and services to the public. Just think of your water system, run mostly by local entities, or the electric grid, run mostly by the private sector.

In the 115th Congress, I introduced H.R. 3202, Cyber Vulnerability Disclosure Reporting Act, which addresses the Federal Government's sharing of cyber vulnerability disclosures to critical infrastructure owners and operators. H.R. 3710 goes further to address the remediation of identified cybersecurity threats by incentivizing work to patch or find solutions for cyber threats inherent in legacy systems.

Proactive and coordinated efforts are necessary to strengthen, maintain, and secure critical infrastructure, including assets that are vital to public confidence in the cyber nation's safety.

I hope that we will see our way forward in getting proactive and preventative as we move toward new levels of technology.

Mr. Speaker I rise today to speak in favor of H.R. 3710, the "Cybersecurity Vulnerability Remediation Act."

I thank Chairman BENNIE G. THOMPSON for his work in securing the nation against terrorist threats, including cybersecurity vulnerabilities that target critical infrastructure, civilian agency networks, and private sector cyber resources.

I thank Subcommittee Chairman RICHMOND and the Homeland Security Committee staff for working with me and my staff on H.R. 3710.

H.R. 3710, the "Cybersecurity Vulnerability Remediation Act" directs DHS to prioritize efforts to help network operators address known vulnerabilities by:

1. Requiring DHS's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to widely share mitigation protocols to counter cybersecurity vulnerabilities;

2. Authorizing the DHS Science and Technology Directorate to establish an incentive-based program to allow industry, individuals, agencies, and academia to compete in providing remediation solutions for the highest priority cybersecurity vulnerabilities; and

3. Requiring CISA to report to Congress on its efforts to share mitigation protocols and coordinate vulnerability disclosures with its partners.

H.R. 3710, authorizes for the first time the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Agency (CISA) to develop and distribute "playbooks," in consultation with private sector experts, to provide procedures and mitigation strategies for the most critical, known vulnerabilities, especially those affecting software or hardware that is no longer supported by a vendor.

The playbooks would be available to Federal agencies, industry, and other stakeholders to help them prepare network defense in the event of a cyber-attack based upon a vulnerability.

A zero-day vulnerability is a software bug or exploit that has not been patched.

Hackers can use these bugs and exploits based upon the vulnerability to steal data or damage networks before a patch can be developed to prevent a breach.

There are some vulnerabilities that cannot be patched and these require the resources provided by the Playbook that will be provided by this bill.

H.R. 3710 authorizes DHS Science and Technology Directorate (S&T), in consultation with CISA, to establish a competition program for industry, individuals, academia, and others to provide remediation solutions for cybersecurity vulnerabilities that are no longer supported.

The vulnerabilities that will receive entry into the Playbook are serious and if used by an advisory, can lead to significant cost and disruption of vital goods and services to the public.

In the 115th Congress, I introduced H.R. 3202, Cyber Vulnerability Disclosure Reporting Act, which addresses the federal government's sharing of cyber vulnerability disclosures to critical infrastructure owners and operators.

H.R. 3710 goes further to address the remediation of identified cybersecurity threats by incentivizing work to patch or find solutions for cyber threats inherent in legacy systems.

Proactive and coordinated efforts are necessary to strengthen and maintain secure critical infrastructure, including assets that are vital to public confidence in the cyber nation's safety.

This bill supports the ongoing work of the Department of Homeland Security in security civilian agency and coordinating with private sector computing network owners and operators.

Most people do not know how long the federal government has used computing to carry out vital functions in service of the public.

The Federal government's first use of computing technology occurred in 1890 when an automated tabulation method was used to organize that year's census data encoded on punch cards.

Since that modest beginning in 1890, the Federal government has blazed a path for adoption of computing technology throughout the federal government, which established an unprecedented pace for innovation in the private sector that transformed our world from analogue to digital in 129 years.

One of the consequences of federal government's use of computing technology over the last 129 years are the challenges of operating legacy systems that use outdated software, which cannot be quickly upgraded to eliminate known cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

Federal government offices are vulnerable to cyberattacks, with the number of cyber incidents reported by federal agencies increasing more than 1,300 percent between 2006 and 2015.

In 2015, a hacker exploited access provided by a government agency contractor to break into government databases to gain access to 22 million security clearance files from the Office of Personnel Management.

In 2017, Federal agencies reported more than 35,000 cyber incidents, some of which targeted old operating systems that were no longer supported by a vendor.

According to the National Security Agency, it has not responded to a zero-day attack on government systems in the last four years, largely because hackers have found better success through basic attack methods.

H.R. 3710 will provide much needed structure around a federal government wide effort to address cybersecurity vulnerabilities in federal civilian agency networks.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 3710.

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

□ 1345

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3710, the Cybersecurity Vulnerability Remediation Act. This bill enables CISA to develop important mitigation protocols for vulnerabilities existing in outdated software and hardware through collaboration with public- and private-sector entities.

This important legislation, introduced by Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, helps ensure that we maintain security in our networks.

I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in doing so.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, let me further explain what this bill does.

This bill supports the ongoing work of the Department of Homeland Security and security civilian agency and coordinating with private-sector computing network owners and operators.

Most people do not know how long the Federal Government has used computing to carry out vital functions in service of the public. The Federal Government's first use of computing technology occurred as long ago as 1890,

when an automated tabulation method was used to organize that year's Census data encoded on punch cards.

Let me remind our colleagues that we are about to venture on to Census now. Imagine a cyberattack on that process.

Since a modest beginning in 1890, the Federal Government has blazed a path for adoption of computing technology throughout the Federal Government, which established an unprecedented pace for innovation in the private sector that transformed our world from analog to digital in 129 years.

One of the consequences of the Federal Government's use of computing technology over the last 129 years is the challenges of operating legacy systems that use outdated software, which cannot be quickly upgraded to eliminate known cybersecurity vulnerabilities.

Federal Government offices are vulnerable to cyberattacks, with the number of cyber incidents reported by Federal agencies increasing more than 1,300 percent between 2006 and 2015.

In 2015, a hacker exploited access by a government agency contractor to break into the government databases to gain access to 22 million security clearance files from the Office of Personnel Management.

In 2017, Federal agencies reported more than 35,000 cyber incidents, some of which targeted old operating systems that were no longer supported by a vendor.

According to the National Security Agency, it has not responded to a zero-day attack on government systems in the last 4 years because hackers have found better success through basic attack methods.

I would hope my colleagues would consider recognizing that we must be in front of these potential attacks and not behind them.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption to the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the minority for its support of this legislation and ask my colleagues to support it.

As I do so, Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an article, ''DHS Flags Cybersecurity Vulnerabilities in Philips Patient Monitors: The Department of Homeland Security has issued an advisory about cybersecurity vulnerabilities in the wireless local area network modules of Philips IntelliVue portable patient monitors.''

[Sept. 13, 2019]

DHS FLAGS CYBERSECURITY VULNERABILITIES IN PHILIPS PATIENT MONITORS

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY HAS ISSUED AN ADVISORY ABOUT CYBERSECURITY VULNERABILITIES IN THE WIRELESS LOCAL AREA NETWORK MODULES OF PHILIPS INTELLIVUE PORTABLE PATIENT MONITORS

(By Fred Donovan)

The Department of Homeland Security has issued (https://www.us-cert.gov/ics/advisories/icsma-19-255-01) an advisory about cybersecurity vulnerabilities in the wireless local area network (WLAN) modules of certain Philips IntelliVue portable patient monitors.

DHS's Industrial Control Systems Cyber Emergency Response Team (ICS–CERT) warned that an attacker could corrupt the IntelliVue WLAN firmware and alter the data flow over to the patient monitor, causing an inoperative condition alert at the device and central station.

The vulnerable patient monitors are IntelliVue MP monitors MP20–MP90, MP5/5SC, MP2/X2, and MX800/700/600.

The vulnerabilities include use of hard-coded password and download of code without integrity check.

The use of a hard-coded password makes it easier for an attacker to guess the password and login via FTP and upload malicious firmware. In addition, the ''product downloads source code or an executable from a remote location and executes the code without sufficiently verifying the origin and integrity of the code,'' warned the advisory.

Shawn Loveric of Finite State reported the vulnerabilities to Philips.

In a product security advisory (https://www.usa.philips.com/healthcare/about/customer-support/product-security), Philips recommended that users of the affected IntelliVue patient monitors update to the WLAN Module Version C wireless module with current firmware.

Philips said it will also issue a software patch for WLAN Version A that will be available by the end of 2019, while WLAN Version B is obsolete.

''Wireless network access should be controlled by authentication and authorization (e.g. WPA2), which are supported by Philips. Additional mitigations include implementing a firewall rule on the customer wireless network, and further controls on physical access to the system,'' Philips advised.

Philips said it had received no reports of patient harm. Its analysis judged that it is unlikely that the cybersecurity vulnerability would impact clinical use, due to mitigating controls in place. To date, Philips has received no complaints involving clinical use that it has been able to associate with the vulnerability or evidence of patient identifiers compromised.

DHS's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency recommended users of the vulnerable Philips devices take defensive measures to minimize the risk of exploitation of these vulnerabilities. Users should restrict system access to authorized personnel and follow a least privilege approach, apply defense-in-depth strategies, and disable unnecessary accounts and services.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. With that in mind, this is a real-life example of what can happen if we are not first in front.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that my colleagues will join me in voting for H.R. 3710, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3710.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## UNIFYING DHS INTELLIGENCE ENTERPRISE ACT

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2589) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a homeland intelligence doctrine for the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2589

*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 ''Unifying DHS Intelligence Enterprise Act''.

**SEC. 2. HOMELAND INTELLIGENCE DOCTRINE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

**''SEC. 210H. HOMELAND INTELLIGENCE DOCTRINE.**

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, acting through the Chief Intelligence Officer of the Department, in coordination with intelligence components of the Department, the Office of the General Counsel, the Privacy Office, and the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, shall develop and disseminate written Department-wide guidance for the processing, analysis, production, and dissemination of homeland security information (as such term is defined in section 892) and terrorism information (as such term is defined in section 1016 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (6 U.S.C. 485)).

''(b) CONTENTS.—The guidance required under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, include the following:

''(1) A description of guiding principles and purposes of the Department's intelligence enterprise.

''(2) A summary of the roles, responsibilities, and programs of each intelligence component of the Department in the processing, analysis, production, or dissemination of homeland security information and terrorism information, including relevant authorities and restrictions applicable to each such intelligence component.

''(3) Guidance for the processing, analysis, and production of such information.

''(4) Guidance for the dissemination of such information, including within the Department, among and between Federal departments and agencies, among and between State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments, including law enforcement, and with foreign partners and the private sector, consistent with the protection of privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties.

''(5) A description of how the dissemination to the intelligence community (as such term is defined in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4))) and Federal law enforcement of such information assists such entities in carrying out their respective missions.

''(c) FORM.—The guidance required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

''(d) ANNUAL REVIEW.—For each of the five fiscal years beginning with the first fiscal year that begins after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall conduct a review of the guidance required under subsection (a) and, as appropriate, revise such guidance.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting

after the item relating to section 210G the following new item:

''Sec. 210H. Homeland intelligence doctrine.''.

**SEC. 3. COMPTROLLER GENERAL ASSESSMENT.**

(a) ANNUAL ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and again not later than five years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an assessment of the degree to which guidance established pursuant to section 210H of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by section 2 of this Act) is implemented across the Department of Homeland Security. Such assessment should evaluate the extent to which such guidance is carried out in a manner that protects privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties.

(b) ELEMENTS OF ASSESSMENT.—In conducting each assessment under subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) use standard methodology and reporting formats in order to demonstrate and display any changes over time; and

(2) include any other subject matter the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

(c) ACCESS TO RELEVANT DATA.—To carry out this section, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that the Comptroller General of the United States has access to all relevant data.

**SEC. 4. ANALYSTS FOR THE CHIEF INTELLIGENCE OFFICER.**

Paragraph (1) of section 201(e) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''The Secretary shall also provide the Chief Intelligence Officer with a staff having appropriate expertise and experience to assist the Chief Intelligence Officer.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2589, the Unifying DHS Intelligence Enterprise Act.

H.R. 2589 seeks to improve the Department of Homeland Security's intelligence enterprise by ensuring intelligence officers across DHS are sharing information and countering threats in a unified manner.

Since the Department was established, intelligence and information sharing capabilities have matured, but DHS still lacks a coordinated intelligence enterprise.

In 2016, the Committee on Homeland Security released a comprehensive review of the Department of Homeland Security's use of intelligence to counter terrorist threats and prescribed 30 recommendations.

As a result, this bill directs the Secretary of Homeland Security, through a DHS chief intelligence officer, to develop and disseminate written DHS-wide guidance for the processing, analysis, production, and dissemination of Homeland Security and terrorism information, and ensures this guidance is consistent with the protection of privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties.

Given the diversity of missions across the Department, it is vital that component intelligence officers are working together, sharing information, and vetting that information against the broader U.S. intelligence community holdings.

H.R. 2589 requires an assessment and description of how the dissemination of information to the intelligence community and Federal law enforcement assists such entities in carrying out their respective missions.

One of the key missions of DHS is to act as a clearinghouse for threat information, and this bill will ensure that the Department continues to evolve into a better, more effective asset in responding to threats to the homeland.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2589, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2589, the Unifying DHS Intelligence Enterprise Act.

In December of 2003, I had the unbelievable opportunity to fly with our Nation's elite special operations aviation unit, the Night Stalkers, in conjunction with our Army's tier I counterterrorism unit in the capture of Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein. It was the highlight of my Army career.

Whether it was on missions in Iraq or hunting Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan, I realized that having a systematic way to gather, process, analyze, and disseminate intelligence information was critical to our success on the battlefield. That experience encouraged me to introduce this bill back in May so that DHS can best fulfill its very important mission to keep America safe.

This bill requires the Department's chief intelligence officer, or CINT, to establish a homeland intelligence doctrine for the Department, and it requires the CINT to maintain a dedicated staff.

In the years following the terrorist attacks of September 11, the Department was established to consolidate 22 existing Federal agencies and reshape the domestic intelligence and counterterrorism structure of the U.S.

Over the years, DHS has matured and refined its intelligence enterprise. Significant improvements have been made, but there is not yet complete unity among the various intelligence offices within all the component agencies.

In 2016, the House Committee on Homeland Security released a comprehensive review of the Department's use of intelligence to counter terrorist attacks. They recognized that DHS, ''has improved its ability to protect the homeland against terrorist threats over time, but major gaps remain.'' They prescribed over 30 recommendations to the Department for improved intelligence sharing.

The goal of H.R. 2589 is to ensure all of the component entities at DHS are speaking the same language, using the same trade craft, and disseminating their products to the appropriate stakeholders, which include both intelligence communities and State and local partners. This legislation will help professionalize the DHS intelligence enterprise by establishing a shared intelligence doctrine.

Across DHS, dedicated border and immigration agents are gathering information on individuals seeking to enter the United States. Threats to transportation systems and critical infrastructure are gathered and assessed, and real-time cyber threats to the government and private networks are analyzed.

The incredible differences in the agencies of the Department create natural barriers to information flow. Given this diversity of missions, it is vital that component intelligence offices are working together, sharing information, and vetting that information against intelligence community holdings.

As a former member of the Army special operations task forces, I know the value of synchronized intelligence processes in order to connect the dots and successfully carry out a mission. This bill also authorizes the continued dedication to providing staff to the chief intelligence officer ensuring that this distinct mission continues to provide the value necessary to support the intelligence enterprise.

I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to join me in doing so.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) for his service, and I thank him for this legislation.

It is worth noting that the bill that we just passed and the bill that we are now debating specifically dealing with cybersecurity and intelligence are crucial elements of our security.

I think that with the combination of recognizing the importance of the intelligence community that is on the front lines of providing our safety and then acknowledging the vulnerabilities in the cyber system as one of the components of new technology, I started out my remarks by taking note of the drone attack on the refineries in Saudi

Arabia. Here we are talking about cyber and its impact.

But I think the overall sense of these two initiatives is to ensure that we in Homeland Security are on the front end of dealing with the importance of securing this Nation on the new technologies that we are facing every single day.

I ask my colleagues to support the underlying legislation.

I include in the RECORD the following articles on this very topic: ''Thousands of Vulnerabilities in Seattle's IT Network Attributed to Siloed Approach to Cybersecurity,'' September 17, 2019; ''Leader of New NSA Cybersecurity Directorate Outlines Threats, Objectives,'' dated September 5, 2019; and then, August 30, 2019, ''Why Focusing on Threat Hunting May Leave You Vulnerable.''

[September 17, 2019]

THOUSANDS OF VULNERABILITIES IN SEATTLE'S IT NETWORK ATTRIBUTED TO SILOED APPROACH TO CYBERSECURITY

(By David Kroman)

Last May, Seattle's head of information security flagged a problem within the city's technology department: Because of a process breakdown, employees were indicating that they had fixed vulnerabilities in the department's computer network when, in fact, they had not been fixed.

''It has been discovered that there are currently over 21,000 known critical and high vulnerabilities on systems throughout Seattle IT,'' Andrew Whitaker, then the department's chief information security officer, wrote in a May 22 email to technology leadership. ''Tickets have been closed out, claiming to have vulnerabilities remediated, but upon follow-up review they were, with a few exceptions, not remediated.''

The result was that the servers, desktops and applications within the newly consolidated Department of Information Technology—which now handles the vast majority of the city of Seattle's technology functions, from utilities to the fire department—contained open miniportals that could be accessed by would-be hackers.

When left unremediated, vulnerabilities provide possible paths for hackers to plant spyware, ransomware, viruses and other malicious software that can be immensely harmful to an organization, especially one that provides critical services. Cities are often particularly open to an attack and the effect can be devastating, as recent ransom attacks in Baltimore and Atlanta have shown.

Saad Bashir, Seattle's new head of the Department of Information Technology, said in an interview that he believes the vulnerabilities are manageable. He said Seattle is at risk, as are all organizations, but, in general, not abnormally so.

However, Bashir acknowledged the process breakdown was indicative of a broader problem (https://crosscut.com/2017/07/at-city-hall-a-massive-department-is-mired-in-chaos) he has been attempting to address within the organization since taking his position earlier this year. ''What I observed very early was that there was a siloed approach in how cybersecurity was being practiced in the world of IT,'' he said.

Because of a disconnect between teams, Bashir said, some part of the security process would get completed, but would not be properly handed off to the next team. ''If you're not clear, then you may not know whether that particular vulnerability management work has been completed the way it's supposed to be completed,'' Bashir said.

In an effort to improve the processes within the department, Bashir began a major reorganization of the relatively new department—including his firing of 14 directors and managers (https://crosscut.com/2019/05/seattles-new-it-boss-fires-14-directors-part-organizational-change)—just two days before Whitaker's message. The reorganization was not motivated solely by security weaknesses, he said, but was intended to create a smoother structure that would better catch possible entry points. When asked if the city was safer from an attack since he took over, Bashir said, ''Absolutely.''

Every organization contains some number of vulnerabilities. The trick is to continually identify and address them as they arise—an e-windshield wiper of sorts, where the vulnerabilities are the raindrops.

Experts say hackers are increasingly less likely to gain access through a vulnerability than they are through a phishing expedition. In such cases, a deceiving email message persuades employees to provide passwords or a malware-infected USB drive is left in a parking lot in hopes that someone finds it and plugs it in to their computer.

But addressing vulnerabilities in the city's systems continues to be an important function of its IT department.

''If I were a serious bad guy I'd be looking at the most vulnerable place,'' said Dr. Barbara Endicott-Popovsky, executive director of the Center for Information Assurance & Cybersecurity at the University of Washington. ''I'd be looking at cities and I'd be looking at universities, because they're open and they can't afford the latest and greatest. It's kind of like, 'Open sesame.' ''

Mike Hamilton, founder of CI Security and Seattle's chief information security officer from 2006 to 2013, said there are a number of reasons cities struggle to stay ahead of cyberattacks.

For one, the number of qualified security experts is down across the country, he said. And of those who are on the market, cities can't match the pay of large companies like Amazon or Microsoft.

''The ones that are good are in short supply, which means that local governments cannot compete for those resources,'' he said.

Additionally, cities are responsible for the security of all their departments, each of which may require vastly different things. ''Because government is a federation of agencies, that makes it a little difficult to have policies in place that apply to [for example] the regulated industry of human resources without raising the ire of unions,'' he said.

Hamilton also said the biennial budgeting of local government makes keeping up challenging. ''Technology moves a whole lot freaking faster,'' he said.

All of this, Hamilton said, is in the context of extremely high stakes. Compared with for-profit companies, ''the potential impact [of an attack on government] is so much greater and government can't afford it,'' said Hamilton. ''We know something needs to be fixed, and we don't fix it until something blows up.''

Bashir said the new processes he's put into place has made him ''confident that we no longer have any glaring process gaps.'' He couldn't say exactly how many vulnerabilities are still open on city systems, but that it was less than 21,000. The ideal number, Bashir said, is zero, but that's also extremely unlikely, which makes it hard to identify what a ''good'' number is.

''I worry about all of them,'' said Andrew Cushman, the city's new chief security officer. ''Whether that number is 21,000 or whether that number is 10 depends on the attacker and how skilled that attacker is and how motivated that attacker is. So I don't worry more because that number is 21,000, then I do if that number is 10.''

Going forward, Bashir said he wants ''to create a high level of security awareness mindset across the organization.'' The city could have zero vulnerabilities and it wouldn't matter if one employee plugs in the wrong USB to a work computer.

Hamilton said there are several easy things cities can do that, while not offering total protection, would make it so they are no longer ''the slowest gnu in the herd getting picked off.'' For one, mandate zero personal use of city equipment, something Singapore implemented in 2017.

Phishing attacks remain the easiest entry point for hackers and so that's where the bulk of the city's attention should focus, Hamilton said. Because no matter how many protections are put into place, ''There is not now, nor will there ever be, a firewall for stupid.''

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[From CSO Online, Sept. 5, 2019]

LEADER OF NEW NSA CYBERSECURITY DIRECTORATE OUTLINES THREATS, OBJECTIVES

(By Cynthia Brumfield)

Ransomware, Russia, China, Iran and North Korea are the top cybersecurity threats that will be the focus of a new division within the National Security Agency (NSA), the Cybersecurity Directorate, which is set to be operational on October 1, according to NSA director of cybersecurity Anne Neuberger. She was tapped in July by Director General Paul Nakasone to head the group. The Directorate aims to bring the agency's foreign intelligence and cyber operations together and ''operationalize [its] threat intelligence, vulnerability assessments and cyber defense expertise,'' the agency announced when launching the new division.

''NSA really had to up its game,'' Neuberger said in a fireside chat with Niloofar Razi Howe, cybersecurity venture investor and executive at the Billington Cybersecurity Summit in Washington on September 4. ''And that's what drove this desire to stand up a directorate and frankly to set a pretty aggressive mission, which is to prevent and eradicate cyber actors from national security systems and critical infrastructure with a focus on the defense industrial base.''

In terms of the threats, ''Clearly ransomware is the focus. We've seen there are roughly 4,000 ransomware attacks a day,'' Neuberger said. ''When we look at Russia, we see a country that uses influence operations, uses cyber [that is] really integrated and below the level of armed conflict. They also use entities who aren't necessarily tied to the government, whether the Internet Research Agency for potential elections influence or China has its own unique approach to how the country uses cyber threats to achieve its national security and military objectives, Neuberger said. China's cyber threats are exemplified by three different and wholly distinct types of operations: the 2015 theft of 21.5 million records from the Office of Personnel Management, the hacking campaign known as Cloud Hopper that targeted eight of the world's biggest technology service providers, and ongoing theft of intellectual property such as when Chinese intelligence and business insiders sought to steal information related to a turbofan engine used in commercial airliners.

Iran is very volatile and uses destructive attacks in its own region primarily, Neuberger said. ''North Korea always fascinates us as essentially a nation-state

criminal, as a country under sanctions using creative ways of cyber, whether it's crypto currency, whether it's cryptomining to gain hard currency and essentially keep the regime afloat.''

Neuberger previously headed the agency's ''Russia Small Group,'' a joint NSA-Cyber Command task force to combat Russian election interference and influence campaigns. The task force ''was stood up out of a realization that something had dramatically changed and we had to reboot our approach as a US government,'' Neuberger said.

''Now influence operations have been around since the days of Adam and Eve, but what really changed was the age of social media,'' she said. Not only could an adversary send out broad messaging, but it could also target disinformation to particular ethnic groups, particular elements of a country, and do it in a ''pretty cheap way ... looking as if one is an American.''

''So, we realized that it took a more creative approach to protect our democracy. In the Russia Small Group, we worked closely with the DHS and FBI to ensure that from a cyber perspective they had all the threat information we had in a way that can be quickly actionable'' Neuberger said. ''We're tremendously proud of the work we did between NSA, Cyber Command, DHS and the FBI to defend the integrity of our elections and ensure that every American know that their vote counted and their vote matters.,'' referring to the Russia Small Group's efforts to protect the 2018 midterm elections.

When it comes to warding off 2020 election threats, the Directorate will take the same approach the Russia Small Group applied in the 2018 elections. ''Ensure there is threat intelligence, gain those insights, share that intelligence, and be prepared to impose costs on an adversary who may attempt to influence our elections,'' Neuberger said. ''We will do the same work that we did in 2018 looking to see who are the actors seeking to shake confidence in the integrity of our elections, and share that with the FBI.''

Ransomware has emerged as a bigger threat to the election infrastructure than it has before. The recent shift ransomware attackers have taken from targeting individuals to targeting entities is ''certainly something that would make it be a key concern for the elections. The best protection is the same security advice we give: ensure one uses principles of least privilege [and] computers with admin access shouldn't have access to the Internet at all times.''

Partnering with other government agencies and private sector companies and organizations will be a major focus of the Directorate. ''Everything we do, we do in partnership with other agencies, with allies around the world and certainly the private sector plays a role,'' Neuberger said, noting that she wants to unify all the various communities involved in cybersecurity to enhance collaboration and focus on the hardest cybersecurity problems.

''Partners are key; they are the root of everything we can accomplish,'' she said. Among the partners the Directorate plans to include in its efforts are the Department of Defense, Cyber Command, DHS, the acquisition community, U.S. allies and certainly the private the sector. ''The private sector is often the first indicator of a significant threat or a significant compromise.''

The goal is to push out as much unclassified information as possible and bring together all the elements that are needed to quickly identify and head off threats. ''Ideally, we are sharing the threat information to prevent an attack, to prevent exploitation rather than being part of a team that helps with incident response,'' Neuberger said.

Although the Directorate doesn't have a ''moonshot'' objective as it begins operations, one goal is to address the ''rampant abuse of Internet infrastructure,'' Neuberger said, particularly protecting the Domain Name System (DNS), the naming system underlying the Internet which has been subject to increasing attacks and redirections by malicious actors.

''DNS is a key way that adversaries use for command and control for exploitation,'' she said. Neuberger would like to see efforts such as the UK's NCSC's Protective Domain Name System, which was built to thwart the use of DNS for malware distribution and operation, more widely used. The Directorate can help by adding or contributing threat information to make those services even more effective.

The Directorate can serve to interconnect these efforts so they could communicate beyond internet transactions. ''If we could achieve that, it would have even broader impact beyond cybersecurity.''

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[From Infosecurity Magazine] Aug. 30, 2019

WHY FOCUSING ON THREAT HUNTING MAY LEAVE YOU VULNERABLE

(By Bob Shaker)

The cybersecurity threat landscape is becoming increasingly complex and crowded, and with security teams around the world largely understaffed and facing burnout, experts are looking for the most efficient way to combat cybercrime.

One approach that has gained significant momentum of late is threat hunting—the proactive searching of threat indicators within an environment to sniff out highly advanced cyber threats. In threat hunting, security analysts search their environment for known indicators of compromise (IoCs) and adversary tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs)—if any of these are found, there's a good chance that an attack is underway.

While threat hunting is a key element of a robust cybersecurity strategy, many organizations rely too heavily on this approach. A narrow focus on specific IoCs and TTPs paints an incomplete picture of the threat environment and means that the attacks that don't bear these hallmarks will get missed.

In this evolving threat landscape, enterprises can't just rely on threat hunting to keep their environments secure—they must broaden their cybersecurity approach, assessing security environments in a more holistic way to better detect advanced and stealth attacks.

WHY THREAT HUNTING HAS BECOME SO POPULAR

Threat hunting has recently become a major buzzword in the security industry in large part because it connotes a cooler, more technical and more skilled approach to security. As a result, security experts are gravitating toward it for career-building opportunities and advancing their security approach.

While threat hunting might be overhyped, there are also genuine benefits to the practice (when done correctly) that help explain why enterprises are so ready to adopt it. Threat hunting helps refocus security teams on emerging threats, since existing security technologies tend to address things we already know about.

Actively looking for emerging threats can mean identifying threats that might be lurking in the environment—reducing dwell time and tackling threats before they escalate and turn into full-blown security breaches.

In addition, adopting threat hunting tactics often leads to discovering visibility gaps in your current security approach—for example, your S3 buckets might not be configured properly or perhaps some firewall rules got changed, or maybe you're able to identify an employee or group within your organization that is violating a security policy. Uncovering these poorly managed security solutions is a useful byproduct of threat hunting.

THE DOWNFALLS OF THREAT HUNTING

However, many organizations rely too heavily on threat hunting as they are unable to invest in the required infrastructure, resources and expertise to continually analyze all activity for possible threats. Often, this threat hunting is provided by third-party security companies, as many enterprises either lack the skills and resources entirely or are only able dedicate their in-house teams to a few days of threat hunting a year.

With the major talent gap facing cybersecurity, most enterprises simply cannot find or afford to hire professionals with the required level of expertise. As a result, many are turning to managed services offered by security companies to help close the gap. According to Gartner, by 2024, 25% of organizations will be using MDR services, up from less than 5% today.

Threat hunting services often focus almost exclusively on threats posed by splashy, sexy attack groups—whether it is notable criminal APTs or nation state groups. A strong security program focuses on risk management, and one of the most important things security teams can do is accurately identify the risks that they are susceptible to, which for many enterprises isn't a nation-state attack.

While threat-hunting addresses attacks that everyone is talking about, the reality is that many enterprises should be equally—if not more cognizant—of commodity threats. While sophisticated threats exist and are important to defend against through threat hunting, the majority of threats facing enterprises are better addressed through good security hygiene.

Over-investing in threat hunting can lead to an incomplete and irregular picture of the risks enterprises face. In fact, a singular reliance on threat hunting alone means that many types of attacks will get missed if you're not specifically looking for them.

TAKING A HOLISTIC APPROACH

By over-rotating on big name threats, security teams leave open the possibility that they are going to miss the obvious. In this threat environment, security teams can't afford to drop the ball on the basics—a recent ESG survey of enterprise cybersecurity leaders revealed that more than three-quarters (76%) believe that threat detection and incident response is more difficult today than it was just two years ago.

To ensure a strong security posture, enterprises should take a comprehensive, multifaceted approach that goes beyond threat hunting. As they build out a holistic approach, they should be sure to:

Collect data on everything they can. Often when investigating a breach or incident, security teams find that they don't have any evidence because they aren't collecting and retaining the right data—it's usually the exception when there's sufficient logging for an incident. With living off the land attacks increasing (many of which fly under the radar of traditional logging), it's ever more important that teams don't skimp on data collection, as relying on a mixture of sources is more likely to help you detect threats early and prevent bad actors from getting in unnoticed.

Use multiple security tools and strategies. We've recently seen a trend toward new technologies like AI and machine learning across security programs. It's important to layer these tools and strategies as they each have their strengths and weaknesses. To maximize effectiveness, use a mixture of tools, methodologies and frameworks that integrate multiple attack and adversary considerations such as MITRE ATT&CK as well as

simple IOCs, rule-based detection, statistical models, linguistic models, and machine learning models—and then correlate with global threat intelligence, validating and augmenting with human expertise.

Don't underestimate the importance of humans. The human side of the investigation is critical. There is no better computer for detecting, recognizing and responding to threats than the human mind. While automated systems have helped advance the security industry significantly, a true ''eyes on glass'' approach to threat detection requires years of experience and the corresponding intuition of knowing when something is amiss.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues support the underlying legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, there is bipartisan support for a professional, coordinated Department of Homeland Security intelligence architecture.

I want to thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member ROGERS for supporting this legislation and bringing it to the floor. It is time for DHS to be able to function with the same precision in the handling of intelligence information as our warriors in the Department of Defense, and I am honored to have the opportunity to help them do so.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2589, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 4378. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

□ 1400

## TSA REACHING ACROSS NATIONALITIES, SOCIETIES, AND LANGUAGES TO ADVANCE TRAVELER EDUCATION ACT

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3691) to require the TSA to develop a plan to ensure that TSA material disseminated in major airports can be better understood by more people accessing such airports, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3691

*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 ''TSA Reaching Across Nationalities, Societies, and Languages to Advance Traveler Education Act'' or the ''TRANSLATE Act''.

**SEC. 2. PLAN.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a plan to ensure that TSA material disseminated in major airports can be better understood by more people accessing such airports.

(b) CONTENTS.—The plan required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) An identification of the most common languages other than English that are the primary languages of individuals that travel through or work in each major airport.

(2) A plan to improve—

(A) TSA materials to communicate information in languages identified pursuant to paragraph (1); and

(B) the communication of TSA material to individuals with vision or hearing impairments or other possible barriers to understanding such material.

(c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In developing the plan required under subsection (a), the Administrator of the TSA, acting through the Office of Civil Rights and Liberties, Ombudsman and Traveler Engagement of the TSA, shall take into consideration data regarding the following:

(1) International enplanement.

(2) Local populations surrounding major airports.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the submission of the plan required under subsection (a), the Administrator of the TSA shall implement such plan.

(e) GAO REVIEW.—Not later than one year after the implementation pursuant to subsection (d) of the plan required under subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a review of such implementation.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AIRPORT.—The term ''airport'' has the meaning given such term in section 40102 of title 49, United States Code.

(2) MAJOR AIRPORTS.—The term ''major airports'' means Category X and Category I airports.

(3) TSA MATERIAL.—The term ''TSA material'' means signs, videos, audio messages, websites, press releases, social media postings, and other communications published and disseminated by the Administrator of the TSA in Category X and Category I airports.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3691, the TRANSLATE Act.

Throughout my travels, I get the opportunity to witness and meet families and visitors from numerous countries, cultures, and backgrounds traveling throughout our Nation's airports.

These families share many of the same experiences we all share when traveling using an airplane. They want to board their flights on time and land safely at their destination without undue delay or confusion.

Sadly, signs and other communications throughout our U.S. airports are not meeting the needs of all travelers. Many non-English speakers, international travelers, and people with vision or hearing impairments experience challenges during their travels because the current signage is not accessible to them.

According to the U.S. Census, over 65 million individuals living in the U.S. over the age of five speak English not well or not at all.

No one should have to worry about missing a flight because they don't speak English or have impaired vision or hearing.

This bill addresses this issue by requiring TSA to make signage, video, audio, and other online content more accessible to travelers at major airports who do not speak English as their primary language.

This bill will make TSA operations more effective and efficient by helping to prevent miscommunication between TSA officers and travelers.

Furthermore, this bill helps ensure that we maintain a standard of inclusivity at our airports for residents and visitors alike.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3691, the TRANSLATE Act. TSA has an important mission to protect air travel and is responsible for the security of nearly 440 Federalized airports. Across these airports, TSA screens more than 2 million passengers a day.

To accomplish this mission, TSA relies on materials like signs, websites, and videos to communicate screening information to passengers and airport employees prior to their arrival at TSA checkpoints.

H.R. 3691 requires TSA to develop and implement a plan to identify languages other than English that are primary

languages of travelers at major airports and determine steps to improve communication in those languages at those same airports.

Also included in the plan will be steps for TSA to improve communication with individuals that are hearing and vision impaired or may experience other barriers to understanding TSA's communication.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Representative TITUS for her work supporting TSA's mission to secure air travel. I urge support of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS).

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and I thank the Member across the aisle for his bipartisan support.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent Las Vegas; it is the entertainment capital of the world.

Last year, almost 50 million people passed through the gates of McCarran International Airport in my congressional district. They were tourists, business travelers, and friends and family of my ethnically diverse constituents. Many of them were from international airports of destination. They came from all parts of the world, and they didn't speak English.

Yet, much of what TSA communicates to travelers and transportation workers is through signs, announcements, and videos that are all in English.

Let's be clear. As you have heard the speakers before me say, you shouldn't have to worry about missing a plane at an airport in the United States just because you don't speak English.

That is why I am excited that the House is passing the TRANSLATE Act, which I introduced to make sure that TSA goes the extra mile in Las Vegas and at airports all across the country to communicate with the traveling public. It is a basic courtesy.

I know we all appreciate seeing signs in English when we are traveling abroad, so there is no reason we shouldn't make U.S. airports as welcoming as possible to those who don't speak English or who may be visually impaired.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for supporting this bill.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no speakers for this, and I am prepared to close.

Mr. Speaker, I am fully in support of this bill. Again, I want to just give accolades to the gentlewoman who put it together and recognize that this is fantastic, and we need to get it done.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3691 will make traveling easier for millions of airline passengers traveling throughout the United States whose primary language is not English.

By creating signage that meets the needs of all travelers, this bill will improve the travel experience for many.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3691, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3691.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## TRUSTED TRAVELER RECONSIDERATION AND RESTORATION ACT OF 2019

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3675) to require a review of Department of Homeland Security trusted traveler programs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3675

*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 ''Trusted Traveler Reconsideration and Restoration Act of 2019''.

**SEC. 2. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.**

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of Department of Homeland Security trusted traveler programs. Such review shall examine the following:

(1) The extent to which the Department of Homeland Security tracks data and monitors trends related to trusted traveler programs, including root causes for identity-matching errors resulting in an individual's enrollment in a trusted traveler program being reinstated.

(2) Whether the Department coordinates with the heads of other relevant Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial entities regarding redress procedures for disqualifying offenses not covered by the Department's own redress processes but which offenses impact an individual's enrollment in a trusted traveler program.

(3) How the Department may improve individuals' access to reconsideration procedures regarding a disqualifying offense for enrollment in a trusted traveler program that requires the involvement of any other Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial entity.

(4) The extent to which travelers are informed about reconsideration procedures regarding enrollment in a trusted traveler program.

**SEC. 3. ENROLLMENT REDRESS.**

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, with respect to an individual whose enrollment in a trusted traveler program was revoked in error extend by an amount of time equal to the period of revocation the period of active enrollment in such a program upon re-enrollment in such a program by such an individual.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3675, the Trusted Traveler Reconsideration and Restoration Act of 2019.

Millions of people have applied for a variety of DHS Trusted Traveler Programs such as TSA's PreCheck program and CBP's Global Entry, Nexus, Sentri, and FAST programs.

Once approved, enrollment in these programs allows travelers to go through expedited screening while allowing DHS officers to focus on higher risk travelers.

While I commend DHS for taking steps to focus on high-risk travelers, I am troubled by examples of travelers who meet all the security requirements for enrollment but are unable to enroll.

Misidentification or misinformation impairs DHS' ability to appropriately make determinations on eligibility and limits the public's willingness to participate in these programs.

This bill seeks to strengthen the DHS Trusted Traveler Programs by requiring the GAO to conduct a study of them. Specifically, the bill requires GAO to evaluate the identity matching process as well as the redress process for individuals who believe they have been wrongly disqualified from these programs.

Such a review will help ensure that the Trusted Traveler Programs are working more efficiently and that individuals seeking to participate are subject to consistent processes that ensure fair treatment for all.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3675, the Trusted Traveler Reconsideration and Restoration Act of 2019.

This bill, sponsored by my colleague, Representative JOHN KATKO, seeks to ensure the rights of travelers who have erroneously had their trusted traveler status revoked.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative KATKO for his leadership on this bipartisan bill, and for Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member ROGERS' commitment to bringing this bill to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank Mr. KATKO for his leadership on this measure.

I have no more speakers, and I am prepared to close after the gentleman from Tennessee closes.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO).

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bill, H.R. 3675, the Trusted Traveler Reconsideration and Restoration Act of 2019.

This bipartisan legislation seeks to improve the process of having one's trusted traveler status reinstated after it may have been revoked in error.

Every day, the Department of Homeland Security's Trusted Traveler Programs keep the traveling public moving freely and securely. The Trusted Traveler Programs, like PreCheck, Global Entry, Nexus, and Sentri, facilitate growing passenger volumes at airports and ports of entry while also making screening risk-based.

Unfortunately, however, some travelers have suffered from instances of miscommunication or misidentification, causing them to lose their trusted traveler status.

Unlike the Department's redress program for individuals who are originally denied enrollment in these programs, the process for restoration when someone's trusted traveler status has been erroneously revoked is much less clear.

The traveling public should not be subjected to a litany of bureaucratic hurdles and lengthy procedures at multiple different agencies when seeking help having their trusted traveler status reinstated.

H.R. 3675 helps alleviate this burden by implementing a top-to-bottom audit of the Department's existing data and processes by the Government Accountability Office.

It is my intention that this review will yield recommendations for Homeland Security to improve how travelers engage with the government on these issues, and break down communication barriers between Federal, State, and local agencies.

Importantly, my legislation also directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide commensurate re-enrollment time to those individuals found to have had their trusted traveler status revoked in error.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my bill's bipartisan cosponsors, including my friends, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. CORREA, and Ms. SLOTKIN for their support of this important bill. I also thank the chairman of the full committee, Mr. THOMPSON, and Ranking Member ROGERS for bringing this bill to the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I reaffirm my support for the bill. I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, our citizens expect that DHS' Trusted Traveler Programs are operated in a consistent manner and that DHS properly identifies those individuals that are low-risk travelers.

This bill will provide insight into DHS' identity matching process and ensure that individuals seeking to participate are subject to consistent processes that ensure fair treatment.

We also want DHS to focus its time and resources on individuals who are high risk. This bill will ensure that the programs that DHS uses to vet individuals are executed effectively.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO) for introducing this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the bill's passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1415

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3675.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## HELPING FAMILIES FLY ACT OF 2019

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3694) to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement training for frontline Administration personnel regarding the screening of pregnant women and families with young children at passenger screening checkpoints, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3694

*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 ''Helping Families Fly Act of 2019''.

**SEC. 2. TRAINING REQUIRED.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall develop and implement training for frontline Administration personnel regarding the screening of pregnant women and families with young children at passenger screening checkpoints. Such training shall include the following:

(1) Information relating to concerns of pregnant women relating to the use of Advanced Imaging Technology and appropriate opt-out procedures and alternative screening procedures.

(2) Guidelines to assist pregnant women and families traveling with young children effectively and efficiently complete the screening process in a manner that is respectful and improves the overall functioning of the screening checkpoint.

(3) Communication and procedural guidelines for frontline Administration personnel to assist with passenger divestiture for pregnant women and families traveling with young children to improve the effectiveness and overall passenger experience at the screening checkpoint.

(b) COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY.—In conjunction with the implementation of the training required under subsection (a), the Administrator shall develop and implement a communications strategy for pregnant women and families traveling with young children to inform such women and families of the procedures and guidelines described in such subsection, including providing information to relevant passengers through social media, the Administration's public website, the Administration's customer service call center, and partnerships with aviation stakeholders, including air carriers and airport operators.

(c) PASSENGER SUPPORT SPECIALISTS.—In carrying out subsections (a) and (b), the Administrator shall, to the extent possible, make available passenger support specialists, upon request, to pregnant women and families traveling with young children to assist with screening checkpoint information, concerns, and procedures.

(d) TSA FAMILY LANES FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall conduct a feasibility assessment to determine whether screening processes and the screening experience may be improved for travelers by developing optional, dedicated screening lanes for families traveling with young children at airports where the checkpoint configuration would allow and where the overall functioning of the checkpoint would not be inhibited in terms of passenger throughput or security effectiveness.

(e) BRIEFING TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the implementation of the training required under subsection (a), the Administrator shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on progress regarding the implementation of this Act and improvements made to the screening process for pregnant women and families traveling with young children.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term ''Administration'' means the Transportation Security Administration.

(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration.

(3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3694, the Helping Families Fly Act.

Traveling through the airport can be a stressful time for many of our travelers. Pregnant women and families with young children sometimes experience more difficulty when traveling, especially during the screening process.

TSA's current screening procedures must be improved to ensure that these families are supported and have an easier experience flying through America's airports.

This bill will improve the screening process for pregnant women and their families by requiring security personnel to undergo training specific to the concerns and needs of these specific travelers.

Additionally, this legislation requires TSA to increase awareness of security procedures and guidelines by utilizing various forms of communication to keep families informed of the different options they may have during the screening process. This includes providing passengers, upon request, support specialists for women and families and adequate opt-out options to allow passengers to undergo alternative screening procedures.

In short, this bill helps to improve TSA operations and support the millions of pregnant women and young families who travel throughout our Nation's airports.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3694, the Helping Families Fly Act, sponsored by my friend and colleague from Arizona, Representative LESKO.

H.R. 3694 requires TSA to implement a number of reforms aimed at improving the travel experience for pregnant women and families with young children, including specific assistance by TSA officers at checkpoints and new training for officers.

Representative LESKO's bill will ensure that TSA works closely with transportation stakeholders to make pregnant travelers and families aware of screening procedures and options for assistance.

This good-government bill recognizes that TSA is oftentimes seen as the face of the Department of Homeland Security, screening more than 2 million passengers a day. As such, it is incumbent upon the agency to ensure its services are working for all travelers.

H.R. 3694 will improve the passenger experience for pregnant women and families with young children. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I am prepared to close after the gentleman from Tennessee closes.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO).

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Tennessee for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bipartisan legislation, H.R. 3694, the Helping Families Fly Act.

I believe strongly that TSA's passenger screening checkpoints should be a family-friendly environment. Airports can already be stressful places for the traveling public, and that stress can be exacerbated for expecting mothers or families traveling with young children.

That is why I introduced this bill, which directs TSA to train frontline personnel on how to appropriately address traveler concerns related to screening technologies and opt-out procedures.

Additionally, H.R. 3694 seeks to improve the passenger screening process by increasing the availability of frontline TSA personnel and passenger support specialists for pregnant women and families with young children.

Moreover, my legislation requires TSA to communicate across its various media platforms, and in partnership with transportation stakeholders, any improvements, procedures, changes, or services relevant to pregnant women and families with young children.

Lastly, H.R. 3694 will examine whether certain checkpoints may accommodate dedicated family-friendly screening lanes, which will improve the experience for traveling families while also improving the operation across all checkpoint lanes.

Mr. Speaker, as the ranking member of the Transportation and Maritime Security Subcommittee, as well as a mother and grandmother, I believe that we should be holding TSA accountable in how it interacts with the traveling public and facilitates the efficient and effective screening of passengers who are pregnant and traveling with young families.

I thank the chairman of the Transportation and Maritime Security Subcommittee, Representative CORREA, for his bipartisan support of this legislation. We don't always have a lot of that here, so I am very thankful that we were able to agree on this bill.

Additionally, I thank Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member ROGERS for their work to bring this bill to the floor today and all the bill's cosponsors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation to make travel more friendly.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on the bill. I renew my support for the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3694 will improve the traveling experience for pregnant women and young families traveling throughout our Nation's airports.

By improving the awareness and skills of our security personnel, and providing more resources and support for our families, we will help ensure that our Nation's airports provide a safe, fair, and efficient traveling experience for all.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Arizona for offering this good legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3694, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3694.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## JOINT TASK FORCE TO COMBAT OPIOID TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2019

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3722) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a Joint Task Force to enhance integration of the Department of Homeland Security's border security operations to detect, interdict, disrupt, and prevent narcotics, such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, from entering the United States, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3722

*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 ''Joint Task Force to Combat Opioid Trafficking Act of 2019''.

**SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF JOINT TASK FORCE TO COUNTER OPIOIDS.**

Subsection (b) of section 708 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 348) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A), by adding at the end the following new clause:

''(iv) Enhancing the integration of the Department's border security operations to detect, interdict, disrupt, and prevent narcotics, such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, from entering the United States.'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (9) through (13) as paragraphs (11) through (15), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (8) the following new paragraphs:

''(9) ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director of a Joint Task Force may engage with representatives from a private sector organization for the purpose of carrying out the mission of such Joint Task Force, and any such engagement shall not be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

''(B) ASSISTANCE FROM PRIVATE SECTOR.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1), the Secretary, with the agreement of a private sector organization, may arrange for the temporary assignment of an employee of such organization to a Joint Task Force in accordance with this paragraph.

''(ii) AGREEMENT.—The Secretary shall provide for a written agreement between the Department, the private sector organization concerned, and the employee concerned regarding the terms and conditions of the assignment of such employee under this paragraph.

''(C) NO FINANCIAL LIABILITY.—Any agreement under this paragraph shall require the private sector organization concerned to be responsible for all costs associated with the assignment of an employee under this paragraph.

''(D) DURATION.—An assignment under this paragraph may, at any time and for any reason, be terminated by the Secretary or the private sector organization concerned and shall be for a total period of not more than two years.

''(10) COLLABORATION WITH TASK FORCES OUTSIDE DHS.—The Secretary may enter into a memorandum of understanding by which a Joint Task Force established under this section to carry out any purpose specified in paragraph (2)(A) and any other Federal, State, local, Tribal, territorial, or international entity or task force established for a similar purpose may collaborate for the purpose of carrying out the mission of such Joint Task Force.''.

**SEC. 3. NOTIFICATION; REPORTING.**

(a) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

(1) make a determination regarding whether to establish a Joint Task Force under section 708 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to carry out the purpose specified in clause (iv) of subsection (b)(2)(A) of such section, as added by section 2 of this Act; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate written notification of such determination, including, if such determination is in the negative, information on the basis for such negative determination.

(b) REPORTING.—If the Secretary of Homeland Security establishes a Joint Task Force under section 708 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to carry out the purpose specified in clause (iv) of subsection (b)(2)(A) of such section, as added by section 2 of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) beginning with the first report required under subsection (b)(6)(F) of such section 708, include with respect to such a Joint Task Force—

(A) a gap analysis of funding, personnel, technology, or other resources needed in order to detect, interdict, disrupt, and prevent narcotics, such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, from entering the United States; and

(B) a description of collaboration pursuant to subsection (b)(10) of such section (as added by section 2 of this Act) between such a Joint Task Force and any other Federal, State, local, Tribal, territorial, or international task force, including the United States Postal Service and the United States Postal Inspection Service; and

(2) in each review required under subsection (b)(11)(C) of section 708 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as redesignated by section 2 of this Act, an assessment of the activities of such a Joint Task Force, including an evaluation of whether such Joint Task Force has enhanced integration of the Department's efforts, created any unique capabilities, or otherwise enhanced operational effectiveness, coordination, or information sharing to detect, interdict, disrupt, and prevent narcotics, such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, from entering the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, every day, in communities across this country, synthetic opioids kill Americans in shocking numbers. H.R. 3722 will take a step forward by addressing this epidemic, which is one of the most severe ever facing our country.

The opioid crisis, having already claimed hundreds of thousands of American lives over the past two decades, has evolved into a new and even more dangerous phase.

The first periods of the crisis were characterized by the overuse of prescription opioids and heroin. Devastating as these stages were, the current phase is even more deadly still.

Fentanyl and other synthetic opioids are coming into our country from laboratories in China and Mexico and are wreaking havoc on communities across the entire country. These extremely potent chemicals frequently cross our borders through legal channels such as international mail facilities, sometimes in small packages, and are difficult to detect or interdict. The bill now before us aims to address part of this challenge.

The Joint Task Force to Combat Opioid Trafficking Act, sponsored by Representative JIM LANGEVIN, passed through the House on a voice vote during the 115th Congress before stalling in the Senate. This Congress, the bill, once again, passed out of the Committee on Homeland Security with unanimous consent.

The core of this bill will require the Department of Homeland Security to stand up a joint task force dedicated to preventing synthetic opioids from reaching our borders. The joint task force model allows DHS to ensure that the strengths and capabilities of its various components are all leveraged to maximum effect.

Steps such as improved screening procedures, greater targeting of suspicious senders, and better information-sharing processes can all aid our law enforcement agencies in halting the ongoing flow of synthetic opioids across our borders.

Unlike the existing authority governing DHS joint task forces, this bill will allow DHS and the private sector the opportunity to collaborate on this challenge. Private-sector partners also have strengths and capabilities that can greatly enhance joint efforts to prevent legitimate commercial activities from being exploited by bad actors.

The crisis at hand requires innovative solutions. A greater focus on increased collaboration between DHS, its components, and private-sector partners all could go a long way in addressing a major driver of this crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3722.

The opioid epidemic continues to devastate communities across this Nation. Approximately 115 Americans die every single day from an opioid overdose. Opioid abuse doesn't discriminate. It touches people from every age group, race, class, gender, background, and economic status.

□ 1430

Some Americans become addicted after taking doctor-prescribed doses for an injury or a surgery, while others try them in illicit forms and become dependent.

Another disturbing trend we are seeing is illicit drugs being laced with fentanyl, which is 100 times more powerful than morphine, frequently leading to accidental overdose.

We have seen estimates concluding that more than 2 million of our fellow Americans are addicted to opioids, and, as a physician, I have seen lives devastated, families disrupted and often destroyed as the addict's behavior drives them to horrific acts.

As we work to confront this epidemic, we must prevent overprescription, stop the illicit flow into the United States, and treat those Americans who have become addicted.

This bill would authorize a joint task force within the Department of Homeland Security to organize opioid interdiction efforts across multiple components and agencies in a unity-of-effort campaign. It would also leverage domestic and international partners to provide a multifaceted approach to tackling the issue.

Most illicit opioids are produced in China and smuggled by mail, where vulnerabilities in the postal system are exploited. U.S. Customs and Border Protection is also seeing increased traffic from Mexico with opioids hidden in vehicles and cargo entering through the U.S. ports.

The joint task force approach to the opioid epidemic is effective because it fosters information sharing and exchange between all relevant stakeholders to combat the opioid epidemic.

While there are no quick or easy solutions to this epidemic, H.R. 3722 is a step in the right direction. I support this bill, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. LANGEVIN).

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3722, the Joint Task Force to Combat Opioid Trafficking Act of 2019.

Mr. Speaker, we are in the midst of a public health emergency that has devastated communities across the country, including in my home State of Rhode Island.

No matter your race, gender, age, or religion, Americans are suffering from the opioid overdose epidemic. In 2017, approximately 47,600 fatalities were attributed to opioid overdose.

Fentanyl is exacerbating the problem. This powerful, synthetic opioid, 25 to 50 times stronger than heroin and 50 to 100 times more powerful than morphine, caused more than 15 times more deaths in 2017 than in 2009.

The majority of opioids interdicted by the United States law enforcement agencies are seized at ports of entry. In fact, the southern border accounts for at least 75 percent of all opioids collected.

I am pleased to offer a solution with my colleagues, Mr. KING from New York, Mr. ROSE, and Mr. MCCAUL, that will strengthen the Department of Homeland Security's fight against the drug crisis.

This bill authorizes the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a task force to enhance the internal integration of the Department's border security operations to detect, interdict, disrupt, and prevent narcotics, including fentanyl, from entering the United States in the first place.

Secretary Johnson was the first to use the joint task force model to achieve better unity of effort across the Department's components.

All of DHS' many agencies, from Customs and Border Protection to the United States Coast Guard, have an important role to play when it comes to combating opioid trafficking. So if the Homeland Security investigations are looking into a fentanyl distribution ring, for example, in Omaha, they need to coordinate efforts with Customs offices in El Paso so that packages en route to Nebraska are properly interdicted.

The JTF model is intended to ensure this coordination is baked into the culture of DHS so that cases don't slip through the cracks. Congress recognized the value of Secretary Johnson's pilot JTFs when we formally authorized them in 2016.

As new challenges confront the Department, we must make use of this organizational structure in innovative ways to maintain the synergies that drove the creation of DHS in the first place.

Stopping proliferation of fentanyl is particularly well-suited to the JTF approach. Unlike many more traditional narcotics, fentanyl is often shipped directly to dealers from overseas. Fentanyl's extremely high potency allows these shipments to be small enough to go undetected unless carefully scrutinized. That is why it is essential that the joint task force on opioids collaborate with private-sector organizations and any other Federal, State, local, Tribal, territorial, or international entity to increase operational effectiveness, coordination, and information sharing.

We need to work with partners, especially the United States Postal Service and private parcel delivery services like UPS and FedEx to ensure suspicious packages are inspected. Having a single task force coordinating the Department's efforts makes it much easier for other organizations to know whom to call.

So this crisis gripping our Nation is, obviously, very complex. We cannot succeed in stemming the opioid epidemic unless the Federal Government recognizes the opportunity to integrate and collaborate—not only across agencies, but also with our private-sector partners.

So like every bill that makes its way to the floor, this legislation is a result, of course, of a collaborative effort. I have to begin by thanking former Senator Claire McCaskill, who has been a true championship in driving policy to address the opioid crisis and who first proposed applying the JTF model to this epidemic.

I must also thank my good friend, longtime colleague on the committee, and cosponsor, Congressman PETER KING, who is helping ensure that this effort is a bipartisan one; Mr. MCCAUL, who helped get this bill to the last Congress; and, of course, Mr. ROSE, who has been a real champion in helping to combat the opioid crisis and who has had an immediate impact fighting opioids since he came to Congress earlier this year.

I am grateful also to Chairman THOMPSON for his continued leadership on using all of the powers of DHS to combat this epidemic.

Like anything we do, nothing would have been possible, of course, without tireless staff work, and particularly that of Rosaline Cohen and Alex Carnes with the committee; my legislative director, Nick Leiserson; and also Elyssa Malin, a former staffer in my office.

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Rhode Island.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the additional time.

As I said before, the opioid epidemic is increasingly complex, with a number of factors driving the tragic increases in overdose. There is no silver bullet; rather, we need a whole-of-society approach. This bill will bring that unity of effort to the Department of Homeland Security so that it can be a more effective partner in turning the tide against opioid abuse.

I hope all of my colleagues will join me in supporting the creation of a joint task force on opioids and support this bill.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers for the bill. I renew my support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, our country faces a severe and ongoing crisis, with newly developed synthetic opioids causing tremendous suffering to our families, individuals, and entire communities throughout the country. The collaboration between private companies and the government that will be possible through this legislation will prove to be a crucial component in the task of stopping the flow of fentanyl across our borders.

H.R. 3722 is a bipartisan and targeted solution to address this most urgent need. I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3722.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

## TRAVELING PARENTS SCREENING CONSISTENCY ACT OF 2019

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3246) to require GAO review of certain TSA screening protocols, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3246

*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 ''Traveling Parents Screening Consistency Act of 2019''.

**SEC. 2. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.**

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) implementation of the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act (Public Law 114–293), as well as the effectiveness of TSA in ensuring screening protocol clarity and screening consistency relating to the screening of formula,

breast milk, purified deionized water for infants, and juice. Such review shall include the following:

(1) Consider whether TSA effectively manages consistency of screening protocol applications for formula, breastmilk, purified deionized water for infants, and juice, including the extent to which Transportation Security officers engage in screening beyond that which is prescribed through relevant policies and training.

(2) Evaluate the need for TSA to update and revise procedures for such screening.

(3) Assess whether TSA effectively tracks passenger complaints related to such screening to monitor trends and identify inconsistencies.

(4) Evaluate TSA's communications and information sharing practices for passengers, air carriers, and airports relating to screening protocols for such screening.

(5) Evaluate TSA's policies regarding the screening of passengers with nursing products, including the extent to which such passengers are more likely to receive secondary screening.

(6) Make recommendations for improving TSA's overall screening practices relating to such screening.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3246, the Traveling Parents Screening Consistency Act.

The stress of traveling through our airport checkpoints is very familiar to all of us. This experience can be especially burdensome on parents traveling with children. Too often, these families aren't given clear direction and guidance on how to ensure that they meet TSA guidelines while bringing baby supplies and nursing products through the screening process.

Parents across the country are often left confused and inconvenienced as they encounter different interpretations of TSA's policies at different airports. In some cases, parents have discarded expensive baby formula and other items after being instructed that such items cannot be brought through security when, in fact, they are allowed under TSA policy.

TSA must do better for these families by creating commonsense policies and clearly communicating with them to ensure parents are able to properly care for their children while traveling.

H.R. 3246, provides more certainty and protections to parents traveling with baby supplies, such as breast milk and formula. This bill will help improve traveling experiences for families, while enforcing security standards for everyone traveling throughout our Nation's airports.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3246, the Traveling Parent Screening Consistency Act, introduced by Representative VAN TAYLOR.

As many of us can attest, the life of a parent with young or infant children can be quite stressful, particularly while traveling. Screening by the Transportation Security Administration at airports can make this even more stressful with inconsistent screening requirements for the essentials like formula, breast milk, deionized water, and juice.

This bill seeks to address any potential inconsistency in screening requirements by requiring the Government Accountability Office to conduct a review to determine if TSA needs to update or revise its protocols for screening and information sharing.

In addition to this determination, the GAO will also assess how passengers' complaints are monitored for trends and will include recommendations for how TSA can improve its practices for screening these items.

I would like commend Representative TAYLOR for his work on this legislation that addresses an issue brought to him by one of his constituents and is, likely, experienced by many new parents.

H.R. 3246 will be a tremendous benefit to the passenger experience for new families, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TAYLOR).

Mr. TAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my legislation, H.R. 3246, the Traveling Parents Screening Consistency Act.

As a new Member of Congress, I endeavor to listen to my constituents. As a new Member, I have actually had over 300 individual meetings with my constituents in the last 8 months. I have had 24 Coffees with Your Congressman.

One of my constituents, a mother from Fairview, Texas, took advantage of this Coffee with Your Congressman opportunity and came and told me about her problems that she was having with TSA as a new mother trying to get her breast milk through to feed her child.

□ 1445

This I realized was a problem not just for her, but many mothers across my district and really many mothers across this entire country. I have heard story after story, as I have worked on this legislation, telling about how the TSA is just not consistent with how they are applying their rules.

So this bill seeks to create clear and consistent rules that parents can understand as they travel our Nation's airports. This is important legislation to help streamline that very important process to both keep us safe and make it easy to travel.

I want to thank my colleague very much from across the aisle, Congresswoman RICE. I appreciate the leadership of Chairman THOMPSON and Ranking Member ROGERS, and I also want to thank Senator MCSALLY for carrying this piece of legislation in the other Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to, hopefully, passing this today, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3246.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers on the bill. I renew my support. I recommend my colleagues support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3246 aims to ensure that families receive consistent information regarding the screening process for baby supplies and nursing products. This bill will enable parents to properly prepare the supplies necessary to care for their children when traveling while ensuring passenger security through the screening process.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. TAYLOR for this fine piece of legislation, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3246.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## COUNTER TERRORIST NETWORK ACT

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3526) to authorize certain counter terrorist networks activities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3526

*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 ''Counter Terrorist Network Act''.

**SEC. 2. DUTY TO COUNTER TERRORIST NETWORKS; DETAILS AND ASSIGNMENT.**

Section 411 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211) is amended—

(1) in subsection (g)(4)—

(A) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) in clause (vi), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(ii) by redesignating clause (vii) as clause (viii); and

(iii) by inserting after clause (vi) the following new clause:

''(vii) collaborate with appropriate agencies, including Federal, State, local, Tribal, and international entities, to enhance border security through operations such as operations that seek to disrupt and dismantle networks, including foreign terrorist organizations (as such term is described in section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189)), that pose terrorist or other threats; and'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (p) through (r) as subsections (q) through (s), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (o) the following new subsection:

''(p) ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL.—The Commissioner may detail or otherwise assign personnel of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to other appropriate agencies, including to serve overseas in support of global information sharing partnership operations in furtherance of enhancing border security, including by preventing entry into the United States by individuals known or suspected of being associated with a network, including a foreign terrorist organization (as such term is described in section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189)), that poses terrorist or other threats.''.

**SEC. 3. BRIEFINGS.**

The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall biannually brief the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate regarding activities, during the prior six months, in furtherance of clause (vii) of section 411(g)(4)(C) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(g)(4)(C)), as added by section 2 of this Act. Such briefings may be provided in a classified setting if the Commissioner determines such is appropriate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3526, the Counter Terrorist Network Act. Customs and Border Protection, or CBP, is charged with the important mission of securing our Nation's borders and ports of entries against a range of threats, including foreign terrorist networks. In pursuit of this mission, it is vital that CBP and the Department of Homeland Security collaborate with international partners to effectively prevent foreign terrorists from carrying out attacks on U.S. soil.

H.R. 3526 authorizes CBP's National Targeting Center, or NTC, to collaborate with international partners to disrupt and dismantle foreign terrorist networks. The NTC uses technology and analytical tools to identify threats and share this information with domestic and international partners.

This bill seeks to solidify CBP's collaboration with international partners outside of our borders. The Counter Terrorist Network Act will authorize CBP to assign NTC personnel abroad to perform critical information-sharing operations in real time to ensure that individuals who are known or suspected of being associated with terrorist networks are prevented from entering the United States.

Even as Congress addresses the rise of domestic terrorism, we must continue to be vigilant of the threats posed by foreign terrorist organizations such as al-Qaida and the Islamic State. H.R. 3526 underscores this by authorizing CBP to counter terrorist and criminal networks from exploiting legitimate avenues to enter the United States.

Due to its border security mission, CBP is uniquely situated to combat these threats that originate from terrorist and criminal networks around the globe. This bill will allow Congress to work with CBP to ensure our borders are secure in a proven and effective manner.

I thank the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) for introducing this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3526.

The men and women in uniform at U.S. Customs and Border Protection are tasked with an incredibly important mission. Every day they protect our Nation from transnational criminal organizations, human traffickers, and terrorists who wish to exploit vulnerabilities at our Nation's borders. To execute this critical mission, CBP has developed a cadre of subject matter experts who are well-versed in counter criminal network operations. These experts work tirelessly at our seaports, airports, and land border crossings honing their skills, stopping the flow of illicit goods and people, and creating actionable intelligence.

Given that CBP is uniquely positioned on our Nation's front line, it is alarming that the CBP does not have the authority to participate in counterterrorist network activities both domestically and internationally. CBP lacks the statutory authority to assign personnel to such specialized details and liaison assignments with a national security force.

H.R. 3526 corrects this deficiency by giving the commissioner of CBP the statutory authority to assign personnel to these specialized task forces and collaborate with appropriate Federal, State, local, and Tribal entities to disrupt and dismantle transnational criminal organizations and foreign terrorist networks.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3526 will lead to enhanced information sharing and an increase in intelligence-driven enforcement operations. I encourage my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD).

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3526, the Counter Terrorist Network Act. I introduced the bipartisan Counter Terrorist Network Act with my colleague from New York, Representative KATKO, to ensure that the Department of Homeland Security has the tools it needs to work effectively with international partners to prevent foreign terrorist organizations from carrying out attacks on U.S. soil.

As we work to address growing threats posed by domestic terrorism, we must also remain vigilant against the threats posed by al-Qaida and its affiliates, the Islamic State, and other foreign terrorist organizations that aspire to do our Nation harm.

With the Counter Terrorist Network Act, law enforcement will have enhanced resources to help thwart threats to our country. The Counter Terrorist Network Act authorizes the National Targeting Center, which is housed within U.S. Customs and Border Protection, to collaborate with international security agencies to disrupt and dismantle terrorist networks.

Importantly, it authorizes CBP to assign National Targeting Center personnel to overseas posts to improve information sharing about terrorist networks and help prevent entry to the U.S. by travelers who are known or suspected of being associated with a terrorist network.

NTC—that is the National Targeting Center—personnel play an important role in the safety of our country, including my community in northern Illinois. We know that in fiscal year 2015, CBP was able to prevent 22,000 high-risk travelers from traveling to the U.S. through the collaboration between the NTC and other predeparture screening programs. This number represents previously unknown high-risk travelers who were found to pose a national security or terrorist threat.

The successful partnerships and programs that CBP has built with other law enforcement partners in furtherance of their antiterrorism and homeland security mission warrant congressional support. As we work to address growing threats posed by domestic terrorism, we must also remain vigilant against the threats posed by al-Qaida and its affiliates, the Islamic State, and other foreign terrorist organizations that continue to aspire to do our Nation harm.

I would note that similar language overwhelmingly passed the House in

2018, and I urge my colleagues to again support the Counter Terrorist Network Act.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman THOMPSON and his staff on the House Committee on Homeland Security for all of their invaluable work on this legislation.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no speakers on this bill. I renew my recommendation that my colleagues support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, 18 years after the most devastating terrorist attack on our country, it is imperative that DHS continue its efforts to prevent foreign terrorist organizations from carrying out attacks on our homeland. By passing H.R. 3526 today, Congress can ensure that DHS continues to address border or homeland security threats long before they are present at our borders.

I would also note that last Congress, the House overwhelmingly passed similar legislation in a bipartisan manner. It was approved by a vote of 410–2. I would hope that my colleagues would again lend their support and join me in passing this legislation today.

I want to thank Ms. UNDERWOOD for this most important and timely piece of legislation to protect our homeland from terrorists.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3526.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM DOCUMENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF THREATS IN AMERICA ACT

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3106) to require a joint domestic terrorism report, establish within the Department of Homeland Security a National Center for the Study of Domestic Terrorism, authorize research within the Department of Homeland Security on current trends in domestic terrorism, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3106

*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 ''Domestic and International Terrorism Documentation and Analysis of Threats in America Act'' or the ''Domestic and International Terrorism DATA Act''.

**SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(3) DOMESTIC TERRORISM.—The term ''domestic terrorism'' has the meaning given such term in section 2331 of title 18, United States Code.

(4) HATE CRIME.—The term ''hate crime'' means criminal offenses committed in violation of sections 241, 245, 247, and 249 of title 18, United States Code, and section 3631 of title 42, United State Code.

(5) INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.—The term ''international terrorism'' has the meaning given such term in section 2331 of title 18, United States Code.

(6) ONLINE PLATFORM.—The term ''online platform'' means any public-facing website, web application, or digital application, including a mobile application, and includes a social network, an ad network, a search engine, or an email service.

(7) PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—The term ''personally identifiable information'' means any information about an individual elicited, collected, stored, or maintained by an agency, including the following:

(A) Any information that can be used to distinguish or trace the identity of an individual, such as a name, a social security number, a date and place of birth, a mother's maiden name, or biometric records.

(B) Any other information that is linked or linkable to an individual, such as medical, educational, financial, or employment information.

(8) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

**TITLE I—FEDERAL EFFORTS AGAINST DOMESTIC TERRORISM AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM**

**SEC. 101. JOINT DOMESTIC TERRORISM AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM REPORT.**

(a) ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary, the Attorney General, and the Director shall submit to the Comptroller General of the United States and the appropriate congressional committees a joint report on domestic terrorism and international terrorism.

(b) CONTENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(A) All guidance, policy memos, and related documents regarding the following:

(i) The criteria for opening an investigation for domestic terrorism or international terrorism or another crime with a nexus to domestic terrorism or international terrorism, including any standards of proof required before opening such investigation.

(ii) Sharing of domestic terrorism or international terrorism information across law enforcement agencies.

(iii) Federal requirements and compliance with privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties policies and protections, including protections against the public release of the names or personally identifiable information of individuals involved in incidents, investigations, indictments, prosecutions, or convictions for which data is reported under this section.

(B) A description of the methodology utilized to identify domestic terrorism and international terrorism investigative classifications (including any subcategories) and to assign an investigative classification (including any subcategory) to a domestic terrorism or international terrorism incident.

(C) Threat prioritization determinations made each year by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, consistent with appropriate classification standards.

(D) The information required under paragraph (2).

(2) INFORMATION ON DOMESTIC TERRORISM AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.—Except as provided in subparagraph (A), each report submitted under subsection (a) shall include information on incidents of domestic terrorism and international terrorism, including, with respect to each investigative classification (including any subcategory) of each such incident, the number and type of actual and attempted property crimes, the number and type of actual and attempted attacks on persons, the number of people injured, and the number of people killed, and—

(A) in the first such report, data on incidents or attempted incidents of domestic terrorism and international terrorism that have occurred in the United States since April 19, 1995, disaggregated by fiscal year, including, with respect to each such incident, the number and type of property crimes, the number and type of actual and attempted attacks on persons, the number of people injured, and number of people killed; and

(B) in each subsequent report for the preceding fiscal year—

(i) data on incidents or attempted incidents of domestic terrorism and international terrorism that occurred in the United States, including, with respect to each such incident, the number and type of actual and attempted property crimes, the number and type of actual and attempted attacks on persons, the number of people injured, and the number of people killed;

(ii) the number of—

(I) assessments, preliminary investigations, and full investigations with a domestic terrorism or international terrorism nexus initiated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, disaggregated by investigative classification (including any subcategories), and the number of such investigations that were initiated as a result of a hate crime investigation;

(II) indictments with a domestic terrorism or international terrorism nexus, disaggregated by investigative classification (including any subcategories) and component or sub-component responsible for each such indictment, and an explanation of each such indictment;

(III) prosecutions with a domestic terrorism or international terrorism nexus, disaggregated by investigative classification (including any subcategories) and component or sub-component responsible for each such prosecution, and an explanation of each such prosecution; and

(IV) convictions with a domestic terrorism or international terrorism nexus, disaggregated by investigative classification (including any subcategories) and component or sub-component responsible for each such conviction, and an explanation of each such conviction;

(iii) the number of full-time staff, including position descriptions, employed by the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice to handle matters described in subclauses (I) through (IV) of clause (ii), disaggregated by domestic terrorism and international terrorism; and

(iv) the number of referrals to State authorities with a domestic terrorism or international terrorism nexus, disaggregated by investigative classification (including any subcategories) and component or sub-component responsible for each such referral, and an explanation of each such referral.

(3) BREAKDOWN OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.—The information provided under paragraph (2) related to the number of people killed or injured shall include a breakdown of law enforcement, first responders, military personnel, and other government officials.

(c) FORMAT.—The information required pursuant to subclauses (I) through (IV) of subsection (b)(2)(B)(ii) may be provided in a format that uses the marking associated with the Central Records System or any successor system.

(d) INFORMATION QUALITY.—Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall comply with the guidelines issued by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget pursuant to section 515 of title V of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–554; 114 Stat. 2763A–154) (commonly referred to as the ''Data Quality Act'').

(e) CLASSIFICATION AND PUBLIC RELEASE.—Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall be—

(1) unclassified with a classified annex only if necessary; and

(2) in the case of the unclassified portion of each such report, posted on the public websites of the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

**SEC. 102. ANNUAL COMPTROLLER GENERAL AUDIT OF JOINT REPORT ON DOMESTIC TERRORISM AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.**

(a) REVIEWS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after each submission of a joint report on domestic terrorism and international terrorism under section 101(a) and for five years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an audit of each such report.

(b) ELEMENTS OF REVIEW.—In conducting each audit under subsection (a), the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) use standard methodology and reporting formats in order to identify, demonstrate, and display any changes over time, including relating to the number of investigations, indictments, prosecutions, convictions, and full-time staff between report submissions;

(2) evaluate adherence to such standard methodology and the privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties policies and protections set forth in section 101(b)(1)(A)(iii) and 101(b)(1)(B);

(3) evaluate all guidance, policy memos, and related documents utilized to decide to initiate investigations with a domestic terrorism nexus; and

(4) include any other subject matter the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

(c) ACCESS TO RELEVANT DATA.—The Attorney General, the Director, and the Secretary shall ensure that the Comptroller General of the United States has access to all data necessary to conduct each audit under subsection (a), consistent with section 716(a) of title 31, United States Code.

**TITLE II—HOMELAND SECURITY RESEARCH ON DOMESTIC TERRORISM AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM**

**SEC. 201. RESEARCH ON DOMESTIC TERRORISM AND INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.**

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on international terrorism with a nexus, including an ideological or other relationship, with a current trend in domestic terrorism in the United States. Each such report shall take into consideration acts that resulted in indictment, prosecution, or conviction, and any patterns among such terrorist acts.

(b) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) Information on international terrorism with ideological, financial, logistical, or other connections to domestic terrorism.

(2) Information on trends in the use of online platforms for such terrorism.

(3) Strategies that foreign governments have undertaken to counter such terrorism.

(4) The potential benefits and risks of implementing such strategies in the United States, including any potential harm to local communities, privacy, civil rights, civil liberties, and safety.

(c) FORM.—Each report submitted under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified format but may contain a classified annex only if the Secretary determines such is necessary. Each such unclassified report shall be posted on the public website of the Department of Homeland Security.

**TITLE III—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS AND RULES OF CONSTRUCTION**

**SEC. 301. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There are authorized to be appropriated $2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2026 to carry out this Act, of which $1,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for each of such fiscal years for the completion of the joint reports on domestic terrorism and international terrorism under section 101, and $1,000,000 is authorized to be appropriated for each of such fiscal years to carry out section 201.

**SEC. 302. RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.**

(a) PII.—No report or database created pursuant to this Act may contain the personally identifiable information of any person except persons indicted or convicted of a crime with a domestic terrorism or international terrorism nexus.

(b) DISCOURSE.—No report or database created pursuant to this Act may contain the name or other identifiable information of any organization engaged in lawful political or public discourse in the United States protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

(c) PROTECTION.—Nothing in this Act abrogates, diminishes, or weakens the provisions of any Federal or State law that prevents or protects against the unauthorized collection or release of personal records or personally identifiable information.

(d) DOMESTIC TERRORISM RELATED INFORMATION.—Nothing in this Act may be construed as authorizing the submission of the joint report required under section 101 of this Act in a form that does not include information required with respect to domestic terrorism.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3106, the Domestic and International Terrorism DATA Act.

El Paso. Poway. Pittsburgh. Charlottesville. Charleston. Oak Creek.

In the last 7 years, these great American cities have found themselves involuntarily linked by the horror of domestic terrorism.

□ 1500

Just last year, in 2018, there were 50 extremist killings in the United States. Every single one had links to rightwing extremism, mostly white supremacist extremism.

Between 2009 and 2018, there were 427 deaths linked to extremism in America. Nearly three-fourths of those were linked to domestic rightwing extremists, as compared to the less than one-fourth linked to Islamist extremists.

The Committee on Homeland Security has tackled the challenge of understanding and preventing domestic terrorism head-on. In May of this year, the committee held its first-ever hearing on domestic terrorism while we took testimony from the FBI, DHS, and the Justice Department on white supremacist and other domestic terrorism movements.

Since then, the committee has broadened its oversight of domestic terrorism by not only weaving it into our traditional work with respect to foreign terrorist groups but also by focusing on how social media platforms are exploited to recruit, plan, and carry out terrorist attacks.

All along, the committee has given special attention to the challenges associated with keeping places of worship and other public spaces secure in a current terrorism climate by, among other things, holding roundtables in Jackson, Mississippi, and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be here to present H.R. 3106, a bill that was approved by the committee on a bipartisan basis to improve the Federal response to domestic terrorism.

Today, Americans have a sense that domestic terrorism threats are significant but have not been presented with the full-threat picture. There is some information available to the public, but it is limited. Americans have learned, for example, there were more arrests tied to domestic terrorism than to international terrorism in 2017 and 2018.

In May, the FBI revealed that it had around 850 active domestic terrorism investigations across the country. As of July, according to the FBI, the number of domestic terrorism arrests in 2019 is on par with the number of international terrorism arrests.

In the absence of complete and reliable information from the Federal Government, groups like the Anti-Defamation League have done this Nation a great service by collecting and publishing data on the threat of extremist violence in the United States.

My bill would require the FBI, the Justice Department, and the Department of Homeland Security to publish an annual report on terrorism. Enactment of this legislation would help Americans understand, over time, the nature of the terrorism threat and how it is evolving.

Importantly, the legislation also requires Federal agencies to share information on how the government is keeping us safe. We need to know how many staff are on the job and how many terrorism-related investigations, indictments, prosecutions, and convictions there have been.

The bill has been endorsed by the Anti-Defamation League, the Arab American Institute, the Jewish Federations of North America, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the Muslim Advocates, the NAACP, the National Action Network, and the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD endorsement letters from the following organizations: the Anti-Defamation League, the NAACP, the Arab American Institute, the Jewish Federations of North America; the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and the Southern Poverty Law Center.

JULY 12, 2019.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: We are writing to urge you to support H.R. 3106, the Domestic Terrorism Documentation and Analysis of Threats in America Act, or the Domestic Terrorism DATA Act, which we have endorsed.

The ADL (Anti-Defamation League) is a leading anti-hate organization and has been working to secure justice and fair treatment to all since its founding in 1913. As part of our mandate, we have been compiling and analyzing comprehensive domestic terrorism data for years. We use this data to investigate the threat of extremist groups and domestic terrorism, work with law enforcement to help keep our communities safe from those threats, and inform debates about how to shape policy. ADL has long found that data collection is essential to effectively counter hate and extremism in all forms. Without transparency, collective efforts, and comprehensive data collection, advocacy and solutions are not possible.

Our data show that threats against Jews, Muslims, and other minorities in the United States are at disturbingly high levels, and a key reason for that is the resurgence of white supremacist ideologies. ADL's latest report on extremist-related murders, Murder and Extremism in the United States in 2018, found that 78% of the 50 murders committed by extremists in 2018 were tied specifically to white supremacy. The ten-year overview tells a similar story: Of the 313 people killed by right-wing extremists between 2009 to 2018, 76% were killed by white supremacists, making white supremacists the deadliest extremist movement in the United States over the past decade.

The proliferation of hate and the dangerous ideology of white supremacy puts our communities at risk. From Charlottesville to Pittsburgh to Poway, American communities are under attack. In a time of crisis such as this, one might expect a complete overhaul of the priorities, policies, and resources that the U.S. government brings to bear to counter and prevent this ideology from claiming its next victims. Instead, Americans have been met with an abdication of that duty, while the government, in fact, has reduced resources to counter domestic terrorism, leaving our communities more vulnerable to the next inevitable tragedy.

The Domestic Terrorism Documentation and Analysis of Threats in America Act focuses on increasing the coordination, accountability, and transparency of the federal government in collecting and recording data on domestic terrorism. H.R. 3106 would Require FBI, DOJ, and DHS to produce an annual, unclassified joint report that provides the following: data on domestic terrorist incidents; assessments, investigations, indictments, prosecutions, and convictions with a domestic terrorism nexus; the number of full-time staff working on domestic terrorism employed by DOJ and DHS, as well as a new requirement for the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to audit the annual joint reports.

Data drives policy; we cannot address what we are not measuring. Collecting accurate and transparent data on domestic terrorism is an essential way to ensure this threat to American democracy receives the attention it deserves. That is why we urge you to support the Domestic Terrorism DATA Act.

Sincerely,

ERIKA MORITSUGU,
*Vice President,*
*Government Relations, Advocacy and Community Engagement.*

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NAACP
*June 27, 2019.*

Hon. BENNIE THOMPSON,
*House of Representatives,*
*Washington, DC.*

Re: NAACP Strong Support for H.R. 3106, the ''Domestic Terrorism Documentation and Analysis of Threats in America Act''

DEAR CONGRESSMAN THOMPSON: On behalf of the NAACP, our nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization, I would like to thank you for your leadership and courage in introducing H.R. 3106, the Domestic Terrorism Documentation and Analysis of Threats in America (the ''Domestic Terrorism DATA'') Act. Upon enactment, your bill would foster crucial transparency and facilitate informed policymaking on domestic terrorism.

Today, federal efforts to address domestic terrorism are largely outside of public view. Furthermore, genuine threats to the American people are misunderstood, or driven by limited information. Yet according to the Washington Post, right-wing domestic terrorism is on the rise, and currently presents a more dangerous threat to our nation and her people than terrorism that has international origins. There is a need for centralized, reliable, publically accessible information on domestic terrorism to inform effective counter-terrorism policymaking. By requiring an annual, unclassified joint report produced by the FBI and US Department of Homeland Security and the US Department of Justice that provides, among other things, an assessment of domestic threats, H.R. 3106 will help to advance Congressional and public understanding of trends in domestic terrorism.

It is through this informed understanding of the extent to which these genuine threats to our well-being as a nation that we will be able to effectively address this challenge. H.R. 3106 will not only help us measure this threat, but also manage the programmatic solutions.

Thank you again for your visionary leadership in introducing H.R. 3106, the ''Domestic Terrorism DATA'' Act. The NAACP is pleased to endorse this crucial legislation and we will work with you and other, like-minded Members of Congress to pass it into law. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at my office.

Sincerely,

HILARY O. SHELTON,
*Director, NAACP Washington Bureau & Senior Vice President for Policy and Advocacy.*

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ARAB AMERICAN INSTITUTE,
*July 17, 2019.*

Hon. BENNIE THOMPSON,
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: We write in support of the Domestic and International Terrorism Documentation and Analysis of Threats in America Act (H.R. 3106). Your bill would provide Congress and the general public with more information about federal counterterrorism activities related to acts that meet the definitions of domestic terrorism and interntional terrorism codified in federal criminal law. In addition to promoting increased transparency, accountability, and oversight of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Department of Justice (DOJ), and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Domestic and International Terrorism DATA Act would also promote a better understanding of the nature and extent of acts that meet the definitions of domestic terrorism and international terrorism.

Members of Congress and the general public lack sufficient understanding of how the federal government utilizes existing authorities and resources to investigate and prosecute acts that meet either definition of terrorism. As demonstrated in recent congressional hearings, there is a general desire among lawmakers for more information about the federal government's approach to counterterrorism, particularly when it comes to white supremacist violence. Many communities, including Arab Americans, are concerned about the increased threat of white supremacist violence. However, many of these same communities are also concerned about the impact of federal counterterrorism policies on civil rights and civil liberties. The Domestic and International Terrorism DATA Act is responsive to both concerns, as the data collection and reporting required of the federal government would produce statistics on different threats facing communities, including that of white supremacist violence, while also creating opportunities for transparency, accountability, and oversight of federal counterterrorism activities.

This legislation comes at a time when many are questioning the adequacy of the federal government's response to the threat of white supremacist violence, and whether additional authorities or resources are needed. Research from AAI and other organization indicates that while the federal government's response to white supremacist violence is inadequate, the problem is one of priorities and not a lack of tools. The federal government already has the requisite authorities and resources to effectively respond to threats of white supremacist violence. Critically, the Domestic and International Terrorism DATA Act does not provide additional tools, but simply requires the federal

government to demonstrate how it is using its existing authorities and resources to effectively report and respond to white supremacist violence.

In addition to providing critical information about the federal government's approach to acts that fall within the definition of domestic terrorism, the Domestic and International Terrorism DATA Act will provide information about federal efforts under the ''international terrorism'' label as well. Congress and the general public will benefit from increased oversight of the federal approach to counterterrorism activities, regardless of whether those activities are initiated under the heading of ''domestic terrorism'' or ''international terrorism.''

Your staff may follow up with our Policy Counsel.

Respectfully,

MAYA BERRY,
*Executive Director.*

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THE JEWISH FEDERATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA,
*June 6, 2019.*

Hon. BENNIE THOMPSON,
*Chairman, House Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: On behalf of The Jewish Federations, I want to convey our support for the ''Domestic Terrorism DATA Act.''

Over the past three months, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC) have issued no less than 6 Joint Intelligence Bulletins (JIBs) on threats to synagogues, churches, and mosques, cultural community centers, and other establishments or individuals associated with various faiths.

According to these JIBs, the FBI has investigated more than 100 threats to religious institutions over the past year, and the FBI, DHS, and NCTC assess ''domestic actors will continue to pose a lethal threat to faith-based communities in the Homeland and remain concerned about the difficulty of detecting US-based threat actors and HVEs, especially lone offenders, and the individualized nature of radicalization to violence.'' The JIBs highlight a number of incidents, including:

The Chabad of Poway attack in San Diego, CA, April 2019;

The Tree of Life synagogue massacre in Pittsburgh, PA, October 2018—the most deadly attack on the US Jewish community ever recorded;

The killing of two African- American patrons at a Kruger's grocery store after failing to gain entrance to the predominantly African-American First Baptist Church of Jeffersontown, KY, October 2018;

The surveillance of the physical security measures by alleged agents of the Government of Iran at the Chabad House (synagogue), August 2018; and

The Bombing attack at the Dar AI-Farooq Islamic Center in Bloomington, MN August 2017, among others.

Together, the FBI, DHS, and NCTC warn that the county must remain vigilant in light of the enduring threat to faith-based communities posed by domestic extremists, homegrown violent extremists, and international terrorist organizations. Unfortunately, the threat to Jewish communal security emanates from across the entire ideological spectrum.

For these reasons, The Jewish Federations of North America endorses the ''Domestic Terrorism DATA Act,'' as an important measure to assist policy makers, federal, state, and local counterterrorism and law enforcement officials, and private sector security partners to better and more effectively deter, prevent, preempt, and respond to hate crime incidents and domestic and international terrorist threats in the United States. JFNA looks forward to working with you and your staff to build bipartisan support for the bill.

Sincerely,

ROBERT B. GOLDBERG,
*Senior Director, Legislative Affairs.*

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THE JEWISH FEDERATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA,
*July 12, 2019.*

Hon. BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. MIKE ROGERS,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON AND RANKING MEMBER ROGERS: The Jewish Federations of North America endorses H.R. 3106, the ''Domestic Terrorism DATA Act.''

The markup of H.R. 3106 coincides with the United States Secret Service's National Threat Assessment Center's release of its second annual report on mass attacks in public spaces The Secret Service studied 27 incidents where a total of 91 people were killed and 107 more injured in public spaces in 2018. Among the incidents: the fatal attack at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

In introducing the report, Secret Service Director James M. Murray wrote that each new tragedy, including the attack on a synagogue in Poway, CA, ''serves as a reminder that we must continue to research and provide robust training and awareness to help prevent these tragic outcomes.'' The report's findings underscore that research and information sharing, communitywide, are essential to preventing attacks directed at houses of worship, workplaces, schools, and other public spaces, and concludes that threat assessment, supported by leadership, collaboration, and information sharing, are required to facilitate effective prevention.

In this context, the ''Domestic Terrorism DATA Act,'' is an important and timely measure to assist policy makers, federal, state, and local counterterrorism and law enforcement officials, and private sector partners, such as The Jewish Federations, to better and more effectively deter, prevent, preempt, and respond to Domestic Terrorism. Through the DATA Act, communitywide stakeholders will gain a better understanding of the domestic terrorism threat landscape and how best to allocate resources.

For these reasons, we urge bipartisan support for H.R. 3106, and respectfully urge the Committee to favorably report the bill by voice vote and without objection.

Sincerely,

ROBERT B. GOLDBERG,
*Senior Director, Legislative Affairs.*

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LAWYERS' COMMITTEE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS UNDER LAW,
*June 19, 2019.*

Hon. BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: On behalf of the National Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law (Lawyers' Committee), I write to express our support for The Domestic Terrorism Documentation and Analysis of Threats in America (Domestic Terrorism DATA) Act.

Diverse communities across the country are targeted for hate crimes and acts of mass violence. As the Lawyers' Committee works to confront hate targeting communities, we are faced with challenges from the federal government, including the underreporting of hate crimes, and little publicly available data on crimes that meet the definition of domestic terrorism.

The Lawyers' Committee supports efforts to improve data collection around hate crimes and domestic terrorism investigations. During a time when communities have experienced an increase in white supremacist violence, and a time when the Federal Bureau of Investigation created the ''Black Identity Extremist'' designation, it is imperative that our policies are data driven, and that communities, advocates, and lawmakers have access to data on domestic terrorism investigations. The Domestic Terrorism DATA Act would assist in fostering transparency and would facilitate informed policy making.

As Kristen Clarke, President and Executive Director of the National Lawyers' Committee testified at a House Judiciary Committee Hearing on April 9th, we encourage the use of existing laws to investigate and prosecute acts of hate violence to the full extent of law, and to oppose efforts to create new legislation that risk the further criminalization of communities of color.

Chairman Thompson, your important efforts to improve data collection around white supremacist violence is a necessary step to address the crisis of violence targeting impacted communities. The Domestic Terrorism DATA Act does so in a manner that would improve data collection without risking the further criminalization of communities of color, many of whom have been targeted by counterterrorism policies in the past.

We applaud your leadership and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

NADIA N. AZIZ,
*Interim Co-Director and Policy Counsel, Stop Hate Project.*

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SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER,
*Montgomery, AL, June 10, 2019.*

Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON,
*Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: I write to extend the Southern Poverty Law Center's full support for the chairman's recently introduced H.R. 3106, the Domestic Terrorism Documentation and Analysis of Threats in America Act (also known as the Domestic Terrorism DATA Act). We believe the bill's goals of fostering transparency surrounding domestic terrorism data and increasing research on the issue are of paramount importance. In testimony on June 4, 2019, before the Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, my colleague Lecia Brooks included specific support for this legislative effort in her remarks.

We fully agree with your comment that, ''There's an urgent need for robust, centralized, and transparent Federal data to inform counterterrorism policymaking—and Americans deserve to know exactly how their government is allocating resources to understanding and confronting the scourge of domestic terrorism. At this critical time, Congress needs to lead on the issue of domestic terrorism and direct Federal agencies to prioritize efforts to counter these homeland security threats.''

We believe this proposed legislation is an important step toward countering the growing problem of white supremacist terrorism in the United States and abroad. We thank

the chairman for taking this legislative initiative and offer our assistance in this effort if it can be helpful in any way.

Cordially,

HEIDI BEIRICH, PH.D.,
*Director, Intelligence Project,*
*Southern Poverty Law Center.*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, put simply, H.R. 3106 is a commonsense bill that will improve transparency into a growing homeland security threat.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my House colleagues to support this critical legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
*Washington, DC, September 19, 2019.*

Hon. BENNIE THOMPSON,
*Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON: This is to advise you that the Committee on the Judiciary has now had an opportunity to review the provisions in H.R. 3106, the ''Domestic Terrorism DATA Act,'' that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. I appreciate your consulting with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee has no objection to your including them in the resolution for consideration on the House floor, and to expedite that consideration is willing to forgo action on H.R. 2106, with the understanding that we do not thereby waive any future jurisdictional claim over those provisions or their subject matters.

In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, the Judiciary Committee reserves the right to request an appropriate number of conferees to address any concerns with these or similar provisions that may arise in conference.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our committees.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,
*Chairman.*

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
*Washington, DC, September 18, 2019.*

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 3106, the ''Domestic Terrorism DATA Act.'' The Committee on Homeland Security recognizes that the Committee on the Judiciary has a jurisdictional interest in H.R. 3106, and I appreciate your effort to allow this bill to be considered on the House floor.

I concur with you that forgoing action on the bill does not in any way prejudice the Committee on the Judiciary with respect to its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future, and I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House—Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will include our letters on H.R. 3106 in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of this bill. I look forward to working with you on this legislation and other matters of great importance to this nation.

Sincerely,

BENNIE G. THOMPSON,
*Chairman.*

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of H.R. 3106, the Domestic and International Terrorism DATA Act, introduced by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON). I almost got up, Mr. Speaker, when you said, ''the gentleman from Mississippi,'' because I happen to be in a small town just a few miles away from where the chairman lives.

H.R. 3106, as amended, passed with bipartisan support during the Committee on Homeland Security markup in July. I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. KING) for developing the amendment in the nature of a substitute, which passed unanimously, and broadened the scope of the bill to cover all forms of terrorism.

A central lesson from the September 11, 2001, terror attacks is that government cannot have a siloed approach to homeland security threats. The importance of a broad ideological focus was stressed again during a Committee on Homeland Security hearing on global terror threats held on September 10, 2019.

There is bipartisan agreement on the need for more reliable public reporting on both domestic and international terror threats to the homeland.

The report mandated in the legislation requires the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Department of Justice to produce an annual report for 6 years on a number of investigative aspects of domestic and international terrorism. Access to reliable data will help policymakers and the public assess trends, emerging threats, and available resources.

The threat from international terrorism also remains high. Hundreds of U.S. citizens were radicalized by ISIS and sought to travel to the battlefield to carry out attacks in the homeland.

Mr. Speaker, 18 years after the horrific 9/11 terror attacks, both al-Qaida and ISIS remain intent on targeting the United States. We were also recently reminded by the direct threat posed by Iran when a Hezbollah operative was arrested last week in New Jersey for allegedly plotting attacks against the United States.

The broad range of ideologically based hatred and societal obsession with violence has left scars across the country. Obtaining a comprehensive threat picture and reliable data is essential for developing legislation and determining what additional resources may be necessary.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) for his willingness to work with us to ensure that the reporting requirements in the bill track all forms of terrorism. I strongly recommend that my colleagues support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. CORREA).

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3106, the Domestic and International DATA Act. I am proud to join the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the chairman, my colleague and friend, in support of this most important legislation.

This bill improves our understanding of the Federal Government's response to the threat of domestic terrorism at a time that extremist-related attacks in the United States are on the rise.

In May 2017, the Department of Homeland Security and the FBI released a joint intelligence bulletin that predicted that the number of white supremacist movement attacks were likely to continue to present a lethal threat in the future.

Tragically, that prediction has proven to be true. After the horrific acts of domestic terrorism committed in Charlottesville and the Tree of Life shooting in Pittsburgh, I urged my congressional colleagues to take action to counter hate crimes and domestic terrorism.

Chairman THOMPSON's H.R. 3106 helps increase transparency and research on domestic terrorism. By requiring the Homeland Security and Justice Departments to publish an annual public report on terrorism, this bill will provide information that will help policymakers develop and execute evidence-based counterterrorism strategies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 3106.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I reiterate my support for the bill. I ask my colleagues to support it, and I thank, again, the chairman and the ranking member for great collaboration that made this an excellent bill.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3106, the Domestic and International Terrorism DATA Act was approved unanimously by the Committee on Homeland Security. This show of unity demonstrates that there is bipartisan support for ensuring that the American public has data on domestic terrorism and Federal efforts to counter this threat.

Congress and the American people need transparency from the government. We need to know about the domestic terrorism threats we face and how the government is allocating resources to confront them.

Importantly, in addition to ensuring that such critical data is made available, H.R. 3106 requires DHS to research the transnational aspect of domestic terrorism. Increasingly, there is an awareness that white supremacist extremists rarely act in a vacuum. From the United States to New Zealand to Norway, networks of extremists inspire each other to violence.

Further, the committee recently received testimony about the similarities and the recruitment tactics utilized by white supremacist extremists and ISIS. Both groups engaged in tactics that focused on victimization and distrust of political leaders and public institutions and heavily on propaganda that

emphasized themes of purity and militancy.

Mr. Speaker, I also thank the staff of our committee who worked on this. Sandeep Prasanna, Jenna Hopkins, Charles Carithers, and Nicole Tisdale made a yeoman's effort toward getting us to where we are today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3106 to ensure greater transparency on this pressing and growing issue, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3106, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to require a joint domestic and international terrorism report, authorize research within the Department of Homeland Security on current trends in domestic terrorism, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## U.S. BORDER PATROL MEDICAL SCREENING STANDARDS ACT

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 577, I call up the bill (H.R. 3525) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish uniform processes for medical screening of individuals interdicted between ports of entry, 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 577, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Homeland Security printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–33 is adopted, and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

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

H.R. 3525

*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 ''U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act''.*

***SEC. 2. RESEARCH REGARDING PROVISION OF MEDICAL SCREENING OF INDIVIDUALS INTERDICTED BY U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION BETWEEN PORTS OF ENTRY.***

*(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Chief Medical Officer of the Department, shall research innovative approaches to address capability gaps regarding the provision of comprehensive medical screening of individuals, particularly children, pregnant women, the elderly, and other vulnerable populations, interdicted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection between ports of entry and issue to the Secretary recommendations for any necessary corrective actions.*

*(b) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out the research required under subsection (a), the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security shall consult with appropriate national professional associations with expertise and non-governmental experts in emergency, nursing, and other medical care, including pediatric care.*

*(c) REPORT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report containing the recommendations referred to in subsection (a), together with information relating to what actions, if any, the Secretary plans to take in response to such recommendations.*

***SEC. 3. ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS IMPLEMENTATION.***

*(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Chief Medical Officer of the Department, shall establish within the Department an electronic health record system that can be accessed by all departmental components operating along the borders of the United States for individuals in the custody of such components.*

*(b) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the implementation of the electronic health records system, the Chief Information Officer, in coordination with the Chief Medical Officer, shall conduct an assessment of such system to determine system capacity for improvement and interoperability.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

The gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROGERS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mississippi.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3525, the U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act, as amended, seeks to build on legislation passed by the House in July to strengthen the medical care and attention provided to migrants who cross our borders.

In July, in response to reports of inhumane conditions at our southern border and the death of six children who had been in CBP custody, the House approved a bill to require in-person medical screening by licensed medical professionals for apprehended individuals.

H.R. 3525 builds upon that measure by focusing on improving health screening processes and recordkeeping within DHS. The bill authored by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) takes a two-pronged approach.

First, it requires DHS to research innovative solutions for deficiencies in the medical screening it conducts at the border. This research is to be carried out in consultation with national medical professional associations that have expertise in emergency medicine, nursing, and pediatric care.

Importantly, in carrying out the research, DHS is directed to pay particular attention to the screening of children, pregnant women, the elderly, and other vulnerable populations.

Once completed, DHS is required to transmit to Congress information on what actions the Department plans to take in response to the research findings.

□ 1515

The second prong of H.R. 3525 is focused on driving DHS to improve interoperability among components responsible for the care of apprehended individuals. It does so by requiring DHS to set up an electronic health records system to track health screening and care of individuals in DHS custody. This system would create records that could be accessed by all the relevant DHS components.

The benefits of such a system are unmistakable:

A migrant's medical information cannot get lost.

There will be a clear system to track when any followup medication or medical attention is needed, ensuring cases will not fall through the cracks.

It will also avoid duplication of medical services and time delays due to lost or incomplete medical records.

As important, all the information gained from the initial medical screening will follow the children and adults as they are transferred to other DHS components.

Even though apprehension numbers have recently declined, we must take the lessons learned from the poor handling of the recent migrant crisis to heart and drive performance improvement within DHS.

H.R. 3525 represents a step in the right direction, and, as such, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

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

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, here we go again. Yesterday, the majority passed a partisan messaging bill to provide illegal immigrants with an additional complaint line at the Department of Homeland Security. It has no chance of becoming law. Today, they are back at it with

another partisan messaging bill that will never become law. This time, it is a bill to provide illegal immigrants with electronic health records.

This bill before us today requires the Department of Homeland Security to set up an interoperable electronic health records system to track the medical history of millions of illegal immigrants. The bill requires the system to be up and running in 90 days.

Implementing an electronic health records system is a complicated, labor-intensive undertaking. They begin with a configuration process to tailor the commercial software to a client's needs and then proceed to a site-by-site installation process, followed by workforce training.

It typically takes a year or more to get new electronic health records up and running at a hospital with just one location. Making these systems interoperable across government agencies only creates more complexity, extending implementation by years.

If you need a real-world example of just how unachievable this is, look no further than the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard spent 7 years trying to get an interoperable health records system in place for its 50,000 employees. But, after all that time, the system didn't work. Coast Guard servicemembers are still forced to rely on paper medical records.

The Coast Guard is not alone. The Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration won't have fully interoperable health records systems in place for another 5 to 9 years, respectively.

H.R. 3525 also requires DHS to research innovative ways to conduct medical screenings on illegal immigrants. DHS already conducts thousands of medical screenings on migrants on a daily basis. Finding new ways to deliver health screenings more effectively could save time and money, but researching innovations in healthcare delivery is not the mission of DHS.

The research mandated by this bill is the responsibility of the Department of Health and Human Services. DHS research is properly focused on preventing drugs, criminals, and terrorists from entering our borders. We should not force DHS to lose its focus on these critical Homeland Security priorities.

Finally, the bill before us today fails to provide DHS with any funding to achieve the illegal immigrant medical screening research and interoperable health records mandates. We have no idea how much this bill will cost because the majority failed to file a cost estimate from CBO.

However, we do know from the experience of the VA, DOD, and Coast Guard that interoperable electronic health records systems are extremely expensive undertakings. The DOD and VA are on track to spend over $25 billion on their systems. The Coast Guard's failed system to track just 50,000 people cost $67 million.

Using the Coast Guard as a baseline, it would cost over $2.5 billion to track the medical history of just the illegal immigrants that have come into our country over the last 2 years. In other words, without any funding provided for the mandates in this bill, billions in critical DHS funding used to counter terrorist plots, equip first responders, and respond to natural disasters would be diverted to pay for a benefit for millions of illegal migrants.

Mr. Speaker, what is truly disappointing about this bill that we have considered over the last 2 days is that they did nothing to prevent another humanitarian crisis at our border. We should be working together on legislation that reforms our broken immigration system, protects vulnerable families and children from human smugglers, reduces the asylum backlog, and expands migrant processing and long-term housing.

When this partisan messaging bill fails to move in the Senate, I hope Democrats will finally choose policy over politics and agree to work with Republicans on solutions to our border security problems.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD), sponsor of this legislation.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I introduced the U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act in response to the conditions I witnessed firsthand on our border this year: first in April, then in July, and then again in August.

The humanitarian crisis at our border is a problem that we should be working together to solve with an evidence-based approach. This legislation is evidence-based, and I am incredibly proud that it was able to be forwarded by the Committee on Homeland Security with a voice vote.

I also appreciated Ranking Member ROGERS' willingness to engage with us on this bill, and I am committed to continuing to look for ways to work together on these issues going forward.

As introduced, my bill had three sections, two of which are included in the legislation we are debating today.

First, my bill ensures implementation of an integrated electronic health records system, or EHR, to be used by those caring for migrants at the border. This is a direct ask from medical officers at the Department of Homeland Security who have identified it as a high-priority barrier to providing care.

We know that migrants may be transferred between different sites and components multiple times while in custody, and an interoperable EHR is essential to their health records remaining accessible.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement has an EHR. The Office of Refugee Resettlement has an EHR. But Customs and Border Protection, which includes the U.S. Border Patrol, doesn't.

When I was at the border, I saw busy, overworked Border Patrol officials having to keep health records on paper. I also saw how these records don't always follow migrants between facilities and transfers of custody.

As DHS works to improve its medical screening of children and migrants at the border to ensure there is a minimum standard of care, the need for proper recordkeeping on those screenings will only increase.

Furthermore, children can spend days or weeks in CBP custody before being transferred to another component. There must be a transferrable record of the medical care those kids receive and the medical conditions that they report. That is why DHS has already begun independently taking steps toward an electronic health records system, hiring staff, and soliciting individual component requirements.

This legislation formalizes and directs that process, setting an aggressive but achievable timeline that reflects the urgency of the humanitarian situation at our southern border.

Second, this bill directs DHS to research innovative approaches to address any capability gaps in providing medical screening, particularly for children, pregnant women, the elderly, and other vulnerable populations.

As a nurse, I believe in data-driven, evidence-based policymaking. Data shows that, in recent years, the migrant population arriving at our southern border has shifted from primarily adult, economic migrants to a large number of families and unaccompanied children seeking asylum.

DHS must be better prepared to respond to these shifts, and barriers to providing basic medical care to migrants in U.S. custody will persist as our country continues its national conversation around immigration policy. The research required by this litigation will ensure that we have robust data on DHS' capabilities in order to inform our response.

My bill also ensures that, in conducting this research, DHS collaborates with medical professionals who have expertise in pediatric care so that DHS is addressing both the physical and the mental health needs of migrant children at the border. By proactively focusing on children, this research is intended to prevent the care gaps we have seen in other Federal facilities caring for migrant children.

Lastly, I am proud that the third section of this bill, as introduced, was incorporated into my colleague Dr. RUIZ' legislation that was passed by the House in July. This section set consistent minimum standards for medical screening of migrants at the border.

Proactive, consistent, and timely medical screening is essential to a public health response to the humanitarian crisis on our border, but effective medical protocols are not in practice right now.

By training border personnel in medical screening, the legislation provides law enforcement and staff at the border the support that they need so that they aren't being forced to deal with medical situations that we haven't equipped them for. That is why I am pleased that this screening language passed the House in July.

In addition to these medical screening standards, we need to ensure DHS has an electronic health record and close those research gaps. That is what this legislation on the floor right now would do: build on the legislation we passed in July and implement the remaining two components of the U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act.

Anyone who has been to the border, including many of my colleagues on the Committee on Homeland Security, has seen how overwhelming the humanitarian situation there is. This committee and this Congress have consistently been willing to provide the Department of Homeland Security with the resources it needs, but with those resources comes accountability and oversight. This legislation is an important and a sensible step forward to make sure that both migrants and border officials are not placed in situations that are unsafe.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to recognize and thank Chairman THOMPSON and his staff on the Committee on Homeland Security—including Rosaline Cohen, Alexandra Carnes, Wendy Clerinx, Ethan McClelland, and Brittany Lynch—for their months of hard work on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I am curious about the announcement that the administration is in support of this and is working toward this, because they have already issued an announcement that they oppose this piece of legislation. So, if it did pass, it would be vetoed by the President.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE), an outstanding member of the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3525.

Yet again, I fear that this partisan legislation is a missed opportunity to seriously address the humanitarian and security crisis that exists today on our southern border.

All of us here today can agree that every human being is worthy of dignity and respect.

As a physician, I understand the importance of efficient and compassionate healthcare. At the same time, I understand firsthand how difficult it would be to achieve the requirements that are outlined in this bill.

Establishing an electronic health records system in any medical system takes at least a year, in the best case scenario. In the bureaucratic web of the Federal Government, this tedious task becomes nearly impossible.

For years, Members of this House have been working to help the Department of Veterans Affairs implement its electronic health records system, yet the VA won't have this completed for another 9 years.

Quite frankly, requiring the Department of Homeland Security to implement an interoperable electronic health records system for illegal immigrants in 90 days—it is simply unrealistic.

Adding to the problem, this costly project would distract from other pressing needs on the border. Our Customs and Border Protection law enforcement agents are hardworking Americans who have been tasked with an incredibly difficult job.

□ 1530

While protecting our country on the southern border, they are also providing humanitarian aid to an unprecedented number of immigrants. They need our help. They do not need Congress to add unnecessary and unachievable burdens to their duties.

It is disappointing, but it is not surprising that House Democrats have chosen this approach. Time and time again, we return to the floor to debate partisan bills that will do nothing to address the underlying cause of this crisis.

Rather than continuing to grandstand on the House floor, I encourage my colleagues to, once again, return to the Committee on Homeland Security to work on solutions that will secure the border, end asylum loopholes, and protect our country.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD), the chairwoman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3525, and I commend my colleague, LAUREN UNDERWOOD, for introducing this important legislation.

When migrants are in U.S. Federal custody, it is our moral responsibility to ensure they are treated humanely and receive appropriate medical screenings and care.

Earlier this year, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security, which I chair, appropriated significant additional resources to CBP to improve medical care and screening.

H.R. 3525 will help ensure this care is standardized across the Border Patrol by requiring it to formalize the medical screening process and to come up with innovative approaches to fill medical screening gaps.

The bill also requires the Border Patrol to have a singular electronic health record system, accessible to other DHS components, to ensure continuance of care for migrants.

These are smart, simple steps that can save the lives of migrants who left tragic situations in their home country to seek refuge in the United States. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BANKS), an outstanding leader in the Republican Conference.

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding.

I oppose H.R. 3525 because it is poorly conceived, erroneously drafted, and extremely risky.

This bill would require the Border Patrol to divert resources from its core mission of protecting our Nation's borders and create a new medical screening system for those who illegally cross and enter the country between ports of entry. I believe every part of that is wrongheaded.

However, even if you agree with the policy, this is not the way to do it. Handing DHS and CBP a 30-day mandate to put an electronic health records system in place has no basis in reality.

VA is currently in the second year of a 10-year, $16 billion EHR overhaul. I spend much of my time in Congress overseeing it on the Veterans' Affairs Committee.

The EHR implementation is a tall order for the VA, which has tens of thousands of doctors and nurses, a huge health IT budget, and healthcare as its core mission.

The DHS Chief Information Officer and CBP have none of those things. All available evidence indicates giving them that mandate is deeply unwise.

There is no score or cost estimate whatsoever. The score that was filed is from the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act of 2002, which is completely unrelated.

We are being asked to vote on this legislation blindly. Based on the experience of institutions similar in size to CBP that have implemented EHRs, the price tag could easily run into the billions. Five to 10 years is a realistic timeline, not 30 days.

Altogether, I think this is a mistake, even if well-intentioned.

We should be devoting our resources to reducing border crossings between ports of entry. We should prioritize getting detainees out of Border Patrol custody and into ICE and HHS custody, which already have mandates and capabilities to provide medical care.

I strongly oppose H.R. 3525 for these reasons, and I strongly urge my colleagues to vote ''no.''

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Miss RICE), the chair of the Homeland Security, Border Security, Facilitation, and Operations Subcommittee.

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, six children have died in DHS custody over the past year.

On Christmas Day in 2018, 8-year old Felipe Alonzo Gomez died in the custody of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He was the second child that month to die in CBP custody. And after

his death, CBP implemented a new medical screening process for young children in their care.

However, as we soon learned, this process was not adequate, because four more children died in CBP custody from preventable illnesses and substandard living conditions.

Even after these new screening processes were put in place, both CBP personnel and their facilities along the southern border remained completely ill-equipped for months. That is why this past July, the House passed H.R. 3239, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act.

This bill would require DHS to improve screening processes and utilize professional medical staff. And it allocated other necessary resources to conduct effective initial medical screenings for all people in CBP custody.

Today, I am proud to support Congresswoman UNDERWOOD's effort to build on that legislation.

I was honored that, in her first few months in office, Congresswoman UNDERWOOD joined me on two separate trips to the southern border. She drafted this bill as a direct result of what she witnessed on those trips.

H.R. 3525 directs DHS to consult with medical experts to improve its medical screening process and to finally establish an electronic health record system for people in CBP custody.

DHS has always been on the cutting edge of innovation, leveraging the latest in technological advances to fulfill its critical mission of protecting our homeland. And I believe it is now vital that DHS use that same approach when caring for the individuals and families in its custody.

The Department has a long, successful history of working with the private sector to achieve its counterterrorism, emergency response, and cybersecurity goals.

This bill would require DHS to consult with national and medical professional associations who have the expertise in emergency medicine, nursing, pediatric care, and other relevant medical skills to make sure that DHS is providing appropriate medical care to migrants in its custody.

It specifically instructs DHS to research innovative approaches for screening vulnerable populations, including pregnant women, the elderly, and people with disabilities.

CBP is long overdue for an electronic health records system. In 2019, there is no good reason why an agency under as much strain as CBP is still using paper records. An electronic health record system would improve CBP's internal operations and expedite coordination when children and adults are transferred to other agencies.

I would hope that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle agree that not one more child should die in the custody of the Federal Government.

This bill should not be controversial. It is bipartisan; it offers commonsense solutions; and it will help save lives.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3525 today.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE), the ranking member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and a physician.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3525, the U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act.

Before coming to Congress, I was a practicing physician for over 31 years. I also served in the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea in the 2nd Medical Battalion where, at that time, we trained, we spent a lot of time in the field training for mass casualties and big events.

I went to the border; I spent four days down there on two separate occasions. The last time was in June of this year, with the Medical Director of the Department of Homeland Security, as chief medical adviser, and five other members of the Doctors Caucus at the McAllen, Texas, Rio Grande Valley sector to see for myself what was going on.

At that time, Mr. Speaker, there were 1,000 to 1,500 or more people a day who came across. As we stood there by the Rio Grande River, 15 people walked up and turned themselves in while we weren't there more than 15 or 20 minutes.

And we looked at the facilities they had; about how they tried to screen those folks; and then how they tried to sort them afterwards. And, Congress, it was a shame on us for not providing ICE more beds so you could move those folks off of the border more quickly.

With these folks, they have made—many of them have made long and terrible journeys to get to where they are.

There is some good news, and I want to share this with you now. We just had a meeting today that the ranking member on the committee was there with the Acting Director of Homeland Security; and daily arrivals are now down 64 percent. Attainee numbers are way down, from 20,000 in custody at the border, to an average of 3,500 to 4,500 per day. And the best news, I think, are unaccompanied children have been reduced from over 2,700 to fewer than 150.

So there have been great improvements, which will actually improve the health outcomes when you have time enough to go through and screen those folks.

Can you imagine in a facility that is set for 1,000 people, and you have 1,500 or 1,800 people, you have nowhere to send them, and a flu epidemic breaks out? It is a very difficult thing to deal with.

So the folks at Customs and Border Patrol I think were doing a yeoman's job based on the situation they were put in.

The problem we face isn't the lack of adequate care or screening. It is due to the previously lax enforcement of our immigration laws, and our Border Patrol agents just really being overrun with people illegally crossing the border.

Really, without adding new and impossible-to-meet guidelines for our Border Patrol agents, we should look for other ways to intervene with illegal crossings, and I have mentioned that.

These people are often, as I said, escaping unimaginable problems in their home country. But once they reach our border, the CBP is doing the absolute best they can to help them.

Now, the bill would accomplish very little but overburdening our already-taxed DHS staff with their limited resources. This bill would require the DHS to purchase and implement an electronic health record within 30 days in order to coordinate care for illegal border crossers.

Mr. Speaker, I think I may be one of the only people in the U.S. Congress that has actually implemented an electronic health record in my own practice. It took us a year to do it in our medical practice, to put 80,000 charts in.

Can you imagine putting over a million? And the U.S. military, the Department of Defense, right now is spending about $5-plus-billion for a million and a half soldiers.

The Veterans' Affairs Committee, which I am very aware of, and I will be going to Seattle, Washington, Madigan Army Medical Center on Sunday night and Monday of next week to evaluate their system. We are spending $16 billion to implement this.

Let me say this: The DOD and VA spent a billion dollars trying to implement a system where the electronic health record at DOD and VA could talk to each other, and they failed. So it is a very difficult, complex situation to put an electronic health record in.

I think it is a noble goal, and it should be looked at. But it is just something not doable in 30 days. I absolutely guarantee you it will fail. These are labor-intensive, and many of them fail.

I know, as I was saying a little bit ago, that the Department of Defense and VA are currently implementing this program which will—the total cost of that will be $25 billion.

And this legislation gives DHS a colossal, unfunded mandate and it has no expertise or capacity to handle this, and would consume all of the supplemental that we have sent them.

Further, implementing a new health record at a hospital takes a year or more, not 30 days. So it is absolute folly to think that DHS could do this, contract it, figure it out, train the people at all these ports of entry, and do that in 30 days. It can't be done.

The Coast Guard, a DHS component, had a disastrous experience trying to implement an EHR in about 40 clinics between 2010 and 2015, and they spent $67 million and gave up.

So if we can't deliver a modern healthcare record system to our men and women who put their lives on the line without spending billions of dollars and the better part of a decade,

why would we rush to develop one that is doomed to failure for people who are knowingly breaking our laws?

Until the VA and DOD have secured a fully interoperable record for our servicemembers, we should not divert scarce resources and time creating one for illegal immigrants.

I do want to say that I am willing to work with the other side in any way, in all ways, to improve the health care of the people who come here. We are Americans. That is what we do, and we are the best in the world at it.

So if you want to sit down and work out an issue and a problem with me, I am more than happy to do that.

□ 1545

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, thank you very much for the leadership of the chairman, and I appreciate the ranking member on the floor.

I have had the privilege of traveling with Congresswoman UNDERWOOD to the border in some very challenging circumstances, and I appreciated, as a nurse, as a trained nurse, as she is a trained nurse, I appreciated the astuteness with which she viewed this matter.

Let me say to my good friend, the doctor, we are always looking forward to trying to work with our colleagues on the basic humanity of every person, recognizing that this is not about healthcare for undocumented immigrants. It is about individuals who are in the custody of the United States.

Just picture for a moment, having gone to the border now for almost two decades as a resident of Texas, just imagine that there are moments when there is an influx of individuals fleeing for their lives. It happened under President Obama's administration in 2014, and we managed it. There was no hysteria. There were facilities that were built. There was medical care that we were able to access.

In this instance, it did not happen. And the glaring reality of children who died and those who were working hard, the law enforcement personnel, I saw them trying to do as much as they could, but without a structure, we lost lives. So the importance of this legislation is particularly one that I think is important.

Picture for a moment, when we were in the midst of the crisis, Coast Guard medical personnel, doctors with a table, some medicine on the corner, their medical paraphernalia out in the open where files were, no place to deal with the medical needs of anyone. That is not American.

We are not asking to provide healthcare. This is not Medicare or Medicaid. It is a basic dignity of protecting the American people by ensuring that these people are treated for whatever might be necessary.

So the e-record process is powerful because it allows the accessing of medical care by having a record system and also by having that system being accessed by all DHS components operating on the border. It is just a simple case of protecting those of us in the United States, protecting those who are in our custody.

Why not? Why not be proactive and positive for dealing with fellow human beings?

Let's get away from this undocumented and realize this is a land of laws and immigrants. We all, collectively, together, want to abide by that.

But we also realize that, when 9-month-old Roger is in my hands, and he crossed the border in the arms of his sister, that 9-month-old Roger, even though I saw him in one of the HHS centers, probably needed care.

Or the woman who had given birth 45 days earlier and holding in her hands a 45-day-old baby who had not seen a doctor, she had not been to the hospital. This might help give aid to those individuals.

So let me be very clear: This is an important initiative. It is an initiative that I think most Americans will support.

I rise to support the gentlewoman's legislation and thank her for her courage and astuteness in bringing this to our attention.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, how much time do I have remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 13 minutes remaining.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BARRAGÁN).

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3525, the U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act.

Mr. Speaker, I have been to the southern border a number of times. I have seen the cold concrete holding cell where Felipe Gomez Alonzo, an 8-year-old boy, spent his last days. He was apprehended on December 18, 2018, and did not receive proper medical testing, screenings, and care.

Six days later, on Christmas Eve, while Americans were celebrating family and a holiday, Felipe would go on to suffer from a 103-degree fever. Felipe would also start vomiting and become weak, then die while in custody of the U.S. Government.

I wish I could say that he was the last child that died in U.S. custody, but he wasn't. In the 17 months since the Trump administration implemented their zero-tolerance policy at the southern border, inhumanely jailing migrant children and cruelly separating children from their parents, six—let me repeat that, six—migrant children have tragically fallen ill and died in Federal custody:

Darlyn Cristabel Cordova-Valle was 10 years old;

Jakelin Caal Maquin was 7;

Felipe Gomez Alonzo was 8;

Juan de Leon Gutierrez was 16;

Carlos Hernandez Vasquez was 16; and

Wilmer Josue Ramirez Vasquez was a 2½-year-old baby.

The death of these children demonstrates the dangers faced by migrants at the hands of the very government they hoped would save them. The inadequate medical recordkeeping is dangerous and is a huge gap that we must fix.

How many more kids will have to die before DHS makes effective changes in the way they improve medical screenings and track medical records? How many?

Ms. UNDERWOOD, a nurse and the author of the bill, has been to the southern border with me to see the problem firsthand. It is her medical training and background that led to this bill so that we could research ways to improve medical screenings and improve the tracking of medical records, something that is not happening right now.

Mr. Speaker, this body and this Nation has a moral obligation to make sure that no more children needlessly die in detention at our southern border and, in doing so, to perhaps bring some measure of meaning to the tragic deaths of those six children.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3525.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I note several Members across the aisle have talked about the need to improve our health screenings. This bill does nothing to deal with that. It is about requiring the installation of electronic medical records.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN).

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the chairman for yielding, and I want to thank my colleague, Ms. UNDERWOOD, for her work on this very important issue.

For nearly a year now, we have watched with growing horror and outrage as the cruel and inhumane combination of xenophobia, malicious policy from the White House, and indifference to people in need has built into a crisis at our southern border.

We have let this come to a point where children have died, children fleeing violence and persecution and horrors in their home countries seeking to come here, the land of opportunity and promise, children we separated from their parents and loved ones, children that we failed entirely here on our soil and in our custody.

We cannot allow that to continue, and this measure that we are taking up today will take important steps to address gaps in medical screening at the border so that we don't fail any more children. It pushes us to find new ways to handle the unique needs of health screening at the border, with special emphasis on children and vulnerable groups.

Just as importantly, it mandates implementation of an e-record system so that we are not letting anyone slip through the cracks.

An e-record system is not something we have never heard of before. What has happened at the border thus far, including the tragic deaths of the children, those mentioned by my colleague like Jakelin Caal Maquin and Felipe Gomez Alonzo, is proof that we are not doing enough, and that is not because we can't.

I am grateful to Ms. UNDERWOOD for stepping up to ensure we do more, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this important bill and its passage.

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, here we have another bill that demonstrates just how disingenuous Democrats are about securing our borders and fixing our broken immigration system. But in a new twist, today's bill shockingly prioritizes illegal immigrants over servicemembers and veterans. They are going to send another partisan messaging bill to the Senate, where it will promptly die.

When Democrats are ready to legislate real solutions to the problem that this country faces, Republicans stand ready to work with them. In the meantime, I urge all Members to oppose this bill.

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, in the last year, six children have died after being in CBP custody. This disheartening statistic demands our attention, especially when you stop to think that, in the entire decade preceding these deaths, not one child died in CBP custody.

Processes for the treatment of migrants crossing the border clearly need to be improved. H.R. 3525 does that by forcing DHS to look at its medical screening process and come up with ways to improve it and address any performance gaps. It also helps move the Department's recordkeeping into the 21st century.

H.R. 3525 is one step we can take to ensure that the money that DHS is already spending on screening and caring for apprehended families and children is done wisely.

And I might add, Mr. Speaker, all of us saw the conditions that children were kept in along the border. You can't put children in fences. You can't give people inadequate healthcare. You can't do those things.

Most of us in this body are either parents or grandparents or we have relatives who are. For us not to care about children is something that America should never be proud of. We are a nation of values. Our values have to say that children matter.

Ms. UNDERWOOD's bill clearly says that children in the custody of the United States Government matter. Not only do they matter, but we have to keep up with them; we should not lose them. If they are sick, we need to have copies of their records accessible so that our professionals who are tasked with the responsibility of taking care of them actually know what is going on.

So I am clear about the bill. If my colleagues on the other side are not interested in helping children and solving this problem that we have along our borders, then that is too bad. Democrats are prepared to work with them if they want to. If not, children do matter.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3525, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 577, the previous question is ordered on the bill, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 3525 is postponed.

□ 1600

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 591; and

Adoption of House Resolution 591, if ordered.

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

## PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S.J. RES. 54, TERMINATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT ON FEBRUARY 15, 2019

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 591) providing for consideration of the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 54) relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 230, nays 187, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 549]

YEAS—230

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amash
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Finkenauer
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Hill (CA)
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCollum
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—187

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Brady
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Cook
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart

Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx (NC)
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden
Gosar
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose, John W.
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spano
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—16

Abraham
Cheney
Crawford
Cummings
Escobar
Higgins (LA)
Himes
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Kind
McEachin
McHenry
Norman
Ratcliffe
Rooney (FL)
Walker

□ 1643

Messrs. SENSENBRENNER, COMER, and YOHO changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. TAKANO, and Ms. WILD 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.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 229, nays 186, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 550]

YEAS—229

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amash
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Finkenauer
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Hill (CA)
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCollum
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—186

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Brady
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Cook
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx (NC)
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden
Gosar
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose, John W.
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spano
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—18

Abraham
Babin
Cheney
Crawford
Cummings
Escobar
Garamendi
Higgins (LA)
Himes
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Kind
McEachin
McHenry
Norman
Ratcliffe
Rooney (FL)
Walker

□ 1652

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 against:

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, the voting card did not work. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 550.

## U.S. BORDER PATROL MEDICAL SCREENING STANDARDS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of the bill (H.R. 3525) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish uniform processes for medical screening of individuals interdicted between ports of entry, and for other purposes, will now resume.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. I am in its present form.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Green of Tennessee moves to recommit the bill, H.R. 3525, to the Committee on Homeland Security with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

Add at the end of section 3 the following:

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on September 30, 2027.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his motion.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, many of us made the trip this summer to Normandy to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings. It was an amazing opportunity.

Standing among the rows of crosses and Stars of David in the U.S. cemetery, I was reminded of the sacrifices of our incredible American warriors.

Standing there ignited my memory of 24 years of wearing the uniform. I was reminded of my driver when I was a young second lieutenant. He was 4 foot 11 and had a heart the size of his home State of New York. I recalled my radio telephone operators, both from California. When I was a commander in the 82nd Airborne Division, they stuck to me like glue and would try so often to sneak food in so that we could eat while we were all rigged up in our airborne gear before an airborne operation.

Of course, my friends from the war flashed into my mind. I will never forget watching the flag-draped coffin of a fellow Army Ranger carried into the back of a C–17 in Bagram, Afghanistan for his last trip home.

Our veterans deserve everything that we can give them. However, in the past few years, despite improvements in the VA electronic health records system, problems and delays still remain. For example, the very benefits that Congresswoman UNDERWOOD in this bill advances for illegal aliens flooding across our southern border, our veterans don't have those benefits. Let me say that again: This bill, without the amendment I am asking this body to consider, advances healthcare services to illegal aliens before it does to our American heroes.

The VA Secretary testified before Congress that it will take his department 10 years to fully deploy this new system.

Mr. Speaker, I have the deployment schedule for the VA from their website, and I will include this in the RECORD at a later date.

Mr. Speaker, this timeline states that our veterans will not get an interoperable electronic health record at all VA healthcare facilities until September 20 of 2027.

VA medical facilities serving veterans in Virginia won't get it until 2024. Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and New England won't be fully operational until 2026. It won't be until 2027 that VA medical facilities in Iowa, Minnesota, and Illinois are fully operational. Veterans in my home State of Tennessee won't benefit from interoperable electronic health records until 2023.

Yet, without this amendment, without my amendment, we are going to give it to illegal aliens within 90 days.

Mr. Speaker, these are the same men and women who, when they raised their right hand and took that oath, wrote a blank check for America, for every person in this room, that was cashable, redeemable, all the way up until their life, their very life.

I think our constituents across this great country would find it appalling that we are about to give this health record system to illegal immigrants before our veterans receive it.

All this amendment does is ensure that our veterans get this service first. If you vote against this motion to recommit, you are giving an electronic health medical record to illegal aliens before our veterans.

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

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Illinois is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues in this body, medical experts, and our neighbors and constituents all agree the humanitarian and medical situation at our southern border has reached crisis levels.

During my conversations with health officials at the border, including with the Department of Homeland Security, they told me that one of the most urgent solutions they need is an electronic health record that can be used by everyone providing medical care at the border.

DHS recognizes this, too, and has already taken steps toward implementation, but it is not moving fast enough. So this legislation directs that process, setting an aggressive but achievable timeline that reflects the urgency of the humanitarian situation. The children and families in our care can't afford any further delays.

Now, let me be clear: As a nurse, and a member of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, providing world-class care to our veterans is a top priority. I have introduced a number of proposals to improve healthcare delivery to our veterans, and I am working on a slate of others.

I welcome the input of my colleagues from across the aisle who want to work with me on modernizing the VA to better serve women veterans, improving mental healthcare access and quality, ending the veteran suicide epidemic, or any other way to serve our country's heroic veterans.

But where I am from, in northern Illinois, we can walk and chew gum at the same time because we also have a moral duty to ensure that children in our government's custody receive the basic medical screenings and services needed to ensure lives are not lost on our watch.

It is simple, and we can do both. That is what we are debating here today.

Children are dying of preventable causes in our care for the first time in a decade. We all agree that the humanitarian situation at our southern border presents a complex set of challenges. Congress has a duty to address those challenges by providing, as appropriate, both resources and oversight.

Oversight is ongoing through the excellent work of our committees, in addition to inspectors general. We have repeatedly met requests for additional humanitarian funding as needed, most recently with the approval of almost $5 billion in supplemental funding this summer.

But this Congress is choosing, rightly, to provide that funding along with additional guardrails and directions for how to spend it in a way that is consistent with American values because the status quo is unacceptable. Children are dying of preventable causes in our care for the first time in a decade. My bill, along with Congressman RUIZ's and Congresswoman ESCOBAR's, provides the guardrails and direction to reverse course.

Let's be clear: This is not some gold-plated package. What these policies do is establish minimum, consistent standards that ensure that we can effectively provide the most basic medical screenings and care. What we are doing is making sure that children and families in our care are asked questions like, ''Do you have a fever? Do you have your inhaler? Could you be pregnant?'' and that their answers are recorded and used to make sure that they are provided basic care.

These changes are urgently needed. Children are dying of preventable causes in our care for the first time in a decade, children like Darlyn, Jakelin, Felipe, Juan, Wilmer, and Carlos.

Medical care for these children has huge, unacceptable gaps. We have a responsibility to implement commonsense, effective policies that we know will fix that because children should never die from a preventable cause in our care.

We have a responsibility to ensure that the Department of Homeland Security is better prepared for future challenges to ensure the failures that contributed to these deaths are never repeated.

Children in our care have been separated from their families. They have been denied toothbrushes and blankets. They have been saddled with trauma that can affect them for their entire lives.

We must make sure that these children and their families have access to basic medical care and screening while in custody. That is why we have to reject this procedural gimmick, which could delay essential tools and resources from getting to officials at the border who need them.

I urge all my colleagues, vote ''no'' on the motion to recommit and vote ''yes'' to pass this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, read the bill, read the amendment that they offered.

Eric Cantor called MTRs a gimmick. This is the gimmick of gimmicks. It

does nothing for veterans' healthcare, not a single thing. You know it. I know it. Everybody in this House knows it. All it does is try to delay this bill for 10 years, and they are going to all vote against the bill.

Mr. Speaker, this does nothing for veterans' care. If the gentleman cared about veterans' care, he would have offered it.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, 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. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. 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.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 202, nays 213, not voting 18, as follows:

[Roll No. 551]

YEAS—202

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Brady
Brindisi
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Cook
Crenshaw
Cunningham
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Rodney
Delgado
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx (NC)
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McAdams
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Peterson
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose, John W.
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sherrill
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spanberger
Spano
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Torres Small (NM)
Turner
Upton
Van Drew
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—213

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amash
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Hill (CA)
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—18

Abraham
Boyle, Brendan F.
Cheney
Crawford
Cummings
Escobar
Gallagher
Higgins (LA)
Himes
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Kind
McEachin
McHenry
Norman
Ratcliffe
Rooney (FL)
Walker

□ 1712

Mr. MAST changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

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.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. 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 230, nays 184, not voting 19, as follows:

[Roll No. 552]

YEAS—230

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amash
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Hill (CA)
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Luján
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCollum
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Suozzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)

Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Upton
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—184

Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bergman
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Bost
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chabot
Cline
Cloud
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Comer
Conaway
Cook
Crenshaw
Curtis
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Rodney
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Ferguson
Fleischmann
Flores
Fortenberry
Foxx (NC)
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden
Gosar
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClintock
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Peterson
Posey
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose, John W.
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spano
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Timmons
Tipton
Turner
Van Drew
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—19

Abraham
Aderholt
Brady
Cheney
Crawford
Cummings
Escobar
Gallagher
Higgins (LA)
Himes
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Kind
McEachin
McHenry
Norman
Ratcliffe
Rooney (FL)
Walker

□ 1721

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 550, "yea" on rollcall No. 551, and "nay" on rollcall No. 552.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family obligation, I unfortunately missed today's vote series. Listed below is how I would have voted had I been in attendance: Previous Question—"Nay"; Adoption of the Rule Providing for Consideration of S.J. Res. 54—"Nay"; Republican Motion to Recommit—"Yea"; and Passage of H.R. 3525—"Nay".

## ELECTING MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 596

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

(1) COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR.—Mr. Murphy of North Carolina.

(2) COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES.—Mr. Timmons.

(3) COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.—Mr. Bishop of North Carolina.

(4) COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY.—Mr. Murphy of North Carolina.

(5) COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS.—Mr. Bishop of North Carolina.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1406

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove Representative BILL FOSTER as a cosponsor of H.R. 1406.

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

There was no objection.

## REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2723

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 2723.

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

There was no objection.

## REQUEST TO CONSIDER S. 820, DEBBIE SMITH REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. 820 to bring justice to victims of sexual assault, the Debbie Smith Reauthorization Act, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRINDISI). Under guidelines consistently issued by successive Speakers, as recorded in section 956 of the House Rules and Manual, the Chair is constrained not to entertain the request unless it has been cleared by the bipartisan floor and committee leaderships.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman will state her parliamentary inquiry.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, this has not been consistently. This is the first time this has been UCed.

I understand the guidelines just cited, Mr. Speaker; however, seeing no objection from leadership or committee members on either side of the aisle, does that constitute clearance and allow the Chair to entertain my motion under the rules of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A unanimous consent request for the consideration of that measure would have to receive clearance by the majority and minority floor and committee leaderships. The Chair is unaware of such clearance. Therefore, the Chair cannot entertain that request at this time.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman will state her parliamentary inquiry.

Mrs. WAGNER. Again, seeing no objection on either side of the aisle, and since this is dealing with grants for DNA testing and rape kits, can the Chair advise what is required pursuant to section 956 of the House rules to allow my motion to be considered to protect victims of sexual assault.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair previously advised, that request cannot be entertained absent appropriate clearance.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I urge that the Speaker and the majority leader schedule the bill on the floor immediately to protect victims of sexual assault.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman has not been recognized for debate.

## TRUMP BEHAVIOR THREATENING SANCTITY OF ELECTIONS

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

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am disgusted and appalled with the latest news about President Trump's behavior. He has repeatedly threatened the sanctity of our elections with his behavior. His latest call to the President of Ukraine is just par for the course with this administration.

This is not the country I grew up in where the rules and law have to apply to everyone. No one man is above the law.

This is not the way our elected officials should behave. The institutions of our country are meant for the people of this country, not for personal gain.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

## END PARTISAN POLITICS

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, just 2 weeks ago, I spoke on the floor and said we needed to end partisan politics and deliver results for the American people, but just this week, Speaker PELOSI and my Democrat colleagues announced their plan to move forward with an impeachment inquiry into President Trump.

Their agenda to constantly undermine President Trump comes at a serious cost to the American people: ignoring the pressing issues at hand.

One of the best examples is Congress' lack of action to tackle the undeniable crisis at our southern border. Both Democrats and Republicans agree this crisis must be addressed, which should make this a bipartisan issue.

But, once again, Democrats continue to put forward partisan bills. This week, they brought to the floor the illegal immigrant customer service act, and we just voted on the improving healthcare for every illegal immigrant act.

These bills will do nothing to solve the problems at our southern border and would only obstruct border enforcement and impede law enforcement's ability to protect this country.

Why are Democrats prioritizing illegal immigrants over American citizens?

Let's end this partisan political game and get to work for the American people.

□ 1730

## HONORING BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN ON HIS 70TH BIRTHDAY

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

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bruce Springsteen, the New Jersey legend who turned 70 years old this week.

There is so much that this Jersey girl could say to honor Bruce Springsteen on his birthday. I could remind you of his 19-plus albums, 15 world tours, sold-out Broadway shows, best-selling autobiography, countless GRAMMYs, an Oscar, Kennedy Center Honors, Presidential Medal of Freedom, and membership in the New Jersey Hall of Fame.

I could recount his lyrics that are poetic stories of everyday people just trying to get by. I could tell you of his epic concerts and the way he connects with each audience member in sold-out stadiums, and how he makes them feel as though he is singing directly to them.

If you are lucky enough to experience it, as I have, a live Springsteen show is not something you watch, but nearly 4 hours of power, raw beauty, and sweat that you actively participate in.

Or maybe, to best honor him for his 70th birthday, I should proudly say that Bruce Springsteen is the unofficial spokesperson and ambassador of our great State.

He sings for the underdog, for the quiet hero, and for every New Jerseyan who has dared to dream of a better life for themselves.

## CONGRATULATING DR. LUCY GREENE, RECIPIENT OF THE W. PARKER GREENE LEGACY AWARD

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Lucy Greene, who was awarded the W. Parker Greene Legacy Award on September 16, 2019.

Dr. Greene, along with her late husband, Parker Greene, were staunch advocates for Moody Air Force Base for the last 40 years. During this time, the pair and their advocacy could not have been more important to the First Congressional District of Georgia.

They have been referred to as our region's civilian secret weapons in keeping Moody Air Force Base open and viable. Making relationships with generals at the Department of Defense, they kept Moody Air Force Base off the list for base closures. In turn, they kept the Valdosta community churning.

But on her own, Dr. Lucy Greene was critical in supporting the airmen at the base. She taught courses for airmen who had children with developmental disorders. She even handed out fabric softener sheets so the airmen could keep the sand gnats away.

Congratulations on your award, Dr. Greene. You deserve it.

## WILLIAM J. HUGHES TECHNICAL CENTER

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

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, the William Hughes Technical Center in south Jersey is the FAA's national scientific test base for R&D, and the evaluation of transportation systems. It is the Nation's premier air transportation system laboratory.

I was disappointed to see that the FAA, earlier this year, proposed funding cuts for critical research programs at the tech center that ultimately improve the safety of all Americans. That is why I am grateful to Chairman PRICE of the Transportation Subcommittee for working with me to restore funding for the tech center.

I have also heard troubling rumors about a potential realignment at the tech center. For those who seek to eliminate, shift jobs, or reporting duties away from the tech center, I say this: You will have a fight on your hands, like a fight you have never seen before.

I am proud to have this incredible facility in south Jersey, and I thank all of the hardworking men and women of the tech center for continuing to keep our skies safe.

## FLEXIBILITY THROUGH LOWER EXPENSES HEALTH CARE ACT

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, a physician, a father, and a grandfather, it has become clear to me that certain provisions under the Affordable Care Act, aka ObamaCare, have proven to be completely unaffordable and unsustainable. These stifling regulations have simultaneously forced an increase in insurance premiums and a decrease in patient choice.

That is why Representative BUDD and I introduced H.R. 4484 yesterday, the Flexibility Through Lower Expenses Healthcare, or FLEX Act. This bill will codify into law the Trump administration's rules on short-term limited duration insurance and association health plans.

It will allow small businesses and self-employed workers the opportunity to secure more affordable health insurance by banding together to act as one large employer, and it will open the door for individuals to purchase temporary affordable health insurance for up to 1 year.

The FLEX Act will provide the necessary flexibility and affordability that Americans have been seeking in their healthcare, free of the strain and expense that have, unfortunately, become the new normal under ObamaCare.

## RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MIKE McINTURFF

(Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Sergeant Mike McInturff who passed away September 10. I was honored to have known Mike, and I want to extend my deepest condolences to his family, especially his wife of 34 years, Debbie Nelson McInturff.

From the time he was a child, Mike dreamed of being a fireman. It takes a selfless determination to take on the challenges first responders face every day, and Mike served faithfully as a volunteer and a professional firefighter for 39 years. I am grateful for Mike's work in this role, where he touched countless lives in Northeast Tennessee.

I am especially thankful for him being one of the heroic boots-on-the-ground firefighters in my hometown of Johnson City, Tennessee, when it experienced its worst-ever disaster on Christmas Eve 1989. For 5 hours, fire crews worked tirelessly as the fire spread throughout the city's tallest building, the John Sevier apartment building.

Our community mourned the 16 lives claimed by that tragedy. And my church, Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church, served as a morgue that Christmas Eve night.

It is my honor to recognize the life of Sergeant Mike McInturff and commend him for his 39 faithful years of service. My prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

## FARM STRESS AND OPIOIDS IN MISSISSIPPI

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

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, September is National Recovery Month, a time to look for ways to support recovery strategies for mental health and substance use disorders.

Mississippi State University's Extension Service is working to reduce opioid misuse by farmers and ranchers across our State.

Farmers have to face changing markets, weather events, financial hardships, leading to farm stress while operating in one of the most hazardous occupations. A valid opioid prescription given to a farmer can lead to opioid misuse. Three out of four farmers have reported that they have been affected by opioid misuse, and that opioids can be easily accessed.

Through support from the USDA and SAMHSA, Mississippi State University is training extension service agents to deliver mental health first aid to farmers, as well as working with pharmacists and medical personnel to better recognize misuse. This program is already demonstrating incredible results as farmers are utilizing extension agents to seek care.

I applaud the work of Mississippi State University and other organizations in Mississippi that recognize needs in our community and are finding creative ways to reach Mississippians with care.

## WORLD HEART DAY

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

Mr. SPANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to one of the most important issues facing our Nation and world.

This weekend is World Heart Day, a time for individuals around the globe to annually be informed about the issues surrounding cardiovascular disease, which includes heart disease and stroke, and to highlight the actions that individuals can take to prevent and control the disease.

You see, cardiovascular disease is the world's leading cause of death. Each year it claims the lives of almost 18 million people, while devastating many more families.

You see, I have cardiovascular disease; and as someone with a heart condition, I humbly stand before the House and I say that we can do better.

World Heart Day is about families, communities, and governments around the globe coming together, regardless of affiliation, to combat a shared enemy that affects the lives of far too many.

With controlling our diets, sticking to an exercise regimen, and avoiding the use of tobacco products, 80 percent of premature deaths from cardiovascular disease can be avoided.

Please join me in taking control of your health before it is too late.

## RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF JOHNNY MAGIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. SOTO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the award-winning host of XL 106.7's morning show, Johnny Magic, with his show, Johnny's House, for the great work he has done for the Central Florida community.

Johnny was born in Charlotte, North Carolina, but has called Orlando home for the last 30 years, while working for XL 106.7. He uses his voice, talents, and resources to work with our community. During times of need, after natural disasters, and times of crisis in our community, he has gone out of his way to help those in need. He genuinely cares for this community, and it shows through all of his hard work.

Johnny Magic has witnessed firsthand the struggles that many families in our community experience. These experiences inspired him to develop a program that would make it possible for disadvantaged families to provide a wonderful holiday experience for their children. This is how the Baby DJ, Inc. program came to fruition.

Over the last 25 years, this program has worked and collaborated with local churches, nonprofit organizations, and community partners to fulfill this mission. With the help of volunteers, the Baby DJ program has been able to provide resources to assist families in need and, in recent years, has expanded their operation to serve other charitable efforts that take place throughout the year.

The program has provided backpacks and school supplies to countless schools in need in central Florida. These supplies provide a welcome relief to the families and students, as well as to teachers who routinely pay for school supplies for students and for their classrooms.

Johnny Magic, and his team, and the Baby DJ program, are not only inspiring, but it is also what makes central Florida so wonderful.

So I want to thank Johnny Magic, I want to thank the good folks at Johnny's House, the Baby DJ, Inc. program for their contributions and for his contribution to central Florida.

### HONORING DR. YARISA BONET

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Dr. Yarisa Bonet.

Dr. Bonet is a professional dedicated to education. Her mission is to provide tools to individuals to achieve a productive work-life balance and adopt healthy lifestyles.

Dr. Bonet is active in many community organizations. She is the chairman of the Board of Directors of the Northeast Polk Chamber of Commerce, and the chair of the adult leadership class. She is a Haines City Rotarian and an active member of the Hispanic Professional and Business Women Association.

Dr. Bonet is a community-centric individual who has counseled, trained, mentored and educated her community for over 16 years.

In 2014, she founded Fibrofit Wellness & Yoga, a wellness and yoga center with offices in Orlando and Davenport.

□ 1745

She has also developed wellness-related education programs, such as ''Kill Stress in 3 Steps.''

Last summer, Dr. Bonet launched the YLove Project, a free yoga, meditation, and emotional intelligence program for kids.

She also has over 14 years of experience in healthcare management and has been the keynote speaker for hospitals and medical organizations in the areas of teaching about emotional intelligence and patient-centered care.

Dr. Bonet holds a doctor of education from Nova Southeastern University. She has a master's degree in mental health and rehabilitation counseling from the University of North Florida, a graduate certification in psychiatric vocational rehabilitation from Boston University, and a bachelor's degree in sciences from the University of Puerto Rico.

Dr. Bonet is a certified emotional intelligence facilitator, a registered yoga teacher, and a certified meditation teacher. Yarisa also holds a certification in executive and talent coaching by Peoples Advantage.

Dr. Bonet has been married for 17 years and has three boys. I would be remiss if I didn't mention she is a fellow Boricua.

For that, we honor Dr. Yarisa Bonet.

### HONORING CLAUDIA CAMACHO

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Claudia Camacho.

Claudia Camacho is a bilingual professional and experienced administrator in the areas of admissions, academic affairs, faculty supervision, and training at Ana G. Mendez University.

Claudia has over 20 years of a strong background in customer service. In 2002, she started working at Walt Disney World, providing orientation and mentorship to new cast members in all aspects of merchandise operations in the park and assisting managers.

In 2005, she started working as an integrated services officer at Ana G. Mendez University, Metro Orlando Campus.

Through her 14 years of experience working in various positions at the university, she has championed the admissions and academic affairs departments. Along with recruitment and personnel training, she has continuously succeeded in the development of program initiatives and special projects.

As an associate director, she has participated in various events across central Florida in support of the Hispanic community. In addition, she has served as a liaison between the university and different organizations across central Florida, providing assistance and resources to the community.

Claudia has been a member of the Academic and Student Affairs Commission; the Academic Leadership Team; and the Discipline, Curriculum Development, and the Commencement Coordination Committees of the university.

Ms. Camacho earned a bachelor's degree in industrial chemistry from the Universidad de Puerto Rico, Humacao campus in 1991. In 2005, she graduated from the Universidad Metropolitana at Ana G. Mendez University with a master's degree in business administration.

Claudia also promotes a respectful, inclusive environment that embraces diversity. As a leader, one of her top priorities is to serve and support the Hispanic community and other fellow Boricuas from central Florida.

For that, we honor Ms. Claudia Camacho.

HONORING YANIDSI VELEZ QUILES

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Yanidsi Velez Quiles.

Yanidsi Velez Quiles was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and raised in the municipality of Carolina known as La Tierra de Gigantes, the land of the giants.

Yanidsi is the granddaughter of two veterans who served in the 65th infantry division of the United States Army, also known as The Borinqueneers, which served in World War II.

Yanidsi is the daughter of two self-driven entrepreneurs and a first-generation college student. She is also the wife of a loving and supportive Ponceno, someone from Ponce, and a devoted foster and adoptive mother.

Yanidsi has been a leading advocate for Hispanic grassroots organizations and pro-Latino legislation at the local and statewide level. Her public service and nonprofit career spans more than a decade.

Yanidsi's leadership and community expertise, developed from doing work on the ground through community organizing, capacity-building, and advocacy work, has helped improve our way of life. She has led multiple civic engagement initiatives, issue-based campaigns, and programs that resulted in empowering over 800,000 Latinx individuals.

In recent years, she has been a strong advocate for the thousands of displaced Puerto Rican families who have sought to rebuild their lives in Florida, as well as those who continue to work to rebuild on the island.

Currently, Yanidsi is a senior State director for the Hispanic Federation. Yanidsi manages Hispanic Federation's Florida operations overall, with a primary focus on strategic planning, program development, public policy advocacy, and resource development.

Yanidsi is most known as a woman of faith, passion, and compassion. She embodies the courage and strength within our community.

For that, we honor Ms. Yanidsi Velez Quiles.

HONORING HENRY CORDERO

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Henry Cordero.

Henry was born and raised in the beautiful island of Puerto Rico. He was raised by his parents, Felix Cordero and Norma Melendez.

During Henry's school years, he was elected president of the 4–H Puerto Rico chapter. He won the National Citizen award, representing Puerto Rico, and was nominated and elected the president of the Puerto Rico Council Youth Office.

Henry is a natural artist, playing instruments without taking any music lessons. He has been the singer of several music groups, such as Juventud 78, The Caps Band, and Henry's Combo Show.

Henry worked at Cordero Studios as a photographer with his brother, Felix Cordero, for over 20 years. Henry learned all about photography, lights, illumination, setup, portraits, and other techniques from his brother, Felix Cordero.

Since Henry moved to Florida in 1996, he has not stopped working to reach the American Dream. As an entrepreneur, he developed his own business, Cordero Studio Productions, which offers services for all your needs, such as photography, videography, photo booths, sound, music, pipe and drape, video projectors, video screens, event coordinator, t-shirt printing, and more.

Henry is very involved in the community. With his talent, he provides services to local schools, nonprofit agencies, churches, and other local groups.

Henry lives in Orlando, Florida, with his wife of 33 years and his three children, Mariangelix, Henry, Jr., and Erik. At this time, Henry has one grandchild, Soleil. He is also supportive of his wife, Maribel, who has been elected as Orange County Commissioner in central Florida.

Henry continues to be an asset within our community, with all his talents and dedication.

For that, we honor Mr. Henry Cordero.

HONORING KELLY QUINTERO

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Kelly Quintero.

Kelly Quintero is a first-generation American born to Colombian immigrants, Juan Carlos and Julieta Quintero, in New Jersey.

As a student at the University of Central Florida, Kelly was actively involved in a number of student organizations on campus while earning her bachelor's in international relations.

Kelly interned for my office as a then-State senator in Tallahassee during the State legislative session. Since then, Kelly knew that being part of politics and the political process was her calling.

Soon after graduating, in 2013, Kelly worked for the Orange County government, overseeing bilingual communications. She then transitioned to central Florida political director for Hillary Rodham Clinton's Presidential campaign. Kelly's involvement with the campaign introduced her to community leaders who inspired her to use her skills, knowledge, and relationships to advocate for communities in need.

In 2017, Kelly was the State legislative advocate for the League of Women Voters of Florida, where she worked with allies and elected officials to advocate on issues like gun control, voter rights, and funding for public education. Kelly successfully raised awareness on these issues with the help of statewide members.

Soon after, Kelly began a new challenge as the director of advocacy and government relations for Second Harvest Food Bank of central Florida, the largest hunger-relief organization in the region. In this role, she has increased community engagement on advocacy efforts, including the farm bill, the intersection of health, hunger, and education of food insecurity and other issues at all levels of government. This has resulted in receiving Feeding America's Advocacy Hall of Fame Award every year.

Kelly is also a 2018 recipient of the Orlando Business Journal's 40 Under 40 award. Kelly resides in Orlando, Florida, with her husband, Eddie Johnstone, and their two cats.

For that, we honor Ms. Kelly Quintero.

HONORING SORAYA MARQUEZ

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Soraya Marquez.

Soraya Marquez is a Venezuelan leader in central Florida. During the last 20 years, Soraya Marquez has organized local communities within different Latin communities in Orlando, Florida.

Soraya has also conducted electoral campaigns, motivating citizens to register and exercise the right to vote in each election, having led the registration of 100,000 new voters in Orange, Seminole, Osceola, and Hillsborough Counties in elections since 2012.

Soraya's work has transcended to local high school projects, where she has encouraged students to become an active part of the electoral process. Soraya has promoted conferences with elected officials about the operation of cities and counties, as well as incorporating the importance of climate change. Soraya keeps the immigrant community on her daily agenda through meetings, informational sessions, and clinics in the face of immigration reform.

Another priority for Soraya in the community has been free citizenship workshops, promoting the change and the perception of permanent legal residents by taking the important step of being a citizen of the United States.

Soraya Marquez and her husband, Gustavo Marquez, are the founders of the C-Ciudadano organization. Soraya is also the state director of Mi Familia Vota in Florida.

One of Soraya's most important awards includes the recognition of the Government of Mexico with the Ohtli Award for community leaders.

For that, we honor Ms. Soraya Marquez.

HONORING JENNIFER A. MARCIAL OCASIO

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Jennifer Marcial Ocasio.

Jennifer A. Marcial Ocasio is the senior content editor of El Sentinel Orlando. Jennifer manages the team covering all news related to the central Florida Hispanic community and focuses mainly on El Sentinel's digital platforms and the production and editing of the Spanish weekly.

Jennifer has been working in the media business for over a decade. Before joining El Sentinel, Jennifer launched and managed the online web page for Univision Puerto Rico, where she served as a team leader for nearly 5 years. Jennifer is driven by breaking news, human interest stories, and social media.

Jennifer is a proud, born-and-raised Puerto Rican and feels honored representing her culture in the continental United States.

Jennifer has a bachelor's degree in journalism with a second concentration in political science from the University of Puerto Rico and a master's degree in communications from Florida International University.

Since she moved to Orlando, Jennifer has become a key role model and leader for the Hispanic community. She has given a voice to the underserved communities and works tirelessly to have their stories and achievements heard.

Jennifer serves as the current president of the central Florida chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists and works to promote the work and opportunities of #MoreLatinosInNews.

For that, we honor Ms. Jennifer A. Marcial Ocasio.

HONORING HOMAN MACHUCA

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Homan Machuca.

At the age of 16, Homan Machuca began a career in broadcasting as a recording assistant at Nuevo Continente of Bogota, the first evangelical Christian radio station founded in Colombia, where he later advanced to general manager. Homan also worked at Todelar, one of the largest radio networks in Colombia.

Homan studied at Colegio Superior of Telecommunications and the University of America in Bogota, where he received his degree in journalism and communications.

□ 1800

Homan relocated to the United States in 1984, where he was employed as a journalist for La Magica 1220 news. He then worked as the news director for Noticias 11Q radio; Cosmos 1270 radio; Cadena Fantastica radio; Viva 1160 AM radio; and Univision television channel 63, in Orlando, Florida, as well.

Homan was the first Latino to transmit via satellite for the NASA space shuttle launches with United Latin Television to stations in Latin America and Europe.

Homan Machuca won an Emmy Award for his work in television arts & science.

Machuca is a five-time Paoli Award recipient. In 2008, he was awarded the Don Quijote award. He was awarded the Reportaje del Ano with United Press International for the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster that deeply affected our State and the Nation. Before the Challenger disaster, he was on the list of journalists to be able to travel to space.

Machuca is currently working as a senior reporter for Telemundo 31 NBC Station in Orlando and is the host of ENFOQUE, a program that explores social, economic, political, and community analysis. Homan continues to report and perform voiceovers for organizations such as National Geographic, Discovery, and others.

Machuca serves with different organizations as a volunteer in the Hispanic community, including COAMED, a group of doctors from Orlando who travel to different countries helping people with medical necessities. He also is part of Whipping Childhood Cancer, an organization dedicated to helping kids diagnosed with cancer. He has served as a board of director there for 4 years.

Machuca married his wife, Dawn Dodge Machuca, in Colombia in 1975. They currently reside in Florida with their children, Elaine, Timothy, and Nathalie.

Mr. Speaker, for that, we honor Mr. Homan Machuca.

HONORING JACKIE COLON

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Jackie Colon.

Jackie Colon was born in Guayaquil, Ecuador, and came to the United States at the age of 7. After Jackie lost her father, Julio Jaime, at the age of 11, her mom, Maria, was determined to carry on her husband's legacy for her family.

Jackie attended Fairleigh Dickinson University and received her MBA from Florida Christian University. Ms. Colon married her high school sweetheart, Charles Colon, who later became a U.S. Navy officer. They have two children, Jasmine and Charles Jovani. Before moving to Florida, Ms. Colon worked for several Fortune 500 companies on Wall Street.

Jackie Colon is now the southeast regional director for the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials Educational Fund, known as NALEO. She is also CEO and President of JC Consulting, LLC.

Jackie became the first Hispanic elected to the Palm Bay city council. She was the youngest deputy mayor in the history of the city of Palm Bay, Florida. She was the first elected Hispanic elected to the Brevard County Commission and served as chairman of the board of the County Commissioners of Brevard County, Florida.

Jackie served as a gubernatorial appointment to Governor Jeb Bush as Florida Commissioner on the Status of Women; gubernatorial appointment to the East Central Florida Planning Council by Governor CHARLIE CRIST; Space Coast delegation liaison to U.S. Senator Bill Nelson; senatorial appointment to U.S. Senator Mel Martinez to the Armed Forces Service Academy Selection Committee.

Ms. Colon was a board member of the Association of the United States Army and chairman of the Juvenile Justice Council as well.

She has received the Legislator of the Year Award by the Children's Advocacy Council; Woman of the Year Government Award by the Central Florida Citrus Council; Leadership Award by the 45th Space Wing, Patrick Air Force Base; Patriot Award by the National Coalition of Homeless Veterans; named one of the 25 Most Influential Hispanics in Central Florida by Vision Magazine as well.

Ms. Jackie Colon has served at the local, State, and national level. She has represented companies in North and South America as well. Ms. Colon has been a keynote speaker in International Business Summits in Brazil. She is a life coach, motivational speaker, and continues to inspire thousands across North and South America.

Mr. Speaker, for those reasons, we honor Jackie Colon.

HONORING ALIBETH SUAREZ

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to recognize Alibeth Suarez.

Alibeth Suarez is a journalist, originally from Venezuela, with a passion to

communicate and to support humanitarian causes.

She graduated from high school with the best school rating average and obtained a bachelor's degree in communications from Central University of Venezuela. Her graduation project was the creation of a community digital newspaper, which received a distinguished mention.

In 2015, Alibeth moved to the U.S. She started attending English classes with the Orange County Library System. Today, she is bilingual and works as a Questline Reference Assistant and has been with the libraries for 4 years.

She is a Library Ambassador, promoting different classes, events, and programs. In the last 2 years, she has spoken to around 20,000 people about library resources and created the idea of a radio show called Portada in Mas 100.7 FM to express in English and Spanish the different options the library offers, especially to the Hispanic community.

Currently, with about 50 shows aired and 31 guests interviewed, Alibeth continues to open new bridges for the community to learn, grow, and connect.

She is planning a project for Hispanics to help better understand the need to save the planet and be grateful about how the U.S. is a land of opportunities.

She acts as media coordinator for Casa de Venezuela Orlando, where she is helping in the process of collecting and shipping medical supplies to Venezuela in the cause for freedom and restoring democracy, as well as assisting fellow immigrants, especially lobbying for a bipartisan bill to approve temporary protective status for Venezuelans, a bill that I had the honor of passing through this Chamber last month.

At present, Alibeth lives in Orange County, Florida, and is a proud constituent of Florida's Ninth Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, for that, we honor Alibeth Suarez.

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

## UNITED STATES-ISRAEL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I thank everyone for joining me tonight on this Special Order.

In August, my colleagues and I traveled to Israel with the United States-Israel Education Association, and tonight we wanted to share with you about our trip. I am joined by BRADLEY BYRNE from Alabama, ANN WAGNER from Missouri, and Dr. PHIL ROE from Tennessee.

Through the years, the USIEA has led Members of Congress behind the Green Line, so into the West Bank, in Judea and Samaria.

Tonight we wanted to share with you some of what we saw, what we learned, witnessing the economic cooperation and integrated businesses between Palestinian and Israeli business leaders. It is really an untold story. It is an untold story, one that includes the story of hope and opportunity.

For me, it was my first trip to Israel since being named the United States Representative to the U.N., and it renewed my strong commitment to ensure that America remains a bipartisan, steadfast, and staunch supporter of Israel.

Tonight we are going to get started with my friend and colleague from Alabama, BRADLEY BYRNE, to share about the trip.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BYRNE).

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS) both for giving me this time, but also for her leadership on this and other issues.

Mr. Speaker, beside me is a photograph of myself; Avi Zimmerman, who is the head of the Judea and Samaria Chamber of Commerce, an Israeli Jew; Sheik Ashraf Jabari, a Palestinian businessman; the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS); the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER); and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE).

Mrs. WAGNER and Dr. ROE joined Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS and me on this incredible trip. We are standing in the Sheik's home in Hebron. The Sheik is a former security adviser to the Palestinian Authority, an incredible businessman.

Now, before I get back to that meeting, I want to make sure that we begin to make clear to everybody in America that much of what we have learned or believed we have learned about what is going on in Israel between Israelis and Palestinians is not true.

What we learned, both from Sheik Jabari and from others, is that something new and exciting is happening between the Israelis and the Palestinians in Israel.

There is this idea out there that the Israelis and the Palestinians have been fighting one another for years. That is not true.

The truth of the matter is, after the Romans expelled most of the Jews from Israel in the first and second century AD, there remained a small number of Jews in what was known as Israel and then later on as the Province of Palestine. Then over the years, some would creep back in, but there was a relatively small number of Jews in that land, and they lived in peace with their Arab neighbors.

It wasn't until the 20th century, when large numbers of Jews began to move into that area from Europe and the U.S. and other places, that we began to see some clashes between the Arabs that lived in that area and the Jews that were moving there.

In 1948, when Israel proclaimed itself to be a State, there was an unfortunate war between them, their Arab neighbors, and many of the Arab countries that surrounded them.

As a result of that, a State was formed with true territories, but there was a problem between Israel and Jordan, which was one of the countries that they fought, and in order to decide who lived where, they took a green pen and wrote on a map a line, and it was called the Green Line. Jordan existed, or had control, on the east side of that Green Line, Israel on the west.

A second unfortunate war occurred in 1967, the Six-Day War, which many of us remember. As a result of that war, Israel was able to take control of all of the area that is now within Israel on the east side of the Green Line.

Those two wars and what came out of them is where a lot of the problems between the Palestinians and the Israelis started. It is not ancient, it is not built into their genes. It is not something that can't be overcome.

So let me go back to this picture. Avi Zimmerman, as I said, is an Israeli Jew, and Sheik Jabari is a Palestinian Muslim standing next to one another in his home in Hebron.

We actually heard from them and other Israelis and other Palestinians about their desires and their efforts to work together in business and industry and economics. It is bringing people together.

The day before we visited the Sheik, we were in a town in the northern part of Israel—in what Israel calls Samaria—called Ariel. In Ariel, there are two parts, two industrial parts, that have 209 different manufacturing companies in them. Most of the people working in those manufacturing factories are Palestinians, and they make on average four times as much as they could make if they were working somewhere else in what we, unfortunately, call the West Bank, but is really not the West Bank.

It is good for those Palestinians to make that much money. It is good for them to be able to take advantage of the miracle of the Israeli economy. Giving them that opportunity so that they can have a better life for themselves and their families is hope.

Sheik Jabari and what he is trying to do is hope.

What the people in Israel need more than anything else is hope.

Perhaps our struggles over the last 20 years to create a two-state solution there has blinded us from the fact that this is really about people. It is not about lines drawn on a piece of paper that we can't seem to get a resolution to.

□ 1815

Those people, if they are allowed to live and work together as they want to, maybe they will find peace on their own without some push from the rest of us, which seems to be getting us nowhere.

At any rate, I hope that we, in this country, and we, in this Congress, can do everything in our power to help these good people grow economically in their businesses, but also find that peace that only people-to-people actions can find for us all.

I thank the gentlewoman, and I am looking forward to hearing the rest of this Special Order.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my very dear friend and colleague, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS from the great State of Washington, for leading our delegation, for putting this Special Order together this evening, and for including all of us—Dr. PHIL ROE from Tennessee, my good friend BRADLEY BYRNE from Alabama, and there have been others—who have made this journey with the U.S. Israel Education Association from both the Senate and the U.S. House.

It is just so marvelous to stand in support of the U.S.-Israel relationship, a decades-long partnership that underpins security in the Middle East and promotes democratic flourishing throughout the entire region at a time, sadly, of heightened anti-Semitism that we are seeing across the globe. It is more important than ever that we maintain this strong connection to this very, very key ally of ours in Israel.

Israel is deeply invested in achieving peace in the Middle East, and so is the United States of America. We will always, all of us, stand collectively with Israel as they work toward the achievement of this goal.

As my good friend BRADLEY BYRNE from the great State of Alabama expressed, in August, we traveled as a delegation and had the opportunity to go to Israel with the U.S. Israel Education Association and my colleagues. We saw firsthand Israelis and Palestinians working together to promote peace and harmony.

We visited the capital of Samaria, which BRADLEY BYRNE talked about, which was Ariel, a town where we saw Palestinians and Israelis working together in a true, integrated business fashion. We spoke to both Jews and Arabs who yearn for peace and prosperity for the region.

We explored an industrial park that has upwards of 200 businesses where Palestinians were, indeed, working alongside Israelis. We spoke with those employees. Many of the Palestinians told us that they were making somewhere between three and four times what they would otherwise earn if they didn't have this opportunity to have the integrated business that we saw going on in Ariel.

To provide for their families, and live in peace and harmony, they were standing up to what I would call strong, divisive forces that seek to vilify Israel and undermine its credibility as a force for peace.

Yet, it is clear that both sides want to find a solution to the bloodshed and to the hate. People-to-people connections—and my friend Congressman BYRNE said it so clearly and eloquently—between the Israelis and Palestinians are building blocks of the entire peace process. I am confident that both communities are working together to improve a mutual understanding and expand economic prospects for all citizens.

We did so many things in the area of defense, our common defense with Israel, getting to see some of the amazing work that the Israeli defense organization, working in conjunction with the United States of America, was able to do, especially when it came to the Arrow-3 test that we saw, which was just so fantastic. It just happened this last July. That would take out a long-range ballistic missile and keep us all safe.

We also got to meet with Prime Minister Netanyahu. We had a long discussion about the West Bank and about the time that we spent there inside the West Bank, watching Israelis and Palestinians working together in this integrated fashion. I asked the Prime Minister: Wow, so many of the myths have been debunked. I want to go back with this information, talk to my colleagues, and talk to my constituents. What should we say?

The Prime Minister said: Tell their truth.

I will also say this: With Iran working to destabilize the region and threaten Israel through dangerous terrorist proxies that we have seen in Hezbollah and Hamas, it is essential that we stand together with our ally. I am committed, and I know that we all are, to protecting our critical relationship and strengthening the ties between the United States and Israel.

I also find it especially concerning that anti-Israeli actors are seeking to delegitimize and isolate the State of Israel through the Boycott Divestment and Sanctions, or BDS. I was very proud to introduce legislation, H. Res. 246, with Representatives SCHNEIDER, ZELDIN, and NADLER, a true bipartisan effort that expresses Congress' strong support for Israel and condemns the BDS movement.

I am happy to say that H. Res. 246 has been agreed to in the House with a vote of 398 in support. I hope this sends a clear message of support to the people of Israel and also to those who would maybe seek to undermine it.

We, in Congress, stand with Israel. We will continue to work to strengthen and deepen ties between our nations.

I am just so pleased that I had this incredible opportunity to see business, peace, prosperity, hope, and real people who found their humanity and want to live together in peace and harmony. To be with these good people and to be on this journey that was one of policy, one of defense, it was also a spiritual journey that I think lifted us all up, heartened us, and strengthened us.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Washington State, my dear friend, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, for leading us in this journey and for her continued leadership in the work that we are going to do to promote integrated business.

I look forward to her comments and those of Dr. PHIL ROE. I am so grateful to USIEA for this tremendous opportunity.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri. I thought she said it so well. It really is an untold story. It is a story of opportunity, and it is a story of hope that, unfortunately, isn't being told right now.

This needs to be part of the peace plan. We need to have and encourage that economic cooperation between the Israelis and the Palestinian business leaders. We saw it, the Judea and Samaria Chamber of Commerce coming together and, in the last 2 years, creating jobs, creating opportunities, and giving people hope.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DAVID P. ROE).

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

It was, indeed, a privilege to be on the trip with the group. It was a great group.

I also thank our leader, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, for keeping a stiff upper lip when her clothes didn't get there for a few days.

I was in Israel 10 years ago, so this was my first trip back in 10 years. I saw a dramatic change in that country.

I grew up on a farm, so I am very, very interested in the agriculture in that country. One of the things that I saw that had changed in that country was they had developed the ability to desalinate seawater. Sixty percent of the water that they get in that country now is desalinated seawater. They are able to take a desert and actually sustain a fairly substantial population on it.

When we visited the Sea of Galilee in Tiberias, I also noticed that the Sea of Galilee was up since the last time I was there. It had actually come up. It had a wet winter.

Up on the Golan, which overlooks the Sea of Galilee, which the Israelis captured in the 1967 war, that is one of the best agricultural areas in the Middle East, probably. Let us not forget that it is still a very dangerous piece of real estate.

Most people don't realize how small that country actually is. There are places in Israel from the Green Line. That is the fence separating the Palestinian Authority and Israel. It is 9 miles. One of the officials there laughingly said that when President George Bush was there, he said: We have driveways in Texas longer than that.

He is almost right. You don't appreciate how small that country is and what they have been able to accomplish.

From an economic standpoint, I am a former mayor, and one of the things as

a mayor that you do is try to develop and sell your city and develop businesses in that city. What I saw was the Judea and Samaria Chamber of Commerce did not exist when I was there 10 years ago. It is very new, 18 months old. I am going to introduce them to our Chamber of Commerce in the U.S. so that they can get together.

You saw people—not nations, but people—working together to make life better for their community. This is their home, and they want their home to be as safe and good as it can be.

I want to say this about Mr. Jaber. He is a very brave man. I told him that not everybody agrees with what he is doing in this, and he did not care. He represented a large family in that region, in Hebron, where he is and where his family resides.

What they want is they want freedom. They want the ability to work. They want the ability to worship like anybody else wants. They want the same things you and I do.

In this piece of real estate, there are a lot of bad actors there. If you go down to the Gaza Strip, it is the poverty that is there.

By the way, we know that in southern Lebanon, where Hezbollah and Islamic Jihad and other terrorist groups live, Iran is funding those. Israel has to deal with that.

We made a trip to Golan Heights. We looked and could see a very green Israel where it had been farmed and irrigated, and we saw a very desolate looking Syria, where there has been a war for over 10 years. Five hundred thousand people, the population of Washington, D.C., had been killed there during that civil war. It is really incredibly sad.

I think one of the things I looked at was how you defend them. I am an old second infantry guy in the Army, so how do you defend this real estate?

We had an opportunity to meet with some of the Israeli officials, and they showed us their defense systems. Every new home in that country built since 1998, I believe, has to have a safe room, so a room that has reinforced concrete, rebar, that you can get your family in almost immediately.

We take these liberties and freedoms that we have for granted in this country, where we are safe to go wherever we want to go and drive where we want to. We saw roads in areas that are marked A, B, and C. In A area, a Jew cannot go there. You are not allowed to go there.

We have, in this country, been free for a third century, and we don't appreciate that as much as when you go to a place like that and realize you can't go exactly where you want to. There is always a worry when you are on the beach or out at dinner or at a restaurant with your family: Is this going to be the night that a terrorist attack occurs?

There was much improvement from 10 years ago.

With the gentlewoman from Missouri, who I hope to get to see next week in Missouri when I visit there, we visited with her family and got to see some of the most amazing sights. From my standpoint as a Christian, it was incredibly uplifting to me to walk on the steps where Jesus walked, to be able to see where Abraham, perhaps, almost sacrificed Jacob.

We saw a lot of those areas that we read about but had never really seen them. It really brought the Bible to life for me. That was really good.

Meeting with the Prime Minister, he spent an enormous amount of time, considering what was on his plate—an election. He had that on his plate, but he was very generous with his time.

□ 1830

He spent a lot of time considering what was on his plate: an election. He had that on his plate, but he was very generous with his time. I remember asking him, I said: What keeps you up at night? What wakes you up?

And it didn't take him 2 seconds. He said: The red phone, because there is almost not a night that he is not dealing with something incredibly serious in that small country.

So I wish them well, and I certainly would encourage others to study this part of the country. It is an amazing country.

I will say this: There for thousands of years. And we saw artifacts and buildings that were thousands of years old. We think of our country being 300 years old or 400 years old, and this area is thousands of years old. So anything that you dig in Jerusalem, especially, you are going to find something when you dig under the ground that has been there for many years.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments. That was great to hear.

I often tell people, everyone should go to Israel. There really is no other place like it in all of the world. And it is at the center of history from a Biblical perspective, the history, but today, so much of what is happening in the world is centered on what is going on in Israel. So it was great to be able to return to Israel for me.

I have traveled with the U.S. Israel Education Association before, and I am grateful for them leading these trips, especially behind the Green Line into Judea and Samaria, and taking Members of Congress, House and Senate, Republicans and Democrats, to be able to see it for themselves. It really is important.

We spent a couple of days beyond the Green Line, so that is in the West Bank, and we were witnessing amazing cooperation between the Palestinians and the Israelis. I feel like, for me, it is the untold story, and it is a story about opportunity. It doesn't always make the headlines or the news, the cable news. It is a story of hope at a time when too many despair.

So I think the gentlewoman mentioned we went to the city of Ariel. Ariel is the capital of Samaria. It is a city right now that is booming with housing, shopping centers, more jobs. We went to Ariel University. It is the newest university in Israel. It is a leader in science and technology.

I was especially impressed with the program that they had for those with autism, giving those with autism an opportunity to earn a degree. They are also building a new medical school.

Ariel University is a leading model, where Jews, Arabs, and diverse students from across Israel come to study and to learn together, to build that opportunity for a better life.

Down the road from Ariel University, we toured the business park. There was a large business park. We toured one factory that is processing 50 tons of tahini a day, and they want to double that very soon.

In that town is where we saw the Israelis and the Palestinians working together. We saw neighborhoods where they are living together with equal opportunities, equal pay, equal benefits.

The waiting list to get a job is over 1,000 people long. And why is that? Because they are going to make three to four times what they could make anywhere else that is controlled by the Palestinian Authority.

Now, everything that comes out of that business park is considered BDS. So why would Palestinians want to risk working at a place that everything is going to be stamped ''BDS''—and that is actually against the law. It is because they want to be able to provide for their families and live a full life.

So one Palestinian employee in Ariel said this: ''All the people I know in the factory or outside it, they believe that the commercial progress will bring stability, a comfortable life.

''Why not work together in peace? You can see good examples of friendship and peace here.

''In the territories that are under the control of the Palestinian Authorities in the West Bank, we don't have factories like this factory. If you want to work in a factory over there, you will not get the salary we get here. It's not enough for the necessity of life.

''Here, we get a comfortable and respectable salary.''

That is the reality on the ground in the West Bank. Jews and Arabs from Israel and Palestine are working and living together today in peace.

I was reminded again that it is the opportunity: It is the opportunity for a good-paying job. It is the chance for your children to get a good education.

It is the desire for hope, peace, and security that drives all of us. It really is foundational for every person, no matter their background or their walk of life.

I was also reminded of this in Hebron. And in Hebron, we did make history. That picture was the first time that a group of Members of Congress had traveled to a Palestinian business leader's home, Ashraf Jabari, and he warmly invited us into his home. He told us that he wants to be a partner

for peace with America in the Middle East.

Mrs. WAGNER. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, we hope that he would be coming along with the Judea and Samaria Chamber of Commerce to the United States to also tell their story to Congress and to our other colleagues. Mr. Jabari welcomed us into his home, and we can't wait to welcome the sheikh here to tell this great story of partnership and integrated business and working together.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman.

This picture is a picture of the leaders of the Judea and Samaria Chamber of Commerce. There are 150 Israeli business leaders and 150 Palestinian business leaders coming together. They formed the Judea and Samaria Chamber of Commerce 2 years ago, and, yes, we want to invite them to come to Capitol Hill, to visit with Members of Congress, to tell their story, because it is an untold story, and it needs to be told.

They believe that this has to be part of the peace solution. It is the bottom-up grassroots movement where people are living together, working together, and they are doing it. And that is the way that we are going to build peace. So it was really encouraging to see that economic activity.

One of the things that I remember Ashraf saying was:

> Our truth and our reality is that the Palestinians and the Israelis work together. We want to show the world that reality.

So that is why we are excited about them coming and being able to host them here in Congress and being able to introduce them and have them tell their story.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, ''tell their truth'' is what the Prime Minister said. That is so important. We look forward to it.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, another aspect of this does deal with the BDS movement, the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement that we see right now. It has a goal of delegitimizing Israel.

We heard from the factory workers, the business leaders like Ashraf, and the Judea and Samaria Chamber of Commerce. We saw a different story where they are really working together in peace, and that economic relationship must be foundational to peace.

For the Palestinians and the Israelis, though, BDS is going to threaten it. Both the Palestinian business leaders as well as the Palestinian workers told us that BDS actually hurts them more than the Israelis because, for the first time, they have an opportunity for a really good-paying job, to be able to provide for their families, to be able to make sure that their kids are getting a good education. That is their dream. That is what gives them hope.

So it hurts them. It hurts their ability to work, to provide for their families. They want economic freedom, not boycotts. And this desire is overwhelming.

That is why I am proud of the leadership of my colleague, the gentlewoman from Missouri, ANN WAGNER, in leading the resolution that passed here on the House floor, overwhelmingly, a statement that we do not stand for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions, BDS, that this is actually going to work against peace.

What we saw, what we witnessed, that is the foundation for peace and must be a part of any of the peace plan moving forward.

So I believe that, as America continues to influence and encourage this kind of grassroots movement, we are going to see growing economic opportunity that is foundational, that is vital for Israel's future, but also for the Palestinian people.

Israel is our greatest ally, our greatest friend in the Middle East. They are also vital for America. So I am going to be encouraging, and I know my fellow colleagues who traveled with me, we are going to be talking to the administration and Jared Kushner about the peace plan that is being developed right now and urging them to include, in any kind of a peace plan, this economic cooperation and America standing in support of this bottom-up grassroots approach that really makes a difference in people's lives.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, if I could add one thing while we are having this colloquy in this terrific Special Order, we were all grateful for the opportunity that USIEA gave us.

I want to thank—I think we all want to thank—Heather Johnston for her leadership. Thanks to General Krulak for his leadership and their entire team that made this experience possible, that has worked so diligently and so fervently to bring peace to Israel, to put forward the peace process through things like integrated business, to recognize the strong defense ally and partnership that we have with Israel, and that some $3.3 million of U.S. taxpayer funds that we share jointly with Israel in order to lift up their defense system so that we are all safe in this world and, certainly, in this delicate part of the Middle East.

So I want to thank those leaders of USIEA and, again, the gentlewoman from Washington for bringing us on this tremendous journey. We hope to share it with many others.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I completely agree. That is a good point. A big thank-you to Heather Johnston, who led, and General Krulak, former Commandant of the Marine Corps, Joint Chiefs of Staff, who is helping encourage this economic, integrated business approach.

We also got to, as the gentlewoman said, see Arrow 3. Also traveling with us was Ari Sacher, who led the whole Iron Dome.

I always take pleasure in noting that, under his leadership, Israel was able to develop Iron Dome in less than 3 years, under budget. That is something we could take note of. And it is working, and they are using it today and every day.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, just to continue with Mr. Jabari, to put this in perspective for people. He worked for the Palestinian Authority for over 10 years as one of their security people. He saw it was not working.

He pointed out, when we were in his home: We had a 4-year election 15 years ago. This term of the leadership was supposed to be for 4 years, and that was 15 years ago.

So they knew they had no power. They had elected these folks, and he saw his people were not improving; their plight was not improving. So he thought: I am going to do something different.

And that is exactly what he struck out. And as I said, this gentleman right here on this photo is a very brave man, and I wish him nothing but the absolute best.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Jabari had courage and bravery.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I think he had his people at heart and his family at heart and the Palestinians at heart, and I see nothing but good things if peace can break out.

Another thing we did that I think was extremely important was go to the training center and visit there. This is a leadership training center. Some 60,000 people have been through it in Israel.

The day we were there, there were a group of Palestinian Girl Scouts there team building, and it was fun to kind of watch them.

I was actually much happier watching them on the ground. They were climbing up on these ropes and everything.

But they were there with their Scout leader going through the leadership training. This is building bonds and friendship that will, hopefully, last for generations.

I think the other thing that the Palestinian Authority, that Mr. Jabari pointed out, he said that, of all the money that the United States has given the Palestinian Authority, they have not built one school or one hospital for the people.

So where did the money go?

We heard that day when we were there that there is actually a bounty from the Palestine Authority if you kill a Jew, if you kill another human being, that your family that is left is given money each month.

□ 1845

That is very difficult to get to a peaceful situation, and that is why I am so respectful of Mr. Jabari, because he put himself in harm's way to try to make the plight of his people better. And he is doing it.

A couple of other things that I think we learned on this trip was how many

businesses are thriving in Israel. So the next time you get in your car, Mr. Speaker, and you start driving down the road, and your car automatically brakes, your steering wheel shakes when you get out of the lane as you look at your cellphone—and you shouldn't—this driverless car technology was developed in Israel. I think Intel has now bought the company. So when you see a car driving without anybody in it, that technology began in Israel.

Another thing that really surprised me that is a difference, it is a game changer in that country, was the fact that they discovered natural gas. They are now a net exporter of energy. They actually export to Egypt. So it really stabilized them from an energy standpoint where they are not so dependent. America's independence also contributes to their safety.

Let me go over why that is important. Forty-plus years ago, we had an oil embargo by OPEC in this country. We had lines. Every other day we had to get in a line to get gas. I happened to be a young Army officer 11 miles south of the DMZ in Korea during the winter. We got heat 3 hours a day because of this embargo. We had to use our fuel for our tanks, Cobra gunships, Huey helicopters, and other equipment that we had. So we didn't have any to heat the place we were in, and it was incredibly miserable there.

I saw oil used as a political weapon back then. The fact is that this country is now energy independent. We had three huge tankers get diverted by Iran. We had an attack that took out almost 6 million barrels of oil a day. Because of the energy policies in this country, there was hardly a hiccup. I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, if we had been in the same situation 40 years ago, gas would have been two or three times what it is. It would have created great hardships in this country.

So the fact is that Israel is there helping. They are making friends. They have a great partnership. I give President Carter a shout-out. Anwar Sadat died because of that partnership that occurred, and peace has broken out between the Israelis, the Egyptians, and the Jordanians.

Do they still have differences?

Yes. But they are civil to each other, and they are working those differences out. Saudi Arabia—who would have ever thought—I remember Prime Minister Netanyahu said: Who would have ever thought Israeli airplanes would be flying over Saudi Arabia?

They are now. So you can see a change that has occurred in the last 10 years that I found astonishing.

Mrs. WAGNER. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. I yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, the economic summit that was pulled together where so many Arabs came and participated was all a lead-up to a peace process and the kind of work that we are seeing that is happening in the West Bank. We hope that it will continue to flourish. The peace process is something that I know that Jared Kushner, our White House, USIEA, the Israeli Government, the Palestinians, and others are working on. It is something that I think will be the basis and the underpinning of the peace process.

As we have all expressed, we see people find the humanity, find that all they want is what we all want: to be safe and secure, to take care of our families, to give back to society, to be productive, to be able to worship in the fashion that we choose, and to have some freedom. That is what we hope for Israel long-term.

It was just wonderful to be a part of this journey. I look forward to the future, what this administration is going to bring to the table, and to those who will be coming to, I hope, educate our colleagues on the important work that is being done.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, we should also recognize the extraordinary leadership of Ambassador David Friedman. We had the opportunity to have lunch with him. We had the opportunity to visit the United States Embassy in Jerusalem.

Mrs. WAGNER. A first. A promise that was made and kept, finally, by an American President, President Trump. It is great.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. It was a beautiful day when we were there. It was just great to be able to spend some time with him. He really has led the way within the administration with integrated business. Also he sees the vision, and he sees the potential of what that means as far as helping really forge peace from a bottom-up approach. So it was great to be with him.

I appreciated Dr. ROE talking about the national training center which is leading with training, leadership, and teamwork that we all can benefit from. They have contracted with the IDF. They have contracts now with the Department of Education. We saw the young people—the Israelis and the Arabs—going through this training together—thousands.

Mrs. WAGNER. Tens of thousands. It was amazing.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. It was so encouraging to see that during our time there.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, one of the young ladies took a lot of encouragement. I do remember that. She was having a hard time, but she made it across finally.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. I remember that, too.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Mrs. WAGNER mentioned that I hope that the Palestinians find peace and prosperity. They have long suffered, and many in Gaza still do. In Hebron where Mr. Jabari was, peace and prosperity is breaking out there.

I wish them nothing but the best, and I hope they are successful in their endeavor.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, when you think about Israel, it is a very young country. It is just over 70 years old. It is very impressive from a defense perspective, from a technology perspective, and from an agriculture perspective leading the world in so many different fields.

I also believe it is always important to highlight they are the only democracy in the Middle East. They are our best friend. Its history and its culture are the center of our civilization. Israel faces threats every single day against its survival and against the universal values of peace, security, opportunity, and, of course, freedom.

Those values unite us in America and in Israel on both sides of the Green Line. I am excited that my colleagues are here to share with everyone our experience. We returned home with a strong conviction that this story needs to be told and that more of our colleagues, Republicans and Democrats, need to see it for themselves. That was the biggest takeaway we heard after listening to the people whom we met. They asked us to go home and share their reality and their desires to promote peace and economic security in Israel. That is our mission today.

Mrs. WAGNER. As I said, Mr. Speaker, I just thank the gentlewoman from Washington so much for her leadership and that of the USIEA. To go on this journey is wonderful, and we look forward to the future.

Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I say God bless the Palestinians and Israelis. We wish them nothing but the best.

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Well said.

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

## ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 4378. An act making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 52 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, September 27, 2019, at 9 a.m.

## EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2310. A letter from the Farm Production and Conservation Business Center, Commodity Credit Corporation/Farm Service

Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage Programs [Docket ID: FSA-2019-0008] (RIN: 0650-AI45) received September 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

2311. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — National Industrial Security Program [Docket ID: DOD-2019-OS-0059] (RIN: 0790-AI71) received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2312. A letter from the Alternate OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program [DOD-2008-OS-0124] (RIN: 0790-AJ40) received September 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

2313. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID FEMA-2019-0003; Internal Agency Docket No. FEMA-8591] received September 16, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2314. A letter from the Chief Counsel, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Suspension of Community Eligibility [Docket ID: FEMA-2019-0003; Internal Agency Docket No.: FEMA-8593] received September 16, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

2315. A letter from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Division of Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final priority and requirements — Technical Assistance on State Data Collection Program--National Technical Assistance Center to Improve State Capacity to Collect, Report, Analyze, and Use Accurate IDEA Part B Data [Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.373Y] [Docket ID: ED-2019-OSERS-0001] received September 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

2316. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Ohio; Revisions to NOX SIP Call and CAIR Rules [EPA-R05-OAR-2018-0125; FRL-9999-47-Region 5] received September 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2317. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Findings of Failure to Submit State Implementation Plans Required for Attainment of the 2010 1-Hour Primary Sulfur Dioxide (SO2) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) [EPA-HQ-OAR-2019-0452; FRL-9999-85-OAR] received September 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2318. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Relaxation of the Federal Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) Gasoline Volatility Standard for the Atlanta RVP Area [EPA-HQ-OAR-2018-0836; FRL-9999-87-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AU43) received September 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2319. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's withdrawal of direct final rule — Standards of Performance for Stationary Compression Ignition Internal Combustion Engines [EPA-HQ-OAR-2018-0851; FRL-9999-86-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AU27) received September 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2320. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plan Approval; California; South Coast Air Quality Management District; Stationary Source Permits [EPA-R09-OAR-2019-0272; FRL-9997-16-Region 9] received September 11, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2321. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Implementation Of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 [MB Docket No.: 05-311] received September 16, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2322. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Promoting Telehealth in Rural America [WC Docket No.: 17-310] received September 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2323. A letter from the Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Mitigation of Beyond-Design-Basis Events [Docket Nos.: PRM-50-96, PRM-50-97, PRM-50-98, PRM-50-100, PRM-50-101, and PRM-50-102; NRC-2011-0069, NRC-2011-0189, and NRC-2014-0240] (RIN: 3150-AJ49) received September 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2324. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Establishing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection [WC Docket No.: 19-195]; Modernizing the FCC Form 477 Data Program [WC Docket No.: 11-10] received September 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

2325. A letter from the Chief, Army Privacy Office, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — The Army Privacy Program [Docket ID: USA-2019-HQ-0021] (RIN: 0702-AB03) received September 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2326. A letter from the Attorney-Advisor, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of a designation of acting officer and a change in previously submitted reported information, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2327. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting the Office's proposed rule — Prevailing Rate Systems; Redefinition of Certain Appropriated Fund Federal Wage System Wage Areas (RIN: 3206-AN87) received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

2328. A letter from the DAA for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Alaska Fisheries Science Center Fisheries Research [Docket No.: 170127128-9394-02] (RIN: 0648-BG64) received September 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2329. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's modification of fishing seasons — Fisheries Off West Coast States; Modifications of West Coast Recreational and Commercial Salmon Fishers; Inseason Actions #1 Through #5 [Docket No.: 170831849-8404-01] (RIN: 0648-XG904) received September 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2330. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish; 2019 River Herring and Shad Catch Cap Reached for the Directed Atlantic Mackerel Commercial Fishery [Docket No.: 151110999-5999-01] (RIN: 0648-XG866) received September 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2331. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 60 Feet (18.3 Meters) Length Overall Using Jig or Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bogoslof Pacific Cod Exemption Area in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 170817779-8161-02] (RIN: 0648-XG000) received September 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2332. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in statistical Area 610 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 170816769-8162-02] (RIN: 0648-XG885) received September 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2333. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; Commercial Aggregated Large Coastal Shark and Hammerhead Shark Management Group Retention Limit Adjustment [Docket No.: 150413357-5999-02] (RIN: 0648-XG582) received September 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2334. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Common Pool Measures for Fishing Year 2019; Correction [Docket No.: 151211999-6343-02] (RIN: 0648-XG900) received September 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2335. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 630 in the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 170816769-8162-02] (RIN: 0648-XG884) received September 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2336. A letter from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's temporary rule — Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; 2019 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for South Atlantic Golden Tilefish [Docket No.: 120404257-3325-02] (RIN: 0648-XG850) received September 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

2337. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0320; Product Identifier 2019-NM-017-AD; Amendment 39-19725; AD 2019-17-05] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2338. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0656; Product Identifier 2019-SW-039-AD; Amendment 39-19722; AD 2019-17-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2339. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0641; Product Identifier 2019-SW-020-AD; Amendment 39-19720; AD 2019-16-16] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2340. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.A. Helicopters [Docket No.: FAA-2018-0057; Product Identifier 2017-SW-119-AD; Amendment 39-19729; AD 2019-18-02] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2341. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class D and E Airspace; Wichita, KS [Docket No.: FAA-2017-0890; Airspace Docket No.: 16-ACE-10] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2342. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of the Class E Airspace; Ashland, KY [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0450; Airspace Docket No.: 19-ASO-12] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2343. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of Class E Airspace; Lander, WY [Docket No.: FAA-2019-0390; Airspace Docket No.: 19-ANM-9] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2344. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31270; Amdt. No.: 3868] received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2345. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31268; Amdt. No.: 3866] received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2346. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31267; Amdt. No.: 3865] received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2347. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31269; Amdt. No.: 3867] received September 12, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

2348. A letter from the Regulation Policy Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — VA Acquisition Regulation: Contracting by Negotiation; Service Contracting (RIN: 2900-AQ20) received September 19, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

2349. A letter from the Senior Policy Analyst, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Army Cemeteries [Docket No.: USA-2018-HQ-0001] (RIN: 0702-AA80) received September 17, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.

## 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 Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. LEWIS):

H.R. 4499. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that the authority of the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and former centers of excellence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WALBERG (for himself, Mrs. DINGELL, and Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana):

H.R. 4500. A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information to take certain actions to enhance the representation of the United States and promote United States leadership in communications standards-setting bodies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, 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. WILLIAMS (for himself and Ms. MOORE):

H.R. 4501. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to provide that the consumer transaction account deposits of an insured depository institution are not considered to be funds obtained by or through a deposit broker, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CASTEN of Illinois (for himself, Ms. HAALAND, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI):

H.R. 4502. A bill to eliminate the time limitations on federally subsidized student loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. DUNN (for himself and Mr. WILSON of South Carolina):

H.R. 4503. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from entering into a collective bargaining agreement with a labor union that offers financial incentives to prospective members; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 4504. A bill to amend title X of the Public Health Service Act to require grant recipients to comply with all applicable State and local laws requiring notification or reporting of child abuse, child molestation, sexual abuse, rape, incest, intimate partner violence, or human trafficking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 4505. A bill to direct the Drug Enforcement Administration to provide information on best practices and strategies for responding in the event of a robbery of a pharmacy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GOMEZ (for himself and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 4506. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and update the credit for nonbusiness energy property; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 4507. A bill to protect Saudi dissidents in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), 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. JEFFRIES (for himself and Mrs. WAGNER):

H.R. 4508. 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 Affairs.

By Mr. LEWIS (for himself, Ms. MOORE, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. ESTES, Mr. HOLDING, and Mr. FERGUSON):

H.R. 4509. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the limitation on downward attribution of stock ownership in applying the constructive ownership rules to controlled foreign corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee (for himself and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 4510. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to prohibit the knowing possession of a pill press mold with intent to manufacture in violation of such Act a counterfeit substance in schedule I or II in a capsule, tablet, and other form intended for distribution, for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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. ARRINGTON:

H.R. 4511. A bill to extend authorization for the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001 through fiscal year 2025, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, Science, Space, and Technology, Natural Resources, Education and Labor, Financial Services, Foreign Affairs, Ways and Means, and Oversight and 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. BARRAGÁN (for herself, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 4512. A bill to provide grants for projects to acquire land and water for parks and other outdoor recreation purposes and to develop new or renovate existing outdoor recreation facilities; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOST (for himself, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. KINZINGER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Mr. LAHOOD):

H.R. 4513. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to designate the Illinois Air National Guard 126th Air Refueling Wing at Scott Air Force Base as a Center of Excellence for KC-135R maintenance operations; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BRADY:

H.R. 4514. A bill to amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend State court funding for child welfare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 4515. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions for the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:

H.R. 4516. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions for the Social Security Administration; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. PAPPAS, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 4517. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to carry out an apprenticeship loan forgiveness program; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. HORSFORD, Mr. WENSTRUP, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Mr. MARCHANT):

H.R. 4518. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strike the provision of the American Opportunity Tax Credit that denies the credit to students with felony drug convictions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself and Mrs. RODGERS of Washington):

H.R. 4519. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institutes of Health to make awards to outstanding scientists, including physician-scientists, to support researchers focusing on pediatric research, including basic, clinical, translational, or pediatric pharmacological research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, and Mr. PETERS):

H.R. 4520. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate certain fuel excise taxes and impose a tax on greenhouse gas emissions to provide revenue for maintaining and building American infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Natural Resources, Education and Labor, Transportation and Infrastructure, Science, Space, and Technology, and Agriculture, 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 of North Carolina (for herself, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PERRY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CHABOT, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. KIND, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. LATTA, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. BANKS, Mr. KILMER, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. BUDD, Mr. COOPER, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. SMUCKER, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 4521. A bill to reform the Federal sugar program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico:

H.R. 4522. A bill to authorize an additional district judge for the district of Puerto Rico and to convert to permanent status the temporary office of bankruptcy judge for the district of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREEN of Texas (for himself, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mr. CLAY):

H.R. 4523. A bill to amend the Liability Risk Retention Act of 1986 to expand the types of commercial insurance authorized for risk retention groups serving nonprofit organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself, Ms. JACKSON LEE, and Mr. THORNBERRY):

H.R. 4524. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to transport individuals to and from facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs in connection with rehabilitation, counseling, examination, treatment, and care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. RYAN, and Ms. WEXTON):

H.R. 4525. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to States for assistance in hiring additional school-based mental health and student service providers; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. LEVIN of California (for himself and Mr. MEADOWS):

H.R. 4526. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide certain notice to a person filing a claim against the Department of Veterans Affairs for damage, injury, or death on Standard Form 95; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MALINOWSKI (for himself, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Mr. KIM):

H.R. 4527. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an option for first responders age 50 to 64 who are separated from service due to retirement or disability to buy into Medicare; to the Committee on Ways and Means, 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 Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 4528. A bill to increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 4529. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a program to make grants to States to inform Medicaid enrollees and SNAP participants of potential eligibility for the Lifeline program of the Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR (for himself and Mr. RUIZ):

H.R. 4530. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit individuals eligible for Indian Health Service assistance to qualify for health savings accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MOULTON:

H.R. 4531. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to modify the permitted uses of grant funds for certain grants, to allow States to reallocate certain funds provided for national priority safety programs, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to award grants to improve interoperability among State and national traffic data systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. O'HALLERAN (for himself, Mr. COLE, and Mr. GALLEGO):

H.R. 4532. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make certain grants to assist nursing homes for veterans located on tribal lands; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself and Mr. RUIZ):

H.R. 4533. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve behavioral health outcomes for American Indians and Alaskan Natives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RUIZ (for himself and Mr. PALLONE):

H.R. 4534. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the public health system in tribal communities and increase the number of American Indians and Alaska Natives pursuing health careers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. BOST):

H.R. 4535. A bill to modernize the authority of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to conduct research, development, demonstration, and information programs; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself, Ms. SPANBERGER, Ms. SHERRILL, and Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico):

H.R. 4536. A bill to protect the right of the American public under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States to receive news and information from disparate sources by regulating the use of automated software programs intended to impersonate or replicate human activity on social media; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 4537. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the provision of mobile medical health care services to certain underserved areas and populations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. MCKINLEY):

H.R. 4538. A bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to limit the orphan drug exclusion under the drug discount program under section 340B of such title; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LEE of Nevada (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. DELAURO, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. WILD, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. SCHRIER, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. OMAR, Mr. TRONE, Ms. STEVENS, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. POCAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CASE, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SCHRADER, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. NADLER, Mr. CLAY, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. FINKENAUER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. PORTER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SIRES, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. MENG, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. WELCH):

H.J. Res. 76. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to ''Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability''; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. HASTINGS (for himself and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H. Con. Res. 66. Concurrent resolution urging all nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade and to enforce existing laws against such trade; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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. LEWIS:

H. Con. Res. 67. Concurrent resolution recognizing the International Day of Peace; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Miss RICE of New York (for herself, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. BARR, Mr. BERA, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. BRINDISI, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. BUCK, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CASE, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. COLE, Mr. COOPER, Mr. COX of California, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. CRIST, Mr. CUELLAR, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. DEAN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. FLORES, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. HIMES, Mr. HOLDING, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. KATKO, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIND, Mr. KING of New York, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LONG, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MAST, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. TONKO, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mr. TURNER, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. WILD, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. KEATING, Mr. ROSE of New York, Mr. COSTA, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. CORREA, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. PANETTA):

H. Con. Res. 68. Concurrent resolution providing for a joint hearing of the Committees on the Budget of the House of Representatives and the Senate to receive a presentation from the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the audited financial statement of the executive branch; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. SMITH of Missouri:

H. Res. 596. A resolution electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. WRIGHT):

H. Res. 597. A resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should support, and not limit access to, all domestic energy sources in an effort to achieve full energy security; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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. DELAURO (for herself and Ms. LEE of California):

H. Res. 598. A resolution expressing support for addressing diaper need by donating generously to diaper banks, diaper drives, and organizations that distribute diapers to families in need; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. KELLY of Mississippi (for himself and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas):

H. Res. 599. A resolution expressing support of independence and further development of the strategic partnership between the United States and Uzbekistan; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. NORTON:

H. Res. 600. A resolution expressing support for the designation of September 2019 as National Campus Sexual Assault Awareness Month; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. PAYNE (for himself, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. SOTO):

H. Res. 601. A resolution supporting the designation of October 5, 2019, as National Ostomy Awareness Day; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. POCAN (for himself, Mr. GOSAR, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H. Res. 602. A resolution commending the cooperative business model and the businesses, employees, and practitioners nationally and internationally who use it for their contributions to the economy and social impacts they make on their communities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

## PRIVATE BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Mr. CASTRO of Texas introduced a bill (H.R. 4539) for the relief of Alirio Palacios Gamez, Hilda Veronica Ramirez Mendez, and Jayro Ivan Juarez Ramirez; 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 Ms. BARRAGÁN:

H.R. 4499.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 4500.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 states that Congress shall have the power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among several States, and with the Indian tribes.

By Mr. WILLIAMS:

H.R. 4501.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, section 8, clause 18 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. CASTEN of Illinois:
H.R. 4502.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8 Clause 1
By Mr. DUNN:
H.R. 4503.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
''The Congress shall have Power . . . To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.'' Article I, Section 8, U.S. Constitution.
By Mr. SMUCKER:
H.R. 4504.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 3 of section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution
By Mr. SMUCKER:
H.R. 4505.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 3 of section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution
By Mr. GOMEZ:
H.R. 4506.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
By Mr. CONNOLLY:
H.R. 4507.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
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 this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof.
By Mr. JEFFRIES:
H.R. 4508.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, 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 Mr. LEWIS:
H.R. 4509.
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. KUSTOFF of Tennessee:
H.R. 4510.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under Article I, Section 8, the Necessary and Proper Clause. Congress shall have power to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or any Department or Officer thereof.
By Mr. ARRINGTON:
H.R. 4511.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8
By Ms. BARRAGÁN:
H.R. 4512.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. BOST:
H.R. 4513.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 15
By Mr. BRADY:
H.R. 4514.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution: 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 Ms. BROWNLEY of California:
H.R. 4515.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Ms. BROWNLEY of California:
H.R. 4516.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
By Mr. CICILLINE:
H.R. 4517.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:
H.R. 4518.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I of the Constitution and its subsequent amendments and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.
By Mr. ENGEL:
H.R. 4519.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3—commerce clause
By Mr. FITZPATRICK:
H.R. 4520.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
By Ms. FOXX of North Carolina:
H.R. 4521.
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 Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico:
H.R. 4522.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution
''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 III, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution
''The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.''
By Mr. GREEN of Texas:
H.R. 4523.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
General Welfare Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 1)
Commerce Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 3)
Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 18)
By Mr. LARSEN of Washington:
H.R. 4524.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 1—All legislative powers herin granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.
By Ms. LEE of California:
H.R. 4525.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Pursuant to clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statement is submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.
By Mr. LEVIN of California:
H.R. 4526.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. MALINOWSKI:
H.R. 4527.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution.
By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:
H.R. 4528.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: the Commerce Clause
By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:
H.R. 4529.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Sec. 8
By Mr. MOOLENAAR:
H.R. 4530.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 which grants Congress the power to regulate Commerce with the Indian Tribes.
By Mr. MOULTON:
H.R. 4531.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. O'HALLERAN:
H.R. 4532.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. PALLONE:
H.R. 4533.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution
By Mr. RUIZ:
H.R. 4534.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.
By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia:
H.R. 4535.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 4536.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution, Congress has 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 any Department or Officer thereof'

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:

H.R. 4537.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 4538.

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. CASTRO:

H.R. Res. 4839.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional Authority—Necessary and Proper Clause (Art. I, Sec. 8, Clause 18)

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I, SECTION 8: POWERS OF CONGRESS

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 Mrs. LEE of Nevada:

H.J. Res. 76.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 provides Congress with the power to ''lay & collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts & Excises'' in order to ''provide for the . . . general welfare of the United States.''

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 3: Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. BONAMICI, and Ms. HILL of California.

H.R. 141: Mr. WILLIAMS.

H.R. 309: Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 333: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.

H.R. 435: Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 510: Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 594: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 647: Mr. WOMACK.

H.R. 724: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. LONG, Mr. REED, Mr. PALAZZO, and Mr. DIAZ-BALART.

H.R. 737: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. MORELLE, and Ms. PRESSLEY.

H.R. 763: Mr. CORREA and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 777: Mr. GROTHMAN and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 827: Ms. HOULAHAN.

H.R. 864: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 871: Mr. KEATING and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 925: Mr. HASTINGS and Ms. CRAIG.

H.R. 943: Mr. BUCSHON and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 949: Mr. COLE.

H.R. 961: Mr. NEAL, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. MORELLE, Mrs. DEMINGS, and Mr. DEUTCH.

H.R. 1002: Mr. TRONE, Mr. POSEY, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. LIPINSKI, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 1035: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 1042: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. CICILLINE, and Mr. NEAL.

H.R. 1043: Mr. SIRES, Mr. BUDD, and Mrs. MILLER.

H.R. 1092: Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 1137: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PALLONE, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 1171: Ms. JAYAPAL.

H.R. 1225: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 1254: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 1255: Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 1266: Mr. LOWENTHAL.

H.R. 1272: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 1309: Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 1350: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 1379: Mr. SPANO and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 1380: Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 1398: Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 1406: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 1456: Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 1497: Ms. WILSON of Florida and Mr. BRINDISI.

H.R. 1511: Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 1521: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 1530: Mr. GIBBS.

H.R. 1549: Mr. PHILLIPS.

H.R. 1553: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 1570: Mr. PHILLIPS and Mr. KELLER.

H.R. 1597: Mr. NADLER, Ms. MOORE, Mr. CASE, and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 1643: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 1646: Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, and Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 1652: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 1673: Mr. GIBBS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. CLINE, and Mr. BOST.

H.R. 1692: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 1705: Mr. EVANS and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.

H.R. 1730: Mr. RUTHERFORD and Mr. O'HALLERAN.

H.R. 1754: Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, and Mr. NEAL.

H.R. 1766: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 1794: Mr. STIVERS, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, and Ms. HAALAND.

H.R. 1846: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 1869: Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. SMUCKER, and Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.

H.R. 1878: Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. KEATING, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. KILMER, and Mr. ALLRED.

H.R. 1903: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 1939: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 1948: Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 1954: Mr. LUCAS.

H.R. 1982: Ms. TLAIB.

H.R. 2013: Mr. JEFFRIES.

H.R. 2085: Mr. GALLEGO.

H.R. 2094: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 2147: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. FRANKEL, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. HAALAND, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. EMMER, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. BUCK, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. BARR, Mr. BURCHETT, and Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.

H.R. 2148: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2150: Ms. GABBARD, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 2153: Mr. GOODEN and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 2168: Mr. CLEAVER, Mrs. MILLER, and Mrs. FLETCHER.

H.R. 2169: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 2184: Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 2208: Ms. TITUS.

H.R. 2245: Mr. NEGUSE and Mr. QUIGLEY.

H.R. 2250: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 2258: Mr. BARR and Mr. MARSHALL.

H.R. 2271: Mr. PETERSON.

H.R. 2301: Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 2313: Mr. TAKANO.

H.R. 2315: Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

H.R. 2319: Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. SPANO.

H.R. 2339: Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, and Ms. PRESSLEY.

H.R. 2382: Mr. LAHOOD.

H.R. 2405: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 2420: Mr. POCAN and Mr. YOUNG.

H.R. 2423: Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. TRONE, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. TURNER, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. SOTO, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. BERA, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. WATKINS, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. KELLER, Mr. PENCE, Mr. SPANO, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. POSEY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. COOK, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CURTIS, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. COSTA, Mr. COMER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. FLETCHER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. MAST, Mr. GOODEN, and Ms. ESCOBAR.

H.R. 2426: Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. CLAY.

H.R. 2442: Mr. TRONE and Ms. MCCOLLUM.

H.R. 2453: Mr. KIND.

H.R. 2468: Mr. HASTINGS.

H.R. 2474: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 2478: Mrs. LURIA, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. POCAN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 2491: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 2548: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. HECK, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. VELA.

H.R. 2552: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 2581: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 2602: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.

H.R. 2645: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 2653: Mr. KEATING and Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 2719: Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 2749: Mr. SIRES and Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 2752: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 2754: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 2771: Mr. ROUZER and Mr. THORNBERRY.

H.R. 2831: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 2867: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. PALLONE, Mrs. TRAHAN, Ms. DELBENE, and Ms. HAALAND.

H.R. 2905: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.

H.R. 2924: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 2986: Mr. CASE and Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 3036: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 3077: Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, and Mr. WITTMAN.

H.R. 3078: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 3107: Mr. WATKINS, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. MEADOWS, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. WILD, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Ms. MENG, and Mr. GOODEN.
H.R. 3114: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 3115: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 3116: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 3125: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 3162: Mr. KELLER and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 3212: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 3242: Mr. SABLAN.
H.R. 3316: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. UPTON.
H.R. 3350: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.
H.R. 3368: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 3446: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 3451: Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire and Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 3452: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 3463: Mr. COX of California.
H.R. 3466: Mr. RICE of South Carolina and Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3467: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3497: Mr. MITCHELL.
H.R. 3549: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 3555: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 3584: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 3588: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 3632: Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. LUJÁN, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. PORTER, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 3654: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 3712: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3742: Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 3762: Ms. MENG, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. BIGGS.
H.R. 3801: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 3815: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 3830: Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 3851: Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. AMODEI, and Mr. KINZINGER.
H.R. 3862: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3872: Mr. HASTINGS.
H.R. 3876: Mr. YARMUTH.
H.R. 3930: Mr. GOODEN and Mr. RATCLIFFE.
H.R. 3932: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CLAY, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, and Mrs. DEMINGS.
H.R. 3937: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 3948: Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 3956: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 3968: Mr. BABIN and Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee.
H.R. 4078: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 4091: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. CROW, and Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 4096: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.
H.R. 4102: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 4107: Mr. ENGEL.
H.R. 4138: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 4144: Mr. ROUDA.
H.R. 4172: Mr. MAST and Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 4219: Mr. MAST.
H.R. 4220: Mr. ROSE of New York.
H.R. 4228: Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana.
H.R. 4272: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 4283: Mr. STAUBER and Mr. BRINDISI.
H.R. 4292: Mr. LAMBORN.
H.R. 4294: Mr. STAUBER, Mrs. LESKO, and Mr. ARMSTRONG.
H.R. 4295: Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 4296: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4305: Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GOHMERT, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BALDERSON, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 4308: Ms. NORTON and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 4347: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 4348: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ and Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 4355: Mr. LUCAS.
H.R. 4372: Mr. TONKO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. COHEN, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, and Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 4373: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 4374: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4382: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 4388: Ms. JACKSON LEE and Mr. WALTZ.
H.R. 4394: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 4397: Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. NORTON, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 4399: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. BANKS, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. COLLINS of New York, and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 4402: Mr. COLLINS of New York.
H.R. 4436: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 4457: Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 4493: Mr. BEYER.
H.J. Res. 4: Mr. GALLAGHER.
H.J. Res. 35: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H. Con. Res. 20: Mrs. MILLER and Mr. SABLAN.
H. Con. Res. 25: Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.
H. Con. Res. 27: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H. Res. 34: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mr. CALVERT.
H. Res. 107: Mr. SPANO.
H. Res. 146: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. NADLER, and Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana.
H. Res. 259: Mr. ROSE of New York and Mr. TIPTON.
H. Res. 371: Mr. HORSFORD.
H. Res. 478: Mr. ZELDIN.
H. Res. 493: Mr. PALMER.
H. Res. 512: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WRIGHT, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H. Res. 513: Ms. CRAIG.
H. Res. 517: Mr. KHANNA, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. LEVIN of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. NEAL, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. ADAMS, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H. Res. 556: Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. BEYER.
H. Res. 565: Mr. KATKO, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. KIND, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. COHEN.
H. Res. 578: Ms. SPANBERGER.
H. Res. 587: Ms. HILL of California.
H. Res. 589: Mr. TONKO, Mr. TRONE, and Mr. FOSTER.

## DELETION OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 1406: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 2723: Mr. MEADOWS.

United States of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165 WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2019 No. 156

# Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARTHA MCSALLY, a Senator from the State of Arizona.

## PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Father, inspire our lawmakers to commit to accomplishing Your purposes in our Nation and world. As they seek Your wisdom, teach them Your precepts and direct their steps. May they live lives of obedience and abundance as they follow where You lead.

Lord, provide them with courage to do right as You give them the ability to follow Your footsteps. Help them to make glorifying You their top priority.

We pray in Your strong Name. Amen.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer 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. GRASSLEY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
*Washington, DC, September 26, 2019.*

*To the Senate:*

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARTHA MCSALLY, a Senator from the State of Arizona, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
*President pro tempore.*

Ms. MCSALLY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

## RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

## CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

## CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019—Resumed

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4378, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4378) making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 12:15 p.m. will be divided in the usual form.

If no one yields time, time will be charged equally to both sides.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT of Florida). The majority leader is recognized.

### UNITED STATES-MEXICO-CANADA AGREEMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, exactly 1 year ago, the administration announced the most significant trade deal in a generation—a landmark agreement with Mexico and Canada to strengthen two of our Nation's key trading relationships.

The USMCA is the most consequential update of trade policy on this continent in a quarter century. It is a huge opportunity to notch new pro-American policy victories and keep our North American neighbors close while we tackle other challenges, such as China.

Here we are, months after all three countries' leaders signed the agreement, and we are still waiting on the House Democrats to let it move forward. Mexico has already passed it, and Canada is waiting on our move. The Senate is ready and eager to ratify it, but the Senate can't go first. The clock is ticking.

Month after month, even as the House Democrats have continually made vague statements that they support the USMCA and want to see it passed, we have yet to see any real progress. Canada, Mexico, and millions of Americans are waiting for Speaker PELOSI to remember that serving the public interest requires more than just picking fights with the President; it actually entails addressing the people's business.

Mexico and Canada are vital partners at every level of the U.S. economy. They provide enormous, growing markets for American-made products. They, together, buy more than $500 billion in U.S. goods and services every single year. It is a half-a-trillion-dollar export market. Every State, every industry, every corner of our country is involved.

For 90 percent of America's manufacturing sectors, Mexico or Canada ranks as the No. 1 or No. 2 export destination. For American farmers and producers, our two neighbors buy almost two-thirds of all the agricultural exports we sell to all of our free-trade partners combined. We aren't just talking about Big Business. Tens of thousands of small- and medium-sized businesses count on their Mexican or Canadian customers to succeed.

These realities affect Americans' real lives. In the last 25 years, as trade with Mexico and Canada has quadrupled, 12 million U.S. jobs have come to depend on cross-border commerce. Many of

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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those jobs belong to workers in Kentucky, where our biggest industries, from auto manufacturing to bourbon production, depend on this export economy.

With so much at stake, the American people deserve to have an excellent trade deal in place, one that levels the playing field for American workers and reduces the incentives to ship American jobs to Mexico and one that expands American farmers' and manufacturers' access to these neighboring markets.

This is exactly what the USMCA delivers. It upgrades the playing field for American workers, farmers, ranchers, and job creators. It builds on the pro-growth, pro-innovation policies that encourage their success here at home with an upgraded, modern runway to markets beyond our borders.

The USMCA looks specifically at key sectors where outdated rules or exploitive practices threaten Americans' job security and hurt homegrown industries. It strengthens intellectual property rights to protect American innovation; it upgrades our digital trade policy; and the USMCA wins greater market access for U.S. exporters, with there being opportunities to sell more dairy and poultry into Canada, a better playing field for auto parts and investment, and enforceable labor standards so hard-working Americans aren't unfairly priced out of their jobs.

What does all of this add up to? I will tell you. According to the independent U.S. International Trade Commission, the USMCA would generate more than $68 billion in GDP growth and create 176,000 jobs right here in the United States.

Frankly, there is very little else we could do in Congress that would deliver this kind of boost to American prosperity and brighten prospects for so many American families. It is also a bipartisan deal. It includes changes that the Democrats have themselves clamored for and for which the administration has bent over backward to accommodate their concerns.

Here we are, a year after all three countries announced the deal, and the Democrats' heel-dragging continues. Speaker PELOSI keeps saying she supports the agreement in the abstract, but the drip, drip, drip of small objections and stalling tactics keeps on coming. Even as Speaker PELOSI's moderate Members publicly beg her to pass this deal, it is almost as though she is looking for reasons to duck it.

Well, I certainly hope not, for 176,000 American jobs hang in the balance, tens of billions of dollars of new prosperity, and our relationships with two of our closest allies that have already taken difficult steps to get to yes on this agreement and whose support we need to preserve a system of free and fair trade from China's aggressive efforts to rewrite the rules on its own terms.

The United States of America needs this deal. American workers and small businesses need this deal. The time for excuses is over. The USMCA needs to move this fall, and that can't happen until the House Democrats stop blocking an enormous win for our country.

TRIBUTE TO ILEANA GARCIA

Mr. President, on a totally different matter, as majority leader, I am especially grateful for opportunities to offer the Senate's thanks to the remarkable men and women who work tirelessly to preserve and protect this great institution.

On Monday, we will be saying a bittersweet goodbye to a particularly irreplaceable member of the Senate's family who has worked alongside us for 22 years.

Ileana Garcia was born in Cuba and raised in Puerto Rico. She started working for the Secretary of the Senate in September 1997 as a project accountant.

Since then she has built a remarkable success story here in this institution, rising through the ranks of financial management and becoming financial clerk of the Senate in 2014.

But with Ileana, it is not just about the impressive milestones. It is about the outsized impact she has had on this place and so many people—from the heavy lifting of getting a new financial system online in the late 1990s to helping offices navigate healthcare transitions and government shutdowns, to the everyday challenges that come with a big complicated payroll like the U.S. Senate's.

She did it all with professionalism and attention to detail. At times, my own staff observed that she was so attentive and so quick to respond to their questions that they wondered if she was detailed exclusively to handle our office. Of course she wasn't. That is just the job she does.

But professionalism and excellence aren't the only things Ileana brought into the office every day. Everyone observes that she also brought a very big heart. Patience, discretion, compassion, and an unflagging smile have been her calling cards. That was the case when she arrived 22 years ago, and it remains the case today as she prepares to depart as one of the Senate's senior-most administrative staffers.

So we are really sorry to lose somebody of Ileana's caliber, but we know she is excited to spend more time on Planet Garcia, which I understand is what she and her beloved husband Ariel of 30 years call their clan, including their three sons. And I understand there might be some more time for competitive domino tournaments—not that she apparently needs any more practice.

So I know that all of my colleagues will join me today in wishing Ileana Garcia the very best and thanking her for a job so well done.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, after Speaker PELOSI decided to open a formal impeachment inquiry on Tuesday evening, there have been several developments. Yesterday, the President released a memorandum of conversation of his July 25 call with President Zelensky of Ukraine. In plain text—plain text—no ands, ifs, or buts, the President pressured the leader of Ukraine to investigate one of his leading political rivals, confirming public reports.

Yesterday, as well, the House and Senate Intelligence Committees received the official whistleblower complaint that precipitated this series of events. I read the complaint yesterday afternoon and came away more concerned—even more concerned than when I had read the memorandum of the President's conversation.

This morning, the House Intelligence Committee made public the declassified portion of the complaint and the intelligence community's inspector general's cover letter. That was the correct decision. The American people have a right to read the whistleblower's complaint for themselves, and I hope that they will.

The whistleblower's complaint begins:

> In the course of my official duties, I have received information from multiple U.S. Government officials that the President of the United States is using the power of his office to solicit interference from a foreign country in the 2020 U.S. election. This interference includes, among others things, pressuring a foreign country to investigate one of the President's main domestic political rivals.

Those are his words.

The complaint goes on to describe specific, deliberate maneuvers by White House lawyers and officials to lock down records of the Presidential communications in question, including and especially ''the official word-for-word transcript of the President's phone call with President Zelensky.''

The whistleblower complaint contains allegations of underlying crimes, a campaign of soliciting the interference of a foreign government in an American election, and using the power of an official government position for personal and political gain, as well as many allegations of an attempted coverup.

If this was all so innocent, why did so many officials in the White House, in the Justice Department, and elsewhere make such large efforts to prevent it from being made public?

Both sets of allegations are said to have multiple witnesses and multiple co-collaborators. If confirmed, the allegations contained in the whistleblower

complaint are nothing short of explosive. The complaint unquestionably validated Speaker PELOSI's decision to open a formal impeachment inquiry into these matters.

We are living in an incredibly delicate time for our democracy. We have a responsibility now to corroborate the facts in the whistleblower's complaint, solicit testimony from those involved, and pursue the relevant avenues of inquiry that arise.

We have a responsibility to consider the facts that emerge squarely and with the best interests of our country, not our party, in our hearts. We have a responsibility not to rush to final judgment or overstate the case, not to let ourselves be ruled by passion but by reason. For if the House, at the end of its inquiry, sees fit to accuse the President of impeachable offenses, we in the Senate will act as jury. Our role as the solemn jurors of democracy demands that we place fidelity to country and fidelity to our Constitution above all else.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. President, on the Appropriations Committee, the business of the American people and the responsibilities of Congress do not pause while the House prepares to formally begin an impeachment inquiry. Today, for example, the Senate must pass a continuing resolution to keep the government open through the end of November and give appropriators time to complete the 12 appropriations bills.

I expect the continuing resolution will pass this morning and head to the President's desk. That is the easy part. The hard part is getting a bipartisan appropriations process back on track here in the Senate.

Senate Republicans unilaterally departed from our bipartisan negotiations earlier this month by proposing to divert as much as $12 billion from military construction and health programs to the President's border wall. Obviously that was a nonstarter with Democrats, and the Republican leader and the leaders of the Appropriations Committee on the Republican side had to know that. As yesterday's vote for the national emergency declaration showed, it is a nonstarter with a double-digit number of Republicans as well.

Now that Republican leaders have shown the President they tried to get his wall again, now that the Senate has taken two proxy votes on the wall again this work period, neither of which came close to passing, it is time for Leader MCCONNELL, Chairman SHELBY, and our Republican colleagues on the Appropriations Committee to sit down with Democrats and get a bipartisan process moving again.

NOMINATION OF EUGENE SCALIA

Mr. President, finally, on the Scalia nomination, today the Senate will consider the nomination of Eugene Scalia to serve as Secretary of Labor. Typical of the Trump administration, Mr. Scalia's nomination is a slap to the face of labor because Mr. Scalia's life work has been utterly opposed to the mission of the agency to which he is nominated. He has sided repeatedly with the large corporate interests against working people.

If any working person doubts that President Trump does not have their interests at heart, look at who he has nominated. This guy shouldn't even make it for Secretary of Commerce, let alone Secretary of Labor, which is supposed to defend and protect the working people of America.

President Trump could have chosen a card-carrying union member for the job. He could have chosen someone who understands the needs of workers and unions, the history of the labor movement, and the established right of workers to collectively bargain for better wages and safer conditions. Instead, President Trump nominated Mr. Scalia, a corporate lawyer who has spent his entire career protecting the interests of CEOs, big corporations, and the wealthy elite—not workers, not labor. Worse, he has proactively fought to weaken worker protections. He has opposed minimum wage increases and even opposed protections in the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is a disgrace.

My guess is that if every working person knew Mr. Scalia's record and that President Trump nominated him, Mr. Trump would hardly get the vote of a worker. This shows who President Trump is. This shows who our Republican colleagues are. They talk about the rights of workers but vote for somebody—I hope they won't, but in all likelihood, they will vote for somebody who is anti-worker up and down in the very bones of his body.

Mr. Scalia is part of a larger pattern. President Trump has claimed to be a champion for working Americans, but he has filled our government with millionaires and CEOs and folks like Scalia who work for them with proven records of putting corporate interests before workers' interests. Anyone who thinks President Trump is a friend of the working person should look at Scalia's nomination.

The Republican majority, rather than use its advice and consent powers to check the President when he does the wrong thing, rolls over and approves these nominees.

Do all of these Republicans here oppose the Americans with Disabilities Act? Do all of these Republicans oppose increasing the minimum wage? Well, if you are against those kinds of things, vote for him. But we have gotten a lot of doubletalk, people who say they are for those things and then vote for nominees who oppose them and rip them apart.

We should not confirm Mr. Scalia as Secretary of Labor, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this nomination.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, we are a proud nation of immigrants and have benefited from the diversity of ideas and cultures that have come from around the world to experience the freedoms that we enjoy in the United States of America.

September 15 through October 15 is Hispanic Heritage Month and a time to especially celebrate the traditions and contributions of the tens of millions of Hispanic and Latino Americans across our country.

Texas is home to more than 11 million Hispanic Americans. Some have lived here for generations, and others have contributed to the recent rapid growth of the Lone Star State.

Throughout our State's history, we have benefited from the leadership of people like Dr. Hector Garcia, a surgeon, a decorated World War II veteran, and a civil rights advocate. He founded the American GI Forum to ensure that veterans receive equal benefits and care regardless of their race or ethnicity. He was an ardent advocate for equal educational opportunities, and his motto was ''Education is our freedom, and freedom should be everybody's business.''

Dr. Garcia became the first Mexican American to serve as the Ambassador to the United Nations, representing our country on the world stage. President Ronald Reagan later bestowed upon him the Presidential Medal of Freedom. His legacy is a reminder of what a single person can accomplish in the face of adversity, if only they have the courage to fight for what is right.

Today, Texas is proud to have incredible Hispanic-American leaders across our State, including Ruth Hughs, who last month was sworn in as our secretary of state, and people like Justice Eva Guzman, who is the first Hispanic woman to serve on the Texas Supreme Court.

There are incredible organizations, such as the Hispanic chambers of commerce, that advocate for Hispanic-owned small businesses that are vital to our economy. There is also the League of United Latin American Citizens—or, as we know it, LULAC—that fights to improve opportunities for Hispanic Americans, particularly when it comes to education.

Hispanic leaders can be found in city halls, board rooms, and communities throughout our State and are improving our State in big ways and small ones as well.

I have the honor of representing 28 million Texans—and it is growing by about 1,000 people a day, but nearly 40 percent of them identify as Hispanic.

When Texans come to Washington, they have the opportunity to visit the museums that hold some of the most important stories and artifacts from our Nation's history. In recent years, we have made two very important additions to the Smithsonian Institution with the National Museum of the American Indian and the National Museum of African American History and

Culture. But it is time for another addition.

Earlier this year, I introduced the National Museum of the American Latino Act, which would authorize the Smithsonian Institution to create a museum honoring America's Latinos. This has been a work in progress since 2003, when a bill was introduced to study the creation of a museum. The process took a step forward in 2008, when a Commission was established to study the viability of such a museum and, again, when that Commission released a report detailing the feasibility of the project.

This legislation will take the work that has been done up to this point and finally put into motion the process of establishing a Latino museum. As of this week, we have 200 cosponsors on the House companion legislation and nearly 20 bipartisan cosponsors here in the Senate. Bicameral, bipartisan support demonstrates that the time has come to turn the dream of this museum into a reality.

Hispanic Americans have made innumerable contributions to our country, and these stories deserve a brick and mortar home here in Washington, DC, in our Nation's Capital.

Our State and our Nation are stronger, smarter, and more inclusive because of the contributions of generations of Hispanic Americans. So I am glad to spend this month reflecting on the work they have done and celebrating the heritage that is uniquely woven into the fabric of the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, the past 2 weeks have provided a kind of microcosm of the Democrat Party since the 2016 election—a combination of unhinged partisanship and a radical shift to the far left.

In the past 2 weeks, we have seen Democrats call for not one but two impeachments—Justice Kavanaugh's and the President's—and introduce another socialist-inspired, government-run approach to healthcare, this time on the issue of prescription drugs.

First, there were the calls to impeach Justice Kavanaugh based on yet another vague rumor. It quickly became glaringly obvious that there was no substance to the rumor. The alleged victim apparently has zero memory of the alleged behavior, but that didn't give Democrats any pause. It was right on to the next rushed impeachment proposal.

On Tuesday, the Speaker of the House announced that she was opening an impeachment inquiry into the President. Never mind that the President had declared he would make public the transcript of the phone call in question. Apparently, she couldn't take the time to wait. After all, as the leader pointed out on the floor this week, Democrats have been looking to impeach the President since the moment he was elected.

For Democrats, impeachment is not something to be gravely considered as an answer to serious crimes; it is a political weapon they hope to use to fix the fact that they didn't get their way in the last Presidential election. Democrats' calls for impeachment have come so thick and fast over the past couple of years, it would be difficult to trust them to conduct an impeachment investigation if there ever were a serious reason to consider one. They have made it absolutely clear that they have no objectivity at all.

In addition to poisonous partisanship, the other thing that has characterized the Democratic Party since the 2016 election is a rapid swing to the extreme left. Last week, Speaker PELOSI introduced the latest addition to the socialist agenda Democrats have been laying out over the past year—a prescription drug bill that abandons the free market and competition that have enabled the United States to lead the way in drug innovation and lifesaving cures for Americans.

There is no question that many Americans face high prescription drug costs, and there is no question that we can and should implement measures to drive down these costs. For months, the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, and the Senate Judiciary Committee have been working on this issue. The same is true in the House.

There are multiple bipartisan ideas both houses of Congress could act on, but Speaker PELOSI's bill is not the answer to the problem of high drug costs. The Speaker's bill would force drug companies to either accept government price controls or face up to a 95-percent tax on the sale of their drugs. That is right, 95 percent. This is not a good-faith effort to come to the table to talk about solutions for lowering drug prices and out-of-pocket costs for Americans.

Right now, America is a leader in prescription drug innovation and the development of new treatments. The Speaker's bill would threaten all of that. Under her bill, research into new treatments and cures would decrease.

Yes, we need to address high drug prices, but discouraging the innovation that has improved the lives of so many Americans is not the way to go about it. The Speaker's proposal for government-run prescription drug prices would do exactly what Democrats' larger socialist healthcare fantasy would do, and that is to hurt Americans' healthcare.

It would add limited healthcare innovation to the many negatives Americans would experience under so-called Medicare for All—negatives such as reduced access to care, limited treatment options, long wait times, and big tax bills for ordinary Americans.

Of course, Democrats like to talk about forcing the wealthy to pay for Medicare for All and their other pie-in-the-sky proposals. The junior Senator from Vermont recently introduced a wealth tax he wants to use to pay for some of his special socialist programs. His proposal would ostensibly raise $4.35 trillion over 10 years. Here is the problem. Let's suppose he put all that money toward paying for his government-run takeover of healthcare, Medicare for All. At a conservative estimate, Medicare for All would cost $32 trillion over 10 years—$32 trillion. The Senator from Vermont's wealth tax wouldn't even cover 15 percent of that cost. Who is going to pay the other 85 percent? And that is supposing his wealth tax actually raises the money he says it will.

European countries have repealed their wealth taxes right and left because they were ineffective. While I am sure the Senator from Vermont would be happy to levy additional taxes on the wealthy, the truth is, there simply aren't enough wealthy people in the United States to pay for all of the Democrats' socialist proposals. Ultimately, the burden for paying for these proposals would fall heavily on the middle class.

There is no question that divided government can make things challenging, but it can also be the occasion for real, bipartisan action. Senate Republicans would love to work with Democrats on solutions to problems like the cost of healthcare. Unfortunately, Democrats have chosen to spend most of their time on partisan messaging and on proposing socialist fantasies that would hurt the very people they are supposed to help. I don't have a lot of confidence they will change anytime soon, but I hope they will. There is a lot we could still get done if Democrats are willing to come to the table and work with Republicans on solutions that will meet the challenges faced by the American people.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF SHOOTING AT ROUTE 91 MUSIC FESTIVAL

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate a terrible tragedy. Today is a solemn day and a chance to reflect. Two years ago, in my hometown of Las Vegas, thousands of people gathered on a warm evening at the Route 91 music festival. They were there with friends, partners, family.

They came to listen to country music, relax, and just celebrate.

Two years ago on that evening, they heard the pop of what sounded like fireworks. After seconds for some, minutes for others, they understood what was happening: an attack that would become the worst mass shooting in modern American history.

In the space of 11 minutes, Las Vegas was transformed. In that narrow window of time, 58 people were mortally wounded and hundreds of others were injured, many of them grievously.

I still think about the stories of those who ran into the crowd to help others, those people who made a commitment that night to our community to protect others from harm. Police, firefighters, and other first responders who ran toward the festival grounds to rescue others made that commitment that October evening. The people who piled the wounded into their cars, vans, and pickups also offered a hand to help strangers. So did the doctors and nurses who rushed to the hospitals and the hundreds of Las Vegas and Reno residents who stood in line to donate blood. They all felt viscerally the desire to help those who were suffering in whatever way they could.

We made a commitment to all those caught up in the devastating attack at the Route 91 festival, a promise that I honor today. I vowed to do all I could to help my community heal, to remember those who died, and to support those who bear scars of the body or of the spirit.

During that dark time 2 years ago, my city came together to help and sustain the wounded and their families—people from all over the world, neighbors and strangers alike. I have never been prouder of Las Vegas.

So many different groups worked in tandem that evening. There were the brave actions of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, the Clark County School District Police Department, the Las Vegas Fire Department, and the Clark County Fire Department, who unhesitatingly risked their lives to stop the attack and rescue survivors.

Health institutions across the State joined the effort, like American Medical Response, Medic West Ambulance, Community Ambulance, the University Medical Center, Sunrise Hospital and Medical Center, the Valley Health System, and Dignity Health. So many doctors and nurses, including Nellis Air Force Base medical professionals, worked then and in the weeks and months that followed to restore people to health. The Red Cross and the Department of Veterans Affairs supported the hospitals with their mobile units. There was the staff at United Blood Services, who worked doggedly to process donations from thousands of people in Las Vegas, Reno, and elsewhere in Nevada.

There were many people and organizations in Nevada and nationwide that provided food, blankets, reduced airline tickets, and other ways to support the victims and their families. The FBI and the Nevada Victims of Crime Program helped families struggling with funeral and travel expenses. Airlines like Allegiant and Southwest also helped to cover costs. Donations poured in from Las Vegas and around the world. The donations are still coming in to support the Children of the 58 Fund, which Neysa Tonks' family set up in remembrance of her to provide scholarships to children of victims. Donations are coming in to the Kern Community Foundation Day of Remembrance Fund, which also provides scholarships to victims and survivors.

All of these people put aside their own needs—sometimes for moments and sometimes for months—to help others. They made a commitment to the victims. Part of that commitment simply has to be working to prevent other families in America from going through what families went through on that October 1 night as they waited in the Family Reunification Center, crying out for information about their loved ones but terrified at what they would hear.

Here is the frightening part, the part that keeps me and so many of us across this Nation up at night: The shootings haven't stopped since October 1, 2017. Unimaginably, people who survived the Route 91 shooting have found themselves terrorized by gun violence again since that tragic night. Some of them were at the Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, CA, just over a year after October 1 when a gunman opened fire and killed or wounded two dozen people. Others were in Gilroy, CA, just this July, where a man killed or wounded over a dozen people at an annual festival. Can you imagine going to enjoy yourself one afternoon or evening and having that place of community and celebration turn into a war zone? And then having that happen not once, in some horrible nightmare come to life, but multiple times. We cannot let this waking nightmare continue in America.

We have to make a commitment to each other, a promise that we will not leave each other and those we love to be victims of this senseless violence, not when we can do something to stop it.

Americans know this. They know that we are needlessly endangering our children and each other. They know that commonsense gun reform could both respect responsible gun ownership and fight the public health crisis that mass shootings and senseless gun violence represent.

That is why people in both parties support gun violence reform by huge margins. They know that we simply cannot sidestep our responsibility to each other. We have to reduce these senseless mass shootings and save lives, and we can do that while also respecting the rights of responsible gun owners. We owe that to our communities.

The families of those wounded on 1 October haven't given up on their responsibilities. They are still there for their loved ones day after day, as the visible and invisible wounds have continued to heal and as people have learned to walk, talk, and work again.

The doctors and nurses who have cared for the injured have not given up. They don't say: Well, it has been 2 years; so we will not care for patients anymore.

We haven't taken down the many moving memorials to 1 October, like the mural at the corner of Westcliff and Antelope Way, the 58 wooden crosses near the Las Vegas welcome sign on the Strip, or the Community Healing Garden on Casino Center Boulevard.

Just the opposite, Clark County Museum has been carefully photographing and cataloging over 17,000 items, from Las Vegas Strong T-shirts and bumper stickers to stuffed animals, from artificial flowers to rosaries that people left at memorials to the Route 91 victims and survivors. That care and that attention—that is what a commitment is. When you make one, you have to be there for the long haul, to see the thing you promised to the end.

I will always remember the 1 October victims and their loved ones and always commemorate their loss. I know it is a loss that can never be fully repaired but only eased by time. I will always honor the bravery of those who sacrificed their own safety to help others, and I will never stop fighting to make America safer, to save families across the country from what I watched families in Las Vegas go through that night and from what my own family went through as we waited to hear back about whether my niece was safe or not as she attended that concert that night.

This is our commitment. We have to continue to remember, but we have to do something about it. Our time is now.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, on October 1, 2017, the city of Las Vegas experienced a tragedy on an unprecedented scale—a tragedy that has left our community deeply scarred and our city forever changed.

It was a warm October night. Tens of thousands of people were gathering in town for a music festival. They were there to have fun, to dance, and to be joyous, but that joy was cut short by violence and terror when a lone gunman began to open fire.

In the 10 minutes that the shooting lasted, over 1,100 rounds were fired. I repeat: 1,100 rounds. There were 58 innocent people murdered and 422 injured.

Next week marks the second anniversary of that horrific evening—the deadliest mass shooting in American history. Sons, daughters, parents, friends,

and neighborhoods—each one of them were loved, and they were all taken from us far too soon.

Countless others were injured in the chaotic frenzy that followed the gunfire. Many will never live the same life they once knew.

Several victims from that night never received the care they needed, including members of the Nevada's immigrant community, who were too scared—too scared—to seek care for risk of deportation.

The 1 October shooting forever altered the lives of countless families in Las Vegas and countless families across this country. Many are still grieving and will suffer through pain that no family, no friend, no spouse, or no child should ever have to face, and that empty seat at every Thanksgiving and every holiday table will never be filled.

Numerous survivors are still working through the effects of this incredible trauma. Put simply, this massacre shook our community to its very core.

Let me be clear when I tell you today that we were not and we will not be shattered. The bright lights of Las Vegas will continue to shine through the darkness of that day. We are resilient, and we will always be Vegas Strong.

I stand here today to honor the memory of 58 victims who lost their lives and the hundreds more who were injured and are still fighting to recover. I am here to say that they will never be forgotten. We will be there to stand side by side with them as they continue to overcome the challenges and trauma brought on by the shooting.

We must also remember that in the face of terror, there were people who made the selfless choice to run toward the gunfire and to help. They were our brave first responders who risked their lives to offer aid. They were everyday citizens who allowed others to escape in their cars. They were law enforcement officers, firefighters, physicians, and cabdrivers. Every member of our community that could came out to help. All of them are heroes, and all of them must be remembered.

Heroes continue to come forward in the days, weeks, months, and even years now following the shooting, lining up to donate blood, giving financial aid to help support those who were injured and the families of those who were murdered, helping to reunite friends and families in the aftermath, and, to this day, providing counseling and the much-needed support to those who are still suffering from the trauma of that horrific night.

Our city provided legal, financial, and mental health services to those who were affected by the violence that night, including the formation of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center.

In the days immediately following the shooting, community members and local businesses formed what is now known as the Las Vegas Community Healing Garden, a memorial to those whose lives were lost. Visitors planted 58 trees—one for each victim—and painted rocks and ornaments with words of encouragement and words of strength. Family members decorated trees of their loved ones.

Following the shooting, Nevada also took action, passing a series of gun safety measures to prevent this kind of tragedy from occurring again.

Two years have passed. I wish I could say that Congress has followed Nevada's lead, that we have come together as a nation in healing, put partisanship aside, and passed commonsense gun safety legislation to protect the lives of Americans. But, sadly, this is not the case.

Each day and each year that Congress fails to pass commonsense gun violence prevention measures is another day and another year that we fail to honor the 58 who lost their lives on 1 October and the countless lives that have been lost to gun violence.

This type of tragedy happens all too often in our country. This past year, there were 337 mass shootings. That is nearly one a day for an entire year. So far in 2019, we have already experienced over 300 mass shootings. This is unacceptable. We must work to prevent these weapons from ending up in the wrong hands, and we owe it to the countless Americans who have lost their lives, who were injured and forever scarred, to find a solution, not just for those who lost their lives in Las Vegas but for those in countless other American cities.

In the days following the terrible tragedies in Gilroy, El Paso, and Dayton, I visited the heroes of the Vegas Strong Resiliency Center. They have been working nonstop for 2 years helping our community to heal. As I learned of their efforts not only to help victims and survivors but also to extend a hand to help communities like ours in their greatest time of need, I was reminded by them of just how resilient we are as a people, as a community, and as a country.

We owe it to these heroes to no longer accept inaction. We must all continue to stand up, to speak out, and to refuse to allow these kinds of tragedies because they should never define us.

No American—no American—should ever have to think twice about going to church, the movies, or a concert on a warm October night, and no parent—no mother—should have a bulletproof backpack on their back-to-school shopping list.

As Members of Congress, we were elected to solve problems and to keep our country safe. When it comes to gun violence, we are failing. We are failing spectacularly on both counts, but we don't have to. We can take action. We can take reasonable steps to reduce gun violence. We can put a stop to the carnage that is happening across our country, and we can do this while still respecting the Second Amendment.

What is happening is not normal, but it is also not inevitable. Sharing our thoughts and prayers shouldn't be the only action we ever take. Let's put our differences aside and make mass shootings a thing of the past, not a daily expectation for our future.

It has been over 200 days since H.R. 8, the Bipartisan Background Checks Act, passed the House of Representatives. I am a proud cosponsor of the Senate's companion legislation, S. 42. The legislation is ready to go. The legislation will close loopholes and require background checks for all commercial gun sales, including those made at gun shows and on the internet.

In memory of the 58 Americans who lost their lives on 1 October and those who have lost their lives before and after, I call on my colleagues to act and to take up this legislation for an immediate vote.

It is past time. It is past time that we come together and find solutions. It is past time because if we don't act, then, the inevitable will continue to be our daily reality.

We can prevent mass shootings in this country, but ''can'' is not possible without the word ''courage.''

I implore this body to have the courage so that no other family has to endure this kind of tragedy, this kind of trauma, and this kind of sorrow.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

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. JONES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 2486

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, I am here once again to urge the Senate to take up the FUTURE Act, to extend funding for our historically Black colleges and universities.

I see my great friend, the Senator from Tennessee, across the way, and I know the Senator, as a music fan and a musician himself, understands the term ''broken record.'' A broken record is that record that is an old album and the vinyl has a little bit of a flaw, and it just gets stuck on the same lyric, the same refrain, and keeps going back to it. That is what I feel like today.

I also know that with just a little pressure on those old vinyl records, just a little bit of pressure, you can go right through that and get to melody. That is what I was hoping to do today, that we could put just enough pressure on the Senate and others to go right through and fund HBCUs. The deadline for that funding ends September 30.

People will say it is not going to turn the lights out in our historically Black colleges and universities, and it is not. I get that. We also know we have to plan. We have to look months in advance. We have to look a year in advance to make sure that funding is there.

This bill—a similar bill has passed the House of Representatives unanimously. In this partisan world we are living in, it passed the House unanimously the other day. It has overwhelming bipartisan support in this body.

This is something our historically Black colleges and universities need today. They don't need to wait. We don't need to put them in the lurch and uncertainty because in today's world in Washington, DC, there is no certainty. We don't know what will happen tomorrow. We don't know what is going to happen next week with the legislation that will come before this body. Nothing is predictable. We don't see the kind of legislation we should be seeing. We don't deliberate and have the kind of deliberations we have seen this body have in the past.

So to say we can put this together as part of a bigger bill and hopefully get this done this year is possible, but it is also just as possible, in today's world, that doesn't get done, that it ends up somewhere buried beneath a whole bunch of other qualified and just as meritorious bills that never see the action of the U.S. Senate or the Congress of the United States.

I would urge—urge that we do the right thing by our historically Black colleges and universities. Let's get this bill passed unanimously and sent to the President of the United States for his signature so all of our historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions can breathe a sigh of relief.

I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 212, H.R. 2486; that the bill be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Mr. ALEXANDER. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. An objection is heard.

The Senator from Tennessee is recognized.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, the distinguished Senator from Alabama mentioned music, and I guess a lot of us have been watching Ken Burns' ''Country Music'' film the last several days, which is terrific and includes lots from Alabama and even more from Tennessee.

My experience with music and Nashville songwriters is, to get a melody, you need some cooperation. You need cooperation. Usually, they have three songwriters who will write a song. I am interested in harmony, but I think we need some cooperation across the aisle as on our committee—thanks to the distinguished Senator from Washington State, Mrs. MURRAY, and Senator JONES—we often have. We had it on fixing No Child Left Behind; we had it on the 21st Century Cures; we had it on the Opioid Crisis Response Act; we had it on the Lowering Healthcare Costs Act, which came out of our committee 20 to 3 just recently; and we need to have it on higher education.

So I have a suggestion today. I want to speak about it for about 10 minutes. It would, I believe, give an opportunity to deal with the historically Black colleges legislation and indeed an opportunity to do more than that.

In the first place, the bill passed by the House is a short-term bill, which is funded by a budget gimmick, which has no chance of passing the Senate. I propose that we do permanent funding of historically Black colleges. That is the way to provide certainty. I propose that we include within it a package of seven or eight other pieces of legislation on which there is bipartisan support—as many as half the Members of the Senate, about half Republican and half Democratic. All of these provisions—simplifying FAFSA, short-term Pell grants, Pell grants for prisoners, increasing the amount of Pell—help low-income Americans go to college and simplify the process for doing that.

So if it is urgently important, as I believe it is, to properly fund historically Black colleges, I am ready to do that, but I am also ready to continue to work to pass a small package of bills that will help many of the same people the historically Black colleges legislation would help and then continue to work with Senator MURRAY and with other members of the committee on a larger package of bills that would include issues that could be part of a more comprehensive Higher Education Reauthorization Act—issues such as accountability, Federal-State partnership, campus safety, and the like.

For the last 5 years, Senator MURRAY and I have been working on a bipartisan reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. We have had about 30 hearings on all manner of issues, from accountability, to campus safety, to simplifying the student aid process. We have yet to reach agreement on some of those issues, but on several important issues, as I mentioned, we have bipartisan proposals by members of our committee and Senators who are not on the committee that will make college more affordable for low-income students and make college worth students' time and money.

I am committed to working with the Senator from Washington State to develop a larger, more comprehensive bill, but right now, why should we pass up an opportunity to enact a package that includes several of the bipartisan proposals that are the result of our 5 years of work, including permanent funding for historically Black colleges and universities?

At the end of the month, as the Senator from Alabama said, the law providing for funding for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions expires. Everyone wants to see that continue.

The House of Representatives passed legislation, but instead of the short-term patch that the House passed, we should pass a long-term solution that gives certainty to college presidents and their students. Congress has time to do this. It is true that the law expires at the end of this month, but the money doesn't. The U.S. Department of Education has sent a letter assuring Congress that there is enough funding in the program to continue through the next fiscal year. So there is a year for us to work on permanent funding and this small package of other bills on which we have already spent 5 years. That ought to be enough time even for U.S. Senators.

We should reach a long-term solution. That is why today I am introducing a long-term solution to permanently provide funding for minority-serving institutions, including the six historically Black colleges and universities in Tennessee. The solution would be part of a package of 8 bipartisan higher education bills drafted by 35 Senators—20 Democrats, 15 Republicans—that will help many of the same students who are helped by the historically Black colleges act.

The package of bills will make it easier for millions of students to receive a college education by simplifying the Federal application for student aid, providing Pell grants to parole-eligible prisoners, allowing Pell grants to be used for short-term programs, and increasing the maximum Pell grant award.

Here are the eight provisions that I believe should be included in the package.

First, permanent mandatory funding of $255 million each year for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions.

Second, FAFSA simplification reduces the number of questions on the student application for Federal aid from 108 to between 17 and 30 questions that Senator JONES and I have proposed. This means that a quarter of a million students will now be eligible for Pell grants. In addition, 1.3 million students will be eligible for the maximum Pell grant award.

There is no excuse for not passing the FAFSA Simplification Act. Senator BENNET and I, as well as Senators MURRAY, JONES, and others, have been working on this for years. Twenty million American families have to fill out these 108 questions every year that are unnecessary for them to fill out, and delay is unnecessary for us.

No. 3, Pell grants for prisoners allows incarcerated individuals who are eligible for parole to use a Pell grant for prison education programs. This is something a number of Senators want to do, including Senators SCHATZ, LEE, and DURBIN.

No. 4, the short-term Pell is a proposal that a large group of Senators, including Senators PORTMAN, KAINE, CARDIN, GILLIBRAND, HASSAN, KLOBUCHAR, STABENOW, BALDWIN, BROWN, CAPITO, COONS, ERNST, JONES, MORAN,

SHAHEEN, SINEMA, SMITH, WICKER, and BRAUN, support. This legislation has been introduced to use Pell grants for high-quality, short-term skills and job training programs that lead to credentialing and employment in high-demand fields like healthcare and cyber security.

No. 5, a proposal to simplify aid letters. Sometimes students get a letter that says they have received money, but some students don't understand that some of it is a loan that has to be paid back and some of it is a grant. Senators GRASSLEY, SMITH, CASSIDY, ERNST, HASSAN, JONES, KLOBUCHAR, MANCHIN, and RUBIO have legislation that would simplify and make that clear.

No. 6 in the package increases the maximum Pell grant award.

No. 7 is a bipartisan proposal that both President Obama and President Trump have supported, which is to ensure that students who opt to pay back their loans under the income-driven repayment plan pay the full 10 percent of their discretionary income as the law intended.

Finally, No. 8 is a proposal by Senator MURRAY and me, along with Senators COLLINS, CORNYN, GARDNER, HASSAN, KING, STABENOW, TILLIS, and WHITEHOUSE, to allow students to answer up to 22 questions on the current FAFSA with one click by using the data the government already has from the IRS.

I can't tell you how many times Tennessean parents have said to me: Why do I have to give the government the same information twice in order for my student to be able to go to college?

This would also reduce the burdensome verification process.

The Senate has already passed this legislation once. That provision is within the jurisdiction of the Finance Committee and will be included once the package is ready for consideration on the floor.

In addition, there are at least three other bipartisan provisions that, with a little more discussion and work, I believe should be included in this package. They have the support of 30 Senators from both sides of the aisle.

The College Transparency Act is the first. It creates a student unit record system to help students and families compare how students perform in specific colleges and universities. Senators WARREN, CASSIDY, BALDWIN, BROWN, CASEY, CORNYN, DUCKWORTH, ERNST, GARDNER, GRAHAM, GRASSLEY, HASSAN, HYDE-SMITH, JONES, KAINE, KLOBUCHAR, MURPHY, PERDUE, ROBERTS, ROMNEY, SCOTT, SINEMA, SMITH, SULLIVAN, TILLIS, TOOMEY, WHITEHOUSE, and ALEXANDER all support this provision. There is substantial bipartisan support in both the Senate and House for it. We will work to include it as we move forward.

The Education of the Deaf Act simply reauthorizes Gallaudet University in Washington, DC, and has a long history of bipartisan support.

The Educational Opportunity and Success Act reauthorizes the TRIO Program, which helps low-income, first-generation, and other disadvantaged students enroll and succeed in a college or university program and has the support of Senators COLLINS, BALDWIN, CAPITO, and TESTER.

To continue funding for historically Black colleges and universities and other minority-serving institutions, the House of Representatives took a shortcut. They rushed a bill to the floor that has serious problems.

First, it is not a bill that can pass the Senate. My objection is not the only objection. Second, it only funds HBCUs and minority-serving institutions for 2 years, setting up yet another artificial cliff. Finally, it uses a budget gimmick to pay for it, which is one reason it won't pass the Senate.

This presents Congress with an opportunity to do it right and to pass other important legislation that we have already agreed to—at least half of us. It presents Congress with an opportunity to give certainty to HBCUs and minority-serving institutions and make it easier for millions to receive a college education.

The package of eight bills I am proposing—the eight bills I am introducing today and the three bills I hope to include later—has been drafted by 48 Senators—25 Democrats and 23 Republicans. Working together on a bipartisan bill that can pass the Senate now is the best strategy to give permanent funding to HBCUs and other minority-serving institutions, to simplify the Federal application for student aid, to provide Pell grants to parole-eligible prisoners, to allow Pell grants to be used for short-term programs, and to increase the maximum Pell grant award.

Senator MURRAY and I have discussed as recently as yesterday her desire and my agreement to try to work toward a comprehensive higher education piece of legislation. We have been working on that for 5 years. We can continue to work on the issues that still divide us. In the meantime, I agree, it is urgent to deal with historically Black colleges. It is also urgent to deal with 20 million families who fill out FAFSA every year and to work on the other issues I mentioned. We have agreed on those. Let's put it in a package, turn it into law, and keep working on the other issues.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, let's stop playing games with critical funding for minority serving institutions or MSIs.

Mandatory funding expires on September 30, just days from now.

If that funding isn't reauthorized, MSIs will collectively face a $255 million annual shortfall.

That will impact these institutions' academic programs, ability to provide housing to students, renovate facilities, and provide critical counseling and other student supports.

In 2018, Illinois received $5.3 million of this funding, which supported city colleges in Chicago, Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago State, the University of Illinois, and other institutions around our State.

Recently, the House of Representatives passed the FUTURE Act to reauthorize this funding.

Unfortunately, the passage of this bipartisan bill has been blocked in the Senate.

This is a great example of what frustrates the American people so much about Congress.

We have a bipartisan bill that passed the House by voice vote and that maintains funding for institutions of higher education that enroll 6 million students, of which two of three are students of color.

But it is being held up, and we are unnecessarily creating a crisis.

Let's stop the games.

Let's show America that we can come together.

Let's pass the FUTURE Act now.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I am here today to advocate on behalf of Maryland's four Historically Black Colleges and Universities that face a funding cliff next week. Without the immediate passage of the FUTURE Act, Bowie State University, Coppin State University, Morgan State University, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore face a collective $4.2 million funding shortfall when the Higher Education Act's authorization for mandatory funding for these institutions lapses.

This clean, bipartisan, 2-year reauthorization gives us breathing room to continue to negotiate the full reauthorization of the Higher Education Act without holding these historically underfunded institutions hostage. Our HBCUs and minority serving institutions know that they can count on this mandatory funding each year to strengthen their course offerings in in-demand STEM programs, make infrastructure improvements, and provide academic counseling and student support services to first generation and historically underrepresented students.

This potential lapse in the authorization for mandatory funding is exacerbated by the inability of Congress to provide a fiscal year 2020 budget on time, leaving institutions in even more of a financial planning crunch. Throwing the budgets of these institutions into chaos directly harms their ability to serve their students and communities. If this mandatory authorization were to lapse, schools could not count on mandatory funds to backfill spending at a later date. Institutions would have to make decisions about reducing levels of academic services, delaying needed infrastructure investments, or make staffing decisions.

This is an unnecessary obstacle that our HBCUs and MSIs do not need to face. I urge this body to join with the House of Representatives and pass the FUTURE Act to ensure this mandatory funding remains in place.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I want to thank my colleague from Alabama for his tremendous leadership on this very critical effort because right now we are days away from a very damaging lapse in funding for our HBCUs, our Tribal colleges, and other minority-serving institutions that creates unnecessary and needless uncertainty for students in schools across this country.

Both of my colleagues spoke of music and the need for harmony. Well, it appears to me that the bill the Senator from Alabama is asking us to approve today for the funding for HBCUs is a heck of a lot of harmony. The House has already acted to fix this. They sent this bill to the Senate on a bipartisan basis. All Members of the House support it, and it is paid for in a way even the White House supports. In this day and age, I would take that harmony.

So I am very frustrated about today's opposition to this simple step to protect colleges and universities with such important missions. I can't see a good reason why we haven't sent the President this bill.

I listened to the Senator from Tennessee, and it sounds to me like he wants to write a whole new song. He is interested in a small package of higher education proposals, and he said he wants to see the FUTURE Act as a part of that. But it is pretty clear to me that when you have a good song and you have everybody together moving that, and maybe there is a discordant note somewhere, you just keep moving forward with that song—if we want to stay with the country music theme here.

I believe we should not delay it. Let's move this forward. Let's not threaten the funding for some of our most valued institutions. We should take this up and pass the FUTURE Act right away and then continue our committee discussions about how to reauthorize the Higher Education Act.

Since the start of those discussions, I have been very clear that we need to do this reauthorization in a comprehensive way that really helps students with the many challenges they face. We have so many students today who are struggling with the burdensome costs of getting a degree, who find themselves cheated by bad actors that, by the way, Secretary DeVos is not holding accountable, and they are stuck with mounting debt. They face bullying, harassment, and assault when they should be focused on learning in their classes, or they are faced without pathways to help them get into higher education in the first place.

Today the House is rightly looking at a comprehensive higher education reauthorization to address all these issues of affordability, accountability, campus safety, and acceptability, and that is what the Senate should do as well. Surely the Senate can reach an agreement on those issues but only if we stay at the table and keep working together rather than veering off the course we set. That is what I am very concerned a smaller package would mean.

I believe that we have a real opportunity to reach a comprehensive agreement that helps students in need, and we ought to take it. In the meantime, there is no excuse for playing politics, holding up the FUTURE Act, and exposing students and schools nationwide to uncertainty and to dysfunction.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today to join my colleagues, Senator MURRAY and Senator JONES, to call upon the Senate to pass the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education Act—the FUTURE Act—today because that future is today.

Should the Senate fail to act on this legislation, hundreds of minority-serving institutions and historically Black colleges and universities across America are going to face some drastic funding cuts that could jeopardize the education of millions of students of color nationwide. Collectively, these institutions serve nearly 6 million undergraduate students throughout the United States, two-thirds of whom come from communities of color.

Without these Federal dollars for MSIs, we will be facing the potential for job losses, the possible closure of important academic programs, and most importantly, the doors of educational opportunity slamming shut for young men and women of color across this country. Minority-serving institutions have long enjoyed bipartisan support in this body. It is perplexing and concerning to think that the Senate would depart for recess without passing this critical legislation.

In the coming years, these institutions of higher learning will play an increasingly vital role in our increasingly diverse Nation. Consider that, already, Hispanic children make up one out of every four children in America's public schools and counting. Of these students, approximately one out of five will go to college. And when they do, two-thirds of them will wind up studying at a Hispanic-serving institution. Can we, as a nation, really afford to shortchange their education?

In representing a community that is already such a large part of the American population—one out of four is going to be one out of three in just a couple of years—can we afford to shortchange their education and, as such, the success of this country, which demands that we do not?

Just last Thursday, this body joined me to unanimously pass my bipartisan resolution honoring Hispanic-serving institutions week. But it is hard to take seriously our words of support for minority-serving institutions if we fail to back up those words with real action. Unfortunately, that is where we stand today—on the cusp of skipping town without voting to properly fund these institutions.

Across America, 523 Hispanic-serving institutions in 25 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico serve more than 2 million hard-working Latino and Latina students who dream of a college education. I know this dream well. Indeed, my own story began at a Hispanic-serving institution, even though that designation did not yet exist at the time. I was the first in my family to attend college, and I did so at St. Peter's College in Jersey City, NJ. It is because of the professors and educators at St. Peter's, who recognized that not all children arrive at college with the same advantages or opportunities for upward mobility, that I am here today—one of four Hispanic-American Senators.

It is a story that is repeated not only in Hispanic-serving institutions but at HBCUs and other MSIs across the country that help students from underserved communities overcome the odds and reach their true potential.

This isn't a Democratic or Republican issue. The House passed this bill by voice vote. It was such an easy vote that they didn't even require a rollcall. I understand that there are many other issues facing our higher education system, and I appreciate that. I am committed to working with my colleagues—particularly Senators ALEXANDER and MURRAY, the chairman and ranking member of the HELP Committee—to help create a system in this country that helps serve all of our students and prepares America's workforce to compete all around the world. Yet the fact is that these minority-serving institutions face a funding cliff if we fail to act.

Let's not make our students of color pay the price while we continue to debate the broader issues facing our higher education system. Let's pass the FUTURE Act today.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. ALEXANDER. I appreciate the comments by the Senator from New Jersey.

To be clear, the House bill for historically Black minority-serving institutions creates a new funding cliff. It is a short-term patch for 2 years that creates a cliff after 2 years. It is supported by a budget gimmick that can't possibly pass the Senate.

What I have proposed is a permanent solution to get rid of the cliff—a permanent solution that those institutions and those students can depend on. The proposal is $255 million a year, fully paid for. Second, the U.S. Department of Education has written a letter to Congress and said that no one is going to lose their money at the end of the month. The law expires, but the money doesn't. There is enough money to continue the program for another year. It shouldn't take us another year

to work this out. Third, it is urgent to deal with historically Black colleges.

Let's look at the students, not the colleges. Who goes to historically Black colleges? Low-income students often go there. And every year, 20 million low-income Americans fill out this ridiculously complicated FAFSA application for student aid that has 108 questions. We agree on both sides of the aisle—and have for several years—that it could be limited to 17 to 30 questions. The president of the Southwest Tennessee Community College in Memphis, TN, which is almost all African American in terms of its students, tells me he loses 1,500 students a year, almost all African American, who are intimidated by this complicated FAFSA.

Let's do both of these things. Let's have a permanent solution for historically Black colleges, and let's help the 20 million families who fill out this ridiculously complicated form every year because we agree on that. There is no need to wait on that. We have Republicans and Democrats who agree on it. We could finish this in a matter of a few weeks. No one is going to lose any money. There is enough money for historically Black colleges for a year, and there is no excuse for creating a new cliff to replace the one that will occur in a year.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

AMENDMENT NO. 942

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I call up my amendment No. 942 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the Paul amendment by number.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] proposes an amendment numbered 942.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To reduce the amount appropriated by 2 percent)

At the appropriate place in division A, add the following:

**SEC. _____. REDUCTION IN RATE FOR OPERATIONS.**

The rate for operations provided by section 101 is hereby reduced by 2 percent.

Mr. PAUL. I ask unanimous consent that I be allowed to complete my remarks before we begin the next vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. PAUL. My amendment to this spending bill will be to cut 2 percent across the board, so we can actually be responsible and try to balance our budget.

Most people I talk to at home or people who come up here, who are seeking assistance from the Federal Government, say: That doesn't sound too bad—1 or 2 percent. We could deal with that.

People come to me and say: Well, my group is doing this great research for this disease that affects all of these people.

I say: How much are you getting?

They say: $100 million.

I say: We have a trillion-dollar debt, and everybody ought to try to spend what comes in rather than spending money we don't have. Does it make sense even for a good cause to borrow money from China to spend money we don't have?

Most of them—even groups that live at the Federal trough, groups that need and want and all they come here for is Federal money—say: Well, that is not too unreasonable. We got $100 million last year.

Could you take $98 million for the good of the country? Instead of getting $100 million, could you take $98 million—2 percent less—in order to balance the budget and not destroy the country with all of this debt?

Interestingly, whether these groups are from the left, right, center, Republican, Democrat, or Independent, most of them look at me and nod their heads. I think the groups that receive Federal money realize this massive debt we have is destroying the country. Even the groups receiving it are willing to cut 1 percent or 2 percent. But do you know who is not? The Senate—the Congress. They will not cut anything.

My amendment today to add a 2-percent cut to this spending will get 15 or 20 votes. Not one Democrat will vote for this bill. Do you know what the Democrats will say? They will say: The debt is because you cut taxes. This is something that is factually incorrect. We did cut taxes, but revenue is up. This is a fact. We cut the tax rates, but the economy is growing gangbusters, and revenue is up.

Why do we have a massive debt? Why are we breaking records? Why, in February, did we have more debt added than at any other time in our history? Why are we about to bust a trillion dollars in debts this year? It is spending; it isn't revenue. Revenue is up.

We did cut tax rates, and companies are growing like they haven't grown in decades. If you talk to businesses, the biggest problem in our country right now is they can't find enough people to work for them. There is a labor shortage in our country. It is a great time to be a worker in our country.

But this will not pass. My amendment will not pass because people are afraid that the public will not like them if they don't give them more money. I am afraid we will destroy the country if we keep running more debts.

The debt is growing at 8 percent a year. Spending is growing only at 4.5 percent, 5 percent a year. The debt is growing more rapidly because we have accumulated so much. We have over a $22 trillion debt. The interest this year is over $300 billion. As it grows faster and faster, the interest will exceed what we are spending on the military within about 5 years. Nobody is doing anything about it.

We passed spending caps 5 years ago. It was called the sequester. It went on for a while and actually was reducing the debt. Then you ask whose fault is it that we have this massive debt, this massive spending; is it Republicans or Democrats? The answer is yes. Both parties are fiscally irresponsible, but it has nothing to do with taxes or revenue. Revenue is going up dramatically. It has to do with spending. Both parties are guilty of this.

The Republicans want unlimited military spending, and the Democrats want unlimited welfare spending. People say that there is not enough compromise in Washington. That is absolutely untrue. It is absolutely misreported by the media. There is too much compromise here. The compromise is always to spend more money and to spend money we don't have. The military gets their unlimited money, and the welfare state gets unlimited spending. Republicans and Democrats both join hands together, and what happens around here on a day-to-day basis is compromise to spend money we don't have, to borrow it from China and, sometimes, to send it back to China.

Do you realize we send economic development aid to China? That is ridiculous. We send money all around the world. Many of these countries that get money don't like us. They hate us. They burn our flag in the street, yet we send them money. We are not even sending our own money. We borrow from China to send it out.

I think this is a very reasonable proposal. Some will say it is draconian. If they passed my amendment today and cut spending by 2 percent, we would still be spending more money than 2 years ago. We would be spending $19 billion more than 2 years ago. If we pass my 2 percent cut—the 2-penny cut that I am proposing—we would still be spending more money than the caps that the vast Senate majority voted on 5 years ago.

Why is the debt burgeoning? Whose fault is it? Is it Republicans; is it Democrats? The answer is yes. Both parties are acting fiscally irresponsibly. It has nothing to do with tax revenue and has everything to do with spending. People say that the people want it. Do the people want a bankrupt country? Do they want a country that is being eaten from the inside out? Do they want this reckless spending that someday will lead to a day of reckoning? No.

I think we have to get our house in order and get our budget in order. I think we need to balance our budget. If my amendment for a 2-percent cut were to pass—how many families have had to deal with 2 percent less? How many businesses in bad times have to cut their budget by 2 percent? If the government were today to pass my amendment—a 2-percent cut—that means you get 98 percent of everything they are spending. We would balance the budget within 5 years. That is ostensibly what many Republicans say they are for.

When we have a vote for a balanced budget, everybody lines up, and all of

the Republicans vote for a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution that says the budget will balance within 5 years. Then, when given the opportunity to vote for spending cuts, we lose half of the Republicans. The Democrats don't care, as they will not vote for spending cuts, but the Republicans at least profess to be for spending cuts. Yet, when we offer a modest proposal like this, we lose half of the Republicans.

There is a problem with debts, and both parties share some guilt. What I have put forward today, though, is an opportunity for the Senators who truly believe the debt is a problem to try to restrain spending with a 2-percent cut across the board. I hope Senators will consider voting for this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 942

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to Paul amendment No. 942.

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 24, nays 73, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 310 Leg.]

YEAS—24

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Barrasso | Ernst | Risch |
| Blackburn | Fischer | Rubio |
| Braun | Grassley | Sasse |
| Cornyn | Johnson | Scott (SC) |
| Crapo | Kennedy | Sullivan |
| Cruz | Lankford | Tillis |
| Daines | Lee | Toomey |
| Enzi | Paul | Young |

NAYS—73

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alexander | Harris | Peters |
| Baldwin | Hassan | Portman |
| Bennet | Hawley | Reed |
| Blumenthal | Heinrich | Roberts |
| Blunt | Hirono | Romney |
| Boozman | Hoeven | Rosen |
| Brown | Hyde-Smith | Rounds |
| Burr | Inhofe | Schatz |
| Cantwell | Isakson | Schumer |
| Capito | Jones | Scott (FL) |
| Cardin | Kaine | Shaheen |
| Carper | King | Shelby |
| Casey | Klobuchar | Sinema |
| Cassidy | Leahy | Smith |
| Collins | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Coons | Markey | Tester |
| Cortez Masto | McConnell | Thune |
| Cotton | McSally | Udall |
| Cramer | Menendez | Van Hollen |
| Duckworth | Merkley | Warner |
| Durbin | Moran | Whitehouse |
| Feinstein | Murkowski | Wicker |
| Gardner | Murphy | Wyden |
| Gillibrand | Murray | |
| Graham | Perdue | |

NOT VOTING—3

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Booker | Sanders | Warren |

The amendment (No. 942) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the third time.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. CRAMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 81, nays 16, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 311 Leg.]

YEAS—81

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alexander | Gardner | Murphy |
| Baldwin | Gillibrand | Murray |
| Barrasso | Graham | Peters |
| Bennet | Grassley | Portman |
| Blumenthal | Harris | Reed |
| Blunt | Hassan | Roberts |
| Boozman | Heinrich | Romney |
| Brown | Hirono | Rosen |
| Burr | Hoeven | Rubio |
| Cantwell | Hyde-Smith | Schatz |
| Capito | Isakson | Schumer |
| Cardin | Johnson | Shaheen |
| Carper | Jones | Shelby |
| Casey | Kaine | Sinema |
| Cassidy | Kennedy | Smith |
| Collins | King | Stabenow |
| Coons | Klobuchar | Sullivan |
| Cornyn | Lankford | Tester |
| Cortez Masto | Leahy | Thune |
| Cotton | Manchin | Tillis |
| Cramer | Markey | Udall |
| Crapo | McConnell | Van Hollen |
| Duckworth | McSally | Warner |
| Durbin | Menendez | Whitehouse |
| Enzi | Merkley | Wicker |
| Feinstein | Moran | Wyden |
| Fischer | Murkowski | Young |

NAYS—16

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Blackburn | Inhofe | Sasse |
| Braun | Lee | Scott (FL) |
| Cruz | Paul | Scott (SC) |
| Daines | Perdue | Toomey |
| Ernst | Risch | |
| Hawley | Rounds | |

NOT VOTING—3

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Booker | Sanders | Warren |

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas are 81, the nays are 16.

The 60-vote threshold having been achieved, the bill is passed.

CHANGE OF VOTE

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, on rollcall vote No. 311, I voted yea. It was my intention to vote nay. Therefore, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to change my vote since it will not affect the outcome.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The foregoing tally has been changed to reflect the above order.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read nomination of General John E. Hyten for appointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility in accordance with title 10, U.S.C., sections 154 and 601: to be General.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 1:30 p.m. will be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Texas.

TRIBUTE TO SHEA WOODARD HALL

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise today to give tribute to a great American, a great Texan, a dear friend, and a 26-year veteran of this institution who has dedicated her career to serving the needs of her fellow citizens. Her name is Shea Woodard Hall. Shea has worked as the West Texas regional director on my team for 7 years. She is now retiring. Shea started working in the Senate in 1993, when she was hired by my predecessor, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson.

As West Texas regional director, Shea started with 89 counties in her region. By land area, that is bigger than some States. She could leave her office in Abilene, drive 7 hours north, and still be in her region. That is how much territory she was responsible for.

Shea has always been willing to go the extra mile, literally. In her first 3 years working in the Senate, Shea put 75,000 miles on her car. In fact, she has put so many miles on her vehicles throughout the last 26 years that it is probably for the best that she married a local car dealer in Abilene.

After 26 years serving 89 counties in West Texas, everyone knows Shea, and Shea knows everyone. From every mayor, to every county judge and sheriff, to every State elected official, Shea made it a point to know them all. In fact, when I traveled with Shea in West Texas, we would arrive at an event, and there was no doubt who folks were happy to see—me or Shea, and it sure wasn't me.

Shea is also known in West Texas for her rural tours. They are legendary. You see, Shea's region is diverse. It spans from Amarillo, to Lubbock, to Abilene, to San Angelo, to Big Spring, to Midland-Odessa.

On the last tour she planned, an ag tour, we started in Lubbock, with stops in Muleshoe, Fredonia, Dalhart, and Amarillo. If you know Texas, that is one heck of a big loop. On one of the stops, I asked Shea what we would be seeing that day, and she answered: ''Strippers.'' I was fairly puzzled with

that response, and she quickly clarified: ''Cotton strippers.'' I was relieved.

There are too many stories of Shea helping people in West Texas, but one of my favorite stories is about how Shea helped to bring the B–1 bomber to Texas. When the city of Abilene and Dyess Air Force Base were working to secure low-level training routes for the B–1 bomber, Shea received some questions and some concerns from local ranchers who were afraid that the noise would upset their cattle. Always the steady hand, Shea responded with some West Texas wisdom. She would tell them that the low-level training routes were good for our national security; that they would enhance Dyess Air Force Base as the premier B–1 base in the country; and finally, she would tell them that she hadn't received a single phone call from a cow protesting the noise. I am proud to say that because of her efforts and many others, those training routes remain, and today Texas is one of the homes of the B–1 bomber.

Shea has become a living legend in West Texas because no problem is too big and no problem is too small. She wants to help anyone and everyone who calls her with an issue. She often helps people in stressful situations, navigating the leviathan of Big Government on behalf of fellow Texans in their time of need. Shea also doesn't take no for an answer. If she didn't get the answer she needed to help a fellow Texan, she didn't give up.

She has been a tireless and effective member of our team. That is her legacy, and I know it will endure.

Shea is retiring next month. While we will miss her greatly, she will remain a friend, and she will remain family. We wish her well as she begins her well-earned retirement. The Senate, the people of Texas, and the thousands of people and families whom she has helped over the course of 26 years of service will miss her too.

Thank you, Shea, for your work, your determination, your passion, your patriotism, and your love for Texas. Texas says thank you.

God bless you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF EUGENE SCALIA

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I want to speak on the nomination, which will occur before the Senate shortly, of Eugene Scalia as Secretary of Labor.

I think it is important to say that as President Trump continues relentlessly pursuing his anti-worker agenda, now, more than ever, we need a Secretary of Labor who will stand up to the President and stand with working families, not someone like Scalia, who is an elite corporate lawyer, who has made his career fighting for the biggest corporations and against workers. We need someone who will fight for strong health and safety protections, not someone who has crusaded to strike them down. We need someone who will hold companies accountable, not someone who used his last position in the Department of Labor to undermine whistleblower protections and fought to get his corporate clients off the hook for workplace harassment and discrimination against workers with disabilities.

We need someone who will fight for workers' economic security, not someone who helped companies get away with stealing their workers' wages and denying overtime pay. We don't need someone who avoids committing to support our efforts to raise the minimum wage to $15 an hour and close the pay gap and, certainly, not someone who costs working families billions of dollars by fighting to strike down a crucial rule that made sure they could get retirement advice that was in their best interest.

We need a Secretary of Labor, not a secretary of corporate interests. Yet at our confirmation hearing last week, Scalia made very clear that is exactly what he would be by dodging taking a stand for workers and deferring to President Trump's anti-worker agenda.

I have been deeply concerned about his awful record since day one. I strongly oppose his nomination. I urge my colleagues to do the same. Everyone needs to take a long, hard look at who Mr. Scalia fights for and who he does not and think carefully about the message their vote will send to working families in our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I guess I shouldn't be surprised. I have seen 2½ years of a betrayal of American workers from this White House, this government, this Senate, and the President of the United States. The White House looks like a retreat for Wall Street executives, except on the days it looks like a retreat for insurance executives, except for the days it looks like a retreat for drug company executives.

I guess I shouldn't be surprised, but a few weeks ago, when we saw the nomination of Eugene Scalia to be Secretary of Labor, it just underscored again the betrayal of American workers by this government and by this President.

Eugene Scalia is the President's nominee to serve as Secretary of Labor. His job as Secretary of Labor is to represent workers, to advocate for workers, and to fight for workers—not to advocate for corporations, not to sell out to special interests, but to side with American workers. Yet all you have to do is look at his job. The President has sent us a corporate lawyer who has fought over and over to stop workplace protections, to undermine worker safety, and to cut and depress workers' wages over and over again.

Mr. Scalia, as an elitist, multi-million-dollar corporate lawyer, has repeatedly defended companies against whistleblowers. He defended Walmart against its workers. And he is nominated to be Secretary of Labor?

He defended a corporation against 30 women who had been sexually harassed at assembly plants. And he is going to be the Secretary of Labor?

He defended other corporations against workers with disabilities after the companies violated the Americans with Disabilities Act. And he is going to be Secretary of Labor?

Over and over, he fought to help the most powerful corporations against workers, asking the courts to put their thumb on the scales of justice, to choose corporations over workers, to choose Wall Street over consumers, and to choose health insurance companies over patients. He has always come down on the side of corporate interests, of special interests, and in the end, always betrayed workers. And he is the President's nominee to be Secretary of Labor?

He has defended union-busting corporations. Boeing has been rabid in its anti-union coercion. Scalia worked for them, advocated for them in their never-ending quest to stop workers from having a voice in their company. And he is going to be the President's Secretary of Labor?

What Mr. Scalia doesn't understand and what President Trump doesn't understand is that you can't say—let me back up for a second. The President loves to say that he supports this, that he is for workers, that workers are his friends, and that he is a friend to workers. He loves saying that, but what he doesn't understand is that you can't support workers individually without supporting workers collectively. You can't support workers individually without supporting workers collectively. You can't support workers if you attack unions.

We know what unions have brought to this country. Ever since the generally rapid decline of trade unionism, we have seen wages flatten, we have seen benefits cut, and we have seen retirements taken away from workers. You know, when people can organize and bargain collectively, they have higher wages, they have better healthcare, and they have a retirement system.

You can't support workers if you attack unions like Mr. Scalia has done. We need a Secretary of Labor who will actually fight for labor. It is not called the secretary of corporate interests or the secretary of special interests; it is called the Secretary of Labor. You are supposed to honor work and respect work. We need a Secretary of Labor who will fight for labor, not fight for corporate interests.

It comes down to whose side you are on. Are you on the corporations' side, or are you on American workers' side? Do you fight for Wall Street wealth, or do you fight for the dignity of work?

The President promised to fight for American workers. If you love your country, you fight for workers. Instead, this President has betrayed them over and over again. The nomination of Eugene Scalia to be Secretary of Labor is the biggest betrayal of them all.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

NOMINATION OF GENERAL JOHN E. HYTEN

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, Gen. John Hyten is before the Senate today to be confirmed. We are anxious to get to this. It has been a long time in the working. It is going to happen, and I am very thankful, not just for the sake of General Hyten but for other officers and junior officers who are looking at a future, knowing some of the problems that exist out there.

I have stood in this very spot and talked about exactly what our Nation is dealing with when it comes to our national security. The world is more dangerous now than it has ever been in my lifetime. China and Russia are building their capabilities as we have fallen behind.

Our national defense strategy lays it all out. We have a document that we use. This is our blueprint. It is one that was put together by Democrats and Republicans some time ago, and we have adhered to it. As chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, I have adhered to it and will continue to do that.

As the Department of Defense and the administration implement the national defense strategy and the recommendations of the NDS Commission, we need confirmed leadership at the Joint Chiefs to provide the military perspective. We need strong, innovative leadership, someone who understands strategy, competition, new warfighting domains like space, and the importance of a strong nuclear deterrent. We need strategic guidance born from years of firsthand experience.

To me, there is no doubt that General Hyten is the right man for the second highest ranking military office. Throughout his service, General Hyten has developed a reputation of discipline, integrity, and honor. For the past 2½ years, he has led STRATCOM, where he has demonstrated shrewd and decisive understanding of our national security objectives.

Before that, he served honorably in top leadership positions at Air Force Space Command. He has willingly and selflessly served this Nation in uniform for nearly four decades. I am confident he is going to keep us on a path to rebuild our military advantage and protect our civilian military relations in all this.

The Senate considered his nomination yesterday on a 20-to-7 vote to advance General Hyten's nomination, and here we are today making this final decision. This came after a fair, exhaustive, bipartisan process, where we closely reviewed his nomination, including allegations against him. The Air Force Office of Special Investigations ran a tight and thorough investigation.

Now, in all my years I have been here, I have never seen one of those more exhaustive than this one. It went on and on and on, and all the members of the committee were able to read every document that is out there. I am very proud of the committee for taking the deliberate time to make this happen. The committee held five executive sessions, studied thousands of pages of investigative records, and reviewed statements from more than 50 witnesses. Every member had the opportunity to ask questions and to read all the documents. We did it.

The Armed Services Committee made available all the information to make sure there was nothing that was overlooked. The Armed Services Committee takes allegations of sexual assault very seriously, and it has for many years. It is a problem. It is a problem we are addressing on a regular basis. We are on it, and we are going to resolve it.

We went through a period of time in the last administration when the military was taken down in a manner that has never happened before. It was unprecedented. We actually went, in the last 5 years of the Obama administration, to cutting the military by 25 percent. It has never happened before. Now we are going through a rebuilding process. I applaud this President for all he is doing in rebuilding our military. I am proud of him, and that is where we are right now.

Through the NDAA and stringent oversight of the Department's efforts to this end, we are putting a stop to any kind of misconduct that we have been talking about. We can't stop a nomination from going forward on unproven allegations, especially ones we examined with the utmost of care and closest scrutiny and determined not to have merit.

So we are about to do this—about to get this position confirmed. It is overdue. I urge my colleagues to support this nomination.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Hyten nomination?

Mr. INHOFE. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 75, nays 22, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 312 Ex.]

YEAS—75

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alexander | Graham | Portman |
| Barrasso | Grassley | Reed |
| Bennet | Hassan | Risch |
| Blackburn | Hawley | Roberts |
| Blunt | Heinrich | Romney |
| Boozman | Hoeven | Rosen |
| Braun | Hyde-Smith | Rounds |
| Burr | Inhofe | Rubio |
| Capito | Isakson | Sasse |
| Carper | Johnson | Schatz |
| Cassidy | Jones | Scott (FL) |
| Collins | Kaine | Scott (SC) |
| Coons | Kennedy | Shaheen |
| Cornyn | King | Shelby |
| Cortez Masto | Lankford | Sinema |
| Cotton | Leahy | Smith |
| Cramer | Lee | Sullivan |
| Crapo | Manchin | Tester |
| Cruz | McConnell | Thune |
| Daines | McSally | Tillis |
| Durbin | Moran | Toomey |
| Enzi | Murkowski | Warner |
| Feinstein | Murphy | Whitehouse |
| Fischer | Paul | Wicker |
| Gardner | Perdue | Young |

NAYS—22

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Baldwin | Gillibrand | Peters |
| Blumenthal | Harris | Schumer |
| Brown | Hirono | Stabenow |
| Cantwell | Klobuchar | Udall |
| Cardin | Markey | Van Hollen |
| Casey | Menendez | Wyden |
| Duckworth | Merkley | |
| Ernst | Murray | |

NOT VOTING—3

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Booker | Sanders | Warren |

The nomination was confirmed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Eugene Scalia, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Labor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Scalia nomination?

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 53, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 313 Ex.]

YEAS—53

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Alexander | Cotton | Hawley |
| Barrasso | Cramer | Hoeven |
| Blackburn | Crapo | Hyde-Smith |
| Blunt | Cruz | Inhofe |
| Boozman | Daines | Isakson |
| Braun | Enzi | Johnson |
| Burr | Ernst | Kennedy |
| Capito | Fischer | Lankford |
| Cassidy | Gardner | Lee |
| Collins | Graham | McConnell |
| Cornyn | Grassley | McSally |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Moran | Romney | Sullivan |
| Murkowski | Rounds | Thune |
| Paul | Rubio | Tillis |
| Perdue | Sasse | Toomey |
| Portman | Scott (FL) | Wicker |
| Risch | Scott (SC) | Young |
| Roberts | Shelby | |

NAYS—44

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Baldwin | Hassan | Reed |
| Bennet | Heinrich | Rosen |
| Blumenthal | Hirono | Schatz |
| Brown | Jones | Schumer |
| Cantwell | Kaine | Shaheen |
| Cardin | King | Sinema |
| Carper | Klobuchar | Smith |
| Casey | Leahy | Stabenow |
| Coons | Manchin | Tester |
| Cortez Masto | Markey | Udall |
| Duckworth | Menendez | Van Hollen |
| Durbin | Merkley | Warner |
| Feinstein | Murphy | Whitehouse |
| Gillibrand | Murray | Wyden |
| Harris | Peters | |

NOT VOTING—3

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Booker | Sanders | Warren |

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The majority leader.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 422.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Rick Scott, John Thune, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Johnny Isakson, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, Mike Rounds, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, John Boozman, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James E. Risch.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 359.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Frank William Volk, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Frank William Volk, of West Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Rick Scott, John Thune, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Johnny Isakson, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, Mike Rounds, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, John Boozman, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James E. Risch.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 363.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Charles R. Eskridge III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Charles R. Eskridge III, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas.

Mitch McConnell, Martha McSally, Rick Scott, John Thune, Mike Crapo, Lamar Alexander, Johnny Isakson, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, John Hoeven, Mike Rounds, Kevin Cramer, Steve Daines, John Boozman, Cindy Hyde-Smith, James E. Risch.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 328.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of David John Novak, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of David John Novak, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

Mitch McConnell, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven, Rob Portman, Dan Sullivan, Chuck Grassley, Richard Burr, John Thune, Roy Blunt.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 348.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Rachel P. Kovner, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Rachel P. Kovner, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

Mitch McConnell, John Boozman, John Cornyn, Mike Crapo, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, Thom Tillis, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Kevin Cramer, John Hoeven, Rob Portman, Dan Sullivan, Chuck Grassley, Richard Burr, John Thune, Roy Blunt.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. President, the Permanent Subcommittee for Investigations just finished a major research project.

I happen to sit on that committee led by ROB PORTMAN. He has done a phenomenal job of trying to pull all the information together to study government shutdowns.

Government shutdowns are not new to us. We hear about them a lot lately, but in the last 40 years, we have had 21 government shutdowns—21.

We have seen this issue over and over again; that when we get to a point of contention and argument, we end up shutting the government down to be able to resolve it.

So the point of discussion is not just here in DC; it is all over the country. The question is, How does that really affect the country and how does that affect the U.S. Government?

The basic study PSI did to go back and look at this was they found that the Federal workforce in the last shutdown lost 57,000 years of productivity, if you spread out all the Federal workers who were furloughed, the time they were furloughed, and the time that was lost.

The total economy lost about $11 billion in productivity during that time period, and the Federal taxpayer lost right at $4 billion in lost money that is just gone. The cost of shutting the government down, the cost of reopening, the cost of pay during the furlough time periods when there weren't actually people there—$4 billion lost to the taxpayer.

Yet we will probably have another one at some point and probably have another one, and it seems they just keep coming—21 of these in the last 40 years.

There is a group of us who have continued to push this. ROB PORTMAN has done it for years, several others of us have worked on other projects to try to figure out how do we resolve this issue of government shutdowns.

MAGGIE HASSAN, a Democratic colleague from New Hampshire, and I a year ago started talking through how we could get to a bipartisan solution to end government shutdowns.

We have a very unique proposal to go with this. It is a proposal that is not trying to be novel; it is not trying to be cute. It is trying to solve the problem.

Our issue is that we have very serious differences when we get to budget areas. It is $1 trillion in total spending that we are talking about when we do the 12 appropriations bills. It is no small argument. But we should be able to resolve these things in a way that actually works and is effective.

So here is our basic idea. The process works, supposedly, where you do a budget that determines an overarching number that everyone agrees to. This is what is called the top-line number.

Then you take that top-line number in the House and the Senate in their Appropriations Committees. It gets broken up into 12 smaller bills. Those are called the appropriations bills. Those 12 bills all have to be passed by the House, by the Senate, and then they have to conference them together and get that finished by the end of the fiscal year.

It sounds like a good theory. That was the plan, at least, that was made in 1974, when this was designed. But the plan that I just laid out has worked only four times since 1974. So if you think every year that the budget process didn't work again, you are correct. It didn't work again. It has worked only four times since 1974.

What MAGGIE HASSAN and I would like to insert into this process is the ability to have serious, hard debate on difficult financial issues where we have disagreements but contain the fight to Washington, DC, to do two things: Make sure that we get to the appropriations process, that it is done well, and to hold the Federal workers and Federal families and the rest of the country harmless as we argue through this.

Here is the simple idea: If we get to the end of the fiscal year, if we do not have any 1 of those 12 appropriations bills done—and we should have all 12 of them done. But if even one is undone when we get to the end of the fiscal year, there is a continuation of spending exactly as it was the year before. It just continues to run the same as it was the year before so that Federal agencies, Federal workers will continue to operate as they normally do. But because there is not an appropriations bill done for the next year, while Federal workers are being held harmless and agencies are being held harmless, Members of Congress and our staffs and the Office of Management and Budget of the White House would lose all travel ability. We would have no official travel ability at all. We couldn't go home and see our families, couldn't travel on codels, couldn't do other responsibilities. We would be here in Washington and be in session in the House and the Senate every day of the week, weekdays and weekends included.

It is literally the equivalent of when my brother and I would get into an argument when we were kids, which clearly didn't happen often. But when it did happen, my mom would say to my brother and me: The two of you go into one of your rooms. Work this out. When you get it worked out, you can come out.

That would basically put Washington, DC, inside the box. The rest of the country is not in it, but Washington, DC, would have to stay here, and we would have to work out our differences. When it is worked out, then we pass appropriations bills.

The other feature that is added to it is that we can't move on to other things. We couldn't get distracted and say that we are just not going to do appropriations bills and then just stay here and do other things. We would have to do appropriations bills during that time period.

This is a simple idea, though most people I have talked to have said: That is too simple. That would never work.

As I have talked to my colleagues in the House and the Senate, just about all of them have cringed when I have said that we are going to be here weekdays and weekends and keep going on one topic until we finish that one topic.

It is our constitutional responsibility to take care of the American people's tax dollars and to make sure it is done correctly. We can move on to other things when we fulfill our constitutional responsibility on that. Just about everyone I have talked to has said: That is an idea that I could vote for, that I can support.

I bring it up to this body to tell people that we are still negotiating the final language of this bill. If there is an idea that people have to say ''I have one thing to ask about it,'' bring it. If you have one thing to suggest to change it, bring it. But in the next few

weeks, before we get to the November 21 deadline, which is the new deadline now for spending—before we get to that spot, I want this issue resolved. I want government shutdowns off the table. I never want to see on any of the news channels ever again the countdown clock to when the government shuts down. That hurts the American people; it hurts American companies; and it certainly hurts the Federal families who go on furlough during that time period.

Let's stay in the ring, boxing it out, and let's hold everyone else harmless as we go through the process.

I encourage my colleagues to bring their ideas, and let's get this resolved in the next few weeks.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Ohio.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICORPS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, this fall we celebrate the 25th anniversary of AmeriCorps. Since President Kennedy challenged Americans to serve our Nation abroad in the Peace Corps in his famous University of Michigan speech, generations of Americans have recognized that our greatest strength as a nation is our compassion. But it wasn't until AmeriCorps was founded about 30 years later, 1994, that we truly addressed the need for service here at home.

When I think about the work AmeriCorps members do, I think about the words of a speaker at a Martin Luther King breakfast in my home city of Cleveland on a cold January morning, and the speaker said: Your life expectancy is connected to your ZIP Code.

Think about that. Your life expectancy is connected to your ZIP Code. Whether you grow up in Appalachia or Ohio, Indiana, whether you grow up in a city, an inner-ring city suburb, a small city like I did in Mansfield, or a small town, your ZIP Code often determines whether you have access to quality healthcare or good education and the social support necessary to succeed. Whether it is through City Year or Senior Corps or VISTA—all parts of AmeriCorps—America works to fight that and ensure that so many Americans, regardless of their ZIP Code, have the opportunity not only to succeed but to thrive.

I have seen firsthand what a difference AmeriCorps makes in people's lives. My two daughters had amazing, life-changing experiences, teaching for a year through City Year. We all benefit when we invest in organizations that serve communities that are too often left behind and when these organizations are staffed by young Americans who care about those they serve.

In Ohio, we have a City Year in Cleveland and Columbus. I have met many of these City Year volunteers and see the work they do.

AmeriCorps in my State played a major difference in the Summer Feeding Program. Literally tens and tens of thousands of children are able to eat well in the summer because of the work that AmeriCorps does.

Since 1994, more than a million Americans have served in communities across the country, serving tens of millions of Americans. All of their work will have a lasting impact on children and families, and I can't wait to see what these good AmeriCorps members will do over the next quarter century.

TRIBUTE TO JENNY DONOHUE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise today not very happily, if I can say, as my employee and my friend Jenny Donahue is leaving our office to take a really big job in the U.S. House of Representatives, especially at a challenging, difficult time, and she will serve there, I assume, every bit as well as she served in the U.S. Senate.

Jenny is a middle-class kid who grew up in small town Idaho. I have not hired a lot of people in my office from Idaho, but if the next person from Idaho is this good, that will be a great thing. She graduated from the University of Montana. Moving east, she went on to become a leader in the U.S. Senate. She is a leader among communications directors. She is a leader in my office, and she is a leader in this entire body. She has left an indelible mark.

Part of being a good leader is being a good mentor. She nurtures young talent. She brings out the best in the people she works with.

My wife, Connie Schultz, who is one of Jenny's greatest admirers—and there are many great admirers of Jenny—loves to say that she is one of the most fierce advocates for young women she has ever met in her life. She also says, oftentimes, that Jenny carries as she climbs. As she moves up in life and moves up into a new position, you can bet that so many people are going to benefit from her leadership and her mentorship.

She has earned my wife's respect. That speaks such volumes about our friend Jenny. She has earned the respect of many Ohio reporters. She understands how important their work is to Ohio communities and to our democracy.

She respects journalism, understanding that journalism is about comforting the afflicted and afflicting the comfortable. She knows that without journalism—good journalism—you can't have good democracy.

She has been with me through some of the biggest moments over the past 4 years as a friend, as an adviser, and challenging me sometimes and telling me when I am wrong oftentimes but always being there in the right ways.

She has been part of the dignity of work rollout. She was part of our trip to the border to bear witness to the humanitarian crisis in part caused by the President of the United States. She was part of the historic 2016 Democratic National Convention.

She helped put my vision of dignity of work on the road earlier this year, including a trip to Selma, AL. Jenny has such courage of her convictions. She is not afraid to tell me when I am wrong. She is not afraid to challenge others, always coming from a place of integrity and honesty—always.

She never does anything halfway. When she says she will do something, when she sets her mind to doing something, she does it, and she does it fully. She does it well. She does it better than pretty much anyone else could.

The day after the 2016 election, my staff was pretty stunned that a human being like Donald Trump would be in the White House; that someone with his lack of character, with his inability to tell the truth, with his treatment of women, would be President of the United States. We were all pretty stunned.

I gathered the staff in my office and told them our jobs would become that much more important. Jenny took on this charge. Jenny, who was already good before the 2016 election, took on this charge of how our work mattered, how I was one of the only selected officials in Ohio who would challenge the President's dishonesty, who would challenge the President's illegal behavior, and who would challenge the President's mean-spiritedness at the border, on the overtime rule, cutting food stamps—all the things this billionaire has done. Jenny knew how important that was. She took on this charge with a sense of responsibility and a purpose that made me proud, just like I know her parents and her grandparents are.

As she moves on to her next job in the House of Representatives, a leader in the House, as she has been in the Senate, she moves on to continue fighting for justice and the dignity of work in her new role.

Jenny, Godspeed.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SULLIVAN. 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 GENERAL JOHN KELLY, GENERAL JAMES MATTIS, AND GENERAL JOSEPH DUNFORD

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, this afternoon I would like to honor and recognize the important service of three men, three Marine generals who have served their country in uniform and who have served their country in the civilian world as well, who have served with honor and dignity in ways that I think deserve recognition on the floor of the U.S. Senate. They have done this service in a manner that is befitting of marines, with dignity, class, and honor. I am talking about

former Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis, former Secretary of Homeland Security and the President's Chief of Staff at the White House, Gen. John Kelly, and, lastly, I would like to recognize Gen. Joe Dunford, who, on Monday, will be stepping down as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

I intend to be there to honor him and to witness another remarkable transition of authority and power when U.S. Army General Milley takes over in what is the most important position for a military officer in the United States of America.

It will be the end of an era, a remarkable era, for the Marine Corps—the smallest of the military services, where these three Marine generals—Kelly, Mattis, and Dunford—served with distinction, not only in the Corps as four star generals but at the highest levels of government at a critical time in our country's history.

It is a remarkable story. It is a story of service, sacrifice, and friendship. These extraordinary men rose through the levels of command together and the ranks of the Marine Corps together. They served together all over the world, including in combat in places like Fallujah, Al Kut, and Baghdad. They fought together, and they sacrificed together for our great Nation as Marine Corps officers. They then went on to serve in other ways.

The three of them have spent their whole lives in service to our country, and they have left an indelible mark, certainly, on the Marine Corps but, I believe, other institutions.

Between the three of them, they have 130 years of Active-Duty military service to America—130 years. Think about that: 130 years of Active military service to the United States of America and the Marine Corps.

They have given their all for us in a way that I think makes most Americans proud, emphasizing the ethos of the Marine Corps, which is honor, courage, and commitment, and I know they have inspired countless numbers of young men and young women across the globe in the Marines and beyond.

I am going to talk a little bit about them today.

Gen. John Kelly is a straight-talking, blunt, and fierce warrior. Before he was 16, he hitchhiked to the west coast and rode the rails back. He is then said to have joined the Merchant Marine for a year, where he is quoted as saying: ''My first time overseas was taking 10,000 tons of beer to Vietnam.''

In 1970, he enlisted in the Marines, where he found purpose and found a home.

Gen. Jim Mattis is a warrior, scholar, appreciator of mavericks, known for the reading lists he expects his marines to follow, who as a teenager was ''a mediocre student with a partying attitude''—an attitude that landed him in jail a few times. But learning called, and then the marines called, teaching him and others how to ''think like men of action, and to act like men of thought.'' He is a legend in the Marine Corps. His motto in Iraq, when he led the forces there, was: ''No Better Friend, No Worse Enemy than a U.S. Marine.'' He is the first and only marine to ever be Secretary of Defense.

Then there is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Gen. Joe Dunford, who has had the Marine Corps flowing through his veins his whole life. His father served as a marine in Korea, and three of his uncles were marines in World War II. General Dunford had no doubt that he would continue that tradition.

While earning a degree from Saint Michael's College in Vermont, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant. During his career, from infantry commander to Commandant of the Marine Corps and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he has been known for inspiring respect in combat and on the field of battle and in the corridors of Washington.

I had a brief opportunity to meet General Dunford a few times as a marine when I was in Afghanistan and he was the ISAF commander. The respect that not only marines and American servicemembers but all the allied forces there had for him was very, very apparent.

All three, as I mentioned, served in Iraq. In 2003, General Kelly was promoted to brigadier general and was the first known promotion of a Marine Corps colonel to brigadier general in an active combat zone since Chesty Puller in January of 1951. General Dunford, serving under General Mattis during the invasion, earned his own nickname of ''Fighting Joe,'' which continued to serve him well in Washington.

So as you just saw from my colleague, the Senator from Ohio—there has been much talk today on the floor of the Senate from both sides of the aisle about character, integrity, patriotism, or, unfortunately, the lack thereof in Washington, DC, in the House and the Senate, throwing bombs at each other. But I think sometimes it is important to come down and talk about the other things—character, honor, integrity, service—because we have a lot of that as well. These three men have served our country with great distinction. They have all been succeeded by strong leaders who I am sure will carry out a similar tradition of service and dignity.

Last year, I had the great honor of being promoted to colonel in the Marine Corps Reserves. I love being in this job. It is a huge privilege to serve the people of Alaska as a U.S. Senator. But I have no doubt that the biggest honor in my life is earning the title of U.S. marine. I knew that I joined a force for good, with cords of memory and valor that stretch back to before the founding of our country. The battles that the Corps has fought in live in the heart of every marine: Montezuma, Tripoli, Belleau Wood, Peleliu, Iwo Jima, the Chosin Reservoir, Inchon, Khe Sanh, the Gulf War, Iraq, and Afghanistan. The list is very long.

The greatest lesson I have learned as a marine is what true leadership looks like, and we have seen that true leadership in the trio of officers of Kelly, Mattis, and Dunford, and I have seen it in their lives after the Marine Corps in Washington, DC. Let me talk briefly about each of them.

From his early days commanding a rifle company and serving on two aircraft carriers to commanding Task Force Tripoli during the Iraq war and leading U.S. Southern Command, General Kelly exemplified the warrior ethos of the Marine Corps.

During the early days of Task Force Tripoli, then-Major General Kelly was asked about the ability of his force to handle the Iraqi military. His response was, ''Hell, these are marines. Men like them held Guadalcanal and took Iwo Jima.'' He had confidence, and he was right.

General Kelly is a fighter, but he also understands sacrifice. He lost troops in the field, and tragically, in 2010, he lost his own son, 1st Lt. Robert Michael Kelly, when he stepped on an IED while leading a platoon in Afghanistan. General Kelly knows sacrifice. He became the highest ranking military officer to lose his son or daughter in Iraq or Afghanistan.

After he finished his military service with distinction, he took on two of the most challenging jobs here in DC: Secretary of Homeland Security and then the Chief of Staff at the White House. He didn't seek these jobs; he was asked to serve by the President, and he did. That is something unusual in a time where so many are crawling or scheming to climb up the ladder. It is refreshing to have leaders who are sought out or chosen to lead.

It should be noted that the jobs that General Kelly took on demanded a different skill set after he took off the uniform. However, on a daily basis, in these jobs, you still take incoming; it is just not with bullets and artillery. In my view, he did an outstanding job in these two very important positions at a critical time.

Then there is General Mattis, who became our Secretary of Defense. He also did not seek that job; that job sought him. I know this for a fact because, before the election, I had the privilege of sitting down with General Mattis when he was a scholar at the Hoover Institution. I talked to him about leadership and strategy. It was a big honor for me to be able to do that in October 2016.

After the election in November of 2016, when the rumors began swirling about his being the Secretary of Defense, my first phone call to the President-elect to congratulate him also mentioned how I thought it would be a great pick to pick General Mattis as Secretary of Defense.

I believe he did an excellent job. General Mattis, as the first and only marine to ever be Secretary of Defense, played a pivotal role in redefining our national security objectives and rebuilding our military. General Mattis

played a leading role in crafting the National Security Strategy with National Security Advisor H.R. McMaster in 2017 and then literally wrote almost entirely on his own the Pentagon's 2018 National Defense Strategy. Together, these two documents have shifted our Nation's strategic focus from countering violent extremism, as we needed to do after the September 11 terrorist attacks, to recognizing the return of great power competition as the leading national security challenge for the United States, with China as the pacing threat.

It is rarely recognized by the media, but these are very bipartisan documents in that Senators—Democrats and Republicans—all believe these are very, very important. They are almost universally applauded and supported in terms of American strategy for the next several decades.

General Mattis recently published a memoir, ''Call Sign Chaos,'' that centers on leadership and the need to sharpen the mind and the body. I think this book, which I am reading right now, is a great service to our country. ''You are part of the world's most feared and trusted force,'' he tells his marines. ''Engage your brain before you engage your weapon.''

Indeed, much has been written about General Mattis's keen intellect, but, as he makes clear, reading and intellectual pursuits are not an end to themselves. They are part of the mission. They are at the heart of shaping the world's most fearsome fighting force.

In his book, he says: ''If you haven't read hundreds of books, learning from others who went before you, you are functionally illiterate—you can't coach and you can't lead.''

I also believe that General Mattis/Secretary Mattis did an outstanding job as Secretary of Defense. He rebuilt our military readiness, which had plummeted when defense spending was cut 25 percent from 2010 to 2015. I have walked with General Mattis/Secretary Mattis in Alaska with our military forces there, and I can tell you the troops loved him and respected him.

Finally, I want to talk about General Dunford. As I mentioned, Monday will be the last day we get to call Dunford America's Chairman of the Joint Chiefs. He is the second marine to hold this highest leadership position in the armed services. Also a student of history, he is known to be fearless and an unflappable commander.

General Mattis told a great story about how when they were serving together in Iraq—Dunford and Mattis—General Mattis watched a rocket-propelled grenade fly over Dunford's humvee and blow up about 100 yards behind him. Mattis wrote: ''He [Dunford] barely glanced up and then went right back to writing his orders.''

In his book, General Mattis talks more about General Dunford. He said:

He had a gift of synthesis; he could coolly evaluate the larger picture. Joe reminded me of Emperor Justinian, consistently reaching fair conclusions and able to summarize a complex situation in a few words.

It has been precisely this ability that has allowed General Dunford to so effectively navigate the tricky, political, and military worlds in both this administration and the last one. He was nominated to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs by President Obama and did such an outstanding job that President Trump renominated him.

These are the kinds of men and leaders I am talking about, and these are not easy times. Our country and our military are facing unprecedented challenges, and wise counsel from those in these positions is paramount—those who understand what it means to fight, what it means to be on the frontlines of conflict, and what it means to have the wisdom sometimes not to fight. General Dunford has provided that wisdom.

Harlan Ullman, a combat veteran and a U.S. Naval Academy graduate, was recently quoted in an article about General Dunford where he said: He has been one of the best Joint Chiefs of Staff America has ever had.

According to Ullman, Dunford has been able to successfully navigate difficult times with regard to national security and challenges to our Nation in civil and military relations.

With all the other challenges this country has to face, it is important to recognize these kinds of leaders.

I also want to mention how General Dunford is known not only for his keen intellect but also for his compassion. He was known to personally write letters to the parents of his marines who were killed in action. He was the person who went to General Kelly's home to tell him that his own son had been killed in battle in Afghanistan, and later, he wore a Team Kelly shirt when he ran the Boston Marathon.

I have seen that personal compassion in my own life. It is a story I will end with with regard to all three of these men, and it involves a young lance corporal from Alaska named Grant Fraser.

Who is Grant Fraser? In high school in Anchorage, he was an actor who loved the works of Homer and Shakespeare. He was a mountain biker, a skier, a pianist, a scuba diver, a rock climber, a tennis player, a lighthearted, mischievous young man, and then he surprised family and friends when he joined the Marines. While still in college, because he wanted challenges and he knew he would thrive in the Marine Corps—and he did thrive in the Marine Corps—he planned on coming back home to work as a paramedic with the Anchorage Fire Department.

On August 3, 2005, in Anbar Province, Iraq, Grant Fraser was on a mission—Operation Quick Strike—to avenge the killing of his fellow marines when his vehicle was hit by a massive improvised explosive device. He was 22 years old when he made the ultimate sacrifice.

I love our military, but sometimes it can be bureaucratic and very bone-headed. It took 11 long years and the tenacious, beautiful spirit of Grant Fraser's mom, Sharon Long, for this young marine to get a proper burial at Arlington Cemetery.

Two days before the funeral in 2016, I was sitting next to General Dunford at a dinner. I told him about Grant's heroism and Sharon Long's heroic perseverance to get her son buried at Arlington.

On an overcast day, September 30, 2016, as friends, family, and fellow marines were gathering to put Grant Fraser to rest at Arlington National Cemetery, a marine four-star general in his dress blues appeared solemnly on the sidelines. The most important member of the U.S. military decided to move his schedule and come to the funeral of this lance corporal.

I had the opportunity to introduce him to Sharon Long. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs told me that he couldn't sleep the night before, thinking about how long it took for her to bury her son, and he felt that he just had to attend to pay his respects to this marine.

I have been to a lot of funerals in my Marine Corps career, but this was the most moving funeral I ever attended. It was moving because on that day, rank didn't matter and medals didn't matter; we were all just Americans—with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff—grieving the loss of one of our own.

General Mattis wrote, ''No Marine is ever alone—he carries with him the spirit passed on from generations before him. Group spirit—that electric force field of emotion—infuses and binds warriors together.''

These three men—Mattis, Kelly, and Dunford—have brought that spirit, that higher calling, not just to the Marine Corps but to America and the highest levels of government, and we should all be thankful.

We in the Senate confirm these men and women on a regular basis—people willing to serve their country—but we rarely thank them on the floor. So from one U.S. Senator who has watched the careers of these remarkable three men closely and appreciates what they have done, not just in uniform but after they have taken off the uniform, I want to thank them for their honor, courage, commitment, sacrifice, and example to thousands if not millions of Americans and marines and for keeping us safe.

So to Generals Mattis, Kelly, and Dunford, thank you. Semper Fidelis.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I want to start by saluting my friend, our colleague, the Senator from Alaska, for his moving and powerful statement and for his service as a marine and now a Senator from Alaska. It has been a great honor to work with him on many issues, including national security issues.

I thank you.

FUTURE ACT

Mr. President, earlier today on this Senate floor, our colleague, the junior Senator from Alabama, Mr. JONES, asked unanimous consent for the immediate passage of the FUTURE Act.

The FUTURE Act is an important bill that is essential to the success of minority-serving colleges and universities across the country, including historically Black colleges and universities.

The House bill passed within the last couple weeks. The bill number is H.R. 2486, and it is at the Senate desk, meaning we could take it up and pass it at any moment if the leader would simply allow us to vote on that measure. What it does is it extends an existing mandatory funding program that provides essential resources to these underresourced schools.

We, as the Congress, the Senate and House, Republicans and Democrats, recognize on a bipartisan basis the value of these institutions of higher learning and the importance of this mandatory funding because we enacted this program a number of years ago on a bipartisan basis. The goal was to make sure that we provided additional resources for academic pursuits, to improve management, and to ensure that they had the resources for high-demand areas of study in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math—the STEM disciplines.

In my State of Maryland, we have four terrific HBCUs: Morgan State, Bowie State, Coppin State, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. We also have a number of other schools with a high number of students receiving need-based aid, like Allegany College in Western Maryland and the College of Southern Maryland. All of these colleges and universities need the resources that are provided through the FUTURE Act.

It not only has a bipartisan heritage, but right now in the Senate, it has a bipartisan cosponsorship. In fact, Senator SCOTT is the lead Republican on this bill. It passed the House of Representatives unanimously on a voice vote.

The reason I am on the floor now and the reason the Senator from Alabama, Senator JONES, asked for unanimous consent to take this up and vote on it earlier today is because the current mandatory program expires on Monday. It expires at the end of this month. There is no reason for delaying action. It is possible that we can buy ourselves a little bit more time with respect to the funding, but there is no reason that we should put this important program at risk.

I have a number of letters. In fact, I have 43 letters from 34 schools and advocacy organizations supporting this bill. I ask unanimous consent to have some of them printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION,

*September 1, 2019.*

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
*Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,
*Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,*
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR LEADER MCCONNELL AND LEADER SCHUMER: In less than two weeks, congressional authority and vitally needed funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) Hispanic-serving Institutions (HSIs), Asian American, Native American, and Pacific Islander-serving Institutions (AANAPISIs), will end, unless Congress acts by September 30, 2019, to extend the authority and funding. Yesterday, the United States House of Representatives moved the Nation toward extending the funding for another two years, when it voted with bipartisan support, to pass the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act, a bipartisan measure to preserve funding for the referenced quintessential American equal educational opportunity institutions.

I am writing as President & CEO of the National Associational for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO). I am writing to respectfully request and urge that you schedule for a vote the Senate companion of the House-passed FUTURE Act, introduced by Senators Tim Scott (SC) and Doug Jones (AL), and that you support this measure that has made critical investments in HBCUs and MSIs, enabling them to graduate more excellent and diverse students, disproportionate low-income, first generation and under-represented minority students, in growth and high need disciplines. With your support the Senate FUTURE Act will pass.

The FUTURE Act will be wholly paid for. It preserves and extends vital investments in institutions that collectively enroll more than 4.8 million undergraduate students in the U.S.—one-quarter of all students—and represent over 800 richly diverse American universities: 106 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), 50 Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs); 523 Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), 37 Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and over 200 Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISls), including Kentucky State University, and CUNY Medgar Evers College, CUNY York College, CUNY LaGuardia, CUNY New York City College of Technology, Metropolitan College of New York, and Long Island University-Brooklyn Campus.

As you know, HBCUs, PBIs, HSIs, TCUs, and AANAPISIs are an essential part of America's higher education system. For the past decade, Title III, Part F has played a vital role in strengthening their capacity and increasing credentialing and degree attainment, including in important STEM fields. If this critical funding stream is allowed to expire on September 30, 2019, millions of students will be left behind, in the margins of our nation, without the opportunity to earn a college degree or credential. Please do not let this happen. Title III, Part F is the lifeblood for these institutions. The most certain way, the most effective and efficient way of extending the only mandatory congressional funding for HBCUs and MSIs, is to vote for the Senate companion of the House-passed FUTURE Act, introduced by Senators Scott (SC) and Jones (AL). Please lead the United States Senate in making this happen.

Sincerely,

LEZLI BASKERVILLE,
*President & CEO.*

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UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND, INC.,

*September 19, 2019.*

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
*Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. CHARLES E. SCHUMER,
*Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,
*Chairman, Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. PATTY MURRAY,
*Ranking Member, Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee,*
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MAJORITY LEADER MCCONNELL, MINORITY LEADER SCHUMER, CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER, AND RANKING MEMBER MURRAY: UNCF (the United Negro College Fund, Inc.) submits this letter urging you to cosponsor, support, and pass the House-passed H.R. 2486, the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act. This bipartisan, bicameral bill passed the House Floor on September 17th by voice vote and has now been sent to the Senate for consideration.

UNCF is a non-profit organization with a mission to build a robust and nationally recognized pipeline of underrepresented students who, because of UNCF support, become highly-qualified college graduates and to ensure that our network of 37-member, private Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) is a respected model of best practice in moving students to and through college.

The 101 HBCUs that exist today are valuable institutions with a large economic footprint. Despite only representing 3 percent of all two-and four-year non-profit colleges and universities, HBCUs (1) enroll 10 percent of all African American undergraduates; (2) produce 17 percent of all African American college graduates with bachelor's degrees; and (3) graduate 21 percent of all African Americans with bachelor's degrees in STEM fields. Moreover, these institutions have a strong economic impact, especially on the regions in which they are located, by creating 134,090 jobs, producing $10.1 billion in terms of gross regional product, and having a total annual economic impact of $14.8 billion.

Despite the large economic impact of these institutions, they continue to be underresourced and have endowments that lag behind those of non-HBCUs by at least 70 percent. Unfortunately, this is common for HBCUs and Congress has recognized this and sought out ways to find parity between HBCUs and non-HBCUs. One strategic way in attempting to help HBCUs receive adequate resources was initially through the College Cost and Reduction Act of 2007. This bill allowed for HBCUs, Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), and other Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) to receive $255 million annually in mandatory funds for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 and FY 2009. These mandatory funds were directed in the Higher Education Act of 1965 to be used solely for science, technology, education, and mathematics (STEM) education, among other uses largely centered around STEM. Instead of allowing this funding stream to expire, Congress continued to recognize the need of these institutions to offer quality STEM programs on their campuses and continued this funding stream in the Student Aid Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA) of 2009. SAFRA extended funding

for these institutions from FY 2009 to FY 2019 at $255 million annually and was included in the Health Care Reconciliation Act of 2010 that ultimately passed both the House and Senate to became law. Every vote taken on the mandatory funding stream for these institutions has been bipartisan, and it is our desire to have the same outcome for H.R. 2486.

It is imperative that the Senate pass the FUTURE Act because funding for HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs, and other MSIs expires September 30, 2019. While we support a permanent extension of mandatory funding, H.R. 2486, due to its passage in the House of Representatives, is the surest way for these institutions to maintain funding for FY 2020 and FY 2021. We strongly believe that passing this bill now will address the immediate funding needs of our institutions and allow Congress to continue to work towards a permanent extension of this funding moving forward.

Should you have any additional questions regarding this letter, please feel free to reach out to Emmanual Guillory, Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL L. LOMAX, PH.D.
*President and CEO.*

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TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY,
*September 25, 2019.*

Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,
*Chairman Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, Member, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SENATOR ALEXANDER: I am writing to you in my official capacity as President of Tennessee State University, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). I ask you to join in the effort calling for unanimous consent to vote to pass the Scott-Jones FUTURE Act, the Senate companion bill to the FUTURE Act that passed the House last week by unanimous consent.

I understand and appreciate the noteworthy components to the bill you are proposing, however my request is for you to consider the timing aspect which presents a challenge that threatens the Title III F provision in the Higher Education Act that will end on September 30th unless it is extended. Again, I am appreciative of the various provisions that you are proposing that will have a positive effect on HBCUs. In fact, I am personally excited that you are advancing HEA reauthorization as a priority, as well as broadening Pell eligibility. Hopefully, that proposal will be debated shortly after the immediate future of HBCUs and MSIs are secured.

My primary issue at this point is the timing of your legislation which could cause an inordinate delay that would affect Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). I am quite concerned that with only a few days remaining before Title III F ends, the only way we can ensure passage of this FUTURE Act is by a unanimous consent by the Senate.

Based on your long, illustrious and rich record of service to our state as Governor of the State of Tennessee, and to the country as Secretary of the United States Department of Education, I am sure you would agree that it is a priority to continue the Title III F funding for HBCUs, thereby providing much needed assistance to students around the country. Many of this population are low-income, first-generation college students, all with a strong desire to be successful in college. If Title III F sunsets on September 30, 2019, it will cause irreparable harm to the very students you represent in our great State of Tennessee. I urge you to support the FUTURE Act today and engage in further discussions on other aspects of the legislation in the near future.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

DR. GLENDA GLOVER, JD, CPA
*President.*

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AMERICAN INDIAN HIGHER EDUCATION CONSORTIUM,
*September 19, 2019.*

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
*Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*
Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,
*Minority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*
Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,
*Chairman, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Washington, DC.*
Hon. PATTY MURRAY,
*Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MAJORITY LEADER MCCONNELL, MINORITY LEADER SCHUMER, CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER, AND RANKING MEMBER MURRAY: On behalf of the nation's 37 Tribal Colleges and Universities, which are the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC), we respectfully request that you to support swift Senate passage of the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act, H.R. 2486, as passed by the House with strong bipartisan support, while working to secure a permanent extension of Title III Part F of the Higher Education Act 1965.

Since FY2010, the Strengthening Institutions—Tribal Colleges and Universities program (HEA Title III Part F) has provided $30 million per year to help TCUs address the higher education needs of American Indian and Alaska Native students, TCUs use this funding for vitally needed student support services, faculty development, curriculum and program development to strengthen tribal nations, library services, facility modernization and construction and other important education activities. Without these funds, TCUs will be forced to reduce services, jeopardizing student completion and success, and some of our smaller institutions may face closure.

Tribal Colleges and Universities truly are developing institutions—the oldest TCU recently reached its 50th year; we are located in some of the most rural, remote, and economically challenged regions of the country; we are severely under-resourced; and yet, we are committed to affordable, high quality, place-based and culturally grounded higher education. Our ability to achieve our collective vision—strong sovereign Tribal nations through excellence in Tribal higher education—would be impossible without the Title III Part F program.

We have always supported and worked for permanent reauthorization of the Title III Part F program for Tribal Colleges and Universities, Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and other minority serving institutions. We are not wavering from this critical goal. However, the House-passed FUTURE Act, H.R. 2486, is the best path forward at this time. Indeed, the House-passed FUTURE Act is the only tangible strategy before us, and time is running out.

Thank you for your attention to this request and for your support of our institutions and the students we serve.

Sincerely,

CARRIE L. BILLY,
*President & CEO.*
DAVID E. YARLOTT, JR.,
*Chair, AIHEC Board of Directors.*

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THURGOOD MARSHALL COLLEGE FUND,
*September 18, 2019.*

RE: Title III Part–F Funding to HBCUs and MSIs

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
*Majority Leader, U.S. Senate.*
Hon. CHUCK SCHUMER,
*Minority Leader, U.S. Senate.*
Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,
*Chair, U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education Labor and Pensions.*
Hon. PATTY MURRAY,
*Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education Labor and Pensions.*

DEAR SENATORS:

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) is incredibly pleased and grateful that the Title III, Part F funding that is currently slated to expire on September 30th has garnered considerable interest from and corresponding action this week in Congress. As you may be aware, his critical stream of funding helps eligible colleges and universities enhance their fiscal stability, improve their institutional management, and strengthen their academic programming, including, in particular, programming focused on high-demand careers, like careers in STEM fields.

As you may know, on Tuesday, September 17th, the House of Representatives passed the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act by voice vote. If passed by both houses of Congress and signed into law by President Trump, the FUTURE Act will renew Title III, Part F (a/k/a SAFRA) funding for an additional two years, and thereby preserving critical funds upon which our HBCUs and other MSIs rely to improve the lives of our students.

TMCF strongly encourages the Senate to take-up the FUTURE Act immediately and pass the bill before the opportunity slips away. While we appreciate the prospects of a longer-term or ''permanent'' solution to Title III, Part F, we are skeptical that such a proposal would receive the requisite approval by Congress before September 30th. Therefore, it is imperative that the Senate to act with all deliberate speed on the bi-partisan and bi-cameral FUTURE Act. Following the Senate's passage of FUTURE Act, TMCF is willing to work with leaders on both sides of the aisle to develop a longer-term solution for Title III, Part F and for other HEA-related issues.

We greatly appreciate your attention to this matter, and thank you for your historic and, we anticipate, continued commitment to our Nation's HBCUs, other MSIs and our students.

Sincerely,

DR. HARRY L. WILLIAMS,
*President & CEO.*

HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES,
*September 19, 2019.*

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
*Majority Leader, U.S. Senate.*
Hon. LAMAR ALEXANDER,
*Chairman, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.*
Hon. CHARLES SCHUMER,
*Minority Leader, U.S. Senate.*
Hon. PATTY MURRAY,
*Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.*

DEAR LEADER MCCONNELL, LEADER SCHUMER, CHAIRMAN ALEXANDER, AND RANKING MEMBER MURRAY: In just 10 days, on September 30, 2019, Title III, Part F of the Higher Education Act of 1965 will expire unless the Senate acts before then to extend it. I strongly urge you and your Senate colleagues to act swiftly in passing the FUTURE Act (H.R. 2486), which was passed by the House two days ago, to ensure that critical funding is uninterrupted for the more than 4.5 million undergraduate students enrolled at Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) alone. In addition, hundreds of thousands of students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), and other Minority-Serving Institutions (MSIs) would be impacted.

The House-passed FUTURE Act represents the best path to ensure the above institutions don't lose critical funding on September 30, 2019.

HSIs, HBCUs, TCUs, and other MSIs are an essential part of America's higher education system and workforce development. For the past decade, Title III, Part F has played a vital role in strengthening the STEM pipeline at these institutions and increasing their capacity for credentialing and degree attainment.

The mandatory funding for Title III, Part F was initially included in the 2008 College Cost Reduction and Access Act for two years and was extended until FY 2019 in the Health Care Education and Reconciliation Act of 2010. Title III, Part F of the legislation has always had bipartisan and bicameral support because of its important role in increasing student persistence and graduation rates, particularly in STEM fields, at HSIs, HBCUs, TCUs, and other MSIs. Thus, it is imperative that Congress extends Title III, Part F via the FUTURE Act since it is a lifeline for these institutions.

HSIs alone account for 15 percent of all non-profit colleges and universities, and yet enroll 66 percent of all Hispanic students and nearly one-fourth of all U.S. students. Despite having access to fewer resources compared to other institutions, HSIs impressively produce 40 percent of the STEM bachelor's degrees earned by Latino students. Their future is in the balance.

As our nation becomes increasingly diverse and the number of HSIs continues to grow, Title III, Part F funding is more essential than ever to ensure that we can prepare today's students for tomorrow's jobs and reduce our nation's dependence on foreign talent.

With time running out, we appeal to you to use the power and influence of your leadership positions to pass the House-passed FUTURE Act before September 30, 2019. We look forward to continuing our shared efforts to find a permanent extension of Title III, Part F.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Alicia Diaz, HACU's Interim Chief Advocacy Officer.

We thank you in advance for your time and look forward to a timely passage of the FUTURE Act.

Sincerely,

ANTONIO R. FLORES,
*President & CEO.*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I am going to read from just two of those letters that expressed the urgency of Senate action on this.

This is a letter from the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, from the president and CEO, stating that the Thurgood Marshall College Fund ''strongly encourages the Senate to take-up the FUTURE Act immediately and pass the bill before the opportunity slips away. While we appreciate the prospects of a longer-term or 'permanent' solution to Title III, Part F, we are skeptical that such a proposal would receive the requisite approval by Congress before September 30th.''

I think we can understand their skepticism given the fact that the 30th is Monday and the Senate is going to be out this afternoon.

They go on to say:

Therefore, it is imperative that the Senate act with all deliberate speed on the bi-partisan, bi-cameral FUTURE Act.

Mr. President, I have another letter from the UNCF, which is another organization dedicated to supporting these important institutions.

Quoting from the letter from their president and CEO:

It is imperative that the Senate pass the FUTURE Act because funding for HBCUs, TCUs, HSIs, and other [minority-serving institutions] expires September 30, 2019. While we support a permanent extension of mandatory funding, H.R. 2846, due to its passage in the House of Representatives, is the surest way for these institutions to maintain funding for FY 2020 and FY 2021. We strongly believe that passing this bill now will address the immediate funding needs of our institutions.

This is a bill that has broad support. This is a bill where—the program expires on Monday, just a few days from now. There is really no excuse for not taking this up and voting on it now. I hope, since that is obviously not going to happen—my colleague tried to get unanimous consent earlier today to take up and vote on this bill—I hope we will move with all deliberate speed as soon as the Senate reconvenes so that we can get this important work done.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

THE WORKING CLASS IN AMERICA

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, earlier this week, the Missouri Department of Health issued a new report that shows that life expectancy actually declined in the State of Missouri last year. Worse than that, the report shows that life expectancy has been falling in my State for almost a decade. Death rates for Missourians between 15 and 34 years old rose by almost 30 percent between 2012 and 2018. The death rate for Missourians who are between 25 and 34 is at its highest levels since the 1950s. We know what is causing it. It is an epidemic of drug overdoses and suicides, along with a spike in crime, in our cities.

Here are the facts. Opioid-related deaths in Missouri have more than doubled in the last decade. The number of suicides is up by over 50 percent, and there is no end in sight. And it is not just Missouri. New data shows that deaths from suicides and drug overdoses are exploding nationwide. Suicides in this country haven't been so common since 1938. Alcohol-related deaths haven't been so high since the 1910s. Meanwhile, the surge in deaths from drug overdoses in this country is completely unprecedented.

These numbers are tragic, but they are more than that—they are the signs of a crisis. We are witnessing the slow-motion collapse of the working class in America.

All Americans suffer from the depths of despair, but we know from the evidence that it is working people and working families who are hit the hardest. So now the working middle of this Nation is facing a struggle to survive. You don't have to look far to see it.

I have seen it in the small towns of my State, in the places where TV cameras never go, where town squares sit half empty, where businesses stand shuttered, where you can buy fentanyl with the snap of a finger on any street corner.

I have seen it in country places where meth is so common, they tell me that dealers hang bags of drugs from tree branches for their buyers to retrieve—a literal landscape of despair and addiction.

I have seen it in the faces of young farmers who put a crop in and pray for rain and pray for Sun and pray for fair prices and then wonder if generations of family farming are going to end with them.

I have seen it from young mothers raising kids alone, working a job and trying to go to school at night, trying to shield their children from drugs and from the pathologies online.

I have heard it in the words of young men who graduated high school only to find no jobs, no place to learn a trade, and no hope for anything that is better.

This is the struggle of working life today. In my State, it is a struggle shared by White and Black alike, by everybody of every race, because of the breakdown of family and neighborhood, the loss of good work, and the epidemic of addictive drugs, which don't know racial boundaries.

This is a struggle we are in together. It is a struggle that brings us together. It is a struggle for the things we love together—for home, family, and country—and the future of this country will be defined by how we meet this challenge.

You can see all of this if you will look. The problem is this town will not look. This town is obsessed with partisan theatrics. This town is obsessed with money and influence and status. This town wants to keep its own good

times going. The political elite here live in a world where the struggle of working Americans is just a human interest story that you read about right along with the gossip page.

But it is time for this town to take some responsibility. It is time for the governing class to admit that the policies it has pursued for decades on trade, on immigration, and on finance have helped to drive working people to this crisis. And it is time to acknowledge that a crisis for working America is a crisis for all of America. It is not enough for wealthy people in Silicon Valley to do well. By the way, those people don't need any more advocates in this city. They have lots of them already. It is working people who need advocates here, and it is working families who need a voice.

You know, working folks don't ask for much. They work hard. They love their families, they love God, they love the place where they live, and they want the opportunity to build a home there and a way of life that is prosperous and that is secure and that is meaningful and that they can pass on to their children. That is not too much to ask. In the America of the 21st century, that is not too much to expect. It is not too much to stand for and to fight for because it is the working people of this country who built this Nation. They are the ones who keep it going now, and they are the ones where this country's strength is found. It is the working people of this country—their future and their families—who are going to define the future of our country.

I would just say that this is what we should be debating. This challenge is what we should be confronting. This crisis is what we should be looking to and addressing because this is what is going to define our time.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Mr. JONES. Mr. President, I have to admit that I haven't had a heck of a lot of sleep the last few nights, and I don't think anyone has. If anyone has rested well the last few nights, it is because they are either not paying attention or they are here for the wrong reason.

We are in some troubled times. Events of the past 2 weeks have been nothing short of stunning. They have been stunning in the speed in which they have unfolded. They have been stunning and disturbing in the allegations that have been made regarding the conduct of the President of the United States. These are allegations that go to the heart of national security and allegations that go to the heart of whether or not the President is upholding his oath to the Constitution of the United States or abusing the power of the Presidency.

We have to remember in this body, and we have to remind our colleagues, we have to remind the media, and we have to remind the public that we are just now beginning this process. The facts have not come out. We are just now beginning to see facts and determining what happened over the course of this past summer—where things were, what happened, what was said, and who said it. We have to determine the allegations and whether or not they have merit based on the facts that come out, not just reports in the media or even the allegations in a complaint. I am a lawyer. Allegations in a complaint are just simply allegations made, but they have to be proven.

The reason I rise today is that already we are seeing this becoming political. People are going to their political corners. The partisan tribalism is taking over already, and that is unfortunate. It is a sad commentary when a process that is so rooted in the Constitution of the United States—something so fundamental to our democracy—is almost immediately cast in political terms. My colleague and friend, Senator SASSE from Nebraska, used the term ''partisan tribalism'' in today's world that is ''insta-certain.'' No matter what you see, no matter what you read, it doesn't matter because you are going to take a side, and when we take sides, the American public immediately take sides and no one listens to the facts.

We are called as Senators, we are called as Members of the House, and we are called as Members of this body to a much higher duty than that—a much higher duty. Our duty is to carefully analyze and review the facts—facts, not mere allegations; facts, not reports or leaks; facts, not what some political talking head on the television says their opinion might be. Our duty is so much higher than that.

We have seen already some of what appear to be very disturbing facts. We have seen a summary of a telephone call between the President of the United States and the President of Ukraine. Ukraine is a country dependent on countries like the United States. The balance of power between the United States and Ukraine is not balanced at all. We have so much more power, and in the summary of that call, the President of the United States noted that to the President of Ukraine. He said, essentially: You are dependent on us. No one else helps you, but you can count on the United States of America. And, by the way, I need a favor. I need you to do me a personal political favor.

In that conversation, he talked about not only having his personal lawyer but also utilizing the Attorney General of the United States to help benefit them politically. Those are initially the facts, and they are very disturbing. For anyone to say that they are not is shirking their responsibility to their constituents, to the public, to the Constitution, and to the very oath that we took when we came into this body.

But again, it is but one piece of a puzzle. We have now also seen the contents of the so-called whistleblower complaint. ''Whistleblower'' is a term of art. A whistleblower is just simply somebody who has come forward, but they are given the name whistleblower because they are given legal protections. These people who come forward are concerned citizens of the United States. It is a concerned citizen of the United States who saw something happening that disturbed him so much that he felt compelled to bring it to someone's attention. They are documented fairly well, but again, these facts have not come out. They are just statements in an allegation in a complaint that have to be determined.

I have been asked over and over by the media in the last 2 days: Do you support the House doing this? Do you support impeachment? Do you support this or that?

My comment is always the same: I want to know the facts. It doesn't matter to me what the House of Representatives, in their prerogative, calls their processes. I want to know the facts. The American people deserve to know the facts. This body deserves to know the facts, whether or not anything comes over from the House of Representatives. We deserve to know whether or not the President is abusing his office. We deserve to know whether or not he is placing our national security at risk because, remember, Ukraine is under threat from Russia every day. Every day they are looking over their shoulder. Every day they are looking over their shoulder. That puts us at risk, as well. We have to make sure that we are deliberate, that we move forward with a process that is deliberate. We owe it to the American people to be deliberate, to be somber, to be making sure that we know the facts before we make our judgments.

It doesn't matter what side of the aisle you are on. This is not a Republican process. This is not a Democratic process. And for God's sake, it is not a socialist agenda. That is about the dumbest thing that I have heard people say over the last two days. Good Lord, we are talking about a process that is rooted in the Constitution of the United States. It is rooted in the Constitution of the United States for a purpose—part of the checks and balances that seem to be going out the window these days in our society and in our government and here in Washington, DC. This is an American agenda to make sure that we know the facts and that we understand those facts so people who are around here watching this today know and can be secure in the fact that their Congress is doing their job, that the President is doing his job, that the courts are doing their job.

This is not the time to circle the wagons around the President, but, likewise, it is not the time to make a judgment already that this President should be removed from office or even for articles of impeachment voted on by the House. This is not the time to do that. We are beginning a process

that we have to take our time on. I say that knowing that when we say ''take our time,'' we just need to be deliberate, but we need to move. This is not something that needs to drag on. This is not something through which the American public needs to be dragged over the course of too long a period of time. This can be determined.

If you look at that whistleblower complaint that was filed, this is something that should easily be able to be done in a relatively short period of time if the administration will cooperate and if we get that instead of the stonewalling that we have seen in the past.

Cooperate with us. Do your job. Do your duty and let us do ours. That is all that we ask. That is all that anybody should ever ask of anyone in this body or anyone in the House of Representatives. Let us do our job.

We are about to leave this place for a couple of weeks. The House is leaving, though they may still do a little work. We are going to be leaving for 2 weeks. We are going back home to our States. We are going to be talking to the media. We are going to be talking to constituents. I guarantee you that when I go back to Alabama, a lot of people will have already made up their minds. When I go to a townhall or whatever, they will have made up their minds without any facts. They make up their mind based on the media.

My friends in the media need to pay attention too. Don't ask me whether or not this is going to affect my election in 2020. Don't ask me if it is going to affect Joe Biden or Donald Trump, or ask me if it is going to affect the Presidential race. Ask me about what is going to happen to the Constitution and what is going to happen to the rule of law. Let's talk about the seriousness of what we have and not the politics of it, for goodness' sake.

But every time I turn around, when I walk out of these doors, the first thing they are going to ask me is this: How do you think this is going to affect your race?

That is not my job. That is not my oath. That is not my duty. If we put our fingers to the political winds with everything we do in this body, we may as well not be here. We should not be able to live with ourselves. Unfortunately, I think so many people do that. I am hoping that in this day, in this time, in these troubled waters we are about to embark on, people will see that higher calling and that they will once again return to that time and that place when this Senate was a deliberative body and not a knee-jerk reaction to a particular program or nomination or whatever that comes before it. We will return to the days of yesteryear where we actually deliberate and we talk amongst ourselves and we have a civil discussion about the important issues that we are faced with. I remember those days. I was here. I was sitting back there as a Senate staffer, watching those great debates and watching people change their minds on the floor of the Senate because of the debate that someone gave and someone persuaded him. We don't have those any more. Look around right now. We are all gone, except those people around here listening to me, and I have staff here. But we don't have those debates any more. We don't have those deliberations any more. We are going to have to now. We are going to have to because the Republic depends on it. The fate of this country will depend on it. We are so divided in this country right now. We are living in what Arthur Brooks has called that ''culture of contempt,'' where we don't necessarily just disagree with each other. We hold each other in contempt if we disagree with each other.

We have to change that, folks. We have to get back. We have to change that. We have to make sure people understand their roles and their duties. We have to make sure that for this country to progress and for this country to survive, we have to work together.

We have to be one America. We can't be so divided. That is exactly what our enemies have been trying to do to us for centuries. For two centuries or more, they have wanted to divide us, and they came close during the Civil War. They are going to come close now if we are not careful. If we don't stop folks on both sides of the aisle from continuing to pull us into our corners but rather start pulling people back to where we can have these discussions, we will be in trouble.

As we go forward and as we go into this recess, I hope all of my colleagues will remember their oaths. I hope people will remember what they said when they stood right over there and the Vice President of the United States asked them to raise their right hands and say: ''I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic.''

We took an oath to support the Constitution. We didn't take an oath to support the President of the United States. We didn't take an oath to support the Republican Party. We didn't take an oath to support the Democratic Party. We took an oath to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. That is an important part that our Framers put in the Constitution, ''foreign and domestic.''

We said we would take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion. We cannot evade. We took an oath not to evade while we were here—that is not what we do—and to well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which we entered.

Our duties to this office are to be fair, to be impartial, and to be deliberative, not political. Our duties to this office are to our constituents and to do the very best we can to make sure we analyze whatever is in front of us because history will judge us. It will determine whether or not we acted with courage and conviction or whether we just simply tested the political winds as some people are already doing.

Often in my talks around the country and in some even here, I like to quote one of my favorite characters from literature, Atticus Finch. Atticus Finch gave an impassioned closing argument to a jury he knew was not likely to give him the verdict he sought. He laid out a case in defense of Tom Robinson, a Black man who was accused of raping a White woman. In that defense, he went through the facts. Everybody who has ever read the book and everybody who has ever watched the movie knows Tom Robinson was innocent, but Atticus Finch knew that the likelihood of the jury's finding that man innocent was slim and none.

At the end of that closing argument, he talked about the solemn duty, the solemn obligation, that the jurors had to the system. He talked about the justice system and the courts and the jurors being the great levelers of society, where the pauper and the rich man were the same in the eyes of the law. He talked about the duty they had to fairly and impartially judge the facts.

Just before he sat down—and you could see it and feel it, and if you were to read the book, you could feel that Atticus knew what was going to happen—he looked that jury in the eye and said: ''[Gentlemen], in the name of God, do your duty.''

Ladies and gentlemen and colleagues, in the name of God, we have to do our duty. We have to do our duty. We have to make sure we fulfill our oaths and not be concerned about how many votes it might get us or how many votes we might lose. Whether we know the outcome or not, whether we get pressure from Assad or not, whether or not there are millions of dollars spent on TV and in radio so as to tell us to vote a certain way, we have to fulfill that solemn obligation. In the name of God, we should do our duty and nothing less.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 446, 447, 448, and 449.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of W. Stephen Muldrow, of Puerto Rico, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico for the term of four years; Michael D. Baughman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years; Kerry Lee Pettingill, of Oklahoma, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma for the term of four years; Fernando L. G. Sablan, of Guam, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands for the term of four years.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Muldrow, Baughman, Pettingill, and Sablan nominations en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the following nomination: Executive Calendar No. 423.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Ryan McCarthy, of Illinois, to be Secretary of the Army.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the McCarthy nomination.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nomination with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the McCarthy nomination?

The nomination was confirmed.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 398, 442, 443, 444, 445, 455, and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Foreign Service.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nominations en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nominations of Lana J. Marks, of Florida, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of South Africa; John Leslie Carwile, of Maryland, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Latvia; Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Solomon Islands and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Vanuatu; Anthony F. Godfrey, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Serbia; Herro Mustafa, of California, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Bulgaria; Adam Seth Boehler, of Louisiana, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation (New Position).

FOREIGN SERVICE

PN786 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (12) beginning Melissa McInnis, and ending Marixell Garcia, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2019.

PN787–2 FOREIGN SERVICE nomination of Courtney L. Lacroix, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of May 21, 2019.

PN1001 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (204) beginning George Habib Abi-Nader, and ending Alexis Lyn Zintak, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 25, 2019.

PN1002 FOREIGN SERVICE nomination of Cynthia K. Duerr, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 25, 2019.

PN1003 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (6) beginning Jessica Abenstein, and ending David Waldron, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 25, 2019.

PN1004 FOREIGN SERVICE nominations (95) beginning Kendra Michelle Arbaiza-Sundal, and ending Jacqueline Leann Ward, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 25, 2019.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; that no further motions be in order; and that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Marks, Carwile, McKee, Godfrey, Mustafa, Boehler, and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Foreign Service, en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar Nos. 424 through 440 and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations, considered and confirmed, are as follows:

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

*To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Douglas A. Sims, II

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. Curtis A. Buzzard

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 9435:

*To be brigadier general*

Col. Linell A. Letendre

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 lieutenant general*

Lt. Gen. James H. Dickinson

The following named officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the

grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Ricky L. Waddell

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Jason T. Evans

The following named officer for appointment as The Surgeon General, United States Army, and 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., sections 601 and 7036:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Raymond S. Dingle

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be vice admiral*

Rear Adm. Daryl L. Caudle

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Glen D. VanHerck

IN THE ARMY

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

*To be major general*

Brig. Gen. Arthur J. Logan

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force 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*

Lt. Gen. Anthony J. Cotton

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be vice admiral*

Vice Adm. Colin J. Kilrain

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force 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*

Brig. Gen. Timothy D. Haugh

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Michael A. Minihan

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

Maj. Gen. Scott A. Kindsvater

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be vice admiral*

Vice Adm. David M. Kriete

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

*To be vice admiral*

Vice Adm. Stuart B. Munsch

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN938 AIR FORCE nomination of Christopher J. Wood, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN939 AIR FORCE nomination of Christian S. Forrer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN940 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning SHEVA T. NICKRAVESH, and ending ANGELA M. THORNTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN941 AIR FORCE nomination of Michael W. Luoma, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN978 AIR FORCE nominations (32) beginning DAVID P. ABBOTT, and ending JUSTIN L. WOLTHUIZEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN979 AIR FORCE nominations (83) beginning CHRISTIAN R. ACEVEDO, and ending ZACHARY T. WEST, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN980 AIR FORCE nominations (2351) beginning NEILS J. ABDERHALDEN, and ending BRAD D. ZWAWA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN981 AIR FORCE nominations (20) beginning MICHAEL AARON BURNAT, and ending DYLAN B. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN982 AIR FORCE nominations (1245) beginning CHRISTOPHER M. ABBOTT, and ending MATHEW ZULAUF, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN983 AIR FORCE nomination of Aaron J. Beebe, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN984 AIR FORCE nomination of Craig M. Nordgren, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN985 AIR FORCE nomination of Richard A. Palmer, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN986 AIR FORCE nominations (24) beginning LISA M. ANGOTTI, and ending DUNCAN K. WILSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN987 AIR FORCE nomination of Rondre F. Baluyot, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN1008 AIR FORCE nomination of Peter J. Ahn, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1009 AIR FORCE nomination of Anthony S. Gamboa, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1010 AIR FORCE nominations (13) beginning ANTHONY C. BIVINS, II, and ending STACEY J. WADSLEY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1066 AIR FORCE nomination of Andrew Kim, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1067 AIR FORCE nomination of Catherine A. Lane, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

ARMY

PN670 ARMY nomination of Gabriel A. Miritello; which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 29, 2019.

PN671 ARMY nomination of Nathan B. Gadberry, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of April 29, 2019.

PN843 ARMY nominations (8) beginning SEAN C. HEIDGERKEN, and ending CLINT E. TRACY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 5, 2019.

PN844 ARMY nominations (106) beginning JESSE ABREU, and ending D006471, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 5, 2019.

PN845 ARMY nominations (132) beginning RICHARD R. ABELKIS, and ending G010532, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 5, 2019.

PN846—1 ARMY nominations (163) beginning VINCENT A. AMERENA, and ending D014896, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 5, 2019.

PN942 ARMY nomination of Camie R. Levin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN943 ARMY nomination of Steve A. Albritton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN944 ARMY nominations (2) beginning GARY M. CLARK, and ending STEPHANIE E. STEWART, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN945 ARMY nomination of Christopher D. Barrett, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN946 ARMY nomination of Ralphine R. Walton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN947 ARMY nomination of Matthew R. Campbell, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN948 ARMY nomination of John C. Ross, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN949 ARMY nomination of Robert T. Buckley, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN950 ARMY nomination of Damien McGuigan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN988 ARMY nominations (12) beginning KATHLEEN M. ADAMSON, and ending JULIAN L. PADGETT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN989 ARMY nomination of Eraj V. Tennekoon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN990 ARMY nomination of Heung R. Noh, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN991 ARMY nomination of Cesar C. Correarivera, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN992 ARMY nomination of George J. Smolinski, III, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN993 ARMY nomination of Michael J. McNaught, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN994 ARMY nominations (12) beginning KENNETH T. BAILLIE, and ending KENNETH J. WEISHAAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN995 ARMY nomination of Dexter D. Williams, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN1011 ARMY nominations (70) beginning BENJAMIN AHN, and ending VIVIAN K. YANQUOIWEST, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1012 ARMY nomination of Spencer W. Robinson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1013 ARMY nomination of Robert B. Lackey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1014 ARMY nomination of Krista M. Klein, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1015 ARMY nominations (2) beginning DENIS J. MCDONNELL, and ending JEFFREY C. NICHOLS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1017 ARMY nominations (10) beginning CHOWDRY M. BASHIR, and ending RICHARD M. SLUSHER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1018 ARMY nominations (10) beginning APOLLA A. BENITO, and ending MICHAEL E. TERRY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1019 ARMY nominations (8) beginning THOMAS W. BINGAMON, and ending TRAVIS J. WEISZHAAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1020 ARMY nominations (14) beginning TONYA L. EHLERT, and ending ARVE A. WIKSTROM, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1021 ARMY nominations (4) beginning BRIAN S. HATLER, and ending WILLIAM B. WALKER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1022 ARMY nominations (6) beginning ROBERT G. BONIFACIO, and ending MICHAEL T. SIMPSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1023 ARMY nominations (7) beginning BARBARA S. ANTUS, and ending JEAN V. MOVINGCOLLINS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1024 ARMY nominations (7) beginning JOYCE C. ANACKER, and ending BYRON J. THOMPSON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1025 ARMY nominations (4) beginning BRUCE J. BRITSON, and ending THOMAS W. HRABAL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1026 ARMY nomination of Jason A. Foreman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1027 ARMY nomination of Alexandra E. Weiskopf, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1028 ARMY nominations (23) beginning TRACY A. BALL, and ending DONNA E. WARD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1029 ARMY nominations (2) beginning LAUREL A. KAPPEDAL, and ending RHONDA B. WHITE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1030 ARMY nominations (6) beginning ANNA L. ALDANA, and ending JOSEPH S. SEILER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1031 ARMY nominations (53) beginning KARL ANDERSON, and ending CLAUDE R. WORKMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

PN1068 ARMY nominations (23) beginning NICHOLAS D. BARRINGER, and ending D012819, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1069 ARMY nominations (18) beginning ERIN E. BALL, and ending D012821, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1070 ARMY nominations (97) beginning LOVIE L. ABRAHAM, and ending D014502, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1071 ARMY nominations (94) beginning MARLENE ARIASREYNOSO, and ending KEVIN M. ZEEB, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1072 ARMY nominations (30) beginning BRITTANY B. BEAVIS, and ending RAYMOND K. WONG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1073 ARMY nominations (106) beginning RAYMOND J. AKERMAN, JR., and ending D012876, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1074 ARMY nominations (187) beginning SARAH H. AFRIECQ, and ending D014706, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1075 ARMY nominations (141) beginning BRENDA J. ADAMS, and ending SHINGO J. YAMADA, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1076 ARMY nomination of Slava Shapiro, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1077 ARMY nomination of Rachel M. Romaine, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1078 ARMY nomination of Kristy M. Chester, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1079 ARMY nomination of Kevin D. Dalling, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1080 ARMY nomination of Jay G. Sullivan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1081 ARMY nominations (19) beginning BRIAN S. BORAKOVE, and ending COLBY B. WYATT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1082 ARMY nomination of Javier Trevino, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1083 ARMY nomination of Brendan B. Reina, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1084 ARMY nomination of Benjamin A. Greif, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1085 ARMY nomination of Slade A. McPherson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN883 MARINE CORPS nomination of Jeffery G. Pioszak, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of June 18, 2019.

PN961 MARINE CORPS nominations (10) beginning JOHN D. BARNES, and ending KRISTIN M. TORTORICI, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN997 MARINE CORPS nomination of Daniel E. Callaway, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN1032 MARINE CORPS nomination of Nathan P. Dmochowski, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 31, 2019.

IN THE NAVY

PN549 NAVY nomination of Traci J. McKinnon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of March 26, 2019.

PN951 NAVY nomination of Anthony M. Hruby, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN952 NAVY nomination of Salahhudin A. Adenkhalif, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN953 NAVY nomination of Bradley D. Coletti, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN954 NAVY nomination of Timothy K. Lynch, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN955 NAVY nomination of Dion M. Adams, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN956 NAVY nomination of Christopher C. Cady, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN957 NAVY nomination of Andrew C. Mueller, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN958 NAVY nomination of Tyrone K. Potter, which was received by the Senate and

appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN959 NAVY nomination of Francis C. Dailig, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN960 NAVY nominations (2) beginning DAVID H. CRAIG, III, and ending BYRON B. HOLLOWAY, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 15, 2019.

PN996 NAVY nominations (49) beginning JAMES M. ALLEN, JR., and ending JONATHAN R. WHEELER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of July 22, 2019.

PN1086 NAVY nominations (23) beginning EDUARDO B. AMORA, and ending GREGORY S. WOODARD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1087 NAVY nominations (93) beginning JANPAUL P. AMPOSTA, and ending LIN L. ZHENG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1088 NAVY nominations (98) beginning ASHLEY A. ACLESE, and ending GISSELLE I. ZELSDORF, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1089 NAVY nominations (40) beginning RACHAEL E. BAKER, and ending SARA J. WOOTEN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1090 NAVY nominations (111) beginning ALEXANDER ALBA, and ending MYRA S. WEARING, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1091 NAVY nominations (61) beginning HOLLY K. AGUIGAM, and ending ALLISON D. WEINBERG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1092 NAVY nominations (243) beginning TIMOTHY J. ALGIERS, and ending ANGELA ZAH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1093 NAVY nominations (2) beginning MATTHEW W. CATANESE, and ending GRANT C. GLOVER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1094 NAVY nominations (38) beginning RAMON ACOSTA, and ending SEN F. YU, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1095 NAVY nominations (3) beginning JONATHAN T. DUENAS, and ending JAMES H. PHAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1096 NAVY nomination of Joshua K. Witt, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1097 NAVY nomination of Stephen A. Jessogne, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

PN1098 NAVY nomination of Vanna J. Rocchi, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 9, 2019.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## TRIBUTE TO MARCELLA RYAN LEBEAU

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, it is always a privilege to honor the men and women of America's Greatest Generation. They brought peace to the world and defended the freedoms we all enjoy every day, and we owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

Today, I wish to recognize one of these heroic Americans from my home State of South Dakota. Marcella Ryan LeBeau volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps during World War II—WWII—providing care to wounded soldiers across Europe. Next month, Marcella will enjoy her 100th birthday at a celebration with family and friends, and I wish to add my voice to the chorus of those praising her lifetime of achievement and dedication to public service.

Marcella has dedicated her life to serving others. She completed a diploma in nursing at St. Mary's Hospital in Pierre, SD, in 1942 and served in the Army Nurse Corps as a first lieutenant in WWII, taking her from the United States to Wales, England, France, and Belgium. While serving in the Army from 1942 to 1946, Marcella cared for countless wounded soldiers, including D-Day and the Battle of the Bulge.

In 2004, on the 60th anniversary of D-Day, Marcella was among 100 WWII American veterans awarded France's highest civilian award, the French Legion of Honor, at the French Embassy in Washington, DC.

Following her service in the Army, Marcella worked for the Indian Health Service—IHS—in Eagle Butte for 31 years. She would eventually become the Eagle Butte IHS Hospital's director of nursing. In addition to her work at the IHS Hospital, she served 4 years on the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Council while raising eight children with her husband, Gilbert.

After retiring from the IHS, Marcella opened a quilting shop with her granddaughter. They make a variety of quilts, with the main feature being the star quilt used by the Lakota people for honoring and naming ceremonies, memorials, and various life achievements.

In 2016, Marcella was inducted into the South Dakota Hall of Fame, and she received the Women in History award from the Spirit of the Prairie Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She also received an honorary doctorate of public service from South Dakota State University in 2018.

With her lifesaving work in the Army and a longtime commitment to South Dakota, Marcella has made a lasting impression on the lives of many, and on behalf of all of them, I would I like to wish her a happy birthday and thank her for her remarkable service to the United States.

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ADA S. MCKINLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, as World War I came to a close in 1919, Ada Sophia McKinley founded a Chicago South Side settlement house for returning war veterans and anyone else in need of training, food, shelter, and recreation. As century later, the Ada S. McKinley Community Services serves more than 7,000 people annually at 70 locations in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin.

McKinley was born 3 years after the Civil War in Galveston, TX. During World War I, she moved to Chicago with her husband and son. She was a schoolteacher and a community activist. McKinley began volunteering as an official hostess of the War Camp Club on South Wabash Avenue, helping war servicemen and their families. The club used recreational and civic activities to help soldiers make the transition back. It was a precursor to the therapies we use today for posttraumatic stress disorder treatments.

The War Recreation Board cut funding to the War Camp Club when the war ended, but the Douglas/South Side community still needed help, and the Great Migration had accelerated people moving to Chicago with very little resources. McKinley continued helping people, eventually founding what became the South Side Settlement House in an old, three-story mansion at 32nd and Wabash Avenue in 1919.

At the South Side Settlement House, people could get a meal, some cash, and take classes in sewing, cooking, arts, and crafts, ceramics, and storytelling. There was a summer camp, a library, and even friendship clubs for lonely seniors.

McKinley never collected a salary for her work. She established a board of directors, implemented childcare, job training, employment referral, and educational systems for all ages.

After the 1919 Chicago race riots, McKinley marched with legendary colleagues Jane Addams, Harriet Vittum, and Mary McDowell. McKinley worked with the Chicago Commission on Race Relations to help restore order and relief to people.

On August 24, 1952, McKinley helped lay the cornerstone for a new headquarters for her organization at 100 E. 34th Street. Hours later, she suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and passed away.

Her legacy lives on in the work of her agency. Today, children can attend quality education services at the Ada S. McKinley Community Services locations. People can get help for their lives with mentoring programs, financial aid counseling, and a host of other programs. Their motto is ''Empower. Educate. Employ.'' Today, we honor a

century of their good work doing just that.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased that the fiscal year 2020 appropriations bill for the Department of State and Foreign Operations was reported unanimously by the committee earlier today. There is a great deal in the bill that the American people can feel good about, as the summaries released by both the majority and minority indicate. However, as is always the case with bipartisan legislation, there are also things that I wish were not in the bill, and there are things missing from the bill that I wish had been included. I want to speak about one of those.

I deeply regret that the bill does not even mention the words ''climate change.'' That is remarkable, or perhaps a better word is ''appalling,'' when one considers the existential threat that climate change poses for every living thing on Earth. If Democrats were in the majority, funding for programs to combat global warming and adapt to climate change would be a priority in the bill. Instead, it is completely missing.

An example is the Green Climate Fund, GCF, which was created in 2010 with the active participation of the United States. Its mission is to respond to climate change by investing in low-emission and climate-resilient development. The GCF was established to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions in developing countries and to help vulnerable societies adapt to the unavoidable impacts of climate change. The United States contributed a total of $1 billion in the first 2 years of operation of the GCF.

Then President Trump was elected. Even though, according to press reports, the Trump Organization had previously cited climate change in its application for a permit to build a barrier to protect a Trump golf course from the rising sea level and increasingly powerful storms, he continues to publicly refuse to recognize climate change as a serious threat. Despite that hypocrisy and overwhelming scientific recognition of the impact of burning fossil fuels on the Earth's climate, the Trump White House withdrew from the Paris climate agreement and opposed further U.S. funding for the GCF. Republican majorities in the Congress fell into line, and in the past two appropriations bills, there has been no funding for a U.S. contribution to the GCF.

The next replenishment for the GCF is scheduled for 2020. Since there are no funds in the bill just reported by the Appropriations Committee for a U.S. contribution to the GCF, absent an about-face by the White House, the United States will not make a replenishment pledge. It will be left to other countries to ensure that the GCF continues to operate. Once again, U.S. leadership to address what many believe to be the most ominous threat facing the world is nowhere to be seen.

Despite that inexcusable failure by the White House and the Republican leadership in Congress, it is important to emphasize that overwhelmingly the American people recognize the threat that climate change poses and they want strong action to address it. They see what is happening here and around the world, as extreme climatic events—hurricanes, tornadoes, flooding, droughts, and forest fires, coupled with crop failures, displacement of people whose homes and livelihoods are destroyed, and unprecedented migration flows—become more and more frequent and destructive. They rightly fear that if we fail to act, not long from now, these types of disasters will be exponentially worse, and they worry about the chaos this would cause for their children and grandchildren.

I mention this because I am confident that as soon as we have a President who puts the lives of future generations above the profits and campaign contributions of the fossil fuel companies, the United States will once again become a leader against climate change and a leading contributor to the GCF. Other countries should understand this. Despite President Trump and his cheerleaders in Congress, the United States has not turned its back on the threat of climate change, nor have we abandoned the GCF. Presidents come and go, and while U.S. support for diplomacy and programs to combat climate change is currently suspended, the American people, and especially the younger generation, will make sure that suspension is only temporary.

## ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF JAMAL KHASHOGGI

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today we remember and remind the world that nearly 1 year has passed since the premeditated murder of Jamal Khashoggi by the Saudi Government.

That horrific crime, carried out so brazenly as if it were just a routine job, exposed the true character of the Saudi Government not only as it pertains to Mr. Khashoggi but to the ruthless treatment of critics of the Saudi royal family more broadly.

While the Crown Prince systematically orders the execution of his opponents, he has so far escaped punishment for the murder of Mr. Khashoggi and for the lies about that crime.

Multiple Saudi officials, including the Foreign Minister, Minister of Interior, and others—all members of the royal family—flagrantly and shamelessly lied to the world, repeatedly changing their story.

The Crown Prince called Khashoggi a ''dangerous jihadist.'' That too was a lie.

The Saudis, who have refused to turn over Mr. Khashoggi's remains, insist that the men who were arrested are the only ones involved in the murder. No one who knows anything about the Saudi royal family, which is the Saudi Government, believes that.

Despite all the incriminating evidence and all the lies, the White House continues to ignore its own intelligence experts and the U.N. Special Rapporteur, relying instead on the Saudi royal family to investigate itself. What a sham.

This crime reminds us that journalists the world over who shine a spotlight on corrupt, repressive governments risk their lives and the safety of their families. They are threatened and killed for nothing more than doing their job.

Today we are also concerned about the fate of hundreds of courageous prodemocracy activists who have recently been arrested for protesting against corruption and repression in Egypt. Journalists, members of opposition political parties, and civil society activists in Egypt are routinely persecuted, denied due process, and subjected to prolonged physical and psychological abuse.

If the Saudi royal family can escape punishment for the premeditated murder of a Washington Post journalist, what does that say to journalists everywhere? What does it say about our own government, if we accept that?

I want to remind the Saudi Government, the White House, and the State Department that we do not—and we will not—accept that. Jamal Khashoggi was murdered, and there is no reasonable doubt about who is culpable. Justice will be done—no matter how long it takes.

## CONFIRMATION OF GENERAL JOHN E. HYTEN

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, earlier today, this body confirmed Gen. John Hyten as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The vote was 75 to 22. It should have been 100 to 0.

General Hyten has weathered a storm of malicious attacks on his character—attacks that have been elevated by credulous pundits and politicians, even as they have been debunked again and again by independent investigations.

Today, General Hyten got his due, and Joint Chiefs gained a great leader—all because he refused to back down and because a majority of this body was willing to follow the facts where they lead.

General Hyten has devoted his life to public service. He attended Harvard University on an ROTC scholarship and spent the next three decades mastering warfare in a new domain: space. Today, he is an undisputed expert in space technology and operations, having served in senior positions at Strategic Command, Central Command, Air Force Space Command, and the 50th Space Wing at Schriever Air Force Base.

Gen. Hyten's expertise and leadership will only grow more valuable in the

years ahead, as the United States competes with China for dominance in space and cyberspace.

Unfortunately, we haven't spent the past few months discussing General Hyten's qualifications for the job or the strategic challenges we face as a nation. Instead, Gen. Hyten's nomination was marred by false accusations of misconduct by a subordinate. This accuser has a long and disturbing history of responding to professional setbacks with serious accusations against her superiors. These accusations—all of them, against General Hyten and others in her chain of command—have been dismissed by competent, independent military investigations. Multiple inspectors general have now looked into these claims. Countless manhours have been devoted to uncovering the truth. And the truth is that General Hyten is innocent.

Today the Senate said ''enough'' to the malicious claims against him.

Ensuring justice for General Hyten meant nothing more and nothing less than following the facts where they lead. When we follow the facts, it sends a clear message to our men and women in uniform that they will be treated fairly by the armed service, not railroaded by a media mob or hung out to dry by their chain of command.

For victims of sexual assault and harassment, following the facts will ensure that justice is done. It will mean the same for victims of false claims like General Hyten.

I know of few leaders who take sexual misconduct more seriously than my colleague, Senator MARTHA MCSALLY—herself a victim of sexual assault. It speaks volumes about this case, as well as her own courage, that Senator MCSALLY has stood up for a good man in the face of truly reprehensible attacks. I will close with her words. ''[T]he full truth was revealed in this process,'' she said. ''The truth is that General Hyten is innocent of these charges.'' Indeed he is. So today he has been confirmed as vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs, with our full confidence that he will continue to serve with the courage and brilliance that have so far distinguished his career.

## U.S. SENATE DISABLED VETERAN LEAVE REGULATIONS

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, in accordance with rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Rules and Administration and pursuant to Public Law 115–364, on September 25, 2019, the Committee adopted the U.S. Senate Disabled Veteran Leave Regulations.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

### U.S. SENATE DISABLED VETERAN LEAVE REGULATIONS

ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

§ 1301 Purpose and authority.

These regulations implement 5 U.S.C. § 6329, which establishes a leave category, to be known as ''disabled veteran leave,'' for an eligible employee who is a veteran with a service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more. Such an employee is entitled to this leave for purposes of undergoing medical treatment for such disability. Disabled veteran leave must be used during the 12-month period beginning on the first day of employment. The Committee's authority to promulgate these regulations is found in section 1(b) of Public Law 115–364.

§ 1302 Applicability.

These regulations apply to a Senate employee who is a veteran with a service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more, subject to the conditions specified in these regulations. These regulations apply only to a Senate employee who is hired on or after November 5, 2016.

§ 1303 Definitions.

In these regulations:

''12-month eligibility period'' means the continuous 12–month period that begins on the first day of employment.

''Agency'' means an agency of the Federal Government. In the case of an agency in the Executive branch, it means an Executive agency as defined in 5 U.S.C. § 105.

''Employee'' has the meaning given that term in 5 U.S.C. § 6329(d).

''Employing office'' has the meaning given that term in 2 U.S.C § 1301(9).

''Employment'' means service as an employee during which the employee is covered by a leave system or leave policy under which leave is charged for periods of absence. This excludes service in a position in which the employee is not covered by 5 U.S.C. § 6329 due to application of another statutory authority.

''First day of employment'' means the first day of service that qualifies as employment that occurs on the later of—

(1) The earliest date an employee is hired after the effective date of the employee's qualifying service-connected disability, as determined by the Veterans Benefits Administration; or

(2) The effective date of the employee's qualifying service-connected disability, as determined by the Veterans Benefits Administration.

''Health care provider'' has the meaning given that term in 5 C.F.R. § 630.1202.

''Hired'' means the action of—

(1) Receiving an initial appointment to a civilian position in the Federal Government in which the service qualifies as employment under these regulations or any other regulations promulgated to implement 5 U.S.C. § 6329;

(2) Receiving a qualifying reappointment to a civilian position in the Federal Government in which the service qualifies as employment under these regulations or any other regulations promulgated to implement 5 U.S.C. § 6329; or

(3) Returning to duty status in a civilian position in the Federal Government in which the service qualifies as employment under these regulations or any other regulations promulgated to implement 5 U.S.C. § 6329, when such return immediately followed a break in civilian duty (with the employee in continuous civilian leave status) to perform military service.

''Medical certificate'' means a written statement signed by a health care provider certifying to the treatment of a veteran's qualifying service-connected disability.

''Medical treatment'' means any activity carried out or prescribed by a health care provider to treat a veteran's qualifying service-connected disability.

''Military service'' means ''active military, naval, or air service'' as that term is defined in 38 U.S.C. § 101(24).

''Qualifying reappointment'' means an appointment of a former employee of the Federal Government following a break in employment of at least 90 calendar days.

''Qualifying service-connected disability'' means a veteran's service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more by the Veteran Benefits Administration, including a combined degree of disability of 30 percent or more that reflects the combined effect of multiple individual disabilities, which resulted in the award of disability compensation under title 38, United States Code. A temporary disability rating under 38 U.S.C. § 1156 is considered a valid rating in applying this definition for as long as it is in effect.

''Senate employee'' means an employee occupying a position of employment the pay for which is disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate and who is covered by the leave policies of the employee's Senate employing office.

''Senate employing office'' means the personal office of a Senator, a committee of the Senate, and any other office headed by a person with the final authority to appoint, hire, discharge, and set the terms, conditions, or privileges of employment of a Senate employee.

''Service-connected'' has the meaning given such term in 38 U.S.C. § 101(16).

''Sick leave'' means any paid leave offered by a Senate employing office that can be used by an employee to continue pay during periods of absence caused by the employee's medical illness or injury or the employee's medical appointments.

''Veteran'' has the meaning given such term in 38 § U.S.C. 101(2).

''Veterans Benefits Administration'' means the Veterans Benefits Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

§ 1304 Eligibility.

(a) A Senate employee who is a veteran with a qualifying service-connected disability is entitled to disabled veteran leave under these regulations, which will be available for use during the 12-month eligibility period beginning on the first day of employment. For each employee, including a Senate employee, there is a single first day of employment.

(b) To be eligible for disabled veteran leave, a Senate employee must provide to the Senate employing office documentation from the Veterans Benefits Administration certifying that the Senate employee has a qualifying service-connected disability. The documentation should be provided to the Senate employing office—

(1) Upon the first day of employment, if the Senate employee has already received such certifying documentation; or

(2) For a Senate employee who has not yet received such certifying documentation from the Veterans Benefit Administration, as soon as practicable after the Senate employee receives the certifying documentation.

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) of this section, a Senate employee may submit certifying documentation at a later time, including after a period of absence for medical treatment, as described in § 1306(c). The 12-month eligibility period is fixed based on the first day of employment and is not affected by the timing of when certifying documentation is provided.

(d) If a Senate employee's service-connected disability rating is decreased or discontinued during the 12-month eligibility period such that the Senate employee no longer has a qualifying service-connected disability—

(1) The Senate employee must notify the Senate employing office of the effective date of the change in the disability rating; and

(2) The Senate employee is no longer eligible for disabled veteran leave as of the effective date of the rating change.

§1305 Crediting disabled veteran leave.

(a) Upon receipt of the certifying documentation under §1304, a Senate employing office must credit 104 hours of disabled veteran leave to a full-time, non-temporary Senate employee or a proportionally equivalent amount for a part-time Senate employee, except as otherwise provided in this section.

(b) The proportional equivalent of 104 hours for a full-time Senate employee is determined for part-time Senate employees as follows: the 104 hours is prorated based on the number of hours in the part-time schedule (as established for leave charging purposes) relative to a full-time schedule (e.g., 52 hours for a half-time schedule).

(c) When a Senate employee is converted to a different schedule for leave purposes, the Senate employee's balance of unused disabled veteran leave must be converted to the proper number of hours based on the proportion of hours in the new schedule compared to the former schedule. For short—term or temporary employees, hours must be annualized in determining the proportion.

(d)(1) A Senate employee who was previously employed by an agency or employing office whose employees were not subject to 5 U.S.C. §6329 must certify, at the time the Senate employee is hired by a Senate employing office, whether or not that former agency or employing office provided entitlement to an equivalent disabled veteran leave benefit to be used in connection with the medical treatment of a service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more. The Senate employee must certify the date he or she commenced the period of eligibility to use disabled veteran leave in the former agency or employing office.

(2) If 12 months have elapsed since the commencing date referenced in paragraph (e)(1) of this section, the Senate employee will be considered to have received the full amount of an equivalent benefit and no benefit may be provided under these regulations.

(3) If the Senate employee is still within the 12-month period that began on the commencing date referenced in paragraph (e)(1) of this section, the Senate employee must certify the number of hours of disabled veteran leave used at the former agency or employing office. The gaining Senate employing office must offset the number of hours of disabled veteran leave to be credited to the Senate employee by the number of such hours used by the Senate employee at the former agency or employing office, while making no offset under paragraph (d) of this section. If the Senate employee had a different type of work schedule at the former agency or employing office, the hours used at the former agency or employing office must be converted before applying the offset, consistent with §1305(c).

§1306 Requesting and using disabled veteran leave.

(a) A Senate employee may use disabled veteran leave only for the medical treatment of a qualifying service-connected disability. The medical treatment may include a period of rest, but only if such period of rest is specifically ordered by the health care provider as part of a prescribed course of treatment for the qualifying service-connected disability.

(b)(1) A Senate employee must submit a request—written, oral, or electronic, as required by the Senate employing office—to use disabled veteran leave. The request must include a personal self-certification by the Senate employee that the requested leave will be (or was) used for purposes of being furnished medical treatment for a qualifying service-connected disability. The request must also include the specific days and hours of absence required for the treatment. The request must be submitted within such time limits as the Senate employing office may require.

(2) A Senate employee must submit the request for approval to use disabled veteran leave in advance of the need for leave unless the need for leave is critical and not foreseeable—e.g., due to a medical emergency or the unexpected availability of an appointment for surgery or other critical treatment. The Senate employee must provide notice within a reasonable period of time appropriate to the circumstances involved. If the Senate employing office determines that the need for leave is critical and not foreseeable and that the Senate employee is unable to provide advance notice of the need for leave, the leave may not be delayed or denied.

(c)(1) When a Senate employee did not provide the Senate employing office with certification of a qualifying service-connected disability before having a period of absence for treatment of such disability, the Senate employee is entitled to substitute approved disabled veteran leave retroactively for such period of absence (excluding periods of suspension, but including leave at Senate minimum pay, sick leave, annual leave, compensatory time off, or other paid time off) in the 12-month eligibility period. Such retroactive substitution cancels the use of the original leave or paid time off and requires appropriate adjustments. In the case of retroactive substitution for a period when a Senate employee used advanced annual leave or advanced sick leave, the adjustment is a liquidation of the leave indebtedness covered by the substitution.

(2) A Senate employing office may require a Senate employee to submit the medical certification described in §1307(a) before approving such retroactive substitution.

§1307 Medical certification.

(a) In addition to the Senate employee's self-certification required under §1306(b)(1), a Senate employing office may additionally require that the use of disabled veteran leave be supported by a signed written medical certification issued by a health care provider.

(b) When a Senate employing office requires a signed written medical certification by a health care provider, the Senate employing office may specify that the certification include—

(1) A statement by the health care provider that the medical treatment is for one or more service-connected disabilities of the Senate employee that resulted in 30 percent or more disability rating;

(2) The date or dates of treatment or, if the treatment extends over several days, the beginning and ending dates of the treatment;

(3) If the leave was not requested in advance, a statement that the treatment required was of an urgent nature or there were other circumstances that made advanced scheduling not possible; and

(4) Any additional information that is essential to verify the Senate employee's eligibility.

(c)(1) A Senate employee must provide any required written medical certification no later than 15 calendar days after the date the Senate employing office requests such medical certification, except as otherwise allowed under paragraph (c)(2) of this section.

(2) If the Senate employing office determines it is not practicable under the particular circumstances for the Senate employee to provide the requested medical certification within 15 calendar days after the date requested by the Senate employing office despite the Senate employee's diligent, good faith efforts, the Senate employee must provide the medical certification within a reasonable period of time under the circumstances involved, but in no case later than 60 calendar days after the date the Senate employing office requests such documentation.

(3) A Senate employee who does not provide the required evidence or medical certification within the specified time period is not entitled to use disabled veteran leave, and the Senate employing office may, as appropriate and consistent with applicable laws and regulations, elect to either—

(i) Charge the absence against available forms of paid time off, such as sick leave or annual leave, or reduce the Senate employee's salary to an amount not less than the Senate minimum annual rate of pay for the period of absence; or

(ii) Allow the Senate employee to request that the absence be charged against the Senate employee's sick leave, annual leave, or other available forms of paid time off.

§1308 Disabled veteran leave forfeiture, transfer, reinstatement.

(a) Disabled veteran leave not used during the 12-month eligibility period may not be carried over to subsequent years and must be forfeited.

(b) If a change in the Senate employee's disability rating during the 12-month eligibility period causes the Senate employee to no longer have a qualifying service-connected disability (as described in §1304(d)), any unused disabled veteran leave to the Senate employee's credit as of the effective date of the rating change must be forfeited.

(c) When a Senate employee with a positive disabled veteran leave balance transfers from the payroll of one Senate employing office to the payroll of another Senate employing office during the 12-month eligibility period, the Senate employing office from which the Senate employee departs must certify the number of unused disabled veteran leave hours available for credit by the gaining Senate employing office. The losing Senate employing office must also certify the expiration date of the Senate employee's 12-month eligibility period to the gaining Senate employing office. Any unused disabled veteran leave will be forfeited at the end of that eligibility period. For the purpose of this paragraph, the term ''transfers'' shall have such meaning as is ascribed to it by the Secretary of the Senate.

(d)(1) A Senate employee with a balance of unused disabled veteran leave who ceases employment with a Senate employing office during the employee's 12-month eligibility period, and later recommences employment covered by 5 U.S.C. §6329 with a Senate employing office within that same eligibility period, is entitled to a recredit of the unused balance.

(2) When a Senate employee has a break in employment as described in paragraph (d)(1) of this section, the losing Senate employing office must certify the number of unused disabled veteran leave hours available for recredit by the gaining Senate employing office. The losing Senate employing office must also certify the expiration date of the employee's 12-month eligibility period. Any unused disabled veteran leave must be forfeited at the end of that eligibility period.

(3) In the absence of the certification described in paragraph (d)(2) of this section, the recredit of disabled veteran leave may also be supported by written documentation available to the gaining Senate employing office in its official personnel records concerning the employee, copies of contemporaneous earnings and leave statement(s) provided by the Senate employee, or copies of other contemporaneous written documentation acceptable to the gaining Senate employing office.

(e) A Senate employee may not receive a lump-sum payment for any unused disabled veteran leave under any circumstance.

## BUDGET ENFORCEMENT LEVELS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, 115th Congress, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, allows the chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to revise the allocations, aggregates and levels in the budget resolution for legislation related to the extension of certain healthcare policies. This adjustment authority, which was updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, is contingent on the legislation not increasing the deficit over either the period of fiscal years 2020–2024 or the period of fiscal years 2020–2029.

I find that H.R. 4378, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019, meets the conditions of deficit neutrality found in section 3005 of H. Con. Res 71. This determination has been made by looking at the deficit effects of the revenue and direct spending provisions of both Division A and Division B of H.R. 4378. Accordingly, I am revising the allocations to the Committee on Finance and the budgetary aggregates to account for the direct spending and revenue effects of the bill. Further, I am temporarily adjusting the Senate's PAYGO scorecard to reflect the $667 million deficit increase in Fiscal Year 2020 and deficit decreases of $477 million and $1 million over the 5- and 10-year periods, respectively. In recognition of the instruction to exclude the budgetary effects of division B from the PAYGO scorecard in title VII, the table accompanying this statement reflects only the prorated revenue effects of division A, which are not covered by the exception and whose adjustments will remain for PAYGO scorecard purposes.

Section 124 of division A provides for additional budgetary resources for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative and designates those resources as being for overseas contingency operations/global war on terrorism, OCO, pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. This designation makes this spending qualify for a discretionary cap adjustment under current statute. This provision has no effect on budget authority but would increase outlays by $128 million in Fiscal Year 2020. Therefore, I am revising the allocation to the Committee on Appropriations and further modifying the spending aggregate for Fiscal Year 2020 to accommodate these outlays.

I ask unanimous consent that the accompanying tables, which provide details about the adjustment, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

### BUDGET AGGREGATES—BUDGET AUTHORITY AND OUTLAYS

(Pursuant to Sections 311 and 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, as Updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019)

| $ in millions | 2020 |
|---|---|
| Current Aggregates: | |
| Spending: | |
| Budget Authority | 3,703,553 |
| Outlays | 3,680,696 |
| Adjustments*: | |
| Spending: | |
| Budget Authority | 693 |
| Outlays | 795 |
| Revised Aggregates: | |
| Spending: | |
| Budget Authority | 3,704,246 |
| Outlays | 3,681,491 |

### BUDGET AGGREGATE—REVENUES

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, as Updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019)

| $ in millions | 2020 | 2020–2024 | 2020–2029 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Current Aggregates: | | | |
| Revenue | 2,740,538 | 15,073,859 | 34,847,317 |
| Adjustments: | | | |
| Revenue | * | * | * |
| Revised Aggregates: | | | |
| Revenue | 2,740,538 | 15,073,859 | 34,847,317 |

*Denotes budgetary effects between −$500,000 and $500,000.

### REVISION TO ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

(Pursuant to Section 302 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, as updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019)

| $ in millions | 2020 | 2020–2024 | 2020–2029 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Current Allocation: | | | |
| Budget Authority | 2,624,780 | 15,076,375 | 35,392,167 |
| Outlays | 2,607,237 | 15,014,396 | 35,317,440 |
| Adjustments: | | | |
| Budget Authority | 693 | −477 | −1 |
| Outlays | 667 | −477 | −1 |
| Revised Allocation: | | | |
| Budget Authority | 2,625,473 | 15,075,898 | 35,392,166 |
| Outlays | 2,607,904 | 15,013,919 | 35,317,439 |

### PAY-AS-YOU-GO SCORECARD FOR THE SENATE

(Pursuant to Section 4106 and Section 3005 of H. Con. Res. 71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018, as Updated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019)

| $ in millions | Balances |
|---|---|
| Starting Balance: | |
| Fiscal Year 2019 | 0 |
| Fiscal Year 2020 | 0 |
| Fiscal Years 2019 through 2024 | 0 |
| Fiscal Years 2019 through 2029 | 0 |
| Adjustments: | |
| Fiscal Year 2019 | 0 |
| Fiscal Year 2020 | * |
| Fiscal Years 2019 through 2024 | * |
| Fiscal Years 2019 through 2029 | * |
| Revised Balance: | |
| Fiscal Year 2019 | 0 |
| Fiscal Year 2020 | * |
| Fiscal Years 2019 through 2024 | * |
| Fiscal Years 2019 through 2029 | * |

*Denotes budgetary effects between −$500,000 and $500,000.

Memorandum: For consideration of H.R. 4378, the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020, and Health Extenders Act of 2019, in the Senate, the Chairman's reserve fund adjustment covers the total deficit effects stemming from direct spending outlays and revenue changes in both Division A and Division B. This table reflects the final PAYGO recording of deficit effects from the measure consistent with exclusions in Title VII of Division B.

### REVISION TO SPENDING ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

(Pursuant to Sections 302 and 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)

| $ in millions | 2020 |
|---|---|
| Current Allocation: | |
| Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority | 666,500 |
| Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority | 621,508 |
| General Purpose Outlays | 1,364,251 |

REVISION TO SPENDING ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020—Continued

(Pursuant to Sections 302 and 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)

| $ in millions | 2020 |
|---|---|
| Adjustments: | |
| Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority | 0 |
| Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority | 0 |
| General Purpose Outlays | 128 |
| Revised Allocation: | |
| Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority | 666,500 |
| Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority | 621,508 |
| General Purpose Outlays | 1,364,379 |

| Memorandum: Detail of Adjustments Made Above | Regular | OCO | Program Integrity | Disaster Relief | Emergency | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| General Purpose Outlays | 0 | 128 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 128 |

## REMEMBERING MARY GAUTREAUX

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart today that I honor the incredible life of Mary Gautreaux, an Oregonian who never stopped fighting to make our State and our world a better place for all. Throughout her decades-long career working with my colleague Senator WYDEN as a fellow, a field representative, and as deputy State director, she was deeply committed to not only preserving Oregon's natural treasures but making sure Oregonians in every comer of our State had the opportunity to experience them.

Her love for helping others was only paralleled by her passion for Oregon's incredible public lands, which was a cornerstone of her life even long before she joined Senator WYDEN's team. Previously, she fought wildfires and maintained our forests—strenuous, courageous work that is critical to keeping our communities safe. When she transitioned to Senator WYDEN's office, her hard work continued and culminated in countless accomplishments that will shape the lives of Oregonians for generations to come.

On behalf of all Oregonians, I thank her for her generous spirit and her unwavering dedication to serving the people of Oregon. Her contributions will be felt for generations to come, and she will be dearly missed and never forgotten.

## TRIBUTE TO CHRIS GASPAR

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I wish to bid a fond farewell and recognize the excellent service of my longtime foreign affairs and defense policy adviser, Christopher Gaspar.

Over the past 6 years, Chris has brought expertise, insight, and sage advice across a wide range of defense policy, defense appropriations, and foreign affairs matters that have benefited me directly and, through his service, the Nation.

I have valued Chris's counsel on contentious issues to include Iran's nuclear program and the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action to address it; the Israel-Palestinian conflict; U.S.-China relations; human rights issues in Saudi Arabia, Burma, and Tibet; national security space launch; deteriorating conditions in Central American countries; oversight of the U.S. nuclear arsenal; and U.S. counterterrorism efforts across the globe.

The people of California largely don't know his name, but have benefited from his dedicated work on numerous National Defense Authorization Acts and Defense Appropriations Acts. He has helped enact numerous provisions into law for the betterment of the State, including securing seven C–130 tankers for California to fight wildfires, making California's the largest wildfire aerial fleet in the country. He has worked with our counties and cities to allow underutilized National Guard facilities to be used to combat California's homelessness crisis. This year, he led a comprehensive effort to investigate and draft reforms to address shameful, substandard contract military housing to meet the needs of our servicemembers and their families a provision that I hope will soon be enacted in this year's defense bill.

Chris has been by my side for numerous sensitive meetings with foreign leaders, ambassadors, military commanders, corporate chiefs, and local officials, and he has always exhibited a level of professionalism, dedication, and empathy that I deeply admire and appreciate.

He has also helped California constituents facing issues abroad, served as a valued mentor to junior staff, dedicated himself to liaison relationships with the House of Representatives on coffee meetings, proven himself to be an integral member of my appropriations team, and was always ready with a quip—sometimes humorous—to help lighten the mood.

Chris is moving on to the private sector——hopefully temporarily—and will spend some much deserved down-time with his new wife. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors, and my staff and I will deeply miss him.

Thank you

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### TRIBUTE TO CRAIG BECKER

• Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Craig Becker, who, after 42 years in the health care system, including 26 years leading the Tennessee Hospital Association, is retiring this month. Considering how the health care system has changed in those four decades, I can imagine Craig has many stories he could tell of what can happen when people seek to help others as our healthcare professionals do.

For those of us from Tennessee, we know Craig is an advocate for hospitals, providing an articulate explanation on issues ranging from Medicare hospital wage disparities to leveling the playing field for Tennessee on Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payment issues, to seeking solutions for rural communities in maintaining a medical presence.

Craig's dedication has never been about just his job or solely about his service to those working in health care. Several years ago, when was asked in an interview, ''what has been your worst decision,'' he answered, ''dropping out of the Boy Scouts before obtaining his Eagle rank.'' Craig has more than made up for that—for 25 years, he has served as the Assistant Scout Master of Troup 1 in Brentwood Tennessee. Craig has spent dozens of weekends through those two and a half decades hiking and camping with the Boy Scouts of central Tennessee including camping in both Tennessee State and our nation's National Parks. He has participated in jamborees as far away as the World Jamboree in Chile several years ago. Among his many awards, he is a 'Life Scout' which is a badge given for those who can help point Scouts the right way in life ''as truly as does a compass in the field.''

I was a Boy Scout, and know the lessons one can learn about the great American outdoors, serving your community, and lifelong friendships. It makes sense to me that someone so involved in scouting, has dedicated his professional life to improving Tennessee and our nation's healthcare system.

While Craig may be retiring from his day job with THA, we are thankful he plans to continue to serve the Boy Scouts and his community.

I congratulate Craig on a lifetime of service, and wish all the best in retirement to him, his wife Angie—a retired nurse practitioner—and their two sons.•

### TRIBUTE TO ''MISS ROXIE'' GIBSON

• Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, today I wish to acknowledge the well-deserved retirement of Nashville, Tennessee's own Roxie Gibson.

Roxie, or, ''Miss Roxie,'' as we all know her, dedicated her professional life to the service and support of her church, community, and the children who fill the halls each weekday at Oak Hill School in Nashville.

In a time when acts of kindness are more often than not eclipsed by the

drama and bustle of everyday life, Miss Roxie taught generations of students—and their parents and neighbors, too—to value curiosity and a loving spirit and to never take friendship for granted. Her smiling face will be missed around the halls of Oak Hill School.

She is truly irreplaceable.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in wishing Miss Roxie a happy and fulfilling retirement.●

## REMEMBERING MILO J. SHULT

● Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Milo J. Shult, whose steady hand led the University of Arkansas System's Division of Agriculture for 18 years. Milo passed away on July 19, 2019.

Dr. Milo Shult was originally from Keokuk, IA, and after graduating with his Ph.d. from Iowa State University, started his career in agriculture for the Texas A&M University System. In 1992, he became the University of Arkansas System's vice president for agriculture, a position he held for 18 years. Throughout his tenure, Milo transformed the Division of Agriculture to enhance its research and extension capabilities to become one of the finest in the Nation.

Throughout his 38-year career in public agricultural research and extension, Milo was a dedicated advocate for agriculture. He served on several local, State and national committees, including the Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching, CARET; Arkansas Agriculture Board; as chairman of the board for the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics, NAREEE; and chair of the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute. In 2011, Milo was inducted into the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame.

The impact of his career and leadership are once again being acknowledged as the division is commemorating Milo's years of service by renaming the Arkansas Agricultural Research & Extension Center in his honor. Starting on its 100th anniversary, ''The Farm,'' as it is known in Fayetteville, will now be called the Milo J. Shult Agricultural Research & Extension Center.

Milo Shult left a mark on the University of Arkansas System and our State's agriculture community that no one will soon forget. I am proud that this is one more piece of Milo's legacy that will live on at the Division of Agriculture, and I hope that future leaders will follow his remarkable example.●

## RECOGNIZING WIMMER'S DIAMONDS

● Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the legacy of Wimmer's Diamonds, which this month is celebrating a century of doing business in Fargo.

Throughout these years, this fourth-generation jewelry store has been a mainstay in downtown Fargo. It has grown along with the city, adding a second location at West Acres Mall in 1985.

The business began as the Fargo Jewelry Manufacturing Company, founded by Fred Wimmer, a Hungarian immigrant who arrived in New York City in 1907. He began working in America at Tiffany & Co. as an engraver. He moved West 3 years later, continuing his work in Minneapolis and Owatonna, Minnesota, for 6 more years before arriving in Fargo in 1919.

In the years since, the Wimmer family has designed, sold, and serviced diamonds to customers throughout the region. The responsibility for keeping the business going has been passed on from Fred to his son, Art, then to grandson Andy, and on to the current generation of owners, Brad Wimmer and his son, Aaron.

Likewise, Wimmer's Diamonds has been a destination for generations of customers, who have looked to it as a trusted partner when occasions call for a gift of diamonds and fine jewelry.

In a time when there are fewer family-owned businesses, Wimmer's has been successful by adapting to the changes of retail management and customer preferences. It has been long established as a valued member of the community, giving back over the years in every way possible.

I congratulate the entire Wimmer family for a century of business in Fargo. Wimmer's Diamonds is testament to the importance of small businesses in communities of all sizes across the Nation and the impact entrepreneurs have on our American economy.

You have enhanced the quality of life we treasure in North Dakota and have set a very high bar for being a dedicated community partner. Thank you for all you have done to enhance the happy occasions in the lives of your customers, and I hope you will remain part of our celebrations for many years to come.●

## RECOGNIZING THE HARDIN MARCHING BAND

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing the Hardin High School Marching Band for being selected to represent Montana at the 2020 Independence Day Parade in Washington, DC.

Countless hours of practice, dedication, and hard work earned these young musicians this prestigious honor, and I am proud they are representing the Treasure State on the national stage.

While making their way to Washington, DC, these students will have the opportunity to travel on a 10-day journey across the country before reaching the Nation's Capital. They will get to experience some of America's national attractions like Mount Rushmore, Wrigley Stadium, and the National Football Hall of Fame. The memories these young leaders will make on this trip will last them a lifetime.

It is my honor to recognize the Hardin High School Marching Band. Their talent and musical ability is a testament to the quality of the music education programs we have in Big Sky Country. I know that they will make all of Montana proud.●

## REMEMBERING BOB ANDERSON

● Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today, along with Senator TINA SMITH of Minnesota, I rise to acknowledge the passing of a longtime advocate, mayor, and friend, International Falls Mayor Bob Anderson, who died unexpectedly on September 20, 2019. Described by those who knew him as the ''voice and face of International Falls,'' Bob spent five decades in public service to the hometown and community he loved.

A lifelong resident of International Falls and graduate of Rainy River Community College, Bob spent 51 years working for the local Boise paper mill, including 25 as the public affairs manager for the Boise Cascade Corporation.

Bob was passionate about his community, and his love was reflected in his years of dedication to the airport, hospital, Highway 53 Task Force, the county, anything and everything connected to his beloved International Falls. He truly left his mark on his beloved hometown from his seats on the city council, the chamber of commerce, and as its devoted mayor—serving first from 1968 to 1986 and then elected again in 2013. And he still wasn't done; he had made clear that he was fully intending to seek another term next year.

Bob was also dedicated to improving communities across Minnesota through decades of service on numerous statewide committees and advocacy organizations, including as a president of the League of Minnesota Cities, as a member of the Minnesota Forestry Association, and as chairman of our Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council.

He also chaired the International Falls-Koochiching County Airport Commission for over 30 years, helping to secure Federal grant money for the airport that serves as a major corridor between the ''icebox of the Nation'' and those who flock to the area to hunt, fish, and enjoy the beauty of northern Minnesota. Earlier this year and in large part due to Bob's efforts, the International Falls Airport opened a brand new terminal.

The airport was just one of the many legacies Bob leaves behind. In the words of Representative Rob Ecklund of International Falls, ''You can't go anywhere in northern Minnesota without seeing his fingerprint on it, from airports to roads. He left a tremendous lasting imprint.''

We are thankful we were able to work with Bob on so many of these projects—from economic development initiatives to youth programs—and will

always remember him as a tireless champion for small towns and the outdoors.

In his final state of the city address, delivered just weeks ago, Bob summed up progress in his community, saying ''There is a lot of sunshine and a few dark clouds, but overall it's positive.'' We hope during this time of loss for both our State and Bob's family, his wife Carol, three children, and five grandchildren will take solace in remembering all the sunshine Bob blessed us with.●

## TRIBUTE TO DR. JASPER LiCALZI

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize an Idaho educator who has committed himself with distinction to mentoring some of my State's brightest students. Since 1993, Dr. Jasper LiCalzi has been a member of the College of Idaho faculty, most recently as the chair of the Department of Political Economy. There he offers courses on national government institutions, State and local politics, and public policy issues such as healthcare, the environment, and macroeconomics.

Dr. LiCalzi's research at the College of Idaho has concentrated on interest groups in Idaho and the Idaho State Legislature. He recently completed a book, ''Idaho Politics and Government: Culture Clash and Conflicting Values in the Gem State''. The book examines governmental and political institutions in Idaho through the prism of political culture.

Dr. LiCalzi is also the political analyst for KIVI Channel Six in Boise, ID, and is frequently featured as an expert on political economy by radio and newspapers both locally and nationally. He is also a member of the advisory board for the Idaho Center for Fiscal Policy.

As Governor and U.S. Senator, I have had the pleasure of hiring many students of Dr. LiCalzi's as staff members, from interns to the highest leadership positions. His dedication and quality of education was apparent in each and every one of them.

After a generation of educating Idaho's brightest, he has announced his much deserved retirement. Beyond the classroom, Dr. LiCalzi has set the bar for what a college mentor should be. It is not unusual to find him outside the classroom most nights advising student groups, cheering for the ''Yotes'' and contributing to the community of Caldwell, ID.

Finally, Mr. President, those of us in this business know you cannot do it without support and great advice, and the best advice comes from your wife. I would be remiss not to pay tribute today to Dr. LiCalzi's wife, Deborah. At every turn, she has been standing next to Dr. LiCalzi, many times cheering louder than he. Their decades of marriage and commitment to each other exceed even the high accomplishments Dr. LiCalzi has made at the College of Idaho.

The College of Idaho and the State of Idaho have been made a better place due to the career and commitment of Dr. and Mrs. LiCalzi.●

## 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION PIPES & DRUMS

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of the New Hampshire congressional delegation, Senator Maggie Hassan and Representatives Ann McLane Kuster and Chris Pappas, to salute the New Hampshire Police Association Pipes and Drums on its 25th anniversary. For a quarter century, NHPA Pipes and Drums have brought their distinct sound to memorial services and community events in the Granite State and across the country. They honor their brothers and sisters in uniform with each performance.

The beginnings of NHPA Pipes and Drums are rooted in tragedy. In October of 1994, Sergeant James Noyes of the New Hampshire State Police SWAT Team responded to a barricaded subject in Gilford, NH. Trained in hostage negotiations, he was trying to dissuade a clearly distraught man from harming himself when the man suddenly opened fire. Sergeant Noyes was struck by a bullet under his arm and succumbed to his injury, leaving behind a wife, daughter, and two sons.

At his funeral days later, his fellow troopers and law enforcement officers listened to the Boston Police Gaelic Column pay tribute to Sergeant Noyes. Their bagpipes and drums gave expression to their shared grief. A few officers quickly initiated a search for anyone interested in a New Hampshire-based police pipes and drum band. Several individuals from various departments answered the call, and they held their first practice 2 months later. After 2 years of trainings and rehearsals, the New Hampshire Police Association Pipes and Drums gave its maiden performance at the New Hampshire Police Memorial in Concord.

The band's current roster has honed a difficult craft, and their performances give special meaning to both somber police memorials as well as more cheerful community events. They are frequent marchers in Forth of July and holiday parades around the region. They are mainstays at the New Hampshire Highland Games. They bring their talents to send-offs for Honor Flights, which flies veterans to Washington, DC, at no cost to see war memorials. They have played at Fenway Park, as well as in the Nation's Capital during National Police Week, and at our annual Congressional Law Enforcement Awards, they play a crucial role in our efforts to honor officers who go above and beyond the call of duty.

On behalf of the people of New Hampshire, we ask our colleagues and all Americans to join us in congratulating NHPA Pipes and Drums on 25 years of service and wishing its pipers and drummers all the best in the coming years.●

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:14 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1595. An act to create protections for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2203. An act to increase transparency, accountability, and community engagement within the Department of Homeland Security, provide independent oversight of border security activities, improve training for agents and officers of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and for other purposes.

## MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1595. An act to create protections for depository institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2203. An act to increase transparency, accountability, and community engagement within the Department of Homeland Security, provide independent oversight of border security activities, improve training for agents and officers of U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

## MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2593. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. SHELBY, from the Committee on Appropriations:

Special Report entitled ''Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2020'' (Rept. No. 116–122).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2580. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–123).

By Mrs. HYDE–SMITH, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2581. An original bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–124).

By Mrs. CAPITO, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2582. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–125).

By Mr. GRAHAM, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2583. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–126).

By Mr. MORAN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 2584. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–127).

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 384. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116–128).

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 183. A resolution reaffirming the vital role of the United States-Japan alliance in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond, and for other purposes.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 236. A resolution reaffirming the strong partnership between Tunisia and the United States and supporting the people of Tunisia in their continued pursuit of democratic reforms.

S. Res. 277. A resolution remembering the 25th Anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and recommitting to efforts to uphold justice for the 85 victims of the attacks.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with amendments and with a preamble:

S. Res. 318. A resolution to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 1590. A bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards for thwarting wildlife trafficking linked to transnational organized crime, and for other purposes.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1678. A bill to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world.

S. 1838. A bill to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

By Mr. WICKER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 2297. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2372. A bill to enhance global engagement to combat marine debris, and for other purposes.

## 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 Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2550. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the deduction for advertising and promotional expenses for tobacco products and electronic nicotine delivery systems; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 2551. A bill to establish the Tariff Rebate Program to disburse revenues from tariffs back to the American people; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 2552. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an option for first responders age 50 to 64 who are separated from service due to retirement or disability to buy into Medicare; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 2553. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strike the provision of the American Opportunity Tax Credit that denies the credit to students with felony drug convictions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 2554. A bill to require the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to conduct research on mass violence; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2555. A bill to designate the New River Gorge National River in the State of West Virginia as the ''New River Gorge National Park and Preserve'', and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RISCH, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. KING):

S. 2556. A bill to amend the Federal Power Act to provide energy cybersecurity investment incentives, to establish a grant and technical assistance program for cybersecurity investments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ALEXANDER:

S. 2557. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the financial aid process for students, to provide continued support for minority-serving institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 2558. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make certain grants to assist nursing homes for veterans located on tribal lands; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida:

S. 2559. A bill to establish certain requirements for institutions that participate in the Federal Direct loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 2560. A bill to amend the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to require the budget justifications and appropriation requests of agencies be made publicly available; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. REED, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2561. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REED, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2562. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit the importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2563. A bill to improve laws relating to money laundering, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 2564. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to benefits for survivors of deceased graduates of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 2565. A bill to establish a Global Climate Change Resilience Strategy, to authorize the admission of climate-displaced persons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. LEE):

S. 2566. A bill to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2567. A bill to provide rental assistance to low-income tenants of certain multifamily rural housing projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. COONS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2568. A bill to reform the Federal sugar program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 2569. A bill to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a pilot program instituting a clinical observation program for pre-med students preparing to attend medical school; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 2570. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Greg LeMond in recognition of his service to the United States as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2571. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a business credit

for gain from the sale of real property for use as a manufactured home community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 2572. A bill to limit the collection of annual premiums under the FHA program for mortgage insurance for single family housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2573. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to prohibit the knowing possession of a pill press mold with intent to manufacture in violation of such Act a counterfeit substance in schedule I or II in a capsule, tablet, and other form intended for distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GARDNER:

S. 2574. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to increase the ability of Medicare and Medicaid providers to access the National Practitioner Data Bank for the purpose of conducting employee background checks; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 2575. A bill to prohibit recipients of disaster recovery relief assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban Development from penalizing applicants that declined assistance from the Small Business Administration; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 2576. A bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to establish a discretionary spending limit for infrastructure spending; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 2577. A bill to require data brokers to establish procedures to ensure the accuracy of collected personal information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2578. A bill to increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2579. A bill to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2580. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. HYDE–SMITH:

S. 2581. An original bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. CAPITO:

S. 2582. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 2583. An original bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. MORAN:

S. 2584. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. DAINES, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 2585. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act and Public Health Service Act to improve the reporting of abortion data to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MCSALLY (for herself and Mr. JONES):

S. 2586. A bill to improve maternal health care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. ROUNDS, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2587. A bill to amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend State court funding for child welfare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2588. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and update the credit for nonbusiness energy property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 2589. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the limitation on downward attribution of stock ownership in applying the constructive ownership rules to controlled foreign corporations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 2590. A bill to protect the dignity of fetal remains, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. COONS, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2591. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 2592. A bill to accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of the families of victims of the mass shooting in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on May 31, 2019; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PORTMAN:

S. 2593. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions; read the first time.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 2594. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify certain requirements with respect to service and retirement for the purposes of veterans' preference for Federal hiring; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. KAINE):

S.J. Res. 56. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to ''Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COONS, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 343. A resolution congratulating the people of the Czech Republic and the people of the Slovak Republic on the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution, the 26th anniversary of the formation of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic, and the 101st anniversary of the declaration of independence of Czechoslovakia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. REED, and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 344. A resolution expressing support for a credible, inclusive, and transparent presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 345. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month to raise awareness about, and enhance the state of, cybersecurity in the United States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 346. A resolution designating October 8, 2019, as ''National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day''; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REED, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL,

Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BENNET):

S. Res. 347. A resolution designating October 2, 2019, as ''Energy Efficiency Day'' in celebration of the economic and environmental benefits that have been driven by private sector innovation and Federal energy efficiency policies; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 348. A resolution proclaiming the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as ''National Clean Energy Week''; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 349. A resolution supporting the designation of September 20, 2019, as ''National Concussion Awareness Day''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. REED, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. Res. 350. A resolution designating September 2019 as ''National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month''; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. Res. 351. A resolution designating the week of September 29 through October 5, 2019, as ''National Community Policing Week''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 352. A resolution recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and the immense contributions of Latinos to the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. Res. 353. A resolution recognizing September 24, 2019, as ''National Voter Registration Day''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. Res. 354. A resolution designating September 2019 as ''National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month''; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. REED, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 355. A resolution designating the week of September 22 through 28, 2019, as ''National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 356. A resolution designating September 4, 2019, as ''National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day'', and raising awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 357. A resolution celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. Con. Res. 26. A concurrent resolution calling for an end to the consumption and trade of dog and cat meat; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 133

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 133, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States merchant mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

S. 149

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 149, a bill to establish a Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Council.

S. 363

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 363, a bill to establish an Intercountry Adoption Advisory Committee, and for other purposes.

S. 430

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 430, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 433

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 433, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve home health payment reforms under the Medicare program.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for a new rule regarding the application of the Act to marihuana, and for other purposes.

S. 655

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 655, a bill to impose additional restrictions on tobacco flavors for use in e-cigarettes.

S. 743

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 743, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the soldiers of the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly known as ''Merrill's Marauders'', in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service in the jungles of Burma during World War II.

S. 785

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 785, a bill to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 800

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 800, a bill to establish a postsecondary student data system.

S. 877

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, supra.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, supra.

At the request of Mr. CARPER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, supra.

S. 978

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 978, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the work opportunity credit.

S. 1032

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1032, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the definition of income for purposes of determining the tax-exempt status of certain corporations.

S. 1067

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1067, a bill to provide for research to better understand the causes and consequences of sexual harassment affecting individuals in the scientific, technical, engineering, and mathematics workforce and to examine policies to reduce the prevalence and negative impact of such harassment, and for other purposes.

S. 1465

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1465, a bill to amend title IV of the Social Security Act to allow the Secretary of Health and Human

Services to award competitive grants to enhance collaboration between State child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

S. 1552

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1552, a bill to decriminalize marijuana, and for other purposes.

S. 1590

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1590, a bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards for thwarting wildlife trafficking linked to transnational organized crime, and for other purposes.

S. 1678

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1678, a bill to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world.

S. 1820

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1820, a bill to improve the integrity and safety of horseracing by requiring a uniform anti-doping and medication control program to be developed and enforced by an independent Horseracing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority.

S. 1840

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1840, a bill to establish certain requirements for the small refineries exemption of the renewable fuels provisions under the Clean Air Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1906, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide financial assistance to eligible entities to provide and coordinate the provision of suicide prevention services for veterans at risk of suicide and veteran families through the award of grants to such entities, and for other purposes.

S. 1918

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1918, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require alternative options for summer food service program delivery.

S. 2042

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2042, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor.

S. 2062

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2062, a bill to prohibit the use of funds for the 2026 World Cup unless the United States Soccer Federation provides equitable pay to the members of the United States Women's National Team and the United States Men's National Team.

S. 2107

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) were added as cosponsors of S. 2107, a bill to increase the number of CBP Agriculture Specialists and support staff in the Office of Field Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes.

S. 2137

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2137, a bill to promote energy savings in residential buildings and industry, and for other purposes.

S. 2203

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to extend the transfer of Electronic Travel Authorization System fees from the Travel Promotion Fund to the Corporation for Travel Promotion (Brand USA) through fiscal year 2027, and for other purposes.

S. 2227

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2227, a bill to decriminalize and deschedule cannabis, to provide for reinvestment in certain persons adversely impacted by the War on Drugs, to provide for expungement of certain cannabis offenses, and for other purposes.

S. 2238

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2238, a bill to protect elections for public office by providing financial support and enhanced security for the infrastructure used to carry out such elections, and for other purposes.

S. 2254

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2254, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a Pension Rehabilitation Trust Fund, to establish a Pension Rehabilitation Administration within the Department of the Treasury to make loans to multiemployer defined benefit plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2330

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2330, a bill to amend the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act to provide for congressional oversight of the board of directors of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and to protect amateur athletes from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, and for other purposes.

S. 2353

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2353, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop guidance for firefighters and other emergency response personnel on best practices to protect them from exposure to PFAS and to limit and prevent the release of PFAS into the environment, and for other purposes.

S. 2427

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2427, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue quarter dollars in commemoration of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2434

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2434, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 2477

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2477, a bill to establish a National Commission on Fibrotic Diseases.

S. 2478

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2478, a bill to designate the Bahamas under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide temporary protected status under such section to eligible nationals of the Bahamas.

S. 2479

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2479, a bill to provide clarification regarding the common or

usual name for bison and compliance with section 403 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2480

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2480, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to reauthorize the payment in lieu of taxes program through fiscal year 2029.

S. 2519

At the request of Mr. ROMNEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2519, a bill to protect the public health by prohibiting non-tobacco e-cigarette flavors and ensuring electronic nicotine delivery systems are tamper-proof.

S. 2548

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2548, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students.

S. 2549

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2549, a bill to allow nonprofit child care providers to participate in the loan programs of the Small Business Administration.

S.J. RES. 16

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 16, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to abolish the electoral college and to provide for the direct election of the President and Vice President of the United States.

S. RES. 98

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 98, a resolution establishing the Congressional Gold Star Family Fellowship Program for the placement in offices of Senators of children, spouses, and siblings of members of the Armed Forces who are hostile casualties or who have died from a training-related injury.

S. RES. 318

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 318, a resolution to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment.

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 318, supra.

S. RES. 341

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 341, a resolution designating September 2019 as ''National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month''.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. LEE):

S. 2566. A bill to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. 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. 2566

*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 ''Prohibiting Punishment of Acquitted Conduct Act of 2019''.

**SEC. 2. ACQUITTED CONDUCT AT SENTENCING.**

(a) USE OF INFORMATION FOR SENTENCING.—

(1) AMENDMENT.—Section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting '', except that a court of the United States shall not consider, except for purposes of mitigating a sentence, acquitted conduct under this section'' before the period at the end.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply only to a judgment entered on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 3673 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''As'' and inserting the following:

''(a) As''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) As used in this chapter, the term 'acquitted conduct' means—

''(1) an act—

''(A) for which a person was criminally charged and adjudicated not guilty after trial in a Federal, State, or Tribal court; or

''(B) in the case of a juvenile, that was charged and for which the juvenile was found not responsible after a juvenile adjudication hearing; or

''(2) any act underlying a criminal charge or juvenile information dismissed—

''(A) in a Federal court upon a motion for acquittal under rule 29 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure; or

''(B) in a State or Tribal court upon a motion for acquittal or an analogous motion under the applicable State or Tribal rule of criminal procedure.''.

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By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 2579. A bill to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## WOMEN AND MINORITIES IN STEM BOOSTER ACT OF 2019

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, studies show that women and underrepresented minorities face substantial barriers to completing educational opportunities and pursuing careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Congress and the Federal government should be doing more to help women and underrepresented minorities succeed in these areas, which will strengthen our economy and communities in the long-term.

For these reasons, I come to the floor today to reintroduce the STEM Opportunities Act of 2019 and the Women and Minorities in STEM Booster Act of 2019, two important bills that would help to broaden participation in STEM and strengthen our nation's STEM pipeline for women and minorities.

Recent trends indicate that we are not keeping pace with training the scientists and engineers we will need for the 21st century careers of the future. Unfortunately, women and minorities too often ''leak'' out of the STEM pipeline before completing degrees in these critical fields. In order for the United States to remain competitive in our increasingly global economy, we need to make sure opportunities are available for everyone because only when everyone succeeds can we all succeed.

As members of Congress, we have a responsibility to ensure that our country remains competitive and provides opportunities for all Americans. We have an important role to play in breaking down barriers for women and minorities in STEM and must work to ensure that Federal government agencies, Federal laboratories, institutions of higher education, State and local governments, industry, and nonprofit stakeholders are working collaboratively to support these efforts.

The STEM Opportunities Act represents a comprehensive approach to improving the severe shortage and lack of diversity in our Nation's STEM pipeline by addressing factors that limit the progression of women and minorities in research environments and implementing research-based practices to improve the recruitment and retention of faculty and students. Specifically, the bill would provide for guidance, data collection, and grants for women and minorities in STEM at institutions of higher education and at federal science agencies to improve access and reduce cultural and institutional barriers that limit diversity in STEM research and careers.

The Women and Minorities in STEM Booster Act represents a more targeted approach to strengthening the STEM pipeline, by providing for training, outreach, mentoring, and other resources

for women and minorities in STEM. Specifically, the bill would require the National Science Foundation to award competitive grants to promote activities such as online workshops, mentoring programs, internship opportunities, outreach efforts, and other designed to increase recruitment and retention of women and underrepresented minorities in STEM. It is through these purposeful efforts that we, as a nation, can foster a stronger, more expansive, and diverse STEM workforce that will help us remain a competitive force around the world.

As we work to build and maintain our STEM workforce, it is important for us to promote opportunities for women and minorities that encourage participation so that we engage our entire talent pool and ensure that our nation's future economic and national security are secure.

We have made important strides to provide opportunities for women and minorities in our country, but more work remains and we should continue our efforts by considering and passing these bills. I thank my colleagues for joining me in reintroducing the bills, and encourage others to join us as we work to strengthen the STEM pipeline for everyone in the United States.

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By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. KAINE):

S.J. Res. 56. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to ''Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. 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.J. RES. 56

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to ''Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability'' (84 Fed. Reg. 49788 (September 23, 2019)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

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### SENATE RESOLUTION 343—CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND THE PEOPLE OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VELVET REVOLUTION, THE 26TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC AND THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC, AND THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COONS, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 343

Whereas, on January 8, 1918, President Woodrow Wilson, in the ''Fourteen Points'' address to a joint session of Congress, called for the free ''autonomous development'' of the peoples of Austria-Hungary;

Whereas the Fourteen Points address became the basis for the founding of an independent Czech-Slovak nation-state;

Whereas, on September 3, 1918, the United States recognized the Czecho-Slovak National Council in Paris as a de facto government at war with the German and Austro-Hungarian Empires;

Whereas, on October 14, 1918, the Czecho-Slovak National Council formed a provisional government, which declared independence from Austria-Hungary on October 18, 1918;

Whereas the peoples of the present day Czech Republic and the peoples of the present day Slovak Republic proclaimed independence on October 28, 1918, and October 30, 1918, respectively, forming the common state of the Republic of Czechoslovakia;

Whereas, on November 12, 1918, the United States and Czechoslovakia established formal diplomatic relations;

Whereas the United States never recognized—

(1) the annexation of the Czech Sudetenland by Nazi Germany in October 1938;

(2) the subsequent establishment of a German protectorate over Bohemia and Moravia; or

(3) the creation of the German puppet Slovak State in March 1939;

Whereas the Slovak and Czech resistance movements against the Nazi occupation, with the support of the Czechoslovak government-in-exile, launched the Slovak National Uprising in August 1944 and the Prague uprising in May 1945, accelerating the collapse of the Third Reich and demonstrating the courage, patriotism, and freedom-loving spirit of the Czech and Slovak peoples;

Whereas, in February 1948, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia seized power from the democratically elected government of Czechoslovakia;

Whereas, on August 20, 1968, 20 Soviet and Warsaw Pact military divisions invaded Czechoslovakia in order to crush the ''Prague Spring'', a period of greater political and economic liberty that followed the appointment of Alexander Dubcek as First Secretary of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party;

Whereas, in the nonviolent Velvet Revolution of November 1989, the peoples of Czechoslovakia overthrew 40 years of totalitarian communist rule;

Whereas, after the Velvet Revolution, the peoples of Czechoslovakia established vibrant, pluralistic, democratic political systems based on freedom of speech, a free press, free and fair elections, the rule of law, and individual rights, values embodied by Václav Havel, the first president of Czechoslovakia after the fall of communism in that country;

Whereas, on January 1, 1993, the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic were formally created as independent nation-states after a peaceful dissolution of Czechoslovakia;

Whereas the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization on March 12, 1999, and March 29, 2004, respectively, and have made significant contributions to the operations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization around the world; and

Whereas the peoples of the United States, the Czech Republic, and the Slovak Republic have forged a special relationship based on mutual respect, close cooperation, and the shared values of democracy, the rule of law, economic liberty, and individual rights and responsibility: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That the Senate—

(1) commends the peoples of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic for their considerable achievements in building free, democratic, and prosperous societies over the past 30 years since the fall of communist dictatorship in Czechoslovakia;

(2) congratulates the peoples of the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic on—

(A) the 26th anniversary of the formation of each country; and

(B) the 101st anniversary of the independence of Czechoslovakia;

(3) expresses profound gratitude for the sacrifices made by the people of the Czech Republic and the people of the Slovak Republic in support of the operations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in Afghanistan and elsewhere;

(4) reaffirms the strong historical and cultural ties that bind the people of the Czech Republic, the people of the Slovak Republic, and the people of the United States together; and

(5) expresses the continued commitment of the United States to a free, peaceful, and prosperous Europe.

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### SENATE RESOLUTION 344—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A CREDIBLE, INCLUSIVE, AND TRANSPARENT PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN AFGHANISTAN ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. REED, and Mr. RISCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 344

Whereas Afghanistan will hold a presidential election on September 28, 2019, in which the citizens of Afghanistan will have an opportunity to participate;

Whereas, according to the United Nations Population Fund, 63.7 percent of the people of Afghanistan are under 25 years of age, reflecting the need for a fully functioning and transparent government to administer and provide services to the youth of Afghanistan, who are facing significant challenges related to health, education, and employment;

Whereas, in the last parliamentary election in 2018, more than 3,000,000 people in Afghanistan exercised the democratic right to

choose the individuals who would represent the people of Afghanistan in parliament;

Whereas Afghanistan has made significant progress on human rights, including the rights of women and minorities, which are enshrined in the constitution of Afghanistan and further protected by the participation of the people of Afghanistan in democratic elections;

Whereas free and fair elections are a fundamental part of a strong democracy and allow the citizens of a country to exercise full civil, political, and human rights;

Whereas a credible electoral process is necessary for citizens of a country to trust in the democratic institutions and political leaders of that country;

Whereas elections should serve as peaceful processes through which the will of the voters is expressed and political power is transferred or reaffirmed;

Whereas the people of Afghanistan will go to the polls to exercise their democratic right to vote amid heightened threats and attacks by the Taliban;

Whereas the Taliban has targeted campaign rallies, candidates, and election events, resulting in 48 deaths on September 17, 2019, alone;

Whereas, since 2001, the United States has invested significantly in efforts to bring security and stability to the region, accounting for more than $800,000,000,000 in efforts that include—

(1) helping to rebuild Afghanistan, including efforts to rebuild and reform the institutions of Afghanistan; and

(2) helping to defend the rights of the people of Afghanistan;

Whereas, since 2001, more than 775,000 members of the Armed Forces of the United States have been deployed to Afghanistan, of which—

(1) more than 20,500 have been wounded; and

(2) more than 2,400 have died while serving;

Whereas the international community has also made critical investments in democratic processes and institutions in Afghanistan;

Whereas the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (referred to in this preamble as ''NATO'') invoked Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty for the first time in history in the wake of the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001;

Whereas, since the date on which NATO invoked Article V of the North Atlantic Treaty, the longest and most challenging mission of NATO has been in commanding the International Security Assistance Force mandated by the United Nations—

(1) beginning in August 2003 and ending in December 2014; and

(2) which, at its largest, comprised more than 130,000 troops from 50 NATO allies and partner countries;

Whereas, in January 2015, NATO launched the Resolute Support Mission, which comprises approximately 17,000 troops from 39 NATO allies and partner countries as of September 2019;

Whereas the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces will have responsibility for providing security for the presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019;

Whereas, despite threats from the Taliban, people across Afghanistan are risking their lives to support, administer, and secure democratic election operations, including—

(1) 13,000 women and men who are serving as independent election observers;

(2) 50,000 citizens of Afghanistan who have signed up to be poll watchers from the political parties; and

(3) more than 200 members of the independent media who have been accredited to cover and report on the campaigns and election processes; and

Whereas a democratically elected and legitimate government that reflects the will of the people of Afghanistan is in the security interests of Afghanistan and the allies of Afghanistan, including the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for a credible, inclusive, and transparent presidential election in Afghanistan on September 28, 2019;

(2) commends the people of Afghanistan for their commitment to democracy, the rule of law, and free and fair elections;

(3) condemns all threats against the administration of free and fair democratic elections, including all acts of terrorism designed to depress turnout and intimidate voters; and

(4) reaffirms the commitment of the United States Government to peace and stability in furtherance of a democratic Afghanistan.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 345—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AWARENESS MONTH TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT, AND ENHANCE THE STATE OF, CYBERSECURITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 345

Whereas internet-based devices are present in every aspect of life for many people in the United States, with constant connection providing opportunities for innovation and modernization;

Whereas a connected society is subject to cybersecurity threats that can compromise even the most personal and sensitive of information;

Whereas malware is any malicious software that can be used to compromise the integrity of an electronic device, including the various types of software that give cyber criminals unique methods to monitor and control online activity or steal personal information or other sensitive data, such as—

(1) adware;

(2) botnets;

(3) ransomware;

(4) rootkits;

(5) spyware;

(6) Trojans;

(7) viruses; and

(8) worms;

Whereas an insider threat occurs when a current or former employee, contractor, or business partner who has or previously had authorized access to the network, system, or data of an organization intentionally misuses that access in a manner that constitutes a cybercrime;

Whereas 28 percent of electronic crime events are known to be caused by insider threats;

Whereas public Wi-Fi hotspots can be convenient, but are not always secure, and may expose anyone connected to the network to a malicious cyberattack;

Whereas there are more than 10,000,000 attempted cyberattacks reported to the Pentagon each day;

Whereas everyone can take simple steps to minimize the chance of a cybercrime, including—

(1) setting strong passwords;

(2) installing updates;

(3) understanding privacy settings; and

(4) thinking critically and carefully about online offers;

Whereas National Cybersecurity Awareness Month is a collaborative effort between government and industry—

(1) to raise awareness about the importance of cybersecurity;

(2) to provide education to public and private sector partners through events and initiatives;

(3) to ensure that public and private sector partners, and all people of the United States, have the tools and resources needed to be safer and more secure online; and

(4) to increase the resilience of the United States in the event of a cyber incident;

Whereas, in 2019, National Cybersecurity Awareness Month will emphasize personal accountability and the importance of taking proactive steps to enhance cybersecurity at home and in the workplace, focusing on key areas such as—

(1) citizen privacy;

(2) consumer devices; and

(3) e-commerce security;

Whereas the theme of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in 2019 is ''Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT.'';

Whereas there are approximately 310,000 unfilled cybersecurity jobs in the United States;

Whereas it is estimated that there will be 1,800,000 unfilled cybersecurity positions globally by 2022; and

Whereas the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security works with public sector, private sector, and government partners—

(1) to share information;

(2) to build greater trust; and

(3) to lead the national effort to protect and enhance the resilience of the physical and cyber infrastructure of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Cybersecurity Awareness Month;

(2) commits to continuing to work with Federal agencies, businesses, educational institutions, and other organizations to enhance the state of cybersecurity in the United States; and

(3) recognizes October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month in 2019, with the theme ''Own IT. Secure IT. Protect IT.'', as an opportunity—

(A) to provide education to the people of the United States about cybersecurity; and

(B) to help all people of the United States be safer, more secure, and more aware while online and using connected devices.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 346—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 8, 2019, AS ''NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY''

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 346

Whereas hydrogen, which has an atomic mass of 1.008, is the most abundant chemical substance in the universe;

Whereas the United States is a world leader in the development and deployment of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cells played an instrumental role in the United States space program, helping the United States achieve the mission of landing a man on the Moon;

Whereas private industry, Federal and State governments, national laboratories, and institutions of higher education continue to improve fuel cell and hydrogen technologies to address the most pressing energy, environmental, and economic issues of the United States;

Whereas fuel cells utilizing hydrogen and hydrogen-rich fuels to generate electricity are clean, efficient, and resilient technologies being used for—

(1) stationary and backup power generation; and

(2) zero-emission transportation for light-duty vehicles, industrial vehicles, delivery vans, buses, trucks, marine applications, and aerial vehicles;

Whereas stationary fuel cells are being placed in service for continuous and backup power to provide business and energy consumers with reliable power in the event of grid outages;

Whereas stationary fuel cells can help reduce water use, as compared to traditional power generation technologies;

Whereas fuel cell electric vehicles that utilize hydrogen can completely replicate the experience of internal combustion vehicles, including comparable range and refueling times;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cell industrial vehicles are being deployed at logistical hubs and warehouses across the United States and exported to facilities in Europe and Asia;

Whereas hydrogen is a nontoxic gas that can be derived from a variety of domestically available traditional and renewable resources, including solar, wind, biogas, and the abundant supply of natural gas in the United States;

Whereas hydrogen and fuel cells can store energy to help enhance the grid and maximize opportunities to deploy renewable energy;

Whereas the United States produces and uses approximately 10,000,000 metric tons of hydrogen per year; and

Whereas engineers and safety code and standard professionals have developed consensus-based protocols for safe delivery, handling, and use of hydrogen: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate designates October 8, 2019, as ''National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day''.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 347—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2, 2019, AS ''ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY'' IN CELEBRATION OF THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS THAT HAVE BEEN DRIVEN BY PRIVATE SECTOR INNOVATION AND FEDERAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY POLICIES

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. COONS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. REED, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. BENNET) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 347

Whereas October has been designated as ''National Energy Awareness Month'';

Whereas improvements in energy efficiency technologies and practices, along with policies of the United States enacted since the 1970s, have resulted in energy savings of more than 60,000,000,000,000,000 British thermal units and energy cost avoidance of more than $800,000,000,000 annually;

Whereas energy efficiency has enjoyed bipartisan support in Congress and in administrations of both parties for more than 40 years;

Whereas bipartisan legislation enacted since the 1970s to advance Federal energy efficiency policies includes—

(1) the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6201 et seq.);

(2) the National Appliance Energy Conservation Act of 1987 (Public Law 100–12; 101 Stat. 103);

(3) the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13201 et seq.);

(4) the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801 et seq.);

(5) the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17001 et seq.); and

(6) the Energy Efficiency Improvement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–11; 129 Stat. 182);

Whereas energy efficiency has long been supported by a diverse coalition of businesses (including manufacturers, utilities, energy service companies, and technology firms), public-interest organizations, environmental and conservation groups, and State and local governments;

Whereas, since 1980, the United States has more than doubled its energy productivity, realizing twice the economic output per unit of energy consumed;

Whereas about 2,325,000 individuals in the United States are currently employed across the energy efficiency sector, as the United States has doubled its energy productivity and business and industry have become more innovative and competitive in global markets;

Whereas the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department of Energy is the principal Federal agency responsible for renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency efforts;

Whereas cutting energy waste saves the consumers of the United States billions of dollars on utility bills annually; and

Whereas energy efficiency policies, financing innovations, and public-private partnerships have contributed to a reduction in energy intensity in Federal facilities by nearly 50 percent since the mid-1970s, which results in direct savings to United States taxpayers: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 2, 2019, as ''Energy Efficiency Day''; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe Energy Efficiency Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 348—PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, 2019, AS ''NATIONAL CLEAN ENERGY WEEK''

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 348

Whereas, across the United States, clean and readily abundant forms of energy are powering more homes and businesses than ever before;

Whereas clean energy generation is readily available from zero- and low-emissions sources;

Whereas the clean energy sector is a growing part of the economy and has been a key driver of economic growth in the United States in recent years;

Whereas technological innovation can further reduce costs and increase deployment of clean energy sources;

Whereas the ''2019 U.S. Energy and Employment Report'' found that—

(1) energy and energy efficiency sectors employ approximately 6,700,000 people; and

(2) the number of jobs in those sectors grew by more than 2 percent from 2017 to 2018;

Whereas the scaling of clean energy is essential to reducing harmful pollution;

Whereas clean energy jobs are inherently local, contribute to the growth of local economies, and cannot be outsourced due to the on-site nature of construction, installation, and maintenance; and

Whereas innovative clean energy solutions and clean energy jobs are part of the energy future of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) proclaims the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as ''National Clean Energy Week'';

(2) encourages individuals and organizations across the United States to support commonsense solutions that address the economic, environmental, and energy needs of the United States in the 21st century;

(3) encourages the Federal Government, States, municipalities, and individuals to invest in clean, low-emitting energy technologies; and

(4) recognizes the role of entrepreneurs and small businesses in ensuring the energy leadership of the United States in the global marketplace and supporting low-cost, clean, and reliable energy in the United States.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 349—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2019, AS ''NATIONAL CONCUSSION AWARENESS DAY''

Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 349

Whereas mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), otherwise known as a concussion, is an important health concern for children, teens, and adults;

Whereas, according to information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—

(1) there are as many as 1,600,000 to 3,800,000 sports-related concussions annually;

(2) as many as 5,300,000 individuals live with a disability because of a traumatic brain injury (TBI);

(3) from 2001 to 2012, the rate of emergency department visits for sports- and recreation-related injuries involving a diagnosis of concussion or traumatic brain injury, alone or in combination with other injuries, more than doubled among children 19 years of age or younger, and, in 2012, an estimated 329,290 children were treated in the United States for sports- and recreation-related injuries that included a diagnosis of concussion or traumatic brain injury; and

(4) current data sources may only capture 1 out of every 9 concussions across the United States;

Whereas the seriousness of concussions should not be minimized in athletics, and return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols can help ensure recovery;

Whereas concussions can affect physical, mental, and social health, and a greater awareness and understanding of proper diagnosis and management of concussions is critical to improved outcomes; and

Whereas the Senate can raise awareness about concussions among the medical community and the public: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of September 20, 2019, as ''National Concussion Awareness Day'';

(2) recognizes that mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), otherwise known as a concussion, is an important health concern;

(3) commends the organizations and individuals that raise awareness about mild traumatic brain injury;

(4) encourages Federal, State, and local policymakers to work together—

(A) to raise awareness about the effects of concussions; and

(B) to improve the understanding of proper diagnosis and management of concussions; and

(5) encourages further research and prevention efforts to ensure that fewer individuals experience the most adverse effects of mild traumatic brain injury.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 350—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS ''NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH''

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. REED, and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 350

Whereas each year more than 15,000 children under the age of 19 in the United States, and more than 300,000 children globally, are diagnosed with cancer;

Whereas every year more than 1,700 children under the age of 19 in the United States lose their lives to cancer;

Whereas childhood cancer is the leading cause of death from disease and the second overall leading cause of death for children in the United States;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for children with cancer has increased from 58 percent in the mid-1970s to 84 percent in 2019, representing significant improvement from previous decades; and

Whereas cancer occurs regularly and randomly and spares no racial or ethnic group, socioeconomic class, or geographic region: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2019, as ''National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month'';

(2) requests that the Federal Government, States, localities, and nonprofit organizations observe the month with appropriate programs and activities, with the goal of increasing public knowledge of the risks of cancer; and

(3) recognizes the human toll of cancer and pledges to make the prevention and cure of cancer a public health priority.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 351—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29 THROUGH OCTOBER 5, 2019, AS ''NATIONAL COMMUNITY POLICING WEEK''

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. HASSAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 351

Whereas police officers are indispensable members of the community who put their lives on the line to protect others;

Whereas promoting strong relationships founded in trust and mutual respect between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve helps ensure the safe and effective execution of the law;

Whereas law enforcement officers and communities that work together to address public safety concerns can create lasting solutions to difficult challenges;

Whereas a long-term commitment to community policing is necessary to eliminate the underlying causes of crime;

Whereas the advancement of community policing should be supported to ensure that State and local law enforcement agencies have necessary resources; and

Whereas community policing has been recognized as an important tool for improving the relationship between law enforcement officers and the communities they serve: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 29 through October 5, 2019, as ''National Community Policing Week''; and

(2) supports community policing and encourages the people of the United States, law enforcement agencies, and elected officials to identify ways in which communities can improve public safety, strengthen relationships, and build trust.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 352—RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMMENSE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LATINOS TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 352

Whereas, from September 15, 2019, through October 15, 2019, the United States celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census estimates the Hispanic population living in the 50 States at more than 59,000,000 people, plus an additional 3,300,000 living in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, making Hispanic Americans 18 percent of the total population of the United States and the largest racial or ethnic minority group in the United States;

Whereas, in 2017, there were close to 1,000,000 or more Latino residents in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and in each of the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, and Washington;

Whereas, between July 1, 2008, and July 1, 2018, Latinos grew the population of the United States by approximately 1,200,000 individuals, accounting for more than ½ of the total population growth during that period;

Whereas the Latino population in the United States is projected to grow to 107,000,000 people by 2065, at which point the Latino population will comprise more than 24 percent of the total population of the United States;

Whereas the Latino population in the United States is currently the third largest population of Latinos worldwide, exceeding the size of the population in every Latin American and Caribbean country except Mexico and Brazil;

Whereas, in 2018, there were more than 18,701,184 Latino children under 18 years of age in the United States, which represents approximately ⅓ of the total Latino population in the United States;

Whereas, from 1996 to 2016, the number of Hispanic students enrolled in schools, colleges, and universities in the United States doubled from 8,800,000 to 17,900,000, and Hispanics now make up 22.7 percent of all people enrolled in school in the United States;

Whereas more than 1 in 4 public school students in the United States are Latino, and the share of Latino students is expected to rise to nearly 30 percent by 2027;

Whereas 19 percent of all college students are Latino, making Latinos the second largest racial or ethnic minority group enrolled in higher education in the United States, including 2-year community colleges and 4-year colleges and universities;

Whereas a record 12,700,000 Latinos voted in the 2016 Presidential election, representing a record 9.2 percent of the electorate in the United States;

Whereas the number of eligible Latino voters is expected to rise to 40,000,000 by 2030, accounting for 40 percent of the growth in the eligible electorate in the United States by 2032;

Whereas each year approximately 800,000 Latino citizens reach 18 years of age and become eligible to vote, a number that could grow to 1,000,000 per year, potentially adding 18,000,000 new Latino voters by 2032;

Whereas, in 2018, the annual purchasing power of Hispanic Americans was an estimated $1,700,000,000,000, which is an amount greater than the economy of all except 17 countries in the world;

Whereas there are more than 4,370,000 Hispanic-owned firms in the United States, supporting millions of employees nationwide and contributing more than $1,700,000,000 in revenue to the economy of the United States;

Whereas Hispanic-owned businesses represent the fastest growing segment of small businesses in the United States, with Latino-owned businesses growing at more than 15 times the national rate;

Whereas, as of August 2018, more than 28,000,000 Latino workers represented 17 percent of the total civilian labor force of the United States, and, as a result of Latinos experiencing the fastest population growth of all race and ethnicity groups in the United States, the rate of Latino participation in the labor force is expected to grow to 20 percent by 2024, accounting for ⅕ of the total labor force;

Whereas, with 66.1 percent of Latinos participating in the labor force, Latinos have the highest rate of participation in the labor force of any racial or ethnic group, resulting in an expansion of the Latino labor force at a rate that is 3 times as fast as the rest of the population;

Whereas, as of 2017, there were approximately 326,800 Latino elementary and middle

school teachers, 77,033 Latino chief executives of businesses, 54,576 Latino lawyers, 73,372 Latino physicians and surgeons, and 15,895 Latino psychologists, who contribute to the United States through their professions;

Whereas Hispanic Americans serve in all branches of the Armed Forces and have fought bravely in every war in the history of the United States;

Whereas, as of 2019, there are more than 200,000 Hispanic members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty and approximately 1,200,000 Hispanic veterans of the Armed Forces, including 136,000 Latinas;

Whereas, as of 2018, more than 399,000 Hispanics have served in post-September 11, 2001, overseas contingency operations, and Hispanics represent 12.1 percent of the total number of veterans who have served in operations in Iraq and Afghanistan since September 11, 2001;

Whereas, as of August 2019, at least 688 fatalities in Iraq and Afghanistan were members of the Armed Forces who were Hispanic;

Whereas an estimated 200,000 Hispanics were mobilized for World War I, and approximately 500,000 Hispanics served in World War II;

Whereas more than 80,000 Hispanics served in the Vietnam war, representing 5.5 percent of individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice for the United States in the conflict, even though Hispanics comprised only 4.5 percent of the population of the United States during the Vietnam war;

Whereas approximately 148,000 Hispanic soldiers served in the Korean war, including the 65th Infantry Regiment of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, known as the ''Borinqueneers'', the only active duty, segregated Latino military unit in the history of the United States;

Whereas 60 Hispanic Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force bestowed on an individual serving in the Armed Forces;

Whereas Hispanic Americans are dedicated public servants, holding posts at the highest levels of the Government of the United States, including 1 seat on the Supreme Court of the United States, 4 seats in the Senate, and 36 seats in the House of Representatives; and

Whereas Hispanic Americans harbor a deep commitment to family and community, an enduring work ethic, and a perseverance to succeed and contribute to society: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15, 2019, through October 15, 2019;

(2) esteems the integral role of Latinos and the manifold heritages of Latinos in the economy, culture, and identity of the United States; and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe Hispanic Heritage Month with appropriate programs and activities that celebrate the contributions of Latinos to the United States.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 353—RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 24, 2019, AS ''NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY''

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 353

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes September 24, 2019, as ''National Voter Registration Day''; and

(2) encourages each voting-eligible citizen of the United States—

(A) to register to vote;

(B) to verify with the appropriate State or local election official that the name, address, and other personal information on record is current; and

(C) to go to the polls on election day and vote if the voting-eligible citizen would like to do so.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 354—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS ''NATIONAL BRAIN ANEURYSM AWARENESS MONTH''

Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 354

Whereas saccular, fusiform, and dissecting aneurysms are bulging, weakened areas in the wall of an artery in the brain;

Whereas an estimated 1 out of every 50 individuals in the United States has a brain aneurysm;

Whereas brain aneurysms are most likely to occur in individuals between the ages of 35 and 60;

Whereas there are typically no warning signs before the occurrence of a brain aneurysm;

Whereas brain aneurysms are more likely to occur in women than in men by a 3 to 2 ratio;

Whereas young and middle-aged African Americans have a higher risk of brain aneurysm rupture compared to young and middle-aged Caucasians in the United States;

Whereas the combined lost wages of survivors of a brain aneurysm rupture and their caretakers for 1 year is an estimated $149,936,118;

Whereas various risk factors can contribute to the formation of a brain aneurysm, including smoking, hypertension, and a family history of brain aneurysms;

Whereas an unruptured brain aneurysm can lead to double vision, vision loss, loss of sensation, weakness, loss of balance, incoordination, and speech problems;

Whereas a brain aneurysm is often discovered when it ruptures and causes a subarachnoid hemorrhage;

Whereas a subarachnoid hemorrhage can lead to brain damage, hydrocephalus, stroke, and death;

Whereas, each year, more than 30,000 individuals in the United States suffer from ruptured brain aneurysms, approximately 50 percent of whom die as a result;

Whereas, annually, between 3,000 and 4,500 individuals in the United States with ruptured brain aneurysms die before reaching the hospital;

Whereas a number of advancements have been made in recent years regarding the detection of brain aneurysms, including the computerized tomography scan, the magnetic resonance imaging test, and the cerebral arteriogram;

Whereas early detection of brain aneurysms can save lives;

Whereas, as of 2019, various research studies are being conducted in the United States in order to better understand, prevent, and treat brain aneurysms;

Whereas the Brain Aneurysm Foundation, a nonprofit organization, remains a globally recognized leader for brain aneurysm awareness, education, support, advocacy, and research funding; and

Whereas the month of September is an appropriate month to designate as ''National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month'': Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2019 as ''National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month''; and

(2) continues to support research to prevent, detect, and treat brain aneurysms.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 355—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22 THROUGH 28, 2019, AS ''NATIONAL ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK''

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. REED, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 355

Whereas the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development reports that approximately 36,000,000 adults in the United States lack the basic literacy and numeracy necessary to succeed at home, in the workplace, and in society;

Whereas the literacy of the people of the United States is essential for the economic and societal well-being of the United States;

Whereas the United States reaps the economic benefits of individuals who improve their literacy, numeracy, and English-language skills;

Whereas literacy and educational skills are necessary for individuals to fully benefit from the range of opportunities available in the United States;

Whereas the economy and position of the United States in the world marketplace depend on having a literate, skilled population;

Whereas the unemployment rate in the United States is highest among those without a high school diploma or an equivalent credential, demonstrating that education is important to economic recovery;

Whereas the educational skills of the parents of a child and the practice of reading to a child have a direct impact on the educational success of the child;

Whereas parental involvement in the education of a child is a key predictor of the success of a child, and the level of parental involvement in the education of a child increases as the educational level of the parent increases;

Whereas parents who participate in family literacy programs become more involved in the education of their children and gain the tools necessary to obtain a job or find better employment;

Whereas, as a result of family literacy programs, the lives of children become more stable, and the success of children in the classroom and in future endeavors becomes more likely;

Whereas adults need to be part of a long-term solution to the educational challenges faced by the people of the United States;

Whereas many older people in the United States lack the reading, math, or English-language skills necessary to read a prescription and follow medical instructions, which endangers the lives of the older people and the lives of their loved ones;

Whereas many individuals who are unemployed, underemployed, or receive public assistance lack the literacy skills necessary to obtain and keep a job, to continue their education, or to participate in job training programs;

Whereas many high school dropouts do not have the literacy skills necessary to complete their education, transition to postsecondary education or career and technical training, or obtain a job;

Whereas a large portion of individuals in prison have low educational skills, and prisoners without educational skills are more likely to return to prison once released;

Whereas many immigrants in the United States do not have the literacy skills necessary to succeed in the United States; and

Whereas National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week highlights the need to ensure that each individual in the United States has the literacy skills necessary to succeed at home, at work, and in society: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 22 through 28, 2019, as ''National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week'' to raise public awareness about the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy;

(2) encourages people across the United States to support programs to assist individuals in need of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs;

(3) recognizes the importance of adult education, workforce skills, and family literacy programs; and

(4) calls on public, private, and nonprofit entities to support increased access to adult education and family literacy programs to ensure a literate society.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 356—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 4, 2019, AS ''NATIONAL POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS DAY'', AND RAISING AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 356

Whereas designating September 4, 2019, as ''National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day'' will raise public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease, one of the most prevalent genetic kidney disorders, which affects approximately 500,000 people in the United States;

Whereas National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day will help to foster an understanding of the impact polycystic kidney disease has on individuals and their families;

Whereas polycystic kidney disease is a progressive, genetic disorder of the kidneys that causes damage to the kidneys and the cardiovascular, endocrine, hepatic, and gastrointestinal organ systems;

Whereas polycystic kidney disease affects the health and finances of people of all ages, and equally affects people of all ages, races, ethnicities, and sexes;

Whereas, of the people diagnosed with polycystic kidney disease, approximately 10 percent have no family history of the disease, with the disease developing as a spontaneous mutation;

Whereas there are very few treatments and no cure for polycystic kidney disease, which is one of the 4 leading causes of kidney failure in the United States;

Whereas 50 percent of individuals with polycystic kidney disease experience kidney failure at an average age of 57;

Whereas friends, loved ones, spouses, and caregivers of individuals with polycystic kidney disease can assist with the challenges created by polycystic kidney disease, including by helping such individuals maintain a healthy lifestyle and make regular visits to their health care providers;

Whereas the severity of the symptoms of polycystic kidney disease and limited public awareness of the disease may cause individuals to forego regular visits to their physicians or avoid following the health recommendations of their doctors, which experts suggest could help prevent further complications should kidney failure occur;

Whereas people who have chronic, life-threatening diseases like polycystic kidney disease may experience depression;

Whereas the PKD Foundation and its more than 50 volunteer chapters around the United States are dedicated to—

(1) conducting research to find treatments and a cure for polycystic kidney disease;

(2) fostering public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease;

(3) educating individuals and their families about the disease to improve their treatment and care; and

(4) providing support, including by sponsoring the annual ''Walk for PKD'' to raise funds for polycystic kidney disease research, education, advocacy, and awareness; and

Whereas the PKD Foundation is partnering on September 4, 2019, with sister organizations in Canada, Australia, and other countries to increase international awareness of polycystic kidney disease: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 4, 2019, as ''National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day'';

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Day to raise public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research to find a cure for polycystic kidney disease; and

(4) encourages all people in the United States and interested groups to support National Polycystic Kidney Awareness Day through appropriate ceremonies and activities to promote public awareness of polycystic kidney disease and to foster an understanding of the impact of the disease on individuals and their families.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 357—CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MAHATMA GANDHI

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 357

Whereas Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi was born on October 2, 1869, in the modern-day state of Gujarat, India, and October 2, 2019, represents the 150th anniversary of his birth;

Whereas, following his admission as a lawyer to the bar in England, Mohandas Gandhi moved to South Africa, where he experienced state-sanctioned racial discrimination firsthand;

Whereas that experience motivated Mohandas Gandhi to develop and teach the concept of ''satyagraha,'' meaning ''truthforce,'' which involves using methods of nonviolent dissent such as civil disobedience in the face of injustice;

Whereas Mohandas Gandhi would spend nearly 20 years in South Africa using the principles of satyagraha to speak out and organize against the injustices of racial segregation;

Whereas, in 1919, several years after his return to India, Mohandas Gandhi called for a campaign of satyagraha in response to British authorities issuing the Rowlatt Acts;

Whereas Mohandas Gandhi began a decades-long movement of nonviolent dissent to gain self-rule for India, including campaigns to boycott British goods and develop the economic independence of India;

Whereas Mohandas Gandhi persisted in his advocacy for self-rule for India despite multiple arrests;

Whereas Mohandas Gandhi advocated for the rights of the lowest classes in India, whom he renamed the ''Harijans,'' or ''children of God,'' and thereby spurred reforms that improved the legal status of those individuals;

Whereas the vision of Mohandas Gandhi for India was of a secular and pluralistic home for people of different religions and backgrounds;

Whereas the followers of Mohandas Gandhi named him ''Mahatma,'' meaning ''great soul'' in Sanskrit;

Whereas the nonviolent dissent movement started by Mahatma Gandhi resulted in India gaining its independence from the British Empire;

Whereas the principles of satyagraha inspired civil rights leaders and movements around the world, including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in the United States;

Whereas Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said that the philosophy of nonviolent dissent of Mahatma Gandhi is ''the only morally and practically sound method open to oppressed people in their struggle for freedom''; and

Whereas the teachings and work of Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., continue to inspire countless people worldwide: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 150th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi;

(2) honors the accomplishments of Mahatma Gandhi and the impact of his philosophy of satyagraha, including its influence on civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and on the civil rights movement in the United States;

(3) recognizes that the principles of nonviolent dissent in the face of injustice remain relevant and necessary today; and

(4) continues to champion the principles of peaceful protest and nonviolent dissent advanced by Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 26—CALLING FOR AN END TO THE CONSUMPTION AND TRADE OF DOG AND CAT MEAT

Mr. MERKLEY submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 26

Whereas a bipartisan domestic prohibition on the consumption or trade of dog and cat meat was included in section 12515 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (7 U.S.C. 2160), which was signed into law by the President on December 20, 2018;

Whereas the consumption of dog meat has occurred throughout the world, primarily in Asia;

Whereas established markets for dog meat still exist as of September 2019;

Whereas Humane Society International, Animals Asia Foundation, and others estimate that 30,000,000 dogs and 10,000,000 cats

die annually worldwide as a result of the dog and cat meat trade;

Whereas, due to a traditional belief that high adrenaline levels produce tender meat and increase supposed health benefits, dogs killed for their meat may be intentionally subjected to extreme fear and suffering through hanging and bludgeoning;

Whereas there have been reports that dogs and cats farmed for their meat experience abuse, poor living conditions, and cruel slaughtering techniques;

Whereas, during transport to slaughterhouses, many dogs and cats die or suffer illness or injury as a result of being crammed into small cages on the back of vehicles for days or weeks without food or water;

Whereas the extreme suffering of dogs and cats at slaughterhouses and on transportation trucks would breach anti-cruelty laws in the United States, such as—

(1) the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.); and

(2) Public Law 85–765 (commonly known as the ''Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1958'') (7 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.);

Whereas many government officials, civil society advocates, and activists are working to end the trade of dog and cat meat on anti-cruelty and public health grounds, and the governments of Singapore, Taiwan, and Hong Kong have passed laws banning the slaughter of dogs for meat consumption;

Whereas the World Health Organization has linked the dog meat industry to outbreaks of trichinellosis, cholera, and rabies among humans;

Whereas the people involved in the dog meat industry are at an increased health risk for zoonotic diseases, such as rabies, which can transfer from dogs to humans through infectious material such as saliva;

Whereas the spread of disease in the dog meat industry may be exacerbated by the unsanitary conditions of slaughter and the sale of dog meat at open-air markets and restaurants; and

Whereas the World Health Organization and the Global Alliance for Rabies Control have acknowledged the link between the spread of rabies and the dog meat trade, which involves the movement of large numbers of dogs of unknown disease status across vast distances: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That Congress—

(1) calls for an end to the consumption and trade of dog and cat meat on anti-cruelty and public health grounds;

(2) urges all nations with a dog or cat meat trade to adopt and enforce laws banning the consumption and trade of dog and cat meat; and

(3) affirms the commitment of the United States to advancing the causes of animal protection and animal welfare domestically and around the world.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 943. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 944. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 737, to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood.

## TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 943.** Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. ____. PROHIBITION ON EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES PROVIDING FINANCING FOR STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES.**

Section 2(b) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(14) PROHIBITION ON FINANCING FOR STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES.—The Bank may not guarantee, insure, or extend (or participate in the extension of) credit in connection with the export of any good or service to an entity owned or controlled by the government of a foreign country.''.

**SA 944.** Mr. MCCONNELL (for Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 737, to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Building Blocks of STEM Act''.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) The National Science Foundation is a large investor in STEM education and plays a key role in setting research and policy agendas.

(2) While studies have found that children who engage in scientific activities from an early age develop positive attitudes toward science and are more likely to pursue STEM expertise and careers later on, the majority of current research focuses on increasing STEM opportunities for middle school-aged children and older.

(3) Women remain widely underrepresented in the STEM workforce, and this disparity extends down through all levels of education.

**SEC. 3. SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD AND ELEMENTARY STEM EDUCATION RESEARCH.**

In awarding grants under the Discovery Research PreK–12 program, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall consider the age distribution of a STEM education research and development project to improve the focus of research and development on elementary and prekindergarten education.

**SEC. 4. SUPPORTING FEMALE STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN STEM EDUCATION.**

Section 305(d) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s–5(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) RESEARCH.—As a component of improving participation of women in STEM fields, research funded by a grant under this subsection may include research on—

''(A) the role of teacher training and professional development, including effective incentive structures to encourage teachers to participate in such training and professional development, in encouraging or discouraging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school from participating in STEM activities;

''(B) the role of teachers in shaping perceptions of STEM in female students in prekindergarten through elementary school and discouraging such students from participating in STEM activities;

''(C) the role of other facets of the learning environment on the willingness of female students in prekindergarten through elementary school to participate in STEM activities, including learning materials and textbooks, seating arrangements, use of media and technology, classroom culture, and composition of students during group work;

''(D) the role of parents and other caregivers in encouraging or discouraging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school from participating in STEM activities;

''(E) the types of STEM activities that encourage greater participation by female students in prekindergarten through elementary school;

''(F) the role of mentorship and best practices in finding and utilizing mentors; and

''(G) the role of informal and after-school STEM learning opportunities on the perception of and participation in STEM activities of female students in prekindergarten through elementary school.''.

**SEC. 5. SUPPORTING FEMALE STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION.**

Section 310(b) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s–7(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) USES OF FUNDS.—The tools and models described in paragraph (2)(C) may include—

''(A) offering training and professional development programs, including summer or academic year institutes or workshops, designed to strengthen the capabilities of prekindergarten and elementary school teachers and to familiarize such teachers with the role of bias against female students in the classroom;

''(B) offering innovative pre-service and in-service programs that instruct teachers on female-inclusive practices for teaching computing concepts;

''(C) developing distance learning programs for teachers or students, including developing curricular materials, play-based computing activities, and other resources for the in-service professional development of teachers that are made available to teachers through the Internet;

''(D) developing or adapting prekindergarten and elementary school computer science curricular materials that incorporate contemporary research on the science of learning, particularly with respect to female inclusion;

''(E) developing and offering female-inclusive computer science enrichment programs for students, including after-school and summer programs;

''(F) providing mentors for female students in prekindergarten through elementary school to support such students in participating in computer science activities;

''(G) engaging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school, and their guardians (if such communication takes place on school premises during otherwise-scheduled conferences or formal conversations between teachers and guardians) about—

''(i) the difficulties faced by female students with regard to maintaining an interest in participating in computer science activities; and

''(ii) the potential positive career benefits of engaging in such activities;

''(H) acquainting female students in prekindergarten through elementary school with careers in computer science and encouraging such students to consider careers in the computer science field; and

''(I) developing tools to evaluate activities conducted under this subsection, including reports for evaluating the effectiveness of activities under this section.''.

## DISCHARGE PETITION—S.J. RES. 53

[September 26, 2019]

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 53, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to ''Repeal of the Clean Power Plan; Emission Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions From Existing Electric Utility Generating Units; Revisions to Emission Guidelines Implementing Regulations,'' and further, that the joint resolution be immediately placed upon the Calendar of Business under General Orders.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Cardin, Maggie Hassan, Martin Heinrich, Brian Schatz, Mark R. Warner, Christopher Coons, Catherine Cortez Masto, Robert Menendez, Mazie K. Hirono, Angus King, Jr., Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Dianne Feinstein, Sherrod Brown, Amy Klobuchar, Chris Van Hollen, Patty Murray, Ron Wyden, Edward Markey, Tammy Baldwin, Tammy Duckworth, Jacky Rosen, Patrick J. Leahy, Richard J. Durbin, Debbie Stabenow, Tom Udall, Charles Schumer, Tina Smith, Jack Reed, Tim Kaine, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Richard Blumenthal.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 3 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 26, 2019, at 10:45 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 26, 2019, at 11 a.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

## RELATING TO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT ON FEBRUARY 15, 2019

On Wednesday, September 25, 2019, the Senate passed S.J. Res. 54, as follows:

S.J. RES. 54

Whereas Congress has the sole power to declare war under article I, section 8, clause 11 of the United States Constitution;

Whereas Congress has not declared war with respect to, or provided a specific statutory authorization for, the conflict between military forces led by Saudi Arabia, including forces from the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Senegal, and Sudan (the Saudi-led coalition), against the Houthis, also known as Ansar Allah, in the Republic of Yemen;

Whereas, since March 2015, members of the United States Armed Forces have been introduced into hostilities between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthis, including providing to the Saudi-led coalition aerial targeting assistance, intelligence sharing, and mid-flight aerial refueling;

Whereas the United States has established a Joint Combined Planning Cell with Saudi Arabia, in which members of the United States Armed Forces assist in aerial targeting and help to coordinate military and intelligence activities;

Whereas, in December 2017, Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis stated, ''We have gone in to be very—to be helpful where we can in identifying how you do target analysis and how you make certain you hit the right thing.'';

Whereas the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthis constitutes, within the meaning of section 4(a) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1543(a)), either hostilities or a situation where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances into which United States Armed Forces have been introduced;

Whereas section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1544(c)) states that ''at any time that United States Armed Forces are engaged in hostilities outside the territory of the United States, its possessions and territories without a declaration of war or specific statutory authorization, such forces shall be removed by the President if the Congress so directs'';

Whereas section 8(c) of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1547(c)) defines the introduction of United States Armed Forces to include ''the assignment of members of such armed forces to command, coordinate, participate in the movement of, or accompany the regular or irregular military forces of any foreign country or government when such military forces are engaged, or there exists an imminent threat that such forces will become engaged, in hostilities,'' and activities that the United States is conducting in support of the Saudi-led coalition, including aerial refueling and targeting assistance, fall within this definition;

Whereas section 1013 of the Department of State Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50 U.S.C. 1546a) provides that any joint resolution or bill to require the removal of United States Armed Forces engaged in hostilities without a declaration of war or specific statutory authorization shall be considered in accordance with the expedited procedures of section 601(b) of the International Security and Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–329; 90 Stat. 765); and

Whereas no specific statutory authorization for the use of United States Armed Forces with respect to the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthis in Yemen has been enacted, and no provision of law explicitly authorizes the provision of targeting assistance or of midair refueling services to warplanes of Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates that are engaged in such conflict: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. REMOVAL OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES FROM HOSTILITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN THAT HAVE NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS.**

Pursuant to section 1013 of the Department of State Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985 (50 U.S.C. 1546a) and in accordance with the provisions of section 601(b) of the International Security Assistance and Arms Export Control Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–329; 90 Stat. 765), Congress hereby directs the President to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities in or affecting the Republic of Yemen, except United States Armed Forces engaged in operations directed at al Qaeda or associated forces, by not later than the date that is 30 days after the date of the adoption of this joint resolution (unless the President requests and Congress authorizes a later date), and unless and until a declaration of war or specific authorization for such use of United States Armed Forces has been enacted. For purposes of this resolution, in this section, the term ''hostilities'' includes in-flight refueling of non-United States aircraft conducting missions as part of the ongoing civil war in Yemen.

**SEC. 2. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING CONTINUED MILITARY OPERATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH ISRAEL.**

Nothing in this joint resolution shall be construed to influence or disrupt any military operations and cooperation with Israel.

**SEC. 3. REPORT ON RISKS POSED BY CEASING SAUDI ARABIA SUPPORT OPERATIONS.**

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this joint resolution, the President shall submit to Congress a report assessing the risks posed to United States citizens and the civilian population of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the risk of regional humanitarian crises if the United States were to cease support operations with respect to the conflict between the Saudi-led coalition and the Houthis in Yemen.

**SEC. 4. REPORT ON INCREASED RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS TO UNITED STATES FORCES ABROAD, ALLIES, AND THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES IF SAUDI ARABIA CEASES YEMEN-RELATED INTELLIGENCE SHARING WITH THE UNITED STATES.**

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this joint resolution, the President shall submit to Congress a report assessing the increased risk of terrorist attacks on United States Armed Forces abroad, allies, and to the continental United States if the Government of Saudi Arabia were to cease Yemen-related intelligence sharing with the United States.

## DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2019 AS NATIONAL DEMOCRACY MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 252 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 252) designating September 2019 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 252) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of June 19, 2019, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

## RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 346, S. Res. 347, S. Res. 348, and S. Res. 349.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the resolutions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolutions en bloc.

The resolutions were agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the preambles be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, were printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

## RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 350, S. Res. 351, S. Res. 352, S. Res. 353, S. Res. 354, and S. Res. 355.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles, where applicable, be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions (S. Res. 350, S. Res. 351, S. Res. 352) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

The resolution (S. Res. 353) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

The resolutions (S. Res. 354 and S. Res. 355) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

## BUILDING BLOCKS OF STEM ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 180, S. 737.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 737) to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I further ask unanimous consent that the Rosen-Capito substitute be agreed to, and the bill, as amended, be read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 944) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''Building Blocks of STEM Act''.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) The National Science Foundation is a large investor in STEM education and plays a key role in setting research and policy agendas.

(2) While studies have found that children who engage in scientific activities from an early age develop positive attitudes toward science and are more likely to pursue STEM expertise and careers later on, the majority of current research focuses on increasing STEM opportunities for middle school-aged children and older.

(3) Women remain widely underrepresented in the STEM workforce, and this disparity extends down through all levels of education.

**SEC. 3. SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD AND ELEMENTARY STEM EDUCATION RESEARCH.**

In awarding grants under the Discovery Research PreK–12 program, the Director of the National Science Foundation shall consider the age distribution of a STEM education research and development project to improve the focus of research and development on elementary and prekindergarten education.

**SEC. 4. SUPPORTING FEMALE STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN STEM EDUCATION.**

Section 305(d) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s–5(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) RESEARCH.—As a component of improving participation of women in STEM fields, research funded by a grant under this subsection may include research on—

''(A) the role of teacher training and professional development, including effective incentive structures to encourage teachers to participate in such training and professional development, in encouraging or discouraging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school from participating in STEM activities;

''(B) the role of teachers in shaping perceptions of STEM in female students in prekindergarten through elementary school and discouraging such students from participating in STEM activities;

''(C) the role of other facets of the learning environment on the willingness of female students in prekindergarten through elementary school to participate in STEM activities, including learning materials and textbooks, seating arrangements, use of media and technology, classroom culture, and composition of students during group work;

''(D) the role of parents and other caregivers in encouraging or discouraging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school from participating in STEM activities;

''(E) the types of STEM activities that encourage greater participation by female students in prekindergarten through elementary school;

''(F) the role of mentorship and best practices in finding and utilizing mentors; and

''(G) the role of informal and after-school STEM learning opportunities on the perception of and participation in STEM activities of female students in prekindergarten through elementary school.''.

**SEC. 5. SUPPORTING FEMALE STUDENTS IN PREKINDERGARTEN THROUGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION.**

Section 310(b) of the American Innovation and Competitiveness Act (42 U.S.C. 1862s–7(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(3) USES OF FUNDS.—The tools and models described in paragraph (2)(C) may include—

''(A) offering training and professional development programs, including summer or academic year institutes or workshops, designed to strengthen the capabilities of prekindergarten and elementary school teachers and to familiarize such teachers with the role of bias against female students in the classroom;

''(B) offering innovative pre-service and in-service programs that instruct teachers on female-inclusive practices for teaching computing concepts;

''(C) developing distance learning programs for teachers or students, including developing curricular materials, play-based computing activities, and other resources for the in-service professional development of teachers that are made available to teachers through the Internet;

''(D) developing or adapting prekindergarten and elementary school computer science curricular materials that incorporate contemporary research on the science of learning, particularly with respect to female inclusion;

''(E) developing and offering female-inclusive computer science enrichment programs for students, including after-school and summer programs;

''(F) providing mentors for female students in prekindergarten through elementary school to support such students in participating in computer science activities;

''(G) engaging female students in prekindergarten through elementary school, and their guardians (if such communication takes place on school premises during otherwise-scheduled conferences or formal conversations between teachers and guardians) about—

''(i) the difficulties faced by female students with regard to maintaining an interest in participating in computer science activities; and

''(ii) the potential positive career benefits of engaging in such activities;

''(H) acquainting female students in prekindergarten through elementary school with careers in computer science and encouraging such students to consider careers in the computer science field; and

''(I) developing tools to evaluate activities conducted under this subsection, including reports for evaluating the effectiveness of activities under this section.''.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 737), as amended, was passed.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2593

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2593) to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

Mr. McCONNELL. I now ask for its second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will receive its next reading on the second legislative day.

## SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the majority leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on September 26 and 27.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## APPOINTMENTS AUTHORITY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the majority and minority leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2019, THROUGH TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, September 27, at 11:40 a.m.; Tuesday, October 1, at 12 noon; Friday, October 4, at 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, October 8, at 12 noon; and Friday, October 11, at 2:15 p.m.

I further ask unanimous consent that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, October 11, it next convene at 3 p.m., Tuesday, October 15; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Barrett nomination; finally, that notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 15.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

## ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11:40 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned, under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:49 p.m., adjourned until Friday, September 27, 2019, at 11:40 a.m.

## CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate September 26, 2019:

### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LANA J. MARKS, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA.

### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF AND FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 154 AND 601:

*To be general*

GEN. JOHN E. HYTEN

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

RYAN MCCARTHY, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY.

### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be major general*

BRIG. GEN. DOUGLAS A. SIMS II

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be brigadier general*

COL. CURTIS A. BUZZARD

### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 9435:

*To be brigadier general*

COL. LINELL A. LETENDRE

### 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 lieutenant general*

LT. GEN. JAMES H. DICKINSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. RICKY L. WADDELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. JASON T. EVANS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE SURGEON GENERAL, UNITED STATES ARMY, AND 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., SECTIONS 601 AND 7036:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. RAYMOND S. DINGLE

### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be vice admiral*

REAR ADM. DARYL L. CAUDLE

### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. GLEN D. VANHERCK

### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

*To be major general*

BRIG. GEN. ARTHUR J. LOGAN

### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE 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*

LT. GEN. ANTHONY J. COTTON

### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be vice admiral*

VICE ADM. COLIN J. KILRAIN

### IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE 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*

BRIG. GEN. TIMOTHY D. HAUGH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL A. MINIHAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be lieutenant general*

MAJ. GEN. SCOTT A. KINDSVATER

### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED

WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be vice admiral*

VICE ADM. DAVID M. KRIETE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

*To be vice admiral*

VICE ADM. STUART B. MUNSCH

## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JOHN LESLIE CARWILE, OF MARYLAND, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA.

ERIN ELIZABETH MCKEE, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SOLOMON ISLANDS AND AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU.

ANTHONY F. GODFREY, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA.

HERRO MUSTAFA, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

W. STEPHEN MULDROW, OF PUERTO RICO, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

MICHAEL D. BAUGHMAN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

KERRY LEE PETTINGILL, OF OKLAHOMA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

FERNANDO L. G. SABLAN, OF GUAM, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF GUAM AND CONCURRENTLY UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EUGENE SCALIA, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF LABOR.

## UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION

ADAM SETH BOEHLER, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION.

## IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER J. WOOD, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CHRISTIAN S. FORRER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SHEVA T. NICKRAVESH AND ENDING WITH ANGELA M. THORNTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 15, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF MICHAEL W. LUOMA, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID P. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH JUSTIN L. WOLTHUIZEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTIAN R. ACEVEDO AND ENDING WITH ZACHARY T. WEST, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NEILS J. ABDERHALDEN AND ENDING WITH BRAD D. ZWAWA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL AARON BURNAT AND ENDING WITH DYLAN B. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTOPHER M. ABBOTT AND ENDING WITH MATHEW ZULAUF, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF AARON J. BEEBE, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CRAIG M. NORDGREN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF RICHARD A. PALMER, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LISA M. ANGOTTI AND ENDING WITH DUNCAN K. WILSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF RONDRE F. BALUYOT, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF PETER J. AHN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ANTHONY S. GAMBOA, TO BE COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANTHONY C. BIVINS II AND ENDING WITH STACEY J. WADSLEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ANDREW KIM, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF CATHERINE A. LANE, TO BE MAJOR.

## IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF GABRIEL A. MIRITELLO, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF NATHAN B. GADBERRY, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SEAN C. HEIDGERKEN AND ENDING WITH CLINT E. TRACY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 5, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JESSE ABREU AND ENDING WITH D006471 , WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 5, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD R. ABELKIS AND ENDING WITH G010532, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 5, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH VINCENT A. AMERENA AND ENDING WITH D014896, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 5, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CAMIE R. LEVIN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF STEVE A. ALBRITTON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GARY M. CLARK AND ENDING WITH STEPHANIE E. STEWART, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 15, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER D. BARRETT, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RALPHINE R. WALTON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MATTHEW R. CAMPBELL, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN C. ROSS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ROBERT T. BUCKLEY, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DAMIEN MCGUIGAN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KATHLEEN M. ADAMSON AND ENDING WITH JULIAN L. PADGETT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ERAJ V. TENNEKOON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF HEUNG R. NOH, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CESAR C. CORREARIVERA, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF GEORGE J. SMOLINSKI III, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL J. MCNAUGHT, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KENNETH T. BAILLIE AND ENDING WITH KENNETH J. WEISHAAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DEXTER D. WILLIAMS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BENJAMIN AHN AND ENDING WITH VIVIAN K. YANQUOIWEST, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SPENCER W. ROBINSON, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ROBERT B. LACKEY, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KRISTA M. KLEIN, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DENIS J. MCDONNELL AND ENDING WITH JEFFREY C. NICHOLS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHOWDRY M. BASHIR AND ENDING WITH RICHARD M. SLUSHER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH APOLLA A. BENITO AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL E. TERRY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH THOMAS W. BINGAMON AND ENDING WITH TRAVIS J. WEISZHAAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TONYA L. EHLERT AND ENDING WITH ARVE A. WIKSTROM, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN S. HATLER AND ENDING WITH WILLIAM B. WALKER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ROBERT G. BONIFACIO AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL T. SIMPSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BARBARA S. ANTUS AND ENDING WITH JEAN V. MOVINGCOLLINS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOYCE C. ANACKER AND ENDING WITH BYRON J. THOMPSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRUCE J. BRITSON AND ENDING WITH THOMAS W. HRABAL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JASON A. FOREMAN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ALEXANDRA E. WEISKOPF, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TRACY A. BALL AND ENDING WITH DONNA E. WARD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LAUREL A. KAPPEDAL AND ENDING WITH RHONDA B. WHITE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ANNA L. ALDANA AND ENDING WITH JOSEPH S. SEILER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KARL ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH CLAUDE R. WORKMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 31, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NICHOLAS D. BARRINGER AND ENDING WITH D012819, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ERIN E. BALL AND ENDING WITH D012821, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LOVIE L. ABRAHAM AND ENDING WITH D014502, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARLENE ARIASREYNOSO AND ENDING WITH KEVIN M. ZEEB, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRITTANY B. BEAVIS AND ENDING WITH RAYMOND K. WONG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RAYMOND J. AKERMAN, JR. AND ENDING WITH D012876, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SARAH H. AFRIECQ AND ENDING WITH D014706, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRENDA J. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH SHINGO J. YAMADA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SLAVA SHAPIRO, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RACHEL M. ROMAINE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KRISTY M. CHESTER, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KEVIN D. DALLING, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAY G. SULLIVAN, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN S. BORAKOVE AND ENDING WITH COLBY B. WYATT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAVIER TREVINO, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRENDAN B. REINA, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BENJAMIN A. GREIF, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SLADE A. MCPHERSON, TO BE COLONEL.

## IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JEFFERY G. PIOSZAK, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN D. BARNES AND ENDING WITH KRISTIN M. TORTORICI, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 15, 2019.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF DANIEL E. CALLAWAY, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF NATHAN P. DMOCHOWSKI, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF TRACI J. MCKINNON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ANTHONY M. HRUBY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF SALAHHUDIN A. ADENKHALIF, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF BRADLEY D. COLETTI, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF TIMOTHY K. LYNCH, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF DION M. ADAMS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER C. CADY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ANDREW C. MUELLER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF TYRONE K. POTTER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF FRANCIS C. DAILIG, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID H. CRAIG III AND ENDING WITH BYRON B. HOLLOWAY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 15, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JAMES M. ALLEN, JR. AND ENDING WITH JONATHAN R. WHEELER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH EDUARDO B. AMORA AND ENDING WITH GREGORY S. WOODARD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JANPAUL P. AMPOSTA AND ENDING WITH LIN L. ZHENG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ASHLEY A. ACLESE AND ENDING WITH GISSELLE I. ZELSDORF, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RACHAEL E. BAKER AND ENDING WITH SARA J. WOOTEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ALEXANDER ALBA AND ENDING WITH MYRA S. WEARING, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HOLLY K. AGUIGAM AND ENDING WITH ALLISON D. WEINBERG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TIMOTHY J. ALGIERS AND ENDING WITH ANGELA ZAH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MATTHEW W. CATANESE AND ENDING WITH GRANT C. GLOVER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RAMON ACOSTA AND ENDING WITH SEN F. YU, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JONATHAN T. DUENAS AND ENDING WITH JAMES H. PHAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOSHUA K. WITT, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF STEPHEN A. JESSOGNE, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF VANNA J. ROCCHI, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MELISSA MCINNIS AND ENDING WITH MARIXELL GARCIA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON MAY 21, 2019.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF COURTNEY L. LACROIX.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GEORGE HABIB ABI–NADER AND ENDING WITH ALEXIS LYN ZINTAK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 25, 2019.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF CYNTHIA K. DUERR.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JESSICA ABENSTEIN AND ENDING WITH DAVID WALDRON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 25, 2019.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KENDRA MICHELLE ARBAIZA–SUNDAL AND ENDING WITH JACQUELINE LEANN WARD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 25, 2019.

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER WILKES-BARRE LABOR COUNCIL

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Greater Wilkes-Barre Labor Council on its 125th Anniversary. Since 1894, the Labor Council has been a force of good in the Wyoming Valley, championing the rights and interests of workers in the area. The milestone will be celebrated along with the 120th anniversary of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Building and Construction Trades Council at a special event on Saturday, September 28, 2019.

In the early evening of September 28, 1894, John Casey and Daniel Shovlin of the Plumbers and Steamfitters Union, Pat O'Neil and John Gibbon of the Stone Cutters Union, Amos Ayers of the Carpenters Union, and David Grover of the Painters Union met in a stone-cutting yard on South Main Street in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania before seeking shelter from the rain under the South Street Bridge. These visionary men discussed forming a central labor union to unite laborers from across the city to fight for fair wages, safe working conditions, and equitable treatment from their employers. It was under that bridge that the Wilkes-Barre Central Labor Union was born.

By 1899, 118 local unions counted themselves as members of the Wilkes-Barre Central Labor Union, and as many as 300 delegates regularly attended meetings. To accommodate their ever-growing membership, John Casey (who would go on to represent the region in the U.S. House as a pro-labor legislator) and John Mullery created the Building Trades Council as a subcommittee of the Central Labor Union. The Union supported historic movements such as the 1900 and the 1902 anthracite strikes where they assisted John Marshall in organizing the United Mine Workers of America. Throughout the 20th Century, the Council supported movements large and small in the region to reflect the best interests of workers across a variety of industries. In the mid-1950s, the Wilkes-Barre Central Labor Union became officially known as the Labor Council.

Today, the Labor Council operates out of a former church in Wilkes-Barre. There are 47 locals affiliated with the Greater Wilkes-Barre Labor Council, representing both private and public sector occupations. The Council holds an annual Labor Day festival in Kirby Park and continues to support community-wide charitable campaigns.

It is an honor to recognize the Greater Wilkes-Barre Labor Council on its 125th Anniversary. Its hard work and dedication to protecting the rights of workers in Northeastern Pennsylvania has been remarkable. I wish its leaders and members the best as they continue to advocate on behalf of our workers for years to come.

## RECOGNIZING KATHLEEN G. OTT

### HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Kathleen G. Ott for her years of dedicated service to Congress in her role as the Director of Congressional Relations for the Library of Congress. In 2008, Dr. James Billington, former Librarian of Congress, recognized Kathy's talents and appointed her to her esteemed position as Director of Congressional Relations.

Kathy devoted more than a decade of her career to building strong relationships between the Library of Congress and Members of Congress and their staffs. Throughout her tenure with the library, she built bipartisan support with the Committee on House Administration for many library initiatives.

In 2009, she fostered the forming of the Library of Congress Caucus and a few years later assisted in creating the library's Congressional Dialogue Dinner Series. Kathy has played an integral role in developing the congressional relations office at the library and ensuring Member involvement in numerous library events.

I am grateful for her efforts to promote the work of the library and ensure that the work of Congress remains at the forefront of their mission.

## HONORING KATHY OTT

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kathy Ott, the Director of the Congressional Relations Office of the Library of Congress. Kathy is retiring after serving more than 11 years under two Librarians of Congress, Dr. James H. Billington, and Dr. Carla D. Hayden.

During her time at the Library, through three Presidential administrations, seven Congresses, and five chairs of the House Administration Committee, Kathy has worked in building bipartisan support that recognizes the essential contribution that the Library makes to our national life, and to the work of Congress.

In 2009 she helped put together the Library of Congress Caucus. In a "Dear Colleague" letter inviting Members to join, former Representative Ray LaHood (R–IL) and Representative EARL BLUMENHAUER (D–OR) wrote that "the purpose of establishing a Library of Congress Congressional Caucus is to draw members' attention to the nation's library and its unparalleled collections and knowledgeable curators and to encourage further use of these extraordinary resources."

Kathy was instrumental in starting the Congressional Dialogue Dinner Series, which recently held its 45th dinner, and has helped coordinate, during her tenure, Congressional participation in the awarding of the Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song.

I thank Kathy for her service as Director of the Congressional Relations Office and for her work to serve Congress and to strengthen the relationship between the Legislative Branch and its library.

## RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIFECHOICES HEALTH NETWORK

### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the LifeChoices Health Network's 30th anniversary.

Thirty years ago, LifeChoices began as a small neighborhood effort to help women whose babies were at risk. Today, LifeChoices serves women throughout southwest Missouri and the four-state area by offering at-risk women free education and medical services. These services include education programs, sexually transmitted infection testing, and early pregnancy care that is needed to ensure that moms and their babies are healthy.

Over the past thirty years, LifeChoices has achieved many milestones. Over 3,800 individuals have received free and confidential services, and they have provided nearly 16,000 ultrasounds. To date, LifeChoices training programs have allowed 163 clinics to implement STI services. Additionally, they have had nearly 10,000 students from area public and private schools participate in their connection institute programs.

LifeChoices has received national and international recognition for their commitment to helping other clinics across this nation and the world.

Madam Speaker, the work of the LifeChoices Health Network is vital to ensuring at-risk women and their babies receive the care that they need at no cost to them. I give them my congratulations on a successful thirty years and wish them the very best in the many years to come.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call votes No.

542 and No. 543. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 542, and NAY on Roll Call No. 543.

## TRIBUTE CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF FRANK B. WASHINGTON

### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Frank B. Washington in honor of his 90th birthday.

Frank B. Washington was born on September 5, 1929 in Estill, South Carolina. He was raised in Columbia, South Carolina, in the Waverly and Allen Benedict Court communities. Frank attended public schools in Richland School District One, graduating from the historic Booker T. Washington High School in 1945. A 1949 graduate of Allen University with a degree in Psychology, he later pursued graduate studies at my alma mater, South Carolina State University as well as Catholic University and Bradley University.

Frank began his professional career at the South Carolina Department of Education in 1951, serving as the state's Speech Therapist. He served in various roles including State Supervisor and Chief Supervisor of the Audit Division where he became the first African American to hold an administrative role within the department. Frank retired in June 1986 after an illustrious 35 years of service.

Devoted to advancing social justice, Frank joined the Columbia Chapter of the NAACP, and was elected President in 1970, a position he held for sixteen years. Frank held multiple leadership roles within the NAACP including State Vice President for eight years and a member of the National NAACP Board of Directors for four years. His leadership within the NAACP was critical during the civil rights movement and resulted in the advancement of equal opportunity and access.

Frank was directly involved in the court decisions that reapportioned the South Carolina Legislature leading to the first three African Americans being elected to the South Carolina House of Representatives in 1970. Also, he participated in the federal lawsuit that created the 42–1 districting plan for the City Council of Columbia, South Carolina allowing the election of two African Americans to the City Council.

The morals and values that are the foundation of his life are rooted in Frank's faith in God. Since 1965, he has been a member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, where he has been a member of the Vestry, and served as Senior Warden.

Throughout his journey he has been empowered by the encouragement and support of his beautiful family. Frank has been married to the former Vivian Deloris Wingard for 69 years. They are parents of three adult children: Carla Washington, Kent Washington, and Robin Major. They are also proud grandparents of three grandsons.

Madam Speaker, Frank B. Washington has spent his lifetime as a selfless leader and humble servant to his fellow citizens of the great state of South Carolina. I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 90th birthday of Frank B. Washington and wishing him continued good health and great prosperity in the days ahead.

## HONORING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

### HON. LUCY McBATH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mrs. McBATH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. Celebrated from September 15 to October 15, Hispanic Heritage Month is designed to celebrate the history and culture of Americans who have ancestors from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. This observation was first established as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson in 1968 and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to a full monthlong celebration. Within the thirty-day period are many celebrations of independence for Latin American countries. September 15 is the anniversary of independence for Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Furthermore, Mexico and Chile also celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18.

Whether they came here as immigrants or their family has been here for generations, Hispanic Americans are woven into the fabric of this great nation. No matter when they arrived, these men and women came to America in search of a better life for themselves and their families. Guided by the promise of freedom and the chance to participate in the unique American experiment in democracy, some of these individuals arrived with nothing but the clothes on their back and the hope of a better tomorrow. Motivated by their own goals and aspirations, Hispanic Americans have made their mark in American history, whether it be in sports, fine arts, sciences, or politics. Today, I am pleased to recognize their many contributions to our country's story. Every day, I witness the critical role that these men and women bring to Georgia's Sixth Congressional District. I continue to be impressed with organizations such as the Hispanic Business Center, Candid South, and the Latin American Association. The hard work of these organizations is truly making a difference in our community and improving the lives of all my constituents.

The Hispanic community in Georgia is vibrant and continues to grow significantly. During Hispanic Heritage Month, I want to focus on what that means for our country. Despite the many contributions to our society, millions of proud immigrants have suffered discrimination at the hands of the Trump administration. I stand alongside Hispanic Americans in rejecting such rhetoric and discrimination. I am proud to stand up and fight for the men and women who have contributed so much to our communities each day in Washington. Hispanic Americans help contribute to what makes this nation remarkable, and I am honored to lift up the voices of those who have selflessly dedicated their lives to building up themselves, their community, and this country.

Hispanic Americans represent a diversity of experiences and professions—they are farmers, construction workers, teachers, doctors, entrepreneurs, elected officials, and servicemembers in our armed forces. I am struck by the common desire among Hispanic Americans in my district to give back to their own communities. Not only have these men and women earned incredible success for themselves, they also demonstrate an impressive commitment to improving their community and the entire state of Georgia. Their love of this district, this state, and this country is worth recognizing every day, but particularly during Hispanic Heritage Month. Therefore, I am honored to highlight three constituents who deserve special recognition this month: Gabriel Vaca, Maria Azuri, and Aixa Pascual.

Gabriel Vaca is the Executive Director of the Hispanic Business Center. In 2018, Gabriel received special recognition at a celebration of the 50 Most Influential Latinos in Georgia. Just this year, he was inducted into the inaugural class of the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame. Gabriel served UPS International for 24 years as a consultant in logistics and the global supply chain. During his time with the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, he has served as Chairman of the Board, Chairman of the Hispanic Business Center, and a member of the Senior Executive Corporate Advisory Board of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in Washington, D.C. Born in Mexico City and raised in Washington, D.C., Gabriel currently resides in Roswell, Georgia with his two children.

Maria Azuri is the Director of Candid-South, an organization that focuses on philanthropic efforts for immigrant communities across the southeast. Maria came to this country as an undocumented immigrant when she was a child which fuels her passion and commitment. As an Hispanic American citizen and leader she engages frequently with her communities around issues of mental and public health, criminal justice, immigration, and entrepreneurship. Prior to her work at Candid-South, Maria worked in the Mayor's Office of immigrant Affairs as its first Director of Programming. There, she successfully created numerous programs to strengthen immigrant communities through community engagement. Maria has taught at Georgia State University's School of Social Work and designed a program that trains community health providers to offer health information from culturally and linguistically sensitive perspectives-the first of its kind in the south. Her work has been recognized by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the White House under President Barack Obama. Maria lives in Atlanta with her three boys.

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Aixa Pascual is a champion for Hispanic communities in Georgia's Sixth Congressional District. For the past seven years, she has worked at the Latin American Association in Atlanta, where she serves as the managing director of advocacy, civic outreach, and cultural engagement. Aixa is the child of two Puerto Rican parents, and she spent her life traveling between Puerto Rico and the mainland United States. She is a graduate of Princeton and Columbia University, and has worked previously as a journalist for Business Week, Time and People magazines, the Atlanta Journal Constitution, and Puerto Rico's El Nuevo Dia. Aixa's childhood in Puerto Rico gave her a strong sense of her cultural and linguistic identity which she cherishes to this day. Her work with the Latin American Association has allowed her to engage closely with Georgia's

Latino population, which she says enables her to understand the struggles of immigrant families and their desire to make sacrifices to give their children better opportunities.

It is my distinct honor and privilege to recognize three of the many Hispanic Americans in Georgia's Sixth Congressional District who are working hard every day to make a difference in their communities. As we continue to celebrate the observation of Hispanic Heritage Month, may we recommit to the spirit of service demonstrated by these individuals and the many others whose stories have yet to be told. On behalf of myself, the Sixth Congressional District of Georgia, and the United States House of Representatives, I am proud to join in the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month. In telling the stories of constituents like Gabriel, Maria, and Aixa, we celebrate the power of our Hispanic community in Georgia. As their representative, I will continue to champion their values of strength, service, and patriotism every day.

## RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DUMPLING DAY

### HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor National Dumpling Day. National Dumpling Day was inaugurated back in 2015 in Brooklyn, NY and is now celebrated across America every year on September 26.

Dumplings made their humble beginnings in Ancient China, almost 1,800 years ago, where they were known as jiaozi. In America, dumplings were introduced in the mid-1800s by Chinese laborers building the transcontinental railroad. From Korean mandu and Chinese soup dumplings, to the Indian samosa and Tibetan momo, dumplings have become a world delicacy and bear tremendous cultural significance in our Asian Pacific American communities. Today, families come together across our country to the table to wrap, cook and enjoy this delightful treasure.

In the 7th Congressional District of New York, we are proud to have CJ TMI Foods, a part of CJ America, as one of the country's largest dumpling manufacturers and the founder of National Dumpling Day. Since 1989, CJ TMI Foods has been a minority-owned business, creating fresh and tasty dumplings and noodles. The company has grown exponentially over the years by expanding into new facilities and employing over 400 people. I admire their trailblazing mission of connecting and inspiring individuals of all cultural identities through exposure to Asian food.

Dumplings are more than just delicious comfort food, they are a bonding experience among many of our families. I ask my colleagues in the 116th Congress to join me in celebrating National Dumpling Day and recognizing the value these ubiquitous and delicious pockets of dough carry, unifying neighbors and sparking joy.

## HONORING THE LIFE OF SENATOR ROBERT GRIFFIN AND RECOGNIZING HIS INDUCTION INTO THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S HALL OF HONOR

### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the life and service of the late Senator Robert Griffin on the occasion of his induction into the Department of Labor's Hall of Honor. Through a lifetime of unparalleled leadership and devotion to the public good, Senator Griffin became an indispensable part of the state of Michigan.

Robert Paul Griffin was born November 6, 1923, in Detroit, Michigan. The son of an auto factory foreman, Griffin spent his youth working on auto assembly lines. During the Second World War, Robert enlisted in the 71st Infantry Division of the U.S. Army, where he served from 1943 until 1946. Following his military service, Robert attended Central Michigan University and went on to earn his law degree from the University of Michigan in 1950. He practiced law in Traverse City until his election to the U.S. House of Representatives as the Congressman for what was then Michigan's Ninth District in 1956.

Representative Griffin became a national leader in the fight against organized crime and union corruption, eventually helping to create the Labor Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959—also known as the Landrum-Griffin Act. This landmark piece of Labor legislation has helped to promote democracy, weed out corruption, and allow members to participate more freely in the affairs of their union. After serving in the House for five terms, Griffin was appointed to a vacant Senate seat, where he would go on to win reelection and serve as the Senate Minority Whip. Following his time in the Senate, he returned to Traverse City to practice law until his election to the Michigan Supreme Court in 1986. He served on the Court until his retirement in 1994. He passed away in 2015 at the age of 91.

In commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the Landrum-Griffin Act, the U.S. Department of Labor has inducted Senator Griffin and former National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) member Howard Jenkins, Jr., into the Department's Hall of Honor. With his lifetime of promoting fair and responsible practices in unions, none are more deserving of this honor than Senator Griffin. The impact of his life's work on the people of the United States cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the incredible life of Senator Robert Griffin and his induction into the Department of Labor's Hall of Honor. His family can take great pride in knowing that the legacy of this dedicated leader will live on for generations to come.

## CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF INNERCITY STRUGGLE

### HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate InnerCity Struggle on its 25th anniversary of movement building on the Eastside of Los Angeles.

InnerCity Struggle (ICS) was started in 1994 by a group of parents, youth, and residents in Boyle Heights who joined together to find solutions to a crisis in their community. ICS has organized young people and families to demand educational justice, an end to the school-to-prison pipeline, and college access for all.

A quarter-century later, ICS has built an impressive record of significant policy victories, including $940 million in public resources for neighborhood schools. It has empowered more than 1,200 grassroots leaders who work together to engage decision makers and hold them accountable.

In 2004, ICS won its first significant campaign when the Board of Education of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) agreed to build new Eastside schools for the first time in more than 80 years. The Eastside's Roosevelt and Garfield High Schools were among the most overcrowded schools in the nation. LAUSD ultimately opened three new high schools and a new elementary school on the Eastside between 2009 and 2012. And in 2018, after years of ICS demands, the school board agreed to invest $173 million in modernizing the under-resourced and neglected Roosevelt High School campus. By 2022, the district will have transformed the school into a state-of-the-art center anchored in college and career preparation.

ICS parents and students have also taken the stance that all students should be eligible to apply to college. In 2005, ICS was part of a citywide coalition that helped secure the ''A–G Life Prep'' policy, which mandated that LAUSD align its graduation requirements with California public university eligibility. That year, only 44 percent of LAUSD graduates from Eastside high schools had A–G college course requirements. By 2016, a historic 80 percent of Eastside graduates had A–G requirements.

ICS also recognizes the power of voting to shape our communities. That is why the organization has invested in engaging and mobilizing voters on the Eastside. In all, ICS has engaged over 51,000 voters, and registered 4,000 new ones.

ICS helped form the Brothers, Sons, Selves Coalition in 2013. This county-wide coalition was formed to end the criminalization of young boys and men of color by creating and influencing public policy that invests in young people. One of the coalition's key victories was a demand for ending the use of ''willful defiance'' as grounds for school suspension. The ''willful defiance'' category had a long record of disproportionately targeting African American and Latinx students, particularly males. The LAUSD Board voted to ban ''willful defiance'' suspensions in favor of restorative justice interventions, making it the first district in the nation to do so.

In 2014, ICS secured $50 million for the construction of comprehensive school-based

wellness centers in high-need schools, so these schools could play a more important role in providing wrap-around supports for communities. That same year, ICS joined forces with the Advancement Project and Community Coalition on a successful campaign which led to LAUSD's adoption of a resolution to equitably distribute new state funding, called the Local Control Funding Formula, to the highest-need schools. The campaign argued that areas in the Eastside and South LA deserved an equitable distribution of funding, based on decades of disinvestment that had led to higher concentrations of poverty and trauma in these areas.

Earlier this year, ICS moved into a bright new era when it opened the InnerCity Struggle Youth and Community Center. This permanent headquarters will serve as the political hub for the Eastside and inspire a new generation of leaders to transform their neighborhoods. The center will be a place where young people can find their voice, and parents can advance change.

On October 3, 2019, InnerCity Struggle will commemorate its 25th anniversary, and I will be joining more than four hundred supporters who are expected to attend their celebration. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in celebrating InnerCity Struggle for being a leading voice for progress on the Eastside of Los Angeles and reaching this historic milestone.

## FLORIDA 16TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL FIRE AND RESCUE AND EMS AWARDS

### HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fire and Rescue and EMS personnel who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

As first responders, fire departments and emergency medical service teams are summoned on short notice to serve their respective communities. Often times, they arrive at scenes of great adversity and trauma, to which they reliably bring strength and composure. These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get ''the call.''

In 2012, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS Awards to honor officers, departments and units for outstanding achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, it is my privilege to congratulate the following winners, who were selected this year by an independent committee comprised of a cross section of current and retired Fire and Rescue personnel living in the district:

Lt. Ryan Anusbigian of the Hillsborough County Fire Rescue and Captain Thomas ''Mike'' Bloski of the Southern Manatee Fire Rescue District were chosen to receive the Dedication and Professionalism Award.

Deputy Tyler Ackerman, Deputy Timothy Collins and Deputy Brian Hart of the Manatee County Sheriff's Office were chosen to receive the Preservation of Life Associate Service Award.

Donald O'Leary, Retired Commissioner of the East Manatee Fire Rescue District and the New York City Fire Department was chosen to receive the Career Service Award.

Manatee County EMS Ambulance Strike Team 601 was chosen to receive the Unit Citation Award. This unit is comprised of the following personnel: District Chief Mark Regis, Charge Paramedic Richard Johnson, Charge Paramedic Erwin Evelyne, Charge Paramedic William Cheek, Charge Paramedic Nick Horvath, Charge Paramedic Beth Harmount, Community Paramedic Earl Kulpa, Paramedic Dominick Reale and EMT Justin Woods.

## IN RECOGNITION OF LAWRENCE FALIVENA

### HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lawrence ''Larry'' Falivena from Apex, NC. Two years ago, Larry was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). Following this news, Larry has fiercely dedicated his time to his family and the ALS community. After speaking with the CEO of the ALS Association about how he could make a positive and lasting impact for those impacted by the disease, Larry created the ''Iron Horse Tour''. On the tour, Larry, his wife Shana, and his two sons, set out to visit all 30 Major League Baseball parks during one baseball season in order to spread national awareness and raise funding for research to combat ALS.

On September 8th, Larry attended his thirtieth and final game at SunTrust Park in Atlanta, GA. At each stop along the way, Larry met and spoke with several incredible people who were also courageously battling the disease. He shares their stories to spread awareness and encourage others to assist in the fight against ALS. Larry has successfully raised over $29,000 for ALS research thus far and has gained wide-spread attention across the nation. Larry's commitment to helping combat the disease and educating others is an inspiration to us all.

Larry represents the best of our nation. He is a true role model and I am very proud to recognize his efforts and accomplishments. Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Larry Falivena.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed Rollcall No. 544. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on Rollcall No. 544.

## HONORING ARBOR HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT FOR ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Arbor Housing and Development for the fiftieth Anniversary of its founding.

In 1969, Arbor Housing and Development was founded as Steuben Churchpeople Against Poverty. The organization began as a volunteer driven service offering poverty relief services. At that time, the organization had eight part-time volunteers focusing on self-help housing.

Arbor Housing and Development has grown over the years and has fully embraced a mission of enhancing the quality of life within its community by building independence and creating housing options. Growing from the small, volunteer-based service to an organization that has one hundred and twenty full-time employees, it is evident Arbor Housing and Development is deserving of recognition.

Arbor Housing and Development President Jeffrey Eaton has been with the organization since 2000, and has been greatly involved in its success. Under his leadership, the organization has been involved in the Neighborworks program; development of the Gerard Block Apartments; the development of the former Northside Blodgett site; and many others.

Arbor Housing and Development serves many people over the span of seven counties in New York State and has also expanded to Northern Pennsylvania, The organization offers residential behavioral health and domestic violence services to help people live safety on their own, owns nine hundred units of affordable housing in three states and also provides assistance for renters and home-buyers to create a pathway to security and stability for housing.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to recognize Arbor Housing and Development on their fiftieth Anniversary.

## CONGRATULATING BEDFORD COUNTY, VIRGINIA SHERIFF MIKE BROWN ON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. DENVER RIGGLEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bedford County, Virginia, Sheriff Mike Brown on his retirement. After nearly 50 years of service Sheriff Brown will retire as the longest serving sheriff in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In 2017 Sheriff Brown was named National Sheriff's Association Sheriff of the year.

In his time as Sheriff Mike has been a leader in advancing new technology in policing. These efforts include creating the Cyber SWAT task force. This organization helps teach children to identify cybercrimes and make sure that they do not fall victim to them. Sheriff Brown has also done incredible work in

the fight against drug crimes and the opioid epidemic by working to designate Bedford County as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area.

Sheriff Brown has worked in law enforcement for almost half a century. Since beginning his tenure Mike has worked to ensure that Bedford County remains on the cutting edge of training, and that the Sheriff's office is well equipped to protect the citizens they serve.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Sheriff Brown for his years of service to the Bedford community and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MADELEINE DEAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I was absent on the Floor for the vote on ordering the previous question on the Amendment and House Resolution 577. I was unavoidably detained as I was offering testimony at a Judiciary Hearing. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted in favor of the order.

## CONGRATULATING CHIEF JERRY DYER ON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Jerry Dyer on the occasion of his retirement from the Fresno Police Department after 40 years of service. Chief Dyer has dedicated his career to protecting the people of the Central Valley making our community a safer place.

Jerry Dyer was born and raised in Fresno, California and attended California State University, Fresno; receiving his bachelor's degree in Criminology. He later received his master's degree in Management from California Polytechnic University, Pomona and graduated from the California Command College for law enforcement leaders. He joined the Fresno Police Department in May of 1979.

Chief Dyer quickly rose within the ranks of the department. He served as a Police Specialist and SWAT team member, Patrol Sergeant for Southwest District and SWAT team supervisor. Other leadership roles included; Sergeant for the Patrol Narcotics Enforcement, Police Lieutenant in Central District, Captain of Southeast District and Skywatch Commander. In 1999, he was named Assistant Chief of Police before being named Chief of Police in 2001.

Chief Dyer and the Fresno Police Department have received a number of accolades during his tenure. In 2005, he was awarded the Excellence in Public Service Award that is sponsored by The Fresno Bee, The Fresno Business Council, and the Maddy Institute at the California State University, Fresno. His department became nationally accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. In 2008, Chief Dyer served as the president of the California Police Chief's Association. In 2011, at the California Police Chief's Conference, he was awarded the Joseph T. Molloy Award, for his commitment to mission of the organization. He was also named the 2nd Vice President of Major Cities Chief's Association, which represents large municipal departments throughout the country.

Chief Dyer built strong relationships with the community and citizens of Fresno to promote trust in police officers. He implemented reforms that were proposed by the Obama Administration's Task Force on 21st Century Policing and embraced the latest in policing technology to ensure his officers could properly and safely perform their duties.

Chief Dyer was active in the community throughout his career. He served on the boards of the Marjaree Mason Center and Breaking the Chains, worked with his church, spoke at community events, and participated in charity events. Through his career he has had the steadfast support of his wife Diane and their two children and grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on his impressive law enforcement career. His contributions to the Central Valley over the past 40 years will be felt for many years to come. I wish he and his family continued health, happiness and prosperity in this new chapter.

## CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MINNESOTA COMMUNITY CARE

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Minnesota Community Care's 50th anniversary. With 18 locations in Saint Paul that serve more than 37,000 patients each year, Minnesota Community Care is the largest federally qualified community health center in Minnesota and a leader in innovative, compassionate, community-based care for patients where they live, work and go to school.

Since 1969, Minnesota Community Care has been serving the health care needs of its patients across Saint Paul in a culturally appropriate way. In 1972, the nonprofit organization was incorporated as West Side Health Center, delivering care to 1900 patients from a clinic in the Neighborhood House community center in the heart of the neighborhood.

A foundational part of Minnesota Community Care's mission is providing care to our most vulnerable populations, including young people, homeless and uninsured families, and others in need. Its Health Care for the Homeless program began in 1987. In 1992, in collaboration with Ramsey County, it started its HouseCalls homeless prevention program. A year later, working with the St. Paul Public Housing Agency, it established McDonough Homes Clinic—a primary care clinic for public housing residents in the North End neighborhood.

Minnesota Community Care is a leader in providing affordable dental care, understanding its impact on overall health. In 1978, it started providing dental services and in 2001, West Side Dental Clinic was established. In 2013, with the help from a major Affordable Care Act grant, it expanded its dental care to reach more patients when it opened its new East Side Family Clinic.

As communities across our state have worked to improve educational achievement, Minnesota Community Care is working to keep students healthy and in school learning by caring for student patients where they are. Through its 10 school-based clinics, youth can access critical medical, mental health, and nutrition services and learn to be advocates for their health. These school-based clinics are a model for improving health and education outcomes at the same time.

Madam Speaker, it was a pleasure to host you during your visit to Saint Paul in May as we met with leaders from Minnesota Community Care and other community health centers. Working to strengthen our community health centers is one of the most effective ways to increase access to affordable health care across our community. Please join me in honoring the 50th anniversary of Minnesota Community Care's dedication to providing quality and affordable health care for all.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 120th Anniversary of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Building and Construction Trades Council. The Trades Council was originally formed as a subcommittee of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Labor Council in 1899, following the rapid growth of unionization of workers in the area. The milestone will be celebrated along with the 125th anniversary of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Labor Council at a special event on Saturday, September 28, 2019.

In 1899, five years after its formation, the Wilkes-Barre Central Labor Council was thriving. Three hundred delegates representing 118 local unions were attending meetings regularly to discuss important issues such as securing higher wages and better working conditions for laborers in the Wyoming Valley. Leaders John Casey (a pro-labor Representative who served seven terms representing Northeastern Pennsylvania in the U.S. House) and John Mullery saw the need for additional structure within the Labor Council and created the Building Trades Council as a subcommittee.

Throughout its 120-year history, the Trades Council has worked tirelessly to advocate for the rights and interests of workers throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania. The organization has not only benefited workers but has also given support to many community causes, projects, and programs that serve everyone in our community.

It is an honor to recognize the important work done by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Building and Construction Trades Council. These trades have always been vital to our region's economy and will continue to be so in

the future. I wish the leaders and members of the Council the best as they continue to support workers in the building trades by standing up for better wages, safer working conditions, modernized job training, and additional family-sustaining job opportunities for our workforce.

## IN HONOR OF GARY GRUNAU

### HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my deepest condolences on the passing of Gary Grunau a Milwaukee real estate developer and civic leader. Gary was born on April 17, 1939, in Bay View, Wisconsin, and lived his entire life in Milwaukee. He was a loving husband, father, uncle, grandfather, brother, relative, and friend to many here in Milwaukee.

Gary left his home to attend Cornell University, but knew that Milwaukee was where he belonged. Upon earning his degree in mechanical engineering, he returned home to join Grunau Co. Inc, a business started by his grandfather. In the late 70's, the company was working on the Hyatt Regency construction project in downtown Milwaukee, but Gary had to step in as the developer to complete the project. He was the developer on several major projects in the city including the Wisconsin Center, Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin, Manpower Group World Headquarters, the Milwaukee Riverwalk System, and the former Time Warner Building. However, he is best known for revitalizing the former Joseph Schlitz Brewing Co. complex into one of Milwaukee's most desirable working environments, the Schlitz Park office complex. Gary's projects won numerous awards including the Urban Land Institute (ULI) Achievement Award, The National Council for Urban Economic Development Award and the ULI's 2017–2018 Global Award of Excellence for the Milwaukee Riverwalk, considered among the world's highest honors from land use experts. He also led and served on many boards, including the Milwaukee Academy of Science, Discovery World, Alverno College Board of Trustees, Milwaukee Riverwalk District, Spirit of Milwaukee, and the Greater Milwaukee Committee.

Gary wanted to make Milwaukee a better place for all its residents. He was committed to addressing the racial and economic disparities that have plagued our city. He was disturbed by our city's status as one of the most segregated communities in the country and knew that the lack of affordable housing and support for public schools, prevented the upward mobility for people living in our poorest zip codes. In an article two years ago, Gary said that ''Segregation hurts the city's economic competitiveness, but not enough is being doing about it . . . the lack of inclusion hurts us downtown. It hurts us in education. It hurts us nationally.'' He took those words to his heart and didn't simply talk the talk, he walked it; raising millions of dollars to improve education and economic opportunities for the city.

Gary leaves to cherish his memory his wife Joanne; sons Paul (Jeanie) Grunau, Daniel Grunau, and John (Adrienne) Grunau; stepson Jeff (Kate) MacInnes and stepdaughter Laura MacInnes; grandchildren Grace, Hank, Gus, Sadie, Alex, Jon, Grant, Andrew, Wesley, Darcy, and Wilson Grunau, and many other relatives and friends.

Gary was my friend and while our fights against injustice didn't always go our way, he stayed committed to find a way to solve problems. Even with his illness, he continued forward, focusing on his final project; revitalizing Milwaukee both economically and in terms of racial equity.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons I rise to salute Gary Grunau, a man that has positively impacted the 4th Congressional District, the State of Wisconsin, and the world.

## RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY SENIOR CENTER NETWORK

### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Grand Traverse County Senior Center Network. Through its dedicated service and steadfast devotion to its community, the Senior Center has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

In 1964, community leaders Vince and Lou Ecarius launched the Adult Activity Club, a local group that met in the basement of Munson Medical Center. In 1969, the club moved to its current location in Traverse City. Following Vince and Lou's retirement in 1978, the City of Traverse City took up responsibility for the club and organized it as a part of the local government. Thanks to the support of the local community and the tireless efforts of their staff and volunteers, the Senior Center grew into the local institution it is today. Now administered by Grand Traverse County, the Senior Center Network works to provide social, wellness, and educational programs in a fun and inclusive environment for those in the community over 50. In addition to the Traverse City location, the Senior Center Network now includes satellite programming in Interlochen, Kingsley, Acme, and Fife Lake. From dances and social clubs to computer labs and exercise programs, the impact of the center's work on the people of Grand Traverse County cannot be overstated. Day after day, the Grand Traverse Senior Center Network shows what can be achieved when the people of a community work together for the common good.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the Grand Traverse County Senior Center Network for fifty years of success and service to Northern Michigan. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such dedicated citizens. On behalf of my constituents, I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, September 19, 2019, I was unable to vote on Roll Call No. 538: Passage of H.R. 4378, ''Making Continuing Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2020, and for other purposes.'' Had I been present, I would have voted ''yes.''

On Friday, September 20, 2019, I was unable to vote on Roll Call No. 540: Passage of H.R. 1423, ''Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act.'' Had I been present, I would have voted ''no.''

## HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CHIEF DAVID HUERTA

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the life of Fresno State Police Chief David Huerta. Chief Huerta passed away August 16 at the age of 68.

David was born on May 10, 1951 and was a lifelong resident of Fresno County. He received his bachelor's degree in Organizational Behavior from the University of San Francisco in 1989 and his master's degree in Criminology from California State University, Fresno (Fresno State) in 1992, graduating with distinction.

David's career was dedicated to serving and protecting the people of the Central Valley. He served the Department with the Fresno County Sheriff's office for 30 years, he retired with the rank of lieutenant. His career did not stop at his retirement. David was named chief of police and director of public safety of the Fresno State Police Department in 2004.

At Fresno State, he oversaw 27 officers and over 30 non-sworn full-time staff. Along with many other responsibilities, his department also oversaw the emergency preparedness and business continuity at Fresno State. Because of his diligence, the Fresno State Police Department became an International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) accredited department in June 2019.

In addition to his responsibilities as police chief, David taught criminology classes as adjunct faculty at National University and at the Clovis Unified School District's Regional Occupation Program. He was also a member of the advisory panel of the Public Safety Pathway program at the Reagan Educational Center in Clovis.

David received many accolades during his career. He was awarded a distinguished service medal in SWAT for 22-plus years of work and was named officer of the year by the American Legion, in addition to many honors with the Sheriffs Department.

David is survived by his wife, Cynthia, and their four children, Breanne, Austin, Brandt, Carragan, son-in-law Steve, daughter-in-law Liz and 3 grandchildren, Micaela, Allison, and Brixton. David is also survived by his father Pete, his brother, Michael Huerta and sister, Teresa Larkin.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of Chief David Huerta. Chief Huerta was a selfless man who put others before himself throughout his career. His contributions to the Central Valley will be felt for many years to come. I join his family in honoring his great life.

## RECOGNIZING TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

### HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to wish both the people of Taiwan and Americans celebrating the upcoming Taiwan's National Day on October 10th a Happy Double Ten Day.

In the decades preceding and following the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979, the United States and Taiwan have built a solid bond that cannot be broken—born out of our shared values and our cooperation with each other in times of crisis, and in times of advancement.

During the years, this key ally in the Indo-Pacific has transformed itself into a model of democracy that respects human rights, freedom of speech, rule of law, and market economy. Americans share these values, which is why we have also contributed to Taiwan's success.

In 2018, Taiwan was the 11th largest trading partner for the United States overall, and it is my home state Nebraska's 10th largest export market in the world. Our companies have substantial opportunities to expand their business and cooperation with Taiwan. I will, together with Taiwanese friends, work to find areas where we can partner to our mutual benefit.

This is a day to celebrate, and to be optimistic. I ask my colleagues to join me in recommitting ourselves to the robust U.S.-Taiwan relationship, and in wishing Taiwan a Happy Double Ten Day.

## RECOGNIZING TIM CHAMBERS FOR HIS UNWAVERING DEDICATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

### HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 26, 2019*

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unwavering dedication of retired Marine Staff Sergeant, Tim Chambers.

First spotted in 2002, Tim Chambers—better known as "The Saluting Marine"—stood at attention for hours as thousands of motorcyclists rode past during the Rolling Thunder "Ride for Freedom" event in Washington, D.C. Since then, Tim has not missed a Rolling Thunder event. His single salute in 2002 set an example that has since rippled throughout the nation, raising awareness for missing-in-action servicemembers and prisoners of war.

Year after year, Tim continues to give veterans the welcome home they deserve yet did not receive upon returning home from war. Standing for hours on end in, Tim overcomes physical conditions that would otherwise render him immobile, purely to honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

A modern-day hero, Tim selflessly rushed into the Pentagon after the crash of American Airlines Flight 77 during the 9/11 terrorist attacks, without knowing what lay ahead for him, the victims, and our country. Tim stayed three days in the attacks' aftermath to continue rescue operations of his fellow Americans. Even in the most harrowing of times, Tim's love of and dedication to country, along with his profound bravery, has always overcome the most colossal challenges.

A former Marine, Tim now acts as a veterans' rights advocate, ensuring that the men and women who serve our country receive the respect, honor, remembrance, and thanks they deserve.

As I attend the Rolling Thunder event this coming weekend in Columbus, I will think of Tim's honorable dedication to his country and fellow veterans, and all the American servicemembers who may never get their due welcome home. Tim Chamber's devotion to our Armed Forces is felt throughout our nation, and I am humbled to honor him, returning to him the recognition and glory he has shown for his fellow American heroes.

## SECURE AND FAIR ENFORCEMENT BANKING ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 25, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letters of endorsement for H.R. 1595, the SAFE Banking Act.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL,
*Washington, DC, May 8, 2019.*

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker of the House,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
*Majority Leader,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. STENY HOYER,
*Majority Leader,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. JAMES E. CLYBURN,
*Majority Whip,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. MIKE CRAPO,
*Chair, Senate Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs, Washington, DC.*
Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
*Minority Leader,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. CHARLES E. SCHUMER,
*Minority Leader,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. STEVE SCALISE,
*Minority Whip,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. RICHARD J. DURBIN,
*Minority Whip,*
*Washington, DC.*
Hon. SHERROD BROWN,
*Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS: We are a bipartisan group of state and territorial attorneys general who recognize that the states, territories and federal government share a strong interest in protecting public safety and bringing grey market financial activities into the regulated banking sector. To address these goals, we urge Congress to advance legislation that would allow states and territories that have legalized certain use of marijuana to bring that commerce into the banking system.

This issue is of broad relevance: for example, thirty-three states and several U.S. territories have legalized the medical use of marijuana. However, because the federal government classifies marijuana as an illegal substance, banks providing services to state-licensed cannabis businesses and even to other companies which sell services and products to those businesses could find themselves subject to criminal and civil liability under the federal Controlled Substances Act and certain federal banking statutes. This risk has significantly inhibited the ability of financial institutions to provide services to these businesses and companies.

Despite the contradictions between federal and state law, the marijuana industry continues to grow rapidly. Industry analysts estimate 2017 sales at $8.3 billion and expect those totals to exceed $25 billion by 2025. Yet those revenues are handled outside of the regulated banking system. Businesses are forced to operate on a cash basis. The resulting grey market makes it more difficult to track revenues for taxation and regulatory compliance purposes, contributes to a public safety threat as cash-intensive businesses are often targets for criminal activity, and prevents proper tracking of billions in finances across the nation. Importantly, this measure in no way constitutes an endorsement of any state or territory's specific approach to the legalization of marijuana-related transactions, and the Act is in no way an endorsement for the legalization of medical or retail marijuana in those jurisdictions that choose not to pursue such an approach. But regardless of how individual policymakers feel about states permitting the use of medical or recreational marijuana, the reality of the situation requires federal rules that permit a sensible banking regime for legal businesses.

To address these challenges, we request that Congress advance the SAFE Banking Act or similar legislation that would provide a safe harbor for depository institutions that provide a financial product or service to a covered business in a state that has implemented laws and regulations that ensure accountability in the marijuana industry. An effective safe harbor would bring billions of dollars into the banking sector, enabling law enforcement; federal, state and local tax agencies; and cannabis regulators in 33 states and several territories to more effectively monitor cannabis businesses and their transactions. Compliance with tax laws and requirements would be simpler and easier to enforce with the regulated tracking of funds in the banking system, resulting in higher tax revenues.

Our banking system must be flexible enough to address the needs of businesses in the various states and territories, with state and territorial input, while protecting the interests of the federal government. This includes a banking system for marijuana-related businesses that is both responsive and effective in meeting the demands of our economy. We look forward to working with

you as Congress moves forward in this process and to lending our voice and expertise as you develop legislation.

Respectfully,

Phil Weiser, Colorado Attorney General; Karl A. Racine, District of Columbia Attorney General; Aaron D. Ford, Nevada Attorney General; Wayne Stenehjem, North Dakota Attorney General.

Kevin G. Clarkson, Alaska Attorney General; Mark Brnovich, Arizona Attorney General; Leslie Rutledge, Arkansas Attorney General; Xavier Becerra, California Attorney General; William Tong, Connecticut Attorney General; Kathleen Jennings, Delaware Attorney General; Leevin Taitano Camacho, Guam Attorney General; Clare E. Connors, Hawaii Attorney General; Kwame Raoul, Illinois Attorney General; Tom Miller, Iowa Attorney General; Andy Beshear, Kentucky Attorney General; Aaron M. Frey, Maine Attorney General; Brian Frosh, Maryland Attorney General; Maura Healey, Massachusetts Attorney General; Dana Nessel, Michigan Attorney General; Keith Ellison, Minnesota Attorney General; Jim Hood, Mississippi Attorney General; Gurbir S. Grewal, New Jersey Attorney General.

Hector Balderas, New Mexico Attorney General; Letitia James, New York Attorney General; Edward Manibusan, Northern Mariana Islands Attorney General; Dave Yost, Ohio Attorney General; Mike Hunter, Oklahoma Attorney General; Ellen F. Rosenblum, Oregon Attorney General; Josh Shapiro, Pennsylvania Attorney General; Wanda Vazquez Garced, Puerto Rico Attorney General; Peter Neronha, Rhode Island Attorney General; Sean Reyes, Utah Attorney General; T.J. Donovan, Vermont Attorney General; Denise N. George, U.S. Virgin Islands Attorney General; Mark R. Herring, Virginia Attorney General; Robert W. Ferguson, Washington Attorney General; Patrick Morrisey, West Virginia Attorney General; Joshua L. Kaul, Wisconsin Attorney General.

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On behalf of the 1.3 million members of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW), including thousands of cannabis workers, we urge you to vote ''yes'' on the Secure and Fair Enforcement Banking Act of 2019 when it comes to the House floor.

UFCW's cannabis members can be found in growing and cultivating facilities; manufacturing and processing facilities; and in laboratories and dispensaries in multiple states.

The current ban on banking access for cannabis related businesses has led to confusion and uncertainty for cannabis workers who are just trying to do their jobs and support their families. The lack of uniform treatment of cannabis by federal, state and local laws has resulted in workers being denied personal loans for homes and cars, even when they have high credit scores. Hardworking Americans in the cannabis industry should not have to struggle with financial and legal ambiguity while on the job.

Since cannabis employers must pay their workers in cash, they are also vulnerable to violent crime both inside and outside their place of business. When employers gain access to conventional banking, their workers gain both economic and personal security.

A majority of states have some form of legal cannabis and it is imperative that the federal government update our nation's banking laws to include this new and growing industry.

As the nation's largest union of cannabis workers, we urge Congress to pass the SAFE Banking Act and give cannabis workers access to the same financial systems that all other American workers enjoy.

ADEMOLA OYEFESO,
*International Vice President, Director, UFCW Legislative & Political Action Department.*

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AMERICAN BANKERS ASSOCIATION,
*September 24, 2019.*

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
*Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI AND MINORITY LEADER MCCARTHY: The American Bankers Association (ABA) is pleased to express our support for H.R. 1595, the Secure and Fair Enforcement Banking Act (SAFE Banking Act) of 2019, which is scheduled for consideration before the House of Representatives in the coming days.

Currently, 33 states covering 68 percent of the nation's population have legalized cannabis for medical or adult-use and at least seven additional states are expected to consider ballot initiatives in the next two years. Despite that, current federal law prevents financial institutions from .banking cannabis businesses, as well as the ancillary businesses that provide them with goods and services. As a result, a majority of states are struggling to address the significant challenges to public safety, as well as regulatory compliance and tax compliance that go hand-in-hand with cash-reliant businesses. Although we do not take a position on the legalization of marijuana, our members are committed to serving the financial needs of their communities—including those that have voted to legalize cannabis.

H.R. 1595, sponsored by Representatives ED PERLMUTTER (D-CO), DENNY HECK (D-WA), STEVE STIVERS (R-OH) and WARREN DAVIDSON (R-OH), along with over 200 members of the House, takes an important step toward enabling financial services for cannabis-related businesses.

The bill specifies that proceeds from a legitimate cannabis business would not be considered unlawful under federal money laundering statutes or any other federal law, which is necessary to allow financial services to cannabis businesses and any ancillary businesses that derive some portion of their income from cannabis businesses. The bill would also direct the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) and the federal banking regulators, through the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, to issue guidance and exam procedures for banks doing business with cannabis related legitimate businesses. We believe such explicit, consistent direction from federal financial regulators will provide needed clarity for banks and help them to better evaluate the risks and supervisory expectations for cannabis-related customers.

As the legal state-cannabis industry continues to grow, the indirect connections to cannabis revenues—from real estate owners, security firms, utilities, law firms and employees of cannabis businesses, as well as investors—will also continue to expand. Without greater clarity, that entire portion of economic activity in legal cannabis states—estimated by some to be in the tens of billions of dollars—will continue to be marginalizes from the banking system.

Providing a mechanism for the cannabis industry to access the banking system would help those communities reduce cash-motivated crimes, increase the efficiency of tax collections, and improvethe financial transparency of the cannabis industry. It would also subject cannabis businesses to increased oversight of their financial activities since bank accounts are monitored in accordance with existing anti-money laundering and Bank Secrecy Act requirements which help law enforcement identify suspicious transactions—an opportunity that is not available in an all-cash environment.

The SAFE Banking Act, as amended, is an important measure that helps clarify many issues for the banking industry, regulators, businesses and consumers. It also provides immediate relief for urgent public safety and cannabis industry oversight challenges, which will help keep our communities safe and should not be delayed while Congress works to build consensus on broader questions of national drug policy. ABA urges members of the House to support H.R. 1595.

Sincerely,

ROB NICHOLS,
*President and CEO.*

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
*Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI AND MINORITY LEADER MCCARTHY: On behalf of the undersigned state bankers associations, representing banks throughout the country, we write to express our support for H.R. 1595, the Secure and Fair Enforcement (SAFE) Banking Act of 2019, which will soon be considered before the House of Representatives.

Since 1996, 33 states comprising 68 percent of the nation's population have legalized cannabis for medical or adult use, and that number is only expected to grow. Despite this ever-growing voter preference, current Federal law continues to prevent banks from offering products and services to these businesses without fear of federal sanctions. Inevitably, leaving the cannabis industry unbanked presents serious public safety, revenue administration, and legal compliance concerns and must be remedied immediately.

As a result of the federal prohibition and lack of regulatory clarity, legal cannabis businesses must operate on an all-cash basis, subjecting their employees and the general public to serious risk of criminal activity and harm. These businesses also must remit payments for state taxes and licensing fees in cash, denying the states the efficiencies and safety of more modern payment methods. This in turn significantly increases state compliance auditing costs, since operating on an all-cash basis leaves no paper trails for auditors to follow.

The impact on local economies is also significant. As the cannabis industry continues to grow in states where it is legal, unrelated businesses that provide products and services to the industry also become ensnared in the problem. Because revenue paid to them by cannabis businesses can be considered monies derived from illegal activities, and financial institutions that bank the unrelated businesses can be accused of violating anti-money laundering laws. If banks are forced to discontinue relationships with these unrelated businesses, a significant portion of the economy in states where cannabis is legal will be cut off from the regulated banking system.

Although we do not take a position on the legalization of marijuana, our members are committed to serving the financial needs of their communities—including those that have voted to legalize cannabis. That is why we support H.R. 1595. This is fair and balanced legislation that will permit depository institutions to serve the needs of their customers in states where cannabis is legal. The bill provides a mechanism for the cannabis industry and its service providers to deposit their cash in regulated financial institutions, which allows banks to meet the needs

of their communities and helps those communities reduce cash—motivated crimes, increase the efficiency of tax collections, and improve the financial transparency of the cannabis industry.

We urge you to support H.R. 1595 when this legislation comes before the House.

Sincerely,

Alabama Bankers Association, Alaska Bankers Association, Arizona Bankers Association, Arkansas Bankers Association, California Bankers Association, Colorado Bankers Association, Connecticut Bankers Association, Delaware Bankers Association, Florida Bankers Association, Georgia Bankers Association.

Hawaii Bankers Association, Idaho Bankers Association, Illinois Bankers Association, Indiana Bankers Association, Iowa Bankers Association, Kansas Bankers Association, Louisiana Bankers Association, Maine Bankers Association, Maryland Bankers Association, Massachusetts Bankers Association.

Michigan Bankers Association, Minnesota Bankers Association, Mississippi Bankers Association, Missouri Bankers Association, Montana Bankers Association, Nebraska Bankers Association, Nevada Bankers Association, New Hampshire Bankers Association, New Jersey Bankers Association, New Mexico Bankers Association.

New York Bankers Association, North Carolina Bankers Association, North Dakota Bankers Association, Ohio Bankers League, Oklahoma Bankers Association, Oregon Bankers Association, Pennsylvania Bankers Association, Puerto Rico Bankers Association, Rhode Island Bankers Association, South Carolina Bankers Association.

South Dakota Bankers Association, Tennessee Bankers Association, Texas Bankers Association, Utah Bankers Association, Vermont Bankers Association, Virginia Bankers Association, Washington Bankers Association, West Virginia Bankers Association, Wisconsin Bankers Association, Wyoming Bankers Association.

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SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker of the House, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
*Minority Leader, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI AND MINORITY LEADER MCCARTHY: On behalf of our members, we write to express our support for H.R. 1595, the Secure and Fair Enforcement (SAFE) Banking Act of 2019 which is scheduled for consideration before the House of Representatives in the near future.

This important bipartisan legislation, introduced by Representatives Ed Perlmutter (D-CO), Steve Stivers (R-OH), Denny Heck (D-WA) and Warren Davidson (R-OH) and supported by over 200 cosponsors would permit depository institutions to serve the needs of their customers in states where cannabis is legal.

The House Financial Services Committee has held substantive hearings on H.R. 1595 and worked cooperatively to solve the practical problems caused by the disparate treatment of cannabis under federal and state laws. Although we do not take a position on the legalization of marijuana, our members are committed to serving the financial needs of their communities—including those that have voted to legalize cannabis. The current threat of criminal and civil liability under federal law is suppressing the provision of vital financial services in the thirty-three states that have legalized cannabis in some form.

The SAFE Banking Act of 2019 provides a mechanism for the cannabis industry and its service providers to deposit their cash in regulated financial institutions, which allows our members to meet the needs of their communities and helps those communities reduce cash-motivated crimes, increase the efficiency of tax collections, and improve the financial transparency of the cannabis industry.

Without congressional action, a significant portion of economic activity, including those businesses with only indirect connections to the cannabis industry, such as vendors, suppliers, and utility companies, risk being marginalized from the financial system in states with legal cannabis industries. H.R. 1595 provides needed legal protection and clarity for financial institutions to accept deposits, extend credit, and provide other financial services to individuals and businesses that derive some portion of their income from legal state cannabis related activity.

We urge members of the House to support H.R. 1595.

Sincerely,

American Bankers Association (ABA), Credit Union National Association (CUNA), Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA), National Bankers Association (NBA).

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M B C A, MID-SIZE BANK COALITION OF AMERICA,

*September 23, 2019.*

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker of the House, Washington, DC.*
Hon. STENY H. HOYER,
*House Majority Leader, Washington, DC.*
Hon. JAMES E. CLYBURN,
*House Majority Whip, Washington, DC.*
Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,
*House Minority Leader, Washington, DC.*
Hon. STEVE J. SCALISE,
*House Minority Leader, Washington, DC.*

SPEAKER PELOSI, MAJORITY LEADER HOYER, MAJORITY WHIP CLYBURN, MINORITY LEADER MCCARTHY, AND MINORITY WHIP SCALISE: The Mid-Size Bank Coalition of America (MBCA) is writing to urge House consideration of Secure and Fair Enforcement (SAFE) Banking Act of 2019, which would allow the provision of banking services to cannabis-related businesses (CRBs) through a federal safe harbor. We deeply appreciate the House Financial Services Committee's bipartisan passage of the bill in March, and look forward to the full House passing it as well.

The conflict between federal and states laws and the evolving legal and regulatory environment surrounding cannabis has put banks and CRBs in an untenable position. While the public policy question of whether cannabis should be legalized is outside the scope of the MBCA charter, it is greatly concerning that our member banks could find themselves the subject of regulatory enforcement actions as a result of extending services to legally licensed businesses directly involved in cannabis commerce, or even businesses that provide services to those cannabis businesses.

While a variety of attempts have been made to restrict federal enforcement of cannabis laws, including the Cole Memorandum and the Leahy and Joyce-Blumenauer amendments, the Director of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) has stated unequivocally that it is a federal crime to sell, manufacture or purchase marijuana (the terms used in the Controlled Substances Act of 1970). It is therefore prohibited under federal law to provide banking services to CRBs, which includes a wide range of ancillary businesses that have no direct involvement in the sale, manufacture or purchase of marijuana. Even if banks attempt to avoid banking businesses that are involved directly in the cannabis industry, questions arise regarding businesses that may service those cannabis establishments. Is a payroll processor that provides services to a dispensary violating federal law, and therefore ineligible for banking services? Is a real estate developer who might have one property occupied by a dispensary or grower likewise in violation? Unfortunately, our member banks simply do not know what is allowed and what we are not allowed to do. These questions assume enormous importance due to the massive negative impact on banks resulting from potential Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) and anti-money laundering (AML) violations. We fear, however, that due to the complicated legal and regulatory environment, violations could occur that result in significant reputational, economic and legal damage despite our bankers' best efforts to avoid violating federal laws and regulations.

As of today, thirty-three states and the District of Columbia have legalized cannabis for medical and/or adult use, and, as such, this is now a national issue that requires a federal solution. It is clear that only Congress can take effective action to resolve these issues, and while the SAFE Banking Act is not a perfect solution to the problem of a federal-state conflict in this area, the MBCA supports the SAFE Banking Act as an important step forward, and we urge the House to consider it.

The Mid-Size Bank Coalition of America appreciates your attention to this critical matter. If you have any questions about this letter or any additional information would be helpful, please contact Brent Tjarks, the MBCA's Executive Director.

Sincerely,

ALESSANDRO DINELLO,
*Chairman,*
*Mid-Size Bank Coalition of America.*

MID-SIZE BANK COALITION OF AMERICA MEMBERS

1. Ameris Bank (Moultrie, GA)
2. Apple Bank (New York, NY)
3. Arvest Bank (Fayetteville, AR)
4. Associated Bank (Green Bay, WI)
5. BancorpSouth (Tupelo, MS)
6. BannerBank (Walla Walla, WA)
7. BankUnited (Miami Lakes, FL)
8. Banc of California (Santa Ana, CA)
9. Bank of Hope (Los Angeles, CA)
10. Bank Leumi USA (New York, NY)
11. Bank of Hawaii (Honolulu, HI)
12. Bank of the Ozarks (Little Rock, AR)
13. Berkshire Bank (Pittsfield, MA)
14. BOK Financial (Tulsa, OK)
15. Bremer Bank (Saint Paul, MN)
16. Busey Bank (Champaign, IL)
17. Cadence Bank (Houston, TX)
18. Cathay Bank (Los Angeles, CA)
19. Cenlar FSB (Ewing, NJ)
20. Centennial Bank (Conway, AR)
21. CenterState Bank (Winter Haven, FL)
22. Central Bancompany (Jefferson City, MO)
23. Chemical Bank (Midland, MI)
24. CIT Bank (Pasadena, CA)
25. CIBC U.S. (Chicago, IL)
26. City National Bank (Los Angeles, CA)
27. Columbia Bank (Tacoma, WA)
28. Commerce Bank (Kansas City, MO)
29. Community Bank (De Witt, NY)
30. Cullen/Frost Bankers (San Antonio, TX)
31. Customers Bank (Phoenixville, PA)
32. Dollar Bank (Pittsburgh, PA)
33. EagleBank (Bethesda, MD)
34. Eastern Bank (Boston, MA)
35. East West Bank (Pasadena, CA)
36. F.N.B. Corporation (Pittsburgh, PA)
37. FirstBank Holding Company (Lakewood, CO)

38. First Citizens Bank (Raleigh, NC)
39. First Financial Bank (Cincinnati, OH)
40. First Financial Bankshares (Abilene, TX)
41. First Hawaiian Bank (Honolulu, HI)
42. First Horizon Bank (Memphis, TN)
43. First Interstate Bank (Billings, MT)
44. First Merchants Bank (Muncie, IN)
45. First Midwest Bank (Itasca, IL)
46. First National Bank of Omaha (Omaha, NE)
47. Flagstar Bank (Troy, MI)
48. Fulton Financial (Lancaster, PA)
49. Glacier Bank (Kalispell, MT)
50. Great Western Bank (Sioux Falls, SD)
51. Hancock Whitney (Gulfport, MS)
52. Heartland Financial (Dubuque, IA)
53. Hilltop Holdings (Dallas, TX)
54. Independent Bank (McKinney TX)
55. International Bancshares (Laredo, TX)
56. Investors Bank (Short Hills, NJ)
57. IBERIABANK (Lafayette, LA)
58. Mechanics Bank (Richmond, CA)
59. MidFirst Bank (Oklahoma City, OK)
60. NBT Bank (Norwich, NY)
61. Northwest Bank (Warren, PA)
62. Old National Bank (Evansville, IN)
63. Opus Bank (Irvine, CA)
64. Pacific Premier Bank (Irvine, CA)
65. PacWest Bank (Beverly Hills, CA)
66. People's United Bank (Bridgeport, CT)
67. Pinnacle Bank (Lincoln, NE)
68. Pinnacle Financial Partners (Nashville, TN)
69. Popular Community Bank (New York, NY)
70. Provident Bank (Iselin, NJ)
71. Raymond James Bank (Saint Petersburg, FL)
72. Renasant Bank (Tupelo, MS)
73. Rockland Trust (Rockland, MA)
74. Sandy Spring Bank (Olney, MD)
75. Seacoast Bank (Palm Beach, FL)
76. ServisFirst Bank (Birmingham, AL)
77. Signature Bank (New York, NY)
78. Silicon Valley Bank (Santa Clara, CA)
79. Simmons Bank (Pine Bluff, AR)
80. South State Bank (Columbia, SC)
81. Sterling National Bank (Montebello, NY)
82. Stifel Bank & Trust (Saint Louis, MO)
83. Synovus Bank (Columbus, GA)
84. TCF Bank (Sioux Falls, SD)
85. Texas Capital Bank (Dallas, TX)
86. Third Federal Savings (Cleveland, OH)
87. TIAA Bank (Jacksonville, FL)
88. TowneBank (Portsmouth, VA)
89. Trustmark (Jackson, MS)
90. UMB Financial (Kansas City, MO)
91. Umpqua Bank (Roseburg, OR)
92. Union Bankshares (Richmond, VA)
93. United Community Bank (Blairsville, GA)
94. United Bankshares (Charleston, WV)
95. Valley (Wayne, NJ)
96. Washington Federal Bank, N.A. (Seattle, WA)
97. Webster Bank (Waterbury, CT)
98. WesBanco Bank (Wheeling, WV)
99. Western Alliance Bank (Phoenix, AZ)
100. Wintrust Financial (Rosemont, IL)

# *Daily Digest*

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Senate passed H.R. 4378, Continuing Appropriations Act and Health Extenders Act.**

**Senate confirmed the nomination of General John E. Hyten for appointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.**

**Senate confirmed the nomination of Eugene Scalia, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Labor.**

# Senate

## *Chamber Action*

***Routine Proceedings, pages S5713–S5763***

**Measures Introduced:** Forty-five bills and seventeen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2550–2594, S.J. Res. 56, S. Res. 343–357, and S. Con. Res. 26. **Pages S5747–49**

**Measures Reported:**

Special Report entitled "Further Revised Allocation to Subcommittees of Budget Totals for Fiscal Year 2020". (S. Rept. No. 116–122)

S. 2580, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–123)

S. 2581, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–124)

S. 2582, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–125)

S. 2583, making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–126)

S. 2584, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. (S. Rept. No. 116–127)

S. 384, to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 116–128)

S. Res. 183, reaffirming the vital role of the United States-Japan alliance in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond, and with an amended preamble.

S. Res. 236, reaffirming the strong partnership between Tunisia and the United States and supporting the people of Tunisia in their continued pursuit of democratic reforms.

S. Res. 277, remembering the 25th Anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and recommitting to efforts to uphold justice for the 85 victims of the attacks.

S. Res. 318, to support the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, and the Sixth Replenishment, with amendments.

S. 1590, to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards for thwarting wildlife trafficking linked to transnational organized crime.

S. 1678, to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 1838, to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

S. 2297, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, with amendments.

S. 2372, to enhance global engagement to combat marine debris, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S5746–47**

**Measures Passed:**

***Continuing Appropriations Act and Health Extenders Act:*** By 81 yeas to 16 nays (Vote No. 311)

Senate passed H.R. 4378, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, by the order of the Senate of Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, after taking action on the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S5713–23**

Rejected:

By 24 yeas to 73 nays (Vote No. 310), Paul Amendment No. 942, to reduce the amount appropriated by 2 percent. (Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, September 25, 2019, the amendment having failed to achieve 60 affirmative votes, was not agreed to.) **Pages S5722–23**

***National Democracy Month:*** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 252, designating September 2019 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Pages S5759–60**

***National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 346, designating October 8, 2019, as ''National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day''. **Pages S5753–54, S5760**

***Energy Efficiency Day:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 347, designating October 2, 2019, as ''Energy Efficiency Day'' in celebration of the economic and environmental benefits that have been driven by private sector innovation and Federal energy efficiency policies. **Pages S5754, S5760**

***National Clean Energy Week:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 348, proclaiming the week of September 23 through September 27, 2019, as ''National Clean Energy Week''. **Pages S5754, S5760**

***National Concussion Awareness Day:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 349, supporting the designation of September 20, 2019, as ''National Concussion Awareness Day''. **Pages S5754–55, S5760**

***National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 350, designating September 2019 as ''National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month''. **Pages S5755, S5760**

***National Community Policing Week:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 351, designating the week of September 29 through October 5, 2019, as ''National Community Policing Week''. **Pages S5755, S5760**

***Hispanic Heritage Month:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 352, recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month and celebrating the heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and the immense contributions of Latinos to the United States. **Pages S5755–56, S5760**

***National Voter Registration Day:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 353, recognizing September 24, 2019, as ''National Voter Registration Day''. **Pages S5756, S5760**

***National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 354, designating September 2019 as ''National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month''. **Pages S5756, S5760**

***National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 355, designating the week of September 22 through 28, 2019, as ''National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week''. **Pages S5756–57, S5760**

***Building Blocks of STEM Act:*** Senate passed S. 737, to direct the National Science Foundation to support STEM education research focused on early childhood, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S5760–61**

McConnell (for Rosen/Capito) Amendment No. 944, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S5760–61**

**Signing Authority—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Majority Leader be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions on Thursday, September 26, 2019, and Friday, September 27, 2019. **Page S5761**

**Authorizing Leadership To Make Appointments—Agreement**: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the upcoming adjournment of the Senate, the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the Majority and Democratic Leaders be authorized to make appointments to commissions, committees, boards, conferences, or interparliamentary conferences authorized by law, by concurrent action of the two Houses, or by order of the Senate. **Page S5761**

**Pro Forma Sessions—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Senate adjourn, to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, September 27, 2019, at 11:40 a.m.; Tuesday, October 1, 2019, at 12 noon; Friday, October 4, 2019, at 4:30 p.m.; Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at 12 noon; Friday, October 11, 2019, at 2:15 p.m.; and that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, October 11, 2019, it next convene at 3 p.m., on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. **Page S5761**

**Barrett Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense. **Page S5726**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Thursday, September 26, 2019, a vote

on cloture will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. **Page S5726**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5726**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination at approximately 3 p.m., on Tuesday, October 15, 2019; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during the session of Thursday, September 26, 2019 ripen at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. **Page S5761**

**Volk Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia. **Page S5726**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Barbara McConnell Barrett, of Arizona, to be Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense. **Page S5726**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5726**

**Eskridge Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Charles R. Eskridge III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. **Page S5726**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia. **Page S5726**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5726**

**Novak Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of David John Novak, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. **Page S5726**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Charles R. Eskridge III, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Texas. **Page S5726**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5726**

**Kovner Nomination—Cloture:** Senate began consideration of the nomination of Rachel P. Kovner, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York. **Page S5727**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of David John Novak, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. **Page S5727**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S5726**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S5727**

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 75 yeas to 22 nays (Vote No. EX. 312), Gen. John E. Hyten for appointment as Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility in accordance with title 10, U.S.C., sections 154 and 601: to be General. **Pages S5723–25**

By 53 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 313), Eugene Scalia, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Labor. **Pages S5725–26**

Lana J. Marks, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of South Africa.

Michael D. Baughman, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Pennsylvania for the term of four years.

John Leslie Carwile, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Latvia.

Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, to be Ambassador to the Independent State of Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Solomon Islands and Ambassador to the Republic of Vanuatu.

Fernando L. G. Sablan, of Guam, to be United States Marshal for the District of Guam and concurrently United States Marshal for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands for the term of four years.

Anthony F. Godfrey, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia.

Herro Mustafa, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria.

W. Stephen Muldrow, of Puerto Rico, to be United States Attorney for the District of Puerto Rico for the term of four years.

Kerry Lee Pettingill, of Oklahoma, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Oklahoma for the term of four years.

Adam Seth Boehler, of Louisiana, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation.

Ryan McCarthy, of Illinois, to be Secretary of the Army.

6 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

7 Army nominations in the rank of general.

4 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Foreign Service, Marine Corps, Navy. **Pages S5761–63**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S5746**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S5746**

**Measures Read the First Time:** **Pages S5746, S5761**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S5749–51**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Page S5751**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S5744–46**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Pages S5758–59**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S5759**

**Record Votes:** Four record votes were taken today. (Total—313) **Pages S5723, S5725, S5725–26**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 4:49 p.m., until 11:40 a.m. on Friday, September 27, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page 5761.)

# *Committee Meetings*

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Appropriations:* Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

An original bill (S. 2580) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020;

An original bill (S. 2583) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020;

An original bill (S. 2584) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020;

An original bill (S. 2582) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020; and

An original bill (S. 2581) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

## HONG KONG

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy concluded a hearing to examine the Hong Kong emergency, focusing on securing freedom, autonomy, and human rights, after receiving testimony from Michael F. Martin, Specialist in Asian Affairs, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; Nathan Law Kwun-Chung, Demosisto, Hong Kong, China; and Stephen J. Yates, DC International Advisory, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

## INTELLIGENCE

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed sessions to receive briefings on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee met in closed session to consider pending intelligence matters.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 40 public bills, H.R. 4499–4538; 1 private bill, H.R. 4539; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 76; H. Con. Res. 66–68; and H. Res. 596–602 were introduced. **Pages H8052–54**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H8056–57**

**Reports Filed:** There were no reports filed today.

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Lawrence to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7993**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 10:35 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H7997**

**Committee Resignation:** Read a letter from Representative Timmons wherein he resigned from the Committee on the Budget. **Page H7999**

**Committee Resignation:** Read a letter from Representative Timmons wherein he resigned from the Committee on Education and Labor. **Page H7999**

**Committee Resignation:** Read a letter from Representative González-Colón (PR) wherein she resigned from the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology. **Page H7999**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

***STEM Opportunities Act of 2019:*** H.R. 2528, amended, to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool; **Pages H8005–10**

***South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2019:*** H.R. 335, amended, to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida; **Pages H8010–13**

***Cybersecurity Vulnerability Remediation Act:*** H.R. 3710, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for the remediation of cybersecurity vulnerabilities; **Pages H8013–15**

***Unifying DHS Intelligence Enterprise Act:*** H.R. 2589, amended, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a homeland intelligence doctrine for the Department of Homeland Security; **Pages H8015–19**

***TSA Reaching Across Nationalities, Societies, and Languages to Advance Traveler Education Act:*** H.R. 3691, to require the TSA to develop a plan to ensure that TSA material disseminated in major airports can be better understood by more people accessing such airports; **Pages H8019–20**

***Trusted Traveler Reconsideration and Restoration Act of 2019:*** H.R. 3675, to require a review of Department of Homeland Security trusted traveler programs; **Pages H8020–21**

***Helping Families Fly Act of 2019:*** H.R. 3694, to require the Transportation Security Administration to implement training for frontline Administration personnel regarding the screening of pregnant women and families with young children at passenger screening checkpoints; **Pages H8021–22**

***Traveling Parents Screening Consistency Act of 2019:*** H.R. 3246, to require GAO review of certain TSA screening protocols; **Pages H8024–25**

***Counter Terrorist Network Act:*** H.R. 3526, to authorize certain counter terrorist networks activities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection; **Pages H8025–27**

***Domestic and International Terrorism Documentation and Analysis of Threats in America Act:*** H.R. 3106, amended, to require a joint domestic terrorism report, establish within the Department of Homeland Security a National Center for the Study of Domestic Terrorism, authorize research within the Department of Homeland Security on current trends in domestic terrorism; and **Pages H8027–32**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To require a joint domestic and international terrorism report, authorize research within the Department of Homeland Security on current trends in domestic terrorism, and for other purposes.". **Pages H8027–32**

**Relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019—Rule for Consideration:** The House agreed to H. Res. 591, providing for consideration of the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 54) relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019, by a yea-and-nay vote of 229 yeas to 186 nays, Roll No. 550, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 230 yeas to 187 nays, Roll No. 549. **Pages H7999–H8005, H8037–38**

**U.S. Border Patrol Medical Screening Standards Act:** The House passed H.R. 3525, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to

establish uniform processes for medical screening of individuals interdicted between ports of entry, by a yea-and-nay vote of 230 yeas to 184 nays, Roll No. 552. **Pages H8032–37, H8038–40**

Rejected the Green (TN) motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Homeland Security with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 202 yeas to 213 nays, Roll No. 551. **Page H8040**

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 116–33 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Homeland Security now printed in the bill. **Pages H8032–37**

H. Res. 577, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 2203) and (H.R. 3525) and the resolution (H. Res. 576) was agreed to yesterday, September 25th.

**Suspension—Proceedings Postponed:** The House debated the following measure under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

***Joint Task Force to Combat Opioid Trafficking Act of 2019:*** H.R. 3722, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a Joint Task Force to enhance integration of the Department of Homeland Security's border security operations to detect, interdict, disrupt, and prevent narcotics, such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, from entering the United States. **Pages H8022–24**

**Committee Elections:** The House agreed to H. Res. 596, electing Members to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H8041**

**Senate Message:** Message received from the Senate today appears on page H8019.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8037–38, H8038, H8040, and H8040–41. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

# *Committee Meetings*

## THE NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM: RESTORING OUR FOREST INFRASTRUCTURE

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry held a hearing entitled ''The National Forest System: Restoring our Forest Infrastructure''. Testimony was heard from Lenise Lago, Associate Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

## IRS OVERSIGHT: TREASURY INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held a hearing entitled ''IRS Oversight: Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration''. Testimony was heard from J. Russell George, Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration.

## MISCLASSIFICATION OF EMPLOYEES: EXAMINING THE COSTS TO WORKERS, BUSINESSES, AND THE ECONOMY

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled ''Misclassification of Employees: Examining the Costs to Workers, Businesses, and the Economy''. Testimony was heard from Karl A. Racine, Attorney General, District of Columbia; and public witnesses.

## MAKING HEALTH CARE MORE AFFORDABLE: LOWERING DRUG PRICES AND INCREASING TRANSPARENCY

*Committee on Education and Labor:* Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing entitled ''Making Health Care More Affordable: Lowering Drug Prices and Increasing Transparency''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change held a markup on H.R. 1603, the ''Alan Reinstein Ban Asbestos Now Act of 2019''; H.R. 535, the ''PFAS Action Act of 2019''; H.R. 2377, the ''Protect Drinking Water from PFAS Act of 2019''; H.R. 2533, the ''Providing Financial Assistance for Safe Drinking Water Act''; H.R. 2566, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to revise the Safer Choice Standard to provide for a Safer Choice label for pots, pans, and cooking utensils that do not contain PFAS, and for other purposes; H.R. 2570, the ''PFAS User Fee Act of 2019''; H.R. 2577, the ''PFAS Right-To-Know Act''; H.R. 2591, the ''PFAS Waste Incineration Ban Act of 2019''; H.R. 2596, the ''Protecting Communities from New PFAS Act''; H.R. 2600, the ''Toxic PFAS Control Act''; H.R. 2605, the ''PROTECT Act of 2019''; H.R. 2608, the ''PFAS Testing Act of 2019''; H.R. 2626, the ''PFAS Accountability Act of 2019''; H.R. 2638, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Environment Protection Agency to issue guidance on minimizing the use of firefighting foam containing PFAS, and for other purposes; and H.R. 2699, the ''Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 2019''. H.R. 1603, H.R. 535, H.R. 2377, H.R. 2533, H.R. 2566, H.R. 2570, H.R. 2577, H.R. 2591, H.R.

2596, H.R. 2600, H.R. 2605, H.R. 2608, H.R. 2626, H.R. 2638, and H.R. 2699 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment.

## EXAMINING LEGISLATION TO PROTECT CONSUMERS AND SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS FROM ABUSIVE DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES

*Committee on Financial Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Examining Legislation to Protect Consumers and Small Business Owners from Abusive Debt Collection Practices''. Testimony was heard from Rohit Chopra, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission; and public witnesses.

## THE FUTURE OF REAL-TIME PAYMENTS

*Committee on Financial Services:* Task Force on Financial Technology held a hearing entitled ''The Future of Real-Time Payments''. Testimony was heard from Esther George, President and Chief Executive Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City; and public witnesses.

## SUSTAINING U.S. PACIFIC INSULAR RELATIONSHIPS

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Full Committee; and Full Committee of the House Committee on Natural Resources held a joint hearing entitled ''Sustaining U.S. Pacific Insular Relationships''. Testimony was heard from Randall G. Schriver, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs, Department of Defense; Sandra Oudkirk, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State; Nikolao Pula, Director, Office of Insular Affairs, Department of the Interior; David Gootnick, Director of International Affairs and Trade, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

## U.S. NONPROLIFERATION POLICY AND THE FY 2020 BUDGET

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and Nonproliferation held a hearing entitled ''U.S. Nonproliferation Policy and the FY 2020 Budget''. Testimony was heard from Christopher Ford, Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation, Department of State.

## ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY: PERSPECTIVES ON SCHOOL SECURITY

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery held a hearing entitled ''Engaging the Community: Perspectives on School Security''. Testimony was heard from Jared Maples, Director, New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness; and public witnesses.

## OVERSIGHT OF ICE DETENTION FACILITIES: IS DHS DOING ENOUGH?

*Committee on Homeland Security:* Subcommittee on Oversight, Management and Accountability held a hearing entitled ''Oversight of ICE Detention Facilities: Is DHS Doing Enough?''. Testimony was heard from Diana Shaw, Assistant Inspector General, Special Reviews and Evaluations, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security; Tae Johnson, Assistant Director for Custody Management, Enforcement and Removal Operations, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security; and public witnesses.

## THE EXPANSION AND TROUBLING USE OF ICE DETENTION

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Immigration and Citizenship held a hearing entitled ''The Expansion and Troubling Use of ICE Detention''. Testimony was heard from Charles A. Jenkins, Sheriff, Frederick County, Maryland; and public witnesses.

## COMMUNITY RESPONSES TO GUN VIOLENCE IN OUR CITIES

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled ''Community Responses to Gun Violence in our Cities''. Testimony was heard from Representatives Clay and Kelly of Illinois; Reggie Moore, Director, Injury and Violence Prevention, Office of Violence Prevention, Milwaukee Department of Health, Wisconsin; and public witnesses.

## THE FEDERAL JUDICIARY IN THE 21ST CENTURY: ENSURING THE PUBLIC'S RIGHT OF ACCESS TO THE COURTS

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held a hearing entitled ''The Federal Judiciary in the 21st Century: Ensuring the Public's Right of Access to the Courts''. Testimony was heard from Audrey G. Fleissig, U.S. District Judge, Eastern District of Missouri; Richard W. Story, U.S. District Judge, Northern District of Georgia; and public witnesses.

## THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR'S FAILURE TO COOPERATE WITH CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT REQUESTS

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Department of the Interior's Failure to Cooperate with Congressional Oversight Requests''. Testimony was heard from Daniel Jorjani,

Principal Deputy Solicitor, Department of the Interior.

### UNDERSTANDING, FORECASTING, AND COMMUNICATING EXTREME WEATHER IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Understanding, Forecasting, and Communicating Extreme Weather in a Changing Climate''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### ONLINE IMPOSTERS AND DISINFORMATION

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight held a hearing entitled ''Online Imposters and Disinformation''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### SBA MANAGEMENT REVIEW: SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPANY PROGRAM

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''SBA Management Review: Small Business Investment Company Program''. Testimony was heard from Joseph Shepard, Associate Administrator, Office of Investment and Innovation, Small Business Administration; and public witnesses.

### A WORK IN PROGRESS: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Aviation held a hearing entitled ''A Work in Progress: Implementation of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018''. Testimony was heard from Daniel K. Elwell, Deputy Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration; Joel Szabat, Acting Undersecretary for Policy, Department of Transportation; Lirio Liu, Executive Director, Office of Rulemaking, Federal Aviation Administration; and public witnesses.

### THE FUTURE OF VA SCHEDULING: IMPLEMENTING A COMMERCIAL OFF THE SHELF SCHEDULING SOLUTION AT THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

*Committee on Veterans' Affairs:* Subcommittee on Technology Modernization held a hearing entitled ''The Future of VA Scheduling: Implementing a Commercial Off the Shelf Scheduling Solution at the Department of Veterans Affairs''. Testimony was heard from Dominic Cussatt, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Information and Technology, Department of Veterans Affairs; Larry Reinkemeyer, Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

### THE PUBLIC HEALTH CONSEQUENCES AND COSTS OF GUN VIOLENCE

*Committee on Ways and Means:* Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing entitled ''The Public Health Consequences and Costs of Gun Violence''. Testimony was heard from Representatives Danny K. Davis of Illinois, McBath, and Mike Thompson of California; Jennifer Longdon, Representative, District 24, House of Representatives, Arizona; and public witnesses.

### WHISTLEBLOWER DISCLOSURE

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Whistleblower Disclosure''. Testimony was heard from Joseph Maguire, Acting Director of National Intelligence, Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

### SOLVING THE CLIMATE CRISIS: REDUCING INDUSTRIAL EMISSIONS THROUGH U.S. INNOVATION

*Select Committee on the Climate Crisis:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Solving the Climate Crisis: Reducing Industrial Emissions Through U.S. Innovation''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### PROMOTING CIVILITY AND BUILDING A MORE COLLABORATIVE CONGRESS

*Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Promoting Civility and Building a More Collaborative Congress''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## *Joint Meetings*

No joint committee meetings were held.

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2019

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

### House

*Committee on Energy and Commerce,* Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled ''Legislating to Secure America's Wireless Future'', 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

*Committee on the Judiciary,* Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Securing America's Elections'', 9 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

*Next Meeting of the* SENATE

11:40 a.m., Friday, September 27

Senate Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

*Next Meeting of the* HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Friday, September 27

House Chamber

**Program for Friday:** Consideration of S.J. Res. 54—relating to a national emergency declared by the President on February 15, 2019.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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