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No. 173

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TONKO).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,

October 31, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable PAUL TONKO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

We ask Your special blessing upon the Members of this people's House. They face difficult decisions in difficult times, with many forces and interests demanding their attention.

Give them generosity to enter into their work. May they serve You in the work they do as You deserve; give of themselves and not count the cost; fight for what is best for our Nation and not count the political wounds; toil until their work is done and not seek to rest; and labor without seeking any reward, other than knowing they are doing Your will, and serving the people of this great Nation.

Bless them, O God, and be with them and with us all this day and every day to come. 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 gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio 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 five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ELIAS "SKIP" ASHOOH

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

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of all Granite Staters to recognize the life and legacy of Elias "Skip" Ashooh who passed away this week. He embodied the spirit of the Queen City and left this world too soon.

As a lifelong Manchester resident and Saint Anselm College alum, Skip dedicated his career and life to bettering his community. He was a successful businessman, local leader, and philanthropist who never gave up on the potential of Manchester and all its residents. He was a community fixture who loved taking in the downtown area he helped revitalize.

As chair of the Manchester Development Corporation, Skip was instrumental in making the civic center

project a reality, one of the city's most consequential economic development projects since the industrial revolution. His immense impact was known by all, which is why he was named Citizen of the Year in 2000.

I hope we can honor Skip Ashooh's legacy by continuing to work together to move Manchester and New Hampshire forward.

I offer condolences to his wife, Gail, the Ashooh family, friends, and all who knew him.

May Skip's memory be eternal.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF U.S. ARMY SERGEANT THOMAS COLE WALKER OF CONNEAUT, OHIO

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

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to honor the life and service of U.S. Army Sergeant Thomas Cole Walker of Conneaut, Ohio.

Sergeant Walker, who enlisted after graduating from Conneaut High School in 2016, was tragically killed on October 20 during a training exercise at Fort Stewart.

Just 22 years old, he had been awarded the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

His dedication to protecting this Nation was nothing short of heroic and serves as an inspiration to us all. But Sergeant Walker was more than a patriot. He was also a son, a brother, and a husband. His loss is felt by many.

Madam Speaker, please join me in extending condolences to the friends, fellow soldiers, and family of Sergeant Walker, especially his wife, Taylor; his brother, Jared; his sisters Payton, Whitney, and Wendy; and his father, Thomas.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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I pray that the outpouring of support from the Conneaut community will help ease their sorrow during this difficult time. I know this entire Chamber joins me in thanking Sergeant Walker for his service, honoring his life, and praying for his family.

LIMOUSINE SAFETY STANDARDS

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

Mr. TONKO. Madam Speaker, this month marked the painful anniversary of one fateful afternoon in Schoharie, New York, when 20 precious souls were lost in the preventable crash of a limousine that should never have been allowed on the road.

The families of those lost—many from my hometown of Amsterdam, New York—the families of eight young people devastated by the Cutchogue crash on Long Island in 2015, and countless others touched by these preventable tragedies have raised their voices to demand action.

Last week we introduced bipartisan legislation that answers their call. It is important, I believe, to respond to that call and to that request. The SAFE Limos Act, the Take Unsafe Limos Off the Road Act, and the End the Limo Loophole Act have responded to them with great sensitivity.

I thank my friend, ANTONIO DELGADO, for joining me in sponsoring this lifesaving legislation, and I thank our colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have signed on in support. These commonsense measures will save lives and ensure that this never happens to another family.

Madam Speaker, I urge this body to raise our Nation's limousine safety standards without delay.

SKILLED NURSING SHORTAGE

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

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the House for passing H.R. 728, the bipartisan Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act.

My wife, Mary, was a critical care nurse for over 45 years, and we could tell you firsthand the role that nurses play in patient care.

But America is facing a shortage of skilled nurses. Our nursing workforce in America is aging, and the average age is 50 years old. By 2022 there will be 1 million nursing jobs open and available.

We must find a way to encourage people to go into nursing. This bill helps not only to recruit nurses but to provide rural and underserved communities a competitive way to attract and keep talent.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 728 is a step forward in addressing our Nation's growing need for nurses.

VENTURE ACADEMY: MOCK TRIAL WORLD CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a group of talented students in my district who recently earned the title of Mock Trial World Champions.

Venture Academy's mock trial team was one of 38 teams that traveled to New York to compete for this honor in the Empire Mock Trial World Championship. They successfully argued a fictional case involving a construction company that was accused of failing to take proper safety precautions by portraying the prosecutors and defendants as well as the witnesses in the case. They ended up bringing back the top prize to Stockton.

This isn't Venture Academy's first big success. Last year the team placed fifth in the Empire contest, and for the past 6 years they have won first place in the San Joaquin County mock trial competition.

One day some of these students could come here and stand at this podium, putting their debate skills to work while arguing for or against important legislation.

So, Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Venture Academy's mock trial team, the Mock Trial World Champions.

PHONY IMPEACHMENT INQUIRIES

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, today we will vote on a resolution that will somehow try to legitimize the last 5 weeks' worth of phony impeachment inquiries going on downstairs in a secure room.

Instead of voting on and taking up the issues that matter to the American people, we continue to chase this witch hunt trying to take down the accomplishments of our President, Donald J. Trump. Indeed, the economy we have, the low unemployment we have, and the success we are having in the Middle East and other areas around the world aren't good enough.

When my colleagues on the other side of the aisle admit that they probably won't win another election and they have to try to use the impeachment process to try to take the President down, that shows how phony this process is.

So to try today to pass a resolution to somehow legitimize the last 5-plus weeks' worth of work and, indeed, really 2½ years' worth of attacking this President shows that this place has a misplaced set of priorities.

Instead of doing the work of the American people, they are using this as a political process to attack what we have all been able to accomplish.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of the people of my district, California's central coast, who are worried about healthcare and the high cost of prescription drugs.

Earlier this month at home, I spoke with people at retirement communities, town halls, and at their doorsteps delivering food for Meals on Wheels. Throughout these conversations, one thing was made clear: We need to lower the cost of prescription drugs.

I am proud the House passed H.R. 987 to strengthen health protections and bring down drug costs. I am excited that we are looking ahead to do more to ensure people never have to choose between lifesaving medicine and putting food on the table.

That is why I cosponsored H.R. 3, the Lower Drug Costs Now Act. When we give the power to Medicare to negotiate prices directly with drug companies and make these lower prices available to everyone, we all win.

H.R. 3 gives power back to the patients. It is what people in my district are working for, and I am proud to support it.

IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY

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

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the resolution that attempts to justify the sham impeachment process that I have personally witnessed. The majority claims this resolution will ensure a "fair, open, and transparent process."

Madam Speaker, do you want to know how fair this process is?

The resolution names the Financial Services Committee as part of the investigation. Earlier this month, the chairwoman of that committee said that President Trump should be "placed in solitary confinement."

Further, Republicans will only be allowed to subpoena witnesses with Chairman SCHIFF's approval, as deemed necessary to the investigation.

If we have learned anything from the investigation so far, we know the majority does not think due process is necessary. They don't even think basic fairness is necessary.

A "yes" vote on this resolution today gives a stamp of approval to a process that has been damaged beyond all repair and is a blatant and obvious coup to unseat a sitting President of the United States. I will not support a resolution that promises an open and fair process without the basic, fundamental procedures necessary to ensure it.

□ 0915

**AFFIRMING U.S. RECORD ON
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE**

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

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 296, which is an important resolution affirming the United States record on the Armenian genocide that the House overwhelmingly passed on Tuesday. This historic resolution makes clear that our Nation unequivocally recognizes the Armenian genocide and encourages education and understanding of these tragic events.

Madam Speaker, the Armenian genocide, the first genocide in the 20th century, took place from 1915 to 1923. During this tragedy in history, 1.5 million Armenians were killed—men, women, and children.

I was privileged to visit Armenia earlier this year and talk to many Armenians about this tragic history. We must remember and acknowledge the lives that were taken and the pain that was inflicted. We can neither forget the atrocities that took place then, or other examples of ethnic cleansing, nor allow them to continue.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased that the body passed this critical resolution on Tuesday for constituents in my district, across the Nation, and the world.

**DIRECTING CERTAIN COMMITTEES
TO CONTINUE ONGOING INVESTIGATIONS INTO WHETHER SUFFICIENT GROUNDS EXIST FOR THE IMPEACHMENT OF DONALD JOHN TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up H. Res. 660 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 660

Resolved, That the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the Committees on Financial Services, Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, Oversight and Reform, and Ways and Means, are directed to continue their ongoing investigations as part of the existing House of Representatives inquiry into whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its Constitutional power to impeach Donald John Trump, President of the United States of America.

SEC. 2. OPEN AND TRANSPARENT INVESTIGATIVE PROCEEDINGS BY THE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE.

For the purpose of continuing the investigation described in the first section of this resolution, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (referred to in this resolution as the "Permanent Select Committee") is authorized to conduct proceedings pursuant to this resolution as follows:

(1) The chair of the Permanent Select Committee shall designate an open hearing or hearings pursuant to this section.

(2) Notwithstanding clause 2(j)(2) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives,

upon recognition by the chair for such purpose under this paragraph during any hearing designated pursuant to paragraph (1), the chair and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee shall be permitted to question witnesses for equal specified periods of longer than five minutes, as determined by the chair. The time available for each period of questioning under this paragraph shall be equal for the chair and the ranking minority member. The chair may confer recognition for multiple periods of such questioning, but each period of questioning shall not exceed 90 minutes in the aggregate. Only the chair and ranking minority member, or a Permanent Select Committee employee if yielded to by the chair or ranking minority member, may question witnesses during such periods of questioning. At the conclusion of questioning pursuant to this paragraph, the committee shall proceed with questioning under the five-minute rule pursuant to clause 2(j)(2)(A) of rule XI.

(3) To allow for full evaluation of minority witness requests, the ranking minority member may submit to the chair, in writing, any requests for witness testimony relevant to the investigation described in the first section of this resolution within 72 hours after notice is given for the first hearing designated pursuant to paragraph (1). Any such request shall be accompanied by a detailed written justification of the relevance of the testimony of each requested witness to the investigation described in the first section of this resolution.

(4)(A) The ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee is authorized, with the concurrence of the chair, to require, as deemed necessary to the investigation—

(i) by subpoena or otherwise—

(I) the attendance and testimony of any person (including at a taking of a deposition); and

(II) the production of books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, and documents; and

(ii) by interrogatory, the furnishing of information.

(B) In the case that the chair declines to concur in a proposed action of the ranking minority member pursuant to subparagraph (A), the ranking minority member shall have the right to refer to the committee for decision the question whether such authority shall be so exercised and the chair shall convene the committee promptly to render that decision, subject to the notice procedures for a committee meeting under clause 2(g)(3)(A) and (B) of rule XI.

(C) Subpoenas and interrogatories so authorized may be signed by the ranking minority member, and may be served by any person designated by the ranking minority member.

(5) The chair is authorized to make publicly available in electronic form the transcripts of depositions conducted by the Permanent Select Committee in furtherance of the investigation described in the first section of this resolution, with appropriate redactions for classified and other sensitive information.

(6) The Permanent Select Committee is directed to issue a report setting forth its findings and any recommendations and appending any information and materials the Permanent Select Committee may deem appropriate with respect to the investigation described in the first section of this resolution. The chair shall transmit such report and appendices, along with any supplemental, minority, additional, or dissenting views filed pursuant to clause 2(l) of rule XI, to the Committee on the Judiciary and make such report publicly available in electronic form, with appropriate redactions to protect classified and other sensitive information. The

report required by this paragraph shall be prepared in consultation with the chairs of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

SEC. 3. TRANSMISSION OF ADDITIONAL MATERIALS.

The chair of the Permanent Select Committee or the chair of any other committee having custody of records or other materials relating to the inquiry referenced in the first section of this resolution is authorized, in consultation with the ranking minority member, to transfer such records or materials to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SEC. 4. IMPEACHMENT INQUIRY PROCEDURES IN THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.

(a) The House authorizes the Committee on the Judiciary to conduct proceedings relating to the impeachment inquiry referenced in the first section of this resolution pursuant to the procedures submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the chair of the Committee on Rules, including such procedures as to allow for the participation of the President and his counsel.

(b) The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to promulgate additional procedures as it deems necessary for the fair and efficient conduct of committee hearings held pursuant to this resolution, provided that the additional procedures are not inconsistent with the procedures referenced in subsection (a), the Rules of the Committee, and the Rules of the House.

(c)(1) The ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized, with the concurrence of the chair of the Committee on the Judiciary, to require, as deemed necessary to the investigation—

(A) by subpoena or otherwise—

(i) the attendance and testimony of any person (including at a taking of a deposition); and

(ii) the production of books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, and documents; and

(B) by interrogatory, the furnishing of information.

(2) In the case that the chair declines to concur in a proposed action of the ranking minority member pursuant to paragraph (1), the ranking minority member shall have the right to refer to the committee for decision the question whether such authority shall be so exercised and the chair shall convene the committee promptly to render that decision, subject to the notice procedures for a committee meeting under clause 2(g)(3)(A) and (B) of rule XI.

(3) Subpoenas and interrogatories so authorized may be signed by the ranking minority member, and may be served by any person designated by the ranking minority member.

(d) The Committee on the Judiciary shall report to the House of Representatives such resolutions, articles of impeachment, or other recommendations as it deems proper.

The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Massachusetts is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me say, Madam Speaker, I appreciate the professionalism that my friend from Oklahoma has demonstrated throughout this process. We don't see eye to eye on this impeachment inquiry, but he has always conducted himself with integrity and defended this institution.

During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday afternoon, the Committee on Rules marked up and favorably reported H. Res. 660, directing certain committees to continue their ongoing investigations as part of the existing House of Representatives inquiry into whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its constitutional power to impeach Donald John Trump, President of the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, this is a sad day for our country. Over 230 years ago, when the Founders of our country wrote the Constitution, they entrusted us with the gift of self-government, but they knew the persistence of this gift was not assured.

It may be taken for granted today, but having just shaken off a tyrant, the Founders knew better. They understood that the very foundations of our country are dependent on safeguarding against one branch of government encroaching on the others. That is what the idea of checks and balances is all about.

Within that system, the Framers gave only this Congress the power, if need be, to impeach a President over possible wrongdoing. This fact—that no one is above the law—is what separates this country from so many others.

Because of its seriousness, the impeachment process has been rarely used for Presidents. For just the fourth time in our Nation's history, Congress is now investigating whether to impeach a President of the United States. Our authority to do so under Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution of the United States and the Rules of the House of Representatives is clear, and the courts have recently agreed.

For all the disagreements I have with President Trump, for all of his policies, his tweets, and his rhetoric that I deeply disagree with, I never wanted our country to reach this point. I do not take any pleasure in the need for this resolution.

We are not here in some partisan exercise. We are here because the facts compel us to be here.

There is serious evidence that President Trump may have violated the Constitution. This is about protecting our national security and safeguarding our elections. That is why the Intelligence Committee has been gathering evidence and hearing testimony.

Like any investigation, reasonable confidentiality has been paramount. Witnesses should not be able to coordinate testimony in advance. The truth must be allowed to prevail.

Republicans have been a part of every single proceeding conducted so far. Republicans conducting these depositions, along with their staffs, have had an opportunity to question each and every witness.

Now, Madam Speaker, we are entering the public-facing phase of this process, and I commend the investigative committees and their staffs for the professional manner in which they have conducted themselves.

I would also like to commend the courageous public servants that have bravely come forward to tell the truth. Without their courage, this possible wrongdoing would never have seen the light of day.

The public should not be left in the dark. They should see the facts about the President's conduct firsthand.

That is why I introduced this resolution. It establishes the next steps of this inquiry, including establishing the procedure for public-facing hearings conducted by the Intelligence Committee and the process for transferring evidence to the Committee on the Judiciary.

It is about transparency, and it is about due process for the President. Some on the other side will never be satisfied with any process that uncovers the truth of what the President did.

Madam Speaker, none of us know whether or not President Trump will be impeached or convicted. Only the facts, and how we respond to them, will dictate the outcome. But I truly believe that, 100 years from now, historians will look back at this moment and judge us by the decisions we make here today.

This moment calls for more than politics. It calls for people concerned not about the reactions of partisans today but of the consequences of inaction decades from now. If we don't hold this President accountable, we could be ceding our ability to hold any President accountable.

At the end of the day, this resolution isn't about Donald Trump. It isn't about any of us. It is about our Constitution. It is about our country.

I urge my colleagues to not just think about the political pressures of the moment. These will pass. Please consider the heavy responsibility you have today to this institution, the Constitution, and to our country.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 0930

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for yielding me the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to begin by thanking my friend for his kind words and for the professionalism with which he handled last night's hearing.

But before I begin, Madam Speaker, I would ask the chairman if he would withdraw his resolution, at which time I will ask unanimous consent that the

House immediately proceed to the consideration of H.R. 668 instead, which provides for consideration of H. Res. 660, under a rule.

Madam Speaker, this would in no way prevent consideration of the resolution before us today; however, it would provide us with an opportunity for all Members to participate in the process.

My proposed rule would provide for 4 hours of general debate on H. Res. 660, allow for amendments under an open process, and provide for a motion to recommit.

On an issue as important as this, Madam Speaker, 1 hour of debate on a resolution written in the dark of night and marked up in a process where no Republican amendments were accepted is simply insufficient.

Additionally, it would allow all Members to offer amendments to improve the process to get to the truth, which I am sure is the goal of all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Madam Speaker, with that, I would ask the chairman to accept my request.

I yield to my friend.

Mr. MCGOVERN. No, I do not.

REQUEST TO EXTEND DEBATE TIME

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the debate time on H. Res. 660 be expanded to 4 hours so every Member could participate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE). The gentleman from Massachusetts has yielded all time for debate only. The gentleman from Massachusetts would have to yield for that request.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I want to begin by echoing my friend's words. It is a sad day for all of us, for me personally, I am sure for all of my colleagues on the Rules Committee, and for the institution as a whole.

Today's resolution sets forth a process for impeaching the President of the United States. It is not a fair process; it is not an open process; it is not a transparent process; but, instead, it is a limited and a closed process with a preordained outcome.

Impeachment of the President is one of the most consequential acts that the House of Representatives can do, and it should only be done after the fullest consideration. Yet, over the last month, without a vote and with only the Speaker's say-so, committees have been engaged in a closed impeachment inquiry on what amounts to nothing more than a partisan fishing expedition.

At least today the majority is admitting what we have known all along: that the House was not following an appropriate process for impeachment.

But I do not think the process we are setting forward in this resolution is a fair one either. It is not fair to the President of the United States; it is not fair to the House of Representatives; and it is not fair to the American people.

The process laid out in the resolution before us is different from the process used for both President Nixon in 1974 and President Clinton in 1998. Today's resolution provides fewer process protections and fewer protections for minority rights than what we have seen in previous impeachment efforts.

At our markup yesterday, Republicans tried to change that. We tried to offer constructive amendments that made the process more fair, that would give rights to the minority, that would give rights to the accused, and that would ensure due process for everyone.

Republicans offered 17 amendments, and not one—not one, Madam Speaker—was accepted. Not one.

We offered amendments that would align the subpoena powers in this resolution with the subpoena powers used for President Clinton.

Unlike the Clinton inquiry, today's resolution does not provide for coequal subpoena power. Instead, it grants the minority the right to subpoena witnesses and materials only with the concurrence of the chair, with no such limitation on the rights of the chair to issue subpoenas. We offered amendments that would change that, but the majority rejected each of them in turn.

We offered an amendment that would allow all Members the right to fully access committee records. This is common sense. If you are doing something as serious as impeaching the President, then Members should have the right to see what records the committee produced so that they will know what they are voting on. Yet the majority rejected that.

We offered an amendment that would require the chairman of the Rules Committee to promulgate procedures to allow for the participation of the President and his counsel in proceedings of the Intelligence Committee, the Oversight and Reform Committee, and the Foreign Affairs Committee. This right was granted to President Clinton in 1998, yet it is not present here. And the majority, again, rejected the amendment.

I think the difference is clear: Today's resolution fails to give the minority the same rights as were present during the Clinton impeachment, and it fails to offer the same due process protections that were given to Presidents Nixon and Clinton.

And, in the latter case, I note those rights were given by a Republican House to a Democratic President. Today's resolution shows a Democratic House failing to give these same protections to a Republican President.

Madam Speaker, the unfairness is clear. This is not a fair process, nor was it ever intended to be. It was preordained from the beginning.

Without due process and without a fair process that respects minority rights, I do not believe the American people will regard that process as legitimate. A legitimate process is one that offers protections for everyone involved. Without those protections, this will be seen as just another partisan exercise, one the majority has been

pushing since the very first days of the 116th Congress.

We can do better than that, Madam Speaker. The Rules Committee should have done better than this. But since the Rules Committee didn't, the House must.

Madam Speaker, I urge opposition to the measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Let me just say, briefly, that this resolution provides better protections for the President than those Presidents Nixon and Clinton received. And just like under Nixon and Clinton, in the Judiciary Committee, the President's counsel can submit additional testimony or evidence for the committee to consider. The President and his counsel can attend all hearings and raise objections. They can question any witness.

This is going beyond Nixon and Clinton. This resolution allows the President's counsel to ask questions at the presentation of evidence.

Under our procedures, the ranking minority members of the Judiciary Committee and the Intelligence Committee may issue subpoenas if authorized by a committee vote. These are the same subpoena powers that the ranking minority member was given during Clinton and Nixon.

Our resolution allows for greater Member participation than under past impeachment procedures, including a robust process for the minority to propose witnesses and even issue subpoenas if authorized by committees.

And let me just say, I think the fact of the matter is I don't think there is any process that we can propose that Republicans who prefer to circle the wagons around this President and prevent us from getting to the truth would accept.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD H. Res. 581 from the 105th Congress, the Clinton impeachment inquiry resolution that contains the same minority subpoena powers as this resolution.

Authorizing and directing the Committee on the Judiciary to investigate whether sufficient grounds exist for the impeachment of William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary, acting as a whole or by any subcommittee thereof appointed by the chairman for the purposes hereof and in accordance with the rules of the committee, is authorized and directed to investigate fully and completely whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its constitutional power to impeach William Jefferson Clinton, President of the United States of America. The committee shall report to the House of Representatives such resolutions, articles of impeachment, or other recommendations as it deems proper.

SEC. 2. (A) For the purpose of making such investigation, the committee is authorized to require—

(1) by subpoena or otherwise—
(A) the attendance and testimony of any person (including at a taking of a deposition by counsel for the committee); and
(B) the production of such things; and

(2) by interrogatory, the furnishing of such information; as it deems necessary to such investigation.

(b) Such authority of the committee may be exercised—

(1) by the chairman and the ranking minority member acting jointly, or, if either declines to act, by the other acting alone, except that in the event either so declines, either shall have the right to refer to the committee for decision the question whether such authority shall be so exercised and the committee shall be convened promptly to render that decision, or

(2) by the committee acting as a whole or by subcommittee.

Subpoenas and interrogatories so authorized may be issued over the signature of the chairman, or ranking minority member, or any member designated by either of them, and may be served by any person designated by the chairman, or ranking minority member, or any member designated by either of them. The chairman, or ranking minority member, or any member designated by either of them (or, with respect to any deposition, answer to interrogatory, or affidavit, any person authorized by law to administer oaths) may administer oaths to any witness. For the purposes of this section, "things" includes, without limitation, books, records, correspondence, logs, journals, memorandums, papers, documents, writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, reproductions, recordings, tapes, transcripts, printouts, data compilations from which information can be obtained (translated if necessary, through detection devices into reasonably usable form), tangible objects, and other things of any kind.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I also include in the RECORD H. Res. 803 from the 93rd Congress, the Nixon impeachment inquiry resolution, which also contains the same minority subpoena powers as this resolution.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary, acting as a whole or by any subcommittee thereof appointed by the chairman for the purposes hereof and in accordance with the rules of the committee, is authorized and directed to investigate fully and completely whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its constitutional power to impeach Richard M. Nixon, President of the United States of America. The committee shall report to the House of Representatives such resolutions, articles of impeachment, or other recommendations as it deems proper.

Sec. 2. (a) For the purpose of making such investigation, the committee is authorized to require—

(1) by subpoena or otherwise—

(A) the attendance and testimony of any person (including at a taking of a deposition by counsel for the committee); and

(B) the production of such things; and

(2) by interrogatory, the furnishing of such information; as it deems necessary to such investigation.

(b) Such authority of the committee may be exercised—

(1) by the chairman and the ranking minority member acting jointly, or, if either declines to act, by the other acting alone, except that in the event either so declines, either shall have the right to refer to the committee for decision the question whether such authority shall be so exercised and the committee shall be convened promptly to render that decision; or

(2) by the committee acting as a whole or by subcommittee.

Subpoenas and interrogatories so authorized may be issued over the signature of the

chairman, or ranking minority member, or any member designated by either of them, and may be served by any person designated by the chairman, or ranking minority member, or any member designated by either of them. The chairman, or ranking minority member, or any member designated by either of them (or, with respect to any deposition, answer to interrogatory, or affidavit, any person authorized by law to administer oaths) may administer oaths to any witness. For the purposes of this section, "things" includes, without limitation, books, records, correspondence, logs, journals, memorandums, papers, documents, writings, drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, reproductions, recordings, tapes, transcripts, printouts, data compilations from which information can be obtained (translated if necessary, through detection devices into reasonably usable form), tangible objects, and other things of any kind.

Sec. 3. For the purpose of making such investigation, the committee, and any subcommittee thereof, are authorized to sit and act, without regard to clause 31 of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, during the present Congress at such times and places within or without the United States, whether the House is meeting, has recessed, or has adjourned, and to hold such hearings, as it deems necessary.

Sec. 4. Any funds made available to the Committee on the Judiciary under House Resolution 702 of the Ninety-third Congress, adopted November 15, 1973, or made available for the purpose hereafter, may be expended for the purpose of carrying out the investigation authorized and directed by this resolution.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Assistant Speaker.

Mr. LUJÁN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the resolution on the floor.

We are here today because of the rule of law. This resolution, the inquiry, is Congress upholding the oath we pledged to the Constitution.

We are here because of the President, his actions, his jeopardizing our national security for his own political gain.

We are here because we know the White House and the President admitted that President Trump used the power of the Presidency to pressure and strong-arm the President of a foreign country for his political gain. He called it "a favor." "Do us a favor," he said. But it wasn't a favor. It was a coordinated attempt to undermine the rule of law.

Because of those actions, Congress is compelled to be here to uphold the rule of law; to make sure Americans hear the truth; to say that no one, not even a President, can abuse the system without fair and just consequences.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. NUNES), the distinguished ranking member of the House Intelligence Committee.

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, we are not here to run a show trial in an effort to impeach the President of the United States.

It is clear that, since the Democrats took control of the House of Represent-

atives, they have always intended to transform the Intelligence Committee into the impeachment committee. Every one of their actions, from the staff they hire to the Trump conspiracy theories they investigate, their willful neglect of our basic oversight duties, demonstrate that this has been their plan from day one.

And now this is further confirmed by the adoption of these rules, which simply give the House approval for the Intelligence Committee Democrats to continue pursuing their bizarre obsession with overturning the results of the last Presidential election.

Nevertheless, after spending 3 years trying to manufacture a crime they can attribute to President Trump, they have come up empty.

First, they insisted that the President is a Russian agent. Then they claimed he is a money launderer and a tax cheat and a fraudulent businessman. And now they have decided they don't like the way he talks to foreign leaders.

But they have no evidence and no argument to support impeachment. All they have is the unconditional cooperation of the media to advance their preposterous narrative.

If they had a real case, they wouldn't be wasting time spoon-feeding ridiculous attacks that include defamation and slander on both current and former Republican staff of the Intelligence Committee.

What we are seeing among Democrats on the Intelligence Committee down in the SCIF right now is like a cult. These are a group of people loyally following their leader as he bounces from one outlandish conspiracy theory to another.

And the media are the cult followers, permanently stationed outside the committee spaces, pretending to take everything seriously, because they, too, support the goal of removing the President from office.

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

Mr. COLE. I yield the gentleman from California an additional 15 seconds to close.

Mr. NUNES. After today, The House Intelligence Committee ceases to exist. Oversight is not being done, and we now have a full-fledged impeachment committee in the basement of the Capitol.

Think about that, America.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, the House impeachment inquiry has discovered a substantial body of evidence that the President of the United States has violated the Constitution by placing his political interests above the interests of the country, thereby putting both our democracy and the Nation's security in jeopardy.

In light of this evidence, the House of Representatives must fully investigate.

We have sworn a sacred oath to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. We will honor our oath by countering all high crimes and misdemeanors committed against the American people and our Constitution.

Today's resolution sets the table for the next phase of the inquiry. This phase includes open hearings, led by the Intelligence Committee, to allow the American people to hear from witnesses who have personal knowledge of the President's actions. Relevant materials will then be transferred to the Judiciary Committee so we may fulfill our solemn and time-honored duty to determine whether to recommend Articles of Impeachment.

The majority has conducted hearings up to this point in a scrupulously bipartisan way, giving professional staff counsel for both the majority and the minority precisely equal time to question witnesses and equal opportunities for members of the majority and the minority to question them, too.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. I yield the gentleman from Maryland an additional 20 seconds.

Mr. RASKIN. We will afford the President all the due process protections that were afforded to his predecessors in a similar situation. That includes the ability to attend hearings, question witnesses, and submit evidence.

As recently as Friday, the Federal courts have reaffirmed that the House is the sole judge of impeachment, and we set the rules here. These rules are fair and strong and will make sure that we can and we will defend the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN), the distinguished ranking member of the House Oversight Committee.

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, trying to put a ribbon on a sham process doesn't make it any less of a sham. Never forget how this whole thing started.

Democrats are trying to impeach the President of the United States 13 months before an election based on an anonymous whistleblower with no firsthand knowledge, who has a bias against the President and who worked with Vice President Biden.

The day after the now famous phone call between President Trump and President Zelensky, the so-called whistleblower gets a readout from somebody on that call, writes a memo. In the memo, he uses terms like "this call was scary," "frightening."

But what does he do? He waits 18 days before he files a complaint.

And who is the first person he goes to see, the first people he goes to see in that 18-day timeframe? Chairman SCHIFF's staff. Chairman SCHIFF's staff.

Madam Speaker, 435 Members of Congress and only one individual, one Member of this body, knows who this person is who started this whole darn crazy process: Chairman SCHIFF.

And what does this resolution do? It gives him even more power to run this secret proceeding in a bunker in the basement of the Capitol.

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This resolution continues the unfair and partisan process. Just 2 days ago, 2 days ago, we were prevented from having the witness answer our questions in one of these depositions. And this resolution is going to give more power to the person who made that decision in the bunker in the basement of the Capitol.

We have less than 13 months before the next election. Americans understand that this is unfair. Americans get fairness. They instinctively know this is an unfair and partisan process. They will see how unfair and partisan it is today when the vote happens on the floor of this House. We can do a lot better than this. We can do a lot better than this, and the American people see through it.

I urge a "no" vote on this resolution, and I thank the gentleman on the Rules Committee for his work and his leadership.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a New York Times article entitled "Army Officer Who Heard Trump's Ukraine Call Reported Concerns" in which Colonel Alexander Vindman, an Army officer who was on the call, said, "I did not think it was proper to demand that a foreign government investigate a U.S. citizen," and "This would all undermine U.S. national security."

[From the New York Times, October 28, 2019]
ARMY OFFICER WHO HEARD TRUMP'S UKRAINE CALL REPORTED CONCERNS

(By Danny Hakim)

THE TOP UKRAINE EXPERT AT THE WHITE HOUSE WILL TELL IMPEACHMENT INVESTIGATORS HE TWICE REPORTED CONCERNS ABOUT PRESIDENT TRUMP'S PRESSURE TACTICS ON UKRAINE, ACTING OUT OF A "SENSE OF DUTY."

WASHINGTON—A White House national security official who is a decorated Iraq war veteran plans to tell House impeachment investigators on Tuesday that he heard President Trump appeal to Ukraine's president to investigate one of his leading political rivals, a request the aide considered so damaging to American interests that he reported it to a superior.

Lt. Col. Alexander S. Vindman of the Army, the top Ukraine expert on the National Security Council, twice registered internal objections about how Mr. Trump and his inner circle were treating Ukraine, out of what he called a "sense of duty," he plans to tell the inquiry, according to a draft of his opening statement obtained by The New York Times.

He will be the first White House official to testify who listened in on the July 25 telephone call between Mr. Trump and President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine that is at the center of the impeachment inquiry, in which Mr. Trump asked Mr. Zelensky to investigate former Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr.

"I did not think it was proper to demand that a foreign government investigate a U.S. citizen, and I was worried about the implications for the U.S. government's support of Ukraine," Colonel Vindman said in his statement. "I realized that if Ukraine pursued an investigation into the Bidens and Burisma it would likely be interpreted as a partisan play which would undoubtedly result in Ukraine losing the bipartisan support it has thus far maintained."

Burisma Holdings is an energy company on whose board Mr. Biden's son served while his father was vice president.

"This would all undermine U.S. national security," Colonel Vindman added, referring to Mr. Trump's comments in the call.

The colonel, a Ukrainian-American immigrant who received a Purple Heart after being wounded in Iraq by a roadside bomb and whose statement is full of references to duty and patriotism, could be a more difficult witness to dismiss than his civilian counterparts.

"I am a patriot," Colonel Vindman plans to tell the investigators, "and it is my sacred duty and honor to advance and defend our country irrespective of party or politics."

He was to be interviewed privately on Tuesday by the House Intelligence, Foreign Affairs and Oversight and Reform Committees, in defiance of a White House edict not to cooperate with the impeachment inquiry.

The colonel, who is represented by Michael Volkov, a former federal prosecutor, declined to comment for this article.

In his testimony, Colonel Vindman plans to say that he is not the whistle-blower who initially reported Mr. Trump's pressure campaign on Ukraine. But he will provide an account that corroborates and fleshes out crucial elements in that complaint, which prompted Democrats to open their impeachment investigation.

"I did convey certain concerns internally to national security officials in accordance with my decades of experience and training, sense of duty, and obligation to operate within the chain of command," he plans to say.

He will testify that he watched with alarm as "outside influencers" began pushing a "false narrative" about Ukraine that was counter to the consensus view of American national security officials, and harmful to United States interests. According to documents reviewed by The Times on the eve of his congressional testimony, Colonel Vindman was concerned as he discovered that Rudolph W. Giuliani, the president's personal lawyer, was leading an effort to prod Kiev to investigate Mr. Biden's son, and to discredit efforts to investigate Mr. Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, and his business dealings in Ukraine.

His account strongly suggests that he may have been among the aides the whistle-blower referred to in his complaint when he wrote that White House officials had recounted the conversation between Mr. Trump and Mr. Zelensky to him, and "were deeply disturbed by what had transpired in the phone call."

Colonel Vindman did not interact directly with the president, but was present for a series of conversations that shed light on his pressure campaign on Ukraine.

He will also testify that he confronted Gordon D. Sondland, the United States ambassador to the European Union, the day the envoy spoke in a White House meeting with Ukrainian officials about "Ukraine delivering specific investigations in order to secure the meeting with the president."

Even as he expressed alarm about the pressure campaign, the colonel and other officials worked to keep the United States rela-

tionship with Ukraine on track. At the direction of his superiors at the National Security Council, including John R. Bolton, then the national security adviser, Colonel Vindman drafted a memorandum in mid-August that sought to restart security aid that was being withheld from Ukraine, but Mr. Trump refused to sign it, according to documents reviewed by the Times. And he drafted a letter in May congratulating Mr. Zelensky on his inauguration, but Mr. Trump did not sign that either, according to the documents.

Colonel Vindman was concerned after he learned that the White House budget office had taken the unusual step of withholding the \$391 million package of security assistance for Ukraine that had been approved by Congress. At least one previous witness has testified that Mr. Trump directed that the aid be frozen until he could secure a commitment from Mr. Zelensky to announce an investigation of the Bidens.

While Colonel Vindman's concerns were shared by a number of other officials, some of whom have already testified, he was in a unique position. Because he emigrated from Ukraine along with his family when he was a child and is fluent in Ukrainian and Russian, Ukrainian officials sought advice from him about how to deal with Mr. Giuliani, though they typically communicated in English.

On two occasions, the colonel brought his concerns to John A. Eisenberg, the top lawyer at the National Security Council. The first came on July 10. That day, senior American officials met with senior Ukrainian officials at the White House, in a stormy meeting in which Mr. Bolton is said to have had a tense exchange with Mr. Sondland after the ambassador raised the matter of investigations he wanted Ukraine to undertake. That meeting has been described in previous testimony in the impeachment inquiry.

At a debriefing later that day attended by the colonel, Mr. Sandland again urged Ukrainian officials to help with investigations into Mr. Trump's political rivals.

"Ambassador Sondland emphasized the importance that Ukraine deliver the investigations into the 2016 election, the Bidens and Burisma," Colonel Vindman said in his draft statement.

"I stated to Ambassador Sondland that his statements were inappropriate" and that the "request to investigate Biden and his son had nothing to do with national security, and that such investigations were not something the N.S.C. was going to get involved in or push," he added.

The colonel's account echoed the testimony of Fiona Hill, one of his superiors, who has previously testified behind closed doors that she and Mr. Bolton were angered by efforts to politicize the interactions with Ukraine.

The colonel said that after his confrontation with Mr. Sandland, "Dr. Hill then entered the room and asserted to Ambassador Sondland that his statements were inappropriate."

Ms. Hill, the former senior director for European and Russian affairs, also reported the incident to Mr. Eisenberg.

The colonel went to Mr. Eisenberg a couple of weeks later, after the president's call with Mr. Zelensky. This time, the colonel was accompanied by his identical twin brother, Yevgeny, who is a lawyer on the National Security Council.

The picture painted by Colonel Vindman's testimony has been echoed by several other senior officials, including William B. Taylor Jr., the top American diplomat in Ukraine, who testified last week that multiple senior administration officials had told him that the president blocked security aid to

Ukraine and would not meet with Mr. Zelensky until he publicly pledged to investigate Mr. Trump's political rivals.

While the White House has urged witnesses subpoenaed by Congress not to participate in the impeachment inquiry, failing to comply with a congressional subpoena would be a risky career move for an active-duty military officer.

As tensions grew over Ukraine policy, the White House appears to have frozen out Colonel Vindman. Since early August, he has been excluded from a number of relevant meetings and events, including a diplomatic trip to three countries under his purview: Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus.

Colonel Vindman said he had reported concerns up his chain of command because he believed he was obligated to do so.

"On many occasions I have been told I should express my views and share my concerns with my chain of command and proper authorities," he said. "I believe that any good military officer should and would do the same, thus providing his or her best advice to leadership."

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the majority whip.

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Over the last month, the impeachment inquiry has built a powerful body of evidence around President Trump's call with President Zelensky of Ukraine when he told a foreign leader, "I'd like you to do us a favor, though." We have learned so much about that call and things that followed it because some dedicated public servants have demonstrated patriotism to this great country by coming forward and testifying and giving us the information as they know it.

These brave patriots, career diplomats, have been called "radical unelected bureaucrats." They have been called that by a group of people who Thomas Paine would call summer soldiers and sunshine patriots. He warned us that these people will, in a "crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph."

We are here today because brave, dedicated public servants and patriots are standing up for their country.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), my good friend and fellow member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. Yesterday the Rules Committee reported an impeachment resolution that was hastily drafted without Republican input with just 24 hours' notice for review. Last night we offered, on the Republican side, 17 amendments. Unsurprisingly, none were adopted.

Despite assurances that all Members will have access to materials supporting the Articles of Impeachment, to date, Chairman SCHIFF has ignored

72 bipartisan requests to view Ambassador Volker's transcript, but pursuant to rule XI, clause 2(e)(2), committee records are the property of the House, and thus, Members of the House should have access.

Last night at the Rules Committee, it was stated that perhaps Republicans were not requesting the information at the right time, so we have to ask: When is the right time to ask to view our own House records? Republicans requested an authorizing vote, and now we will have one. However, this process has not been open and transparent, and it diverts from precedent set in the two most recent Presidential impeachment investigations. As a result, this investigation will be conducted with no minority input.

A Presidential impeachment investigation is a national trauma. All Members must take this constitutionally vested power seriously, and Americans deserve to be represented in this process. Unfortunately, neither serious nor equal consideration, nor full access to records appear to be a criteria under which the Democrats are willing to conduct this investigation. That is a shame, and it renders this process a sham.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I take no joy in contemplating the impeachment of a President because, in contemplating it, we must acknowledge a threat to our Constitution and the values that bind us not only as Members of Congress but as Americans.

We have tried to work within traditional means to get to the bottom of serious allegations of misconduct so that we can deliver the truth to the American people. Committees have called witnesses and requested evidence, only to be stonewalled. The President's defenders have tried to distract the American people by falsely claiming to have been excluded from the investigation while their stunts and smears have hindered the constitutional process.

This resolution outlines ground rules for the House as we move forward, granting the same or greater due process rights to the President and the minority as they themselves drafted when they were in the majority. We will have open hearings. They can question witnesses. They can propose subpoenas. They can present evidence.

I am proud to sponsor this resolution. Our Constitution requires it, and our democracy depends on it.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS), my good friend and distinguished Republican ranking member of the House Judiciary Committee.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, no matter what is said by the other side today, this is a dark day,

and a cloud has fallen on this House. It has been falling for 10 months, and it is showing itself today.

What we are seeing is this: If the gentleman, who is a friend of mine from the Rules Committee, would actually have wanted to talk about whether these are the same rules as Clinton and Nixon, then we would have had a much longer period of debate, because he knows and I know it is not. There are similarities—some better, some not—but they are not the same. Let's get that out of the way first.

The problem I am having here is the resolution before us today is not about transparency; it is about control. It is not about fairness; it is about winning. It isn't about following the facts. This resolution is about delivering results. You know how I know this? Because the resolution gives no proper way for how these abilities or transferring of documents from the Intelligence Committee to the Judiciary Committee will happen. It doesn't even give a timeframe.

And I have heard a lot of discussion today about maybe we didn't know how to properly ask last night in Rules Committee. I guarantee you, my staff and I know how to properly use rule XI 2(e) to ask for information, and we were told yesterday by one of the committees that we couldn't have access to that because the Parliamentarian said we couldn't. That is just false. It needs to stop.

This House is developing and shredding procedures every day. And if Members on the minority or the majority cannot have the rights that they are given, then we are in a sad situation.

And, in fact, in the haste to put this together they didn't even exempt, as was done in Clinton and Nixon, the rule XI 2(e). They didn't exempt it out. Even in those two impeachments, it was known that maybe we don't let every Member come see this while this is going on. We didn't even exempt it during this time. We were so hurried to impeach this President, we don't really give a darn about the rules.

But here is my biggest concern: As ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, I have a question. We have been here 200-plus years as a committee, and our committee has been neutered. Our committee who handles impeachment—we are the reason in that committee; that is our jurisdiction—we have been completely sidelined. Our chairman and others have been sidelined, so I have been sidelined. It is so bad that they had to have the Rules Committee write the Presidential due process and give it to us. This is not right.

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

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS).

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I do not know what happened to our committee, but we still exist. Due process only kicks in at Judiciary

for the President. It does not kick in in the closed-door, secret hearings of ADAM SCHIFF. This is a travesty.

No one should vote for this. This is a sad day. The curtain is coming down on this House because the majority has no idea about process and procedure. They are simply after a President.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I get it. My friends on the other side of the aisle want to talk about process, process, process, but it is interesting that not one of them wants to talk about the President's conduct, and that speaks volumes.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS), another distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I thank Ranking Member COLE for the manner in which you all are shepherding us through this difficult process.

Madam Speaker, it is time for the American people to see how the administration put our national security on the auction block in exchange for political favors.

At the heart of this scandal is the White House's decision to slam the brakes on nearly \$400 million of military aid for Ukraine, military aid for a vital partner, military aid that was desperately needed to beat back Russian aggression, military aid that was key to our own national security and essential in keeping an adversary at bay.

We know what our Ukrainian friends thought about this. They were horrified. The facts are clear. Our top national security experts viewed it as a grave and dangerous mistake. And as we have seen time and time again from the Trump administration, this decision played right into Vladimir Putin's hands.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 20 seconds to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. HASTINGS).

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I support pushing ahead with this inquiry because I swore an oath to defend the Constitution against America's enemies. The American people deserve the facts about how this abuse of power betrayed our national security and put our country at risk.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, before I proceed, I yield myself such time as I may consume to quickly respond to my friend, Mr. MCGOVERN.

We are debating process here because that is what this is. This is a process resolution to impeach the President of the United States. You didn't accept a single amendment last night. You didn't confer with us when you did it, so that is why we are talking process. It is an unfair process.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO), my good friend and fellow member of the Rules Committee.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative COLE for yielding.

This impeachment process is a total sham. This resolution, which seeks to legitimize it, misleads the American public. Section 2 of this bill is titled, "The Open and Transparent Investigative Proceedings by the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence," but the process set forth in this resolution is far from open and far from transparent. In fact, it is the exact opposite.

The resolution continues the closed-door meetings that blocks entry to Members of Congress and prohibits the President's due process rights. And it merely authorizes, but does not require, Chairman SCHIFF to make transcripts public.

Last night Republicans offered 17 amendments to add some fairness into the process, but Democrats rejected them all.

I had an amendment to ensure minority witnesses could call an equal number of witnesses as the majority. Democrats said no.

I had an amendment to require the Intel chairman to turn over exculpatory materials to the Judiciary Committee. Democrats shot it down.

I had an amendment to give ranking members the same authority as the chairman to submit materials to the Judiciary Committee. Democrats rejected that, too.

The process set forth by this resolution violates basic standards of fairness.

I urge opposition to this resolution.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 10 seconds.

The gentlewoman wants to talk about a sham process; let's talk about a sham process.

Instead of respecting the constitutional authority of the House of Representatives, the White House has obstructed our investigation, ignored our duly authorized subpoenas, withheld key documents, prevented witnesses from testifying, and intimidated witnesses. They have tried to disparage Members of Congress who are trying to fulfill their responsibilities under the Constitution of the United States.

Article I of the Constitution gives the House the right to investigate the President, and we are taking our responsibility seriously.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), the chairman of the Democratic Caucus.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, the House impeachment inquiry is about abuse of power. It is about betrayal. It is about corruption. It is about national security. It is about the undermining of our elections. It is about defending our democracy for the people.

The House is a separate and coequal branch of government. We don't work for this President or any President. We work for the American people. We have a constitutional responsibility to serve as a check and balance on an out-of-

control executive branch. Our job is to ask difficult questions on behalf of the American people.

What we are doing right here is consistent with the words of James Madison who, in Federalist 51, said the House should be a rival to the executive branch. Why did Madison use the word "rival"? The Founders didn't want a king. They didn't want a dictator. They didn't want a monarch. They wanted a democracy, and that is exactly what we are defending right now. No one is above the law.

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Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY), my good friend, the distinguished Conference chair for the Republican Party.

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I thank our Republican leader of the Rules Committee for yielding to me.

Madam Speaker, we have heard a lot this morning already, a desire, a desperation almost, on the part of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle that the Nation take this body seriously. They need to start acting like they take themselves seriously, Madam Speaker.

When we are here gathered, discussing this most grave and solemn obligation we have, addressing impeachment, we know, Madam Speaker, what a serious process would look like. We have seen it before. We have seen Members on both sides of this aisle in the past when we have been engaged in the impeachment of a President act in a way that is serious, reflects the dignity of this body, and reflects the importance of the Constitution. That is the opposite, Madam Speaker, of what we have seen so far.

No matter what my colleagues say about this legislation, no matter what my colleagues say about the process they have been engaged in to date, it is absolutely the case that it has been a secret process that has denied rights to the minority, that has involved leaking selectively things that the majority would like to have leaked, in which rights have absolutely been denied, and they cannot fix that. They cannot fix what has been a tainted record and a tainted process by now suddenly pretending they are opening it up.

Madam Speaker, let me say one other thing. Every time I hear my colleagues on the other side of the aisle talk about efforts to somehow undermine national security for political gain, I can't help but think about what they are doing precisely this morning.

When we are facing the threats we are facing as a Nation, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle—Speaker PELOSI, Chairman SCHIFF, and others—take what is arguably the single most important national security committee in this body, the House Intelligence Committee, and they tell the House Intelligence Committee: Turn away from those threats. Do not focus on oversight. Do not focus on the challenges

we face. Instead, we are going to consume you in a political, partisan process to impeach the President of the United States.

Madam Speaker, my colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle will be held accountable by history for what they are doing.

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

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentlewoman.

Ms. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, they will be held accountable by history for what they are doing. They have absolutely no right to talk about threats to this Nation if they are diverting the full attention, resources, and focus of the House Intelligence Committee onto a sham political process run by Chairman SCHIFF and Speaker PELOSI.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this resolution.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. SHALALA), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Ms. SHALALA. Madam Speaker, having been through this before, I know how painful impeachment investigations can be. I also know that I am not alone in saying that supporting this continuing inquiry is not a decision that any of us makes lightly.

None of us ever hoped to consider investigating our own President for compromising our national security and obstructing justice. Regardless of political ideology, we all understand our constitutional duty.

It is with profound sadness and disappointment that we have to continue this investigation. The accusations the House is investigating go straight to the heart of our Constitution.

Our Constitution endows us with not only the authority but also the duty to hold our colleagues in the Federal Government accountable if they fail to act in the best interest of our Nation. I don't think anyone here believes that domestic politics should interfere with foreign policy.

I hope we will all vote to continue this investigation simply so that we can be clear on all the facts. More than anything, I am confident that all of us possess a capacity for fairness and a commitment to doing what is right for the country we love.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY), my good friend, the distinguished Republican ranking member on the House Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, the impeachment and removal of the President is a serious matter. At its heart, it lets a small, partisan group in Washington overturn the will of the entire American people.

Above all, Americans believe in fairness and, when accused, the right to due process. This sham impeachment offers neither.

It is secret. It is partisan. It is being conducted behind closed doors to hide information from the American people, all with one goal in mind: take down President Trump by any means necessary.

I will not legitimize this unprecedented and unfair charade with this vote today.

Speaker PELOSI and Chairman SCHIFF long ago abandoned the due process and fairness that was guaranteed during the Clinton impeachment. I know because I was here in Congress for it.

There is simply no cause for this impeachment inquiry—none. It is shameful to create a constitutional crisis for purely partisan reasons.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF), the distinguished chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 660.

I rise in strong support, but I do not take any pleasure in the events that have made this process necessary. I rise in strong support of the resolution, but I do so with an understanding that the task before us is a solemn one.

How each Member of this Chamber approaches the vote this morning, and the days and weeks ahead, may be the most important service as Members of Congress we will ever pay to the country and Constitution that we all love and have pledged to defend.

For the past several weeks, the Intelligence Committee, the Oversight and Reform Committee, and the Foreign Affairs Committee have engaged in an intensive investigation. That work, which has been conducted with equal opportunities for both parties to question witnesses, has added a great deal to our understanding of the President's conduct, as evident in the July 25 call record and the events that both preceded and followed that call.

That work has necessarily occurred behind closed doors because we have had the task of finding the facts ourselves, without the benefit of the investigation that the Justice Department declined to undertake.

Despite attempts to obstruct, we have interviewed numerous witnesses who have provided important testimony about the efforts to secure political favors from Ukraine. We have reviewed text messages among key players which show how securing political investigations was placed at the forefront of our foreign policy toward Ukraine.

This resolution sets the stage for the next phase of our investigation, one in which the American people will have the opportunity to hear from the witnesses firsthand.

We will continue to conduct this inquiry with the seriousness of purpose that our task deserves, because it is our duty and because no one is above the law.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of the resolution.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), my good friend.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, what began with a rallying cry of, "We are going to impeach the 'expletive deleted,'" to a crowd of liberal activists and young children by my colleague from Michigan on the very first day of this new Congress is now the majority's flagship initiative. What a shame, and what a waste of time in the people's House.

In my view, our President was doing his job, ensuring that if taxpayer dollars from my constituents and yours were going to the other side of the world, that it would be paired with a commitment to crack down on corruption at all levels, no matter who someone's daddy is or what their political ambitions are.

I think we all know that this was inevitable. From the moment Donald J. Trump was elected, the ends of harassment and impeachment have just been waiting for the means, and they think that they have found them. They are wrong.

There is, however, one small measure we can take as one House to bring a shred of dignity to these disgraceful proceedings. I can stand and be counted. We can stand and be counted, one by one, and announce our "yea" or "nay" with a vote by a call of the roll.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the Speaker of the House.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I want to begin my remarks with some of the most beautiful words in our country's history: "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States of America."

It goes on immediately to establish Article I, the legislative branch; Article II, the executive branch; Article III, the judiciary—the genius of the Constitution, a separation of powers, three coequal branches of government to be a check and balance on each other.

It is to that that we take the oath of office. We gather here on that opening day with our families gathered around to proudly raise our hand to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States. And that is exactly what we are doing today.

Sadly, this is not any cause for any glee or comfort. This is something that is very solemn, that is something prayerful, and that we had to gather so much information to take us to this next step.

Again, this is a solemn occasion. Nobody, I doubt anybody in this place or anybody that you know, who comes to Congress to take the oath of office

comes to Congress to impeach the President of the United States unless his actions are jeopardizing our honoring our oath of office.

I am grateful to our committee chairs for all the careful and thoughtful investigation they have been doing as this inquiry has proceeded.

Today, the House takes the next step forward, as we establish the procedures for open hearings conducted by the House Intelligence Committee so that the public can see the facts for themselves.

This resolution ensures transparency, advancing the public disclosure of deposition transcripts, and outlining the procedure for the transfer of evidence to the Judiciary Committee to use in its proceedings.

It enables effective public hearings, setting out procedures for the questioning of witnesses, and continuing the precedent of giving the minority the same rights in questioning witnesses as the majority, which has been true at every step of this inquiry, despite what you might hear fomenting there.

It provides the President and his counsel opportunities to participate, including presenting his case, submitting requests for testimony, attending hearings, raising objections to testimony given, cross-examining witnesses, and more.

Contrary to what you may have heard today, we give more opportunity to his case than was given to other Presidents before.

Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman SCHIFF for making that point so clearly.

These actions—this process, these open hearings, seeking the truth and making it available to the American people—will inform Congress on the very difficult decisions we will have to make in the future as to whether to impeach the President.

That decision has not been made. That is what the inquiry will investigate. Then, we can make the decision based on the truth. I don't know why the Republicans are afraid of the truth.

Every Member should support allowing the American people to hear the facts for themselves. That is really what this vote is about. It is about the truth.

What is at stake? What is at stake in all of this is nothing less than our democracy.

Madam Chair, I proudly stand next to the flag, and I thank the gentleman from New York for providing it for us. So many have fought and died for this flag, which stands for our democracy.

When Benjamin Franklin came out of Independence Hall—you have heard this over and over—on September 17, 1787, the day our Constitution was adopted, people said to him: "Dr. Franklin, what do we have, a monarchy or a republic?" As you know, he said: "A republic, if you can keep it." If we can keep it.

This Constitution is the blueprint for our Republic and not a monarchy.

□ 1015

But when we have a President who says Article II says "I can do whatever I want," that is in defiance of the separation of powers. That is not what our Constitution says.

What is at stake? Our democracy.

What are we fighting for? Defending our democracy for the people.

In the early days of our Revolution, Thomas Paine said, "The times have found us." The times found our Founders to declare independence from a monarchy, to fight a war of independence, to win, to write our founding documents—and, thank God, they made them amendable so that we can always be expanding freedom.

And the genius—again, the genius—of that Constitution was the separation of powers. Any usurping of that power is a violation of our oath of office.

So, proudly, we all raised our hand to protect, defend, and support the Constitution of the United States. That is what this vote is about.

Today, we think the times found our Founders. The times have found others in the course of our history to protect our democracy and to keep our country united.

The times have found each and every one of us in this room—and in our country—to pay attention to how we protect and defend the Constitution of the United States: honoring the vision of our Founders who declared independence from a monarch and established a country contrary to that principle; honoring the men and women in uniform who fight for our flag, for our freedom, and for our democracy; and honoring the aspirations of our children so that no President, whoever he or she may be in the future, could decide that Article II says they can do whatever they want.

Again, let us honor our oath of office. Let us defend our democracy. Let us have a good vote, today, and have clarity—clarity—as to how we proceed, why we proceed, and, again, doing so in a way that honors the Constitution.

We must honor the Constitution in how we do this; we must respect the institution we serve; and we must heed the further words of our Founders, "e pluribus unum," "out of many, one." They didn't know how many it would be or how different we would be, but they knew that we needed to always be unifying.

Hopefully, as we go forward with this with a clarity of purpose, a clarity of procedure, a clarity of fact, and a clarity of truth—it is about the truth; it is about the Constitution—we will do so in a way that brings people together that is healing rather than dividing, and that is how we will honor our oath of office.

Madam Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. McCAUL), my good friend and ranking Republican member on the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. McCAUL. Madam Speaker, I would also argue that Article I does not say you can do whatever you want to do. The Constitution says that, and our Founding Fathers said that, as well.

Madam Speaker, for 38 days, I have objected to this impeachment probe because it denies due process, fundamental transparency, and basic fairness to Republicans, the White House, and the American people.

From day one, Democrats have ignored the rules and 45 years of historic impeachment precedent.

Without any authorization, ADAM SCHIFF has conducted a secret probe outside of his committee's jurisdiction. He has blocked us from calling our own witnesses. His witnesses are being interviewed behind closed doors in the most secretive room in the United States Capitol.

That is not democracy.

He has muzzled Republicans—I have been in the room—placing a gag order on depositions, while leaking cherry-picked facts to the press. He refuses to even allow us to read the transcripts without being babysat by a Democrat staffer.

He has refused to let us hear from the most important witness who brought this entire thing: the whistleblower.

He has barred White House counsel from any participation.

And now, 38 days into the Democrats' rush to impeachment, Speaker PELOSI claims she wants to establish "rules" and transparency. You cannot make your game fair by allowing the opposing team onto the field at the 2-minute warning.

The bipartisan precedents from Nixon and Clinton still must be followed, and they are not being followed under this resolution. White House counsel remains shut out of this process. This is unacceptable.

Only three times in our Nation's history has Congress exercised its grave power of impeachment.

Our Founding Fathers, in Federalist Paper No. 65, Alexander Hamilton warned us of abusing this power because they saw a future Congress abusing it.

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

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. McCAUL. They foresaw a Congress at one point in history abusing this process for partisan political gain.

Madam Speaker, instead of overturning an entire election with a partisan weapon, we should just allow the American people to vote.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. TORRES), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Mrs. TORRES of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 660.

Madam Speaker, impeachment is not something that we take lightly, but

when the President endangers our national security, he gives us no other choice.

We now know from Trump's own call record that he pressured a foreign government to interfere in our elections and investigate his political opponent.

We now know that Trump potentially sought to apply leverage on Ukraine, first with a coveted White House meeting and, second, by withholding security assistance to fend off Russian aggression.

Today's resolution allows us to present these facts in a clear, professional, and fair way.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of H. Res. 660 so the American people can, too, learn the truth.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the distinguished gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS), my good friend.

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, I have heard today how much my colleagues on the other side wish to make this an open and transparent process and "this is for we, the people." I would really like to believe that.

Yet, after they introduced the resolution, they have another full week of hearings behind closed doors, and they have scheduled another full week of hearings behind closed doors.

If this is about transparency, then open it up. If you want the American people to see it, open it up. Give Members access to the transcripts. Let the media into the room. Let us participate. Failing to do so denies transparency.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. DESAULNIER), a distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, from the very start of this inquiry, the White House has obstructed the House of Representatives. The White House has ignored duly authorized subpoenas and has tried to prevent witnesses from testifying.

The White House has also directed other agencies to do the same. The Department of State, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, and the Office of Management and Budget all have refused to produce a single document in response to valid subpoenas.

This is an unprecedented cover-up. The White House and its defenders in Congress have tried to justify it with baseless procedural claims that contradict the Constitution and historical precedent.

History will judge us all.

After today, there are no more excuses for those who want to focus on process instead of substance. After today, there are no more excuses for those who want to ignore the facts instead of defending the Constitution. And there are no more excuses for

those who turn a blind eye while the President pressures foreign actors to interfere with our democracy.

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

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE), another distinguished member of the Rules Committee.

Mr. MORELLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 660.

Madam Speaker, I am deeply troubled that this process has become necessary at all, but we have no choice. We must continue to investigate alarming allegations of misconduct by the President, and we continue with a public process through which all Americans will have the ability to access and to assess the evidence.

This has been and will continue to be a fair and sober inquiry. Members on both sides will continue to have the opportunity to question witnesses, seek evidence, and refute testimony presented during these proceedings. Indeed, the President will have strong protections as we weigh the evidence during our deliberations.

Our only goal is uncovering the truth: Did the President pressure Ukrainian leaders with the threat of withholding critical military assistance in order to serve his political interests? Has the President endangered American interests abroad by engaging in domestic political intrigue? These are serious issues, not of politics, but of national security.

This inquiry is our solemn obligation, but it is our obligation, nonetheless.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution so we may uphold our oath to the Constitution and preserve a transparent process on behalf of our Republic and the citizens it serves.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the distinguished whip of the House Republican Conference and my good friend.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague, Mr. COLE, for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this resolution.

Unfortunately, we have seen, since the day that President Trump was inaugurated, some people who made it public that they wanted to impeach him—not because there are high crimes and misdemeanors, which is the constitutional standard, but just because they don't agree with the results of the 2016 election.

That, Madam Speaker, is not why you impeach a president. There is precedent.

This has only happened three times in the history of our country. Every time, it not only started with a full vote of the House, but it also started with actual fairness. We are not getting that fairness today.

When you look through this resolution, in multiple places, it gives veto authority by the chair to literally reject any witness who is brought forward by the minority. So no rights for the minority unless the chair so designates.

In fact, in this resolution, it allows the chair to veto even the ability for the President to have legal counsel in the room. If the chair chooses, at his whim, they can literally kick out the President's legal counsel.

This is unprecedented. It is not only unprecedented, this is Soviet-style rules.

Maybe in the Soviet Union you do things like this: where only you make the rules, where you reject the ability for the person you are accusing to even be in the room to question what is going on, for anybody else to call witnesses, when only one person has the right to call witnesses.

And as we saw just the other day, the chairman was literally directing the witness to not answer certain questions by the Republicans. What kind of fairness is that?

Maybe you think it is fairness if you can run roughshod over somebody because you have got the votes, but that is not how impeachment was supposed to go. In fact, Alexander Hamilton himself, during the debate on the Constitution, in the Federalist Papers, warned of days like this, that the greatest danger is that the decision on impeachment "will be regulated more by the comparative strength of parties than by the real demonstrations of innocence or guilt." Alexander Hamilton warned about days like today.

This is not what we should be doing, clearly, when you ask the American people, who know that they are paying higher drug prices and they see that there is legislation, bipartisan legislation, to lower drug prices that won't come to this floor because of the infatuation with impeachment.

We don't even have a bill to formally pay our troops and make sure they have the tools they need to defend this country because there is such an infatuation with impeachment.

□ 1030

Madam Speaker, when you look through this resolution, you see how one-sided, how Soviet-style this is running. This is the United States of America. Don't run a sham process, a tainted process like this resolution ensures.

It ought to be rejected, and I think you will see bipartisan rejection of this resolution.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I support this resolution because it is the solemn duty of the Congress to investigate the serious allegations against the President.

I support this resolution because it is indefensible for any official to demand an ally—one depending on our support in an existential struggle with Russia—investigate his or her political adversaries.

I support this resolution because no person, Republican or Democrat, should be permitted to jeopardize America's security and reputation for self-serving political purposes.

I support this resolution because if, after a fair and thorough inquiry, the allegations against President Trump are found to be true, they would represent a profound offense against the Constitution and the people of this country.

I support this resolution because I believe it is the duty of this House to vindicate the Constitution and to make it crystal clear to future Presidents that such conduct, if proven, is an affront to the great public trust placed in him or her.

I support this resolution, not because I want the allegations to be true—they sadden me deeply—but because, if they are true, the Constitution demands that we take action.

I support this resolution because it lays the groundwork for open hearings. The House and the American public must see all of the evidence for themselves.

I support this resolution because I know we must overcome this difficult moment for the Nation. This resolution is necessary to ensure that our constitutional order remains intact for future generations.

I support this resolution because we have no choice.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I am waiting for a speaker to come. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman and rise to support moving forward to the next open phase of this impeachment inquiry so that the American people can hear from witnesses, see the evidence, and understand the troubling story of what has taken place in this administration.

As chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, my priorities are supporting American diplomats and diplomacy, working with partners and allies, and ensuring that our foreign policy advances America's interests.

This administration has, unfortunately, undermined all of those priorities since its first day. But in the last month, we have learned more and more about just how deep this goes.

The facts are clear: The White House launched a shadow foreign policy that circumvented and undermined our normal diplomatic channels.

A distinguished career ambassador was publicly smeared and pushed aside.

Critical military aid for Ukraine, a valued partner—locked in a life-or-

death struggle with Russia—was blocked.

The goal? Not some foreign policy priority; not an effort to make our country safer or stronger—quite the opposite, as delaying these resources hurt Ukraine and directly benefited Vladimir Putin.

Why, then? To pressure a foreign government to interfere in our 2020 elections. It is what the Framers feared most.

The President's own words say it best from the record of the call with President Zelensky as he sought the tools to push back against Russia. Mr. Trump's answer: "I would like you to do us a favor, though."

Since that first damning piece of evidence came to light, the Intelligence, Oversight, and Foreign Affairs Committees have worked to fill in the pieces of the puzzle, thanks to the courage of public servants who obeyed the law and testified, even in the face of bullying and intimidation from the administration and of ugly, baseless smears from the President's allies.

I condemn the shameful efforts to identify and harass the whistleblower whose life may be jeopardized for coming forward to tell the truth.

I salute all of those patriots, and I salute my fellow committee chairs Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. MALONEY, and the late Mr. Cummings—

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

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), the distinguished chairwoman of the Committee on Financial Services.

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman MCGOVERN for yielding.

I rise in support of H. Res. 660 and the process that is set forth within it by which the impeachment inquiry will continue to be conducted.

To be clear, contrary to what these desperate Republicans have claimed, the Constitution imposes no requirement that a procedural resolution, such as H. Res. 660, should be voted on by the House. Claiming otherwise is but a fabrication meant to distract from the mountain of growing evidence that demonstrates this President abused his power for personal benefit.

However, while not necessary, this resolution provides for impartial procedures similar to those used during the past impeachment proceedings.

Because Republicans requested a formal procedural vote, I expect nothing less than their full support for H. Res. 660. Anything less would be shameful.

As chairwoman of the Financial Services Committee, we have been conducting credible investigations into the conduct of this administration. And this work—

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

Ms. WATERS.—will continue in the manner outlined by H. Res. 660. I look forward to Democrats and Republicans alike—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. SWALWELL).

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, "I would like you to do us a favor, though."

President Trump said those 10 words on July 25 to Ukraine's President before asking Ukrainian President Zelensky to investigate a potential political opponent.

For the past month, the Intelligence Committee has led an investigation into what happened around that phone call. In this early investigative stage, we have heard powerful, corroborating evidence that President Trump led an extortion shakedown scheme over the Ukrainians, leveraging \$391 million of taxpayer dollars to have a foreign power assist him in his upcoming campaign.

Just as powerful as the evidence we heard is the courage of the people who have come forward to provide it, defying lawless White House orders to obstruct and, instead, adhering to lawful congressional subpoenas.

The evidence, however, is not a conclusion. At this stage, we must move now to a public process with due process protections for the President to secure and test that evidence.

When our Founders designed the Constitution, they considered a lawless President and how to hold that person accountable. James Madison said the Constitution needed a provision for defending the community against lawlessness. Now we must solemnly embark upon this journey.

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

Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I would like to inquire from my friend if he has additional speakers.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, we do.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, in that case, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. NEGUSE).

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, today is a serious and solemn day for our country. The House's impeachment inquiry has exposed the truth and uncovered significant evidence that the President abused his power.

To honor the oath to defend the Constitution that each of us took, we must move forward with this impeachment inquiry. As Thomas Jefferson once said hundreds of years ago: "A sacred respect for the constitutional law is the

vital principle, the sustaining energy of a free government.”

Let us honor the Constitution and defend it today by voting “yes” on this resolution.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE).

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I did not come here to launch an impeachment process. However, the facts demand it. “A Republic, if you can keep it.”

What we decide today will say more about us than it says about the conduct of the President.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE).

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, on opening day, we take an oath of office. We take an oath not to a king, not to a President, but to protect and defend the Constitution. It is our solemn duty.

In fact, this resolution sets forth the procedures for the next phase of our impeachment inquiry. We know substantial evidence has been presented that the President abused his power, undermined our national security, and undermined the integrity of our elections.

We are duty-bound to proceed. It is a sad day, but not because Congress has the courage to stand up for our democracy, but because the President’s conduct has forced this action.

I urge my colleagues to approve this resolution.

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close for our side, so I will yield to the gentleman.

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

Madam Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will amend the resolution to ensure transparency for the American people.

My amendment will do three very simple things:

First, it will require the chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence to publicly release the transcripts of all depositions and interviews in a timely manner to allow any necessary redactions to protect classified or sensitive information.

My colleagues on the other side have been operating in secret and behind closed doors. They have been violating standing House rules by preventing Members access to documents, let alone sharing anything with the people who elected them to serve.

Second, my amendment requires the Intelligence Committee chairman to transfer all records or materials, including exculpatory records or materials, to the Judiciary Committee. The

chairman is instructed to, again, make the necessary redactions to protect any classified or sensitive information. In contrast, the Democratic majority’s resolution lets the chairman choose what information he will share.

Finally, my amendment requires the Intelligence Committee’s records and reports, as well as any material received from any other committee involved, be made available at least 72 hours prior to the Judiciary Committee considering any Articles of Impeachment or other recommendations.

The resolution before us today does absolutely nothing to guarantee that the American people will see this vital information.

The procedures my Democratic colleagues set up for this impeachment inquiry are fundamentally unfair and fundamentally partisan. They reject due process. They reject minority rights, and they reject adequate public disclosure.

The American people will not respect a process that is not fair, Madam Speaker. I urge the House to reject this measure, and I urge the House to insist on bipartisan procedures that respect the rights of the minority and the right of due process.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY), our distinguished Republican leader.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, elections have consequences. Our fellow Americans used their vote to choose who will work for them. So I ask you all a simple question—especially to my colleagues: Is that what is happening here today?

Are we gathered in these final moments, before we depart for a week, to fund our government or to pay our troops?

Are we gathered today to approve a new trade deal? Or are we gathered to debate the critical national security issues regarding China or Iran?

That answer would be unanimously “no.” We are not working for the American people.

□ 1045

Those items would resemble the achievements of a productive Congress, a Congress that truly works for the people.

But do you know what this Congress counts?

This Congress’ record is more subpoenas than laws. That is the legacy. It is not just devoid of solutions for the American people; it is now abusing its power to discredit democracy.

By using secret interviews and selective leaks to portray the President’s legitimate actions as an impeachable offense, Democrats are continuing their permanent campaign to undermine his legitimacy.

For the last 3 years, they have predetermined the President’s guilt, and they have never accepted the voters’ choice to make him President. So for

37 days and counting, they have run an unprecedented, undemocratic, and unfair investigation. This resolution today only makes it worse.

I have heard Members on the other side say they promise rights to the President, but only if he does what they want. That is the equivalent of saying in the First Amendment that you have the right to the freedom of speech, but you can only say the words I agree with. That is what you call due process, Madam Speaker.

The amendment offered by my colleague, Mr. COLE, would help correct some of the transparency concerns we have witnessed over the last few weeks. But today is about more than the fairness of the impeachment process. It is about the integrity of our electoral process. Democrats are trying to impeach the President because they are scared they cannot defeat him at the ballot box. Those are not my words. Those are the words from my colleagues on the other side of the aisle who have offered impeachment three different times.

This impeachment is not only an attempt to undo the last election, it is an attempt to influence the next one as well.

This is not what Democrats promised when they entered the majority 11 months ago. In this Chamber, we heard from our Speaker. While we all sat here, we heard what the Speaker said when she talked about words of optimism and cooperation.

It was said that we would work together to make America stronger, more secure, and more prosperous. We were told our mission was to return power to the people. In fact, our new colleagues on the other side of the aisle were sent to Washington with a mandate to do just that.

So what has happened?

There is nothing like that today.

Not long ago, Democrats recognized that a partisan impeachment would put politics over people and harm our Nation.

That exact same Speaker talked about cooperation and talked about and promised the American people that they would be different if you trusted them with the majority.

Madam Speaker, you have failed in that promise.

That Speaker said: “Impeachment is so divisive to the country that unless there’s something so compelling and overwhelming and bipartisan”—the word bipartisan—“I don’t think we should go down that path, because it divides the country.”

What has changed since those words have been spoken?

Alexander Hamilton wrote that:

There will always be the greatest danger that the decision to use the impeachment power would be driven by partisan animosities instead of real demonstrations of innocence or guilt.

This sham impeachment by Democrats has proven Hamilton right, and it betrays the Speaker’s own words.

I know emotions are high. I know Members would even run for positions of chair simply on the fact that they would be a better chair for impeachment right after the election. But when we all stood that day and listened to the words of the Speaker of cooperation, we all raised our hand to uphold the Constitution.

Tomorrow is November 1. We are 1 year away from an election, not just for this House but for the highest office of Presidency.

Madam Speaker, why do you not trust the people?

Why do you not allow the people to have a voice?

Why, in a process that America lends their voice to all of us, do you deny us the opportunity to speak for them?

Has animosity risen that high?

Has Hamilton been proven correct again?

Madam Speaker, there is a moment in time that you should rise to the occasion. This is that moment. This is the moment that history will write. History will ask you, Madam Speaker, when you cast this vote to justify something that has gone on behind closed doors, I want you to ask the historian and answer the question: What do you know that happened there?

Madam Speaker, have you read anything that took place that you just justified?

What do you believe the definition of "due process" is?

What do you think the First Amendment is, that you have the right to have a voice or only say the words that you agree with?

Madam Speaker, you may get elected in a primary, but in a general election, you are elected to represent the people of America, not to deny their voice.

This House is so much better than what is transforming today. I believe everyone who runs for this office runs to solve a problem. But when you go back to the American public with the achievement of more subpoenas than laws, that is not why you ran. That is not why we are here.

That is why I agree with my colleague, Mr. COLE, who believes in the power of the people and people before politics, that we believe and know we can do better, that we believed the Speaker when she spoke about cooperation, we believed her when she said that if you trusted them with the majority then they would be different.

Madam Speaker, I guess it is only fitting you take this vote on Halloween.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are directed to address their remarks to the Chair.

The gentleman from Oklahoma has 1 minute remaining.

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

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

Let me assure the distinguished minority leader that this Democratic majority can legislate and also fulfill our constitutional responsibilities to hold

this President to account because it is our job. We took an oath to do that.

In terms of our legislative accomplishments, they are second to none. When the Republicans were in the majority, they shut the government down. Today the Education and Labor Committee just reported out the higher education bill, we passed a bill to deal with gun violence, we passed the Dream Act, and we raised the minimum wage. We are working on a bill to lower prescription drugs, and we passed a bill to protect our elections so Russia doesn't interfere in our elections ever again.

So, Madam Speaker, I want to say to my colleagues that I am proud of the process we are following here today that brought us this resolution.

Madam Speaker, past Congresses under the impeachments of Presidents Nixon and Clinton found it prudent to have a resolution in place laying out the path forward, and that is what we are doing here today.

This resolution before us today is based on precedent. It includes protections for President Trump. The President's counsel is given the right to ask questions when the evidence is presented. The rules here expressly provide his counsel the chance to be invited to offer a concluding presentation. Neither of these things were guaranteed to President Nixon or President Clinton.

It lays out a clear path forward so that the American people know what to expect going forward.

Madam Speaker, the obstruction from this White House is unprecedented. It is stunning. We don't know whether President Trump will be impeached, but the allegations are as serious as it gets, endangering national security for political gain.

Madam Speaker, history is testing us, and I worry, based on what we have heard from the other side today, that some may be failing that test.

There are no kings and queens in America. That is what separates this country from so many other nations. No one is above the law. Let me repeat that: No one is above the law.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee and one of only 5 members and one of three Democrats to serve on that House Judiciary Committee during the impeachment of 1998, I rise in strong support of the Rule governing debate for H. Res. 660, as well as the underlying legislation—a resolution directing committees to continue their ongoing investigations as part of the existing House of Representatives inquiry into whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise the constitutional power, solely vested in the House of Representatives, to impeach Donald John Trump, the current President of the United States of America.

This is a somber and solemn time.

Today we choose our beloved nation over individual self-interest and a political party.

We choose due process, regular order and fairness.

And as the founding fathers crafted a document, which 230 years later, from 1789 to 2019, we can abide by, we choose the Constitution.

When the Framers of our Constitution designed our government, they bifurcated power between the federal and state governments, and divided power among the branches.

Indeed as the Framers debated ratification of the Constitution, they knew of the need to remove an individual who breached the public trust.

James Madison of Virginia argued in favor of impeachment stating that some provision was "indispensable" to defend the community against "the incapacity, negligence or perfidy of the chief Magistrate."

With a single executive, Madison argued, unlike a legislature whose collective nature provided security, "loss of capacity or corruption was more within the compass of probable events, and either of them might be fatal to the Republic."

They wrote Article I and vested in the Congress the capacity to make the laws.

They wrote Article II, and in the Executive vested the power to faithfully execute those laws.

Because the House enjoyed a natural superiority, as most representative of the passions of the populace, the Framers vested in the House of Representatives the sole power of impeachment, and made the Senate the judges.

In Article II, they specified the standard by which a president or any constitutional officer is to be removed from office: for High Crimes and Misdemeanors.

It is against that backdrop that we debate this resolution.

In support this resolution because it protects our interests, holds us responsible, protects the American people and gives the president ample opportunity to try to justify his conduct.

In September, members of the House of Representatives learned of a complaint filed by a whistleblower within the Intelligence Community.

The whistleblower alleged that on July 25, 2019, in a telephone conversation with the President of Ukraine, the American President sought to withhold foreign military aid from the besieged and beleaguered nation of Ukraine unless and until the Government of Ukraine produced or manufactured produced political dirt against a person he deemed his most formidable political rival.

The allegation suggests an effort and intent to extort the assistance of a foreign power to help the current president retain his office.

This is similar to the allegations surrounding his 2016 election victory, which were at the heart of the Special Counsel's Report regarding Russian election interference.

After the whistleblower's details were made public, the White House engaged in a series of untenable defenses, all designed to discredit the courageous whistleblower's account, which the Intelligence Community Inspector General found credible.

First, the White House indicated that the whistleblower should not be trusted because it referenced secondhand information, forgetting that much of the information in the Whistleblower's complaint was corroborated by the White House itself.

Next, the White House claimed, without proof, that the whistleblower was a liar.

Then, the White House spread a lie that it was a “perfect” call between the two leaders. Outrageously, the White House then claimed that Chairman ADAM SCHIFF is lying and had helped the Whistleblower draft his complaint.

That was before the President said that the whistleblower’s complaint is a lie made up by the “Deep State.”

And that was before the President said that he made the call at Rick Perry’s urging and that the phone conversations with the Vice President are more problematic than his.

The President and his last defenders are now trying to denigrate the life and accomplishments of Ambassador Bill Taylor, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, and decorated soldier, and dismissing him as a Never Trumper, as if that is a demerit.

This past Tuesday, Lt. Colonel Alexander Vindman, a member of the National Security Council who immigrated from Ukraine when he was three-years old and was dismissed by the President as insufficiently loyal to him, before one of the President’s acolytes suggested Lt. Col. Vindman held a greater loyalty for Ukraine over the United States.

Lt. Col. Vindman has loyally served our country and our Constitution. He was injured in the war in Iraq, for which he was awarded the Purple Heart.

It is thus fitting that when Lt. Col. Vindman appeared to testify in this impeachment inquiry, he did so wearing his Army class A uniform, and had inside his leg shrapnel from the attack that wounded him, and won him the commendation of his superior officers in the Army.

And when he began his testimony, he indicated just what service to this nation meant.

He stated:

I have dedicated my entire professional life to the United States of America. For more than two decades, it has been my honor to serve as an officer in the United States Army. As an infantry officer, I served multiple overseas tours, including South Korea and Germany, and a deployment to Iraq for combat operations. In Iraq, I was wounded in an IED attack and awarded a Purple Heart.

An immigrant to this country, Lt. Col. Vindman stated:

The privilege of serving my country is not only rooted in my military service, but also in my personal history. I sit here, as a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army, an immigrant. My family fled the Soviet Union when I was three and a half years old. Upon arriving in New York City in 1979, my father worked multiple jobs to support us, all the while learning English at night. He stressed to us the importance of fully integrating into our adopted country. For many years, life was quite difficult. In spite of our challenging beginnings, my family worked to build its own American dream. I have a deep appreciation for American values and ideals and the power of freedom. I am a patriot, and it is my sacred duty and honor to advance and defend OUR country, irrespective of party or politics.

When Lt. Col. Vindman testified, he spoke of the horror he felt when he realized that our country’s national security apparatus was being manipulated for the president’s personal and political gain.

He stated in his testimony:

On July 21, 2019, President Zelensky’s party won Parliamentary elections in a land-

slide victory. The NSC proposed that President Trump call President Zelensky to congratulate him. On July 25, 2019, the call occurred. I listened in on the call in the Situation Room with colleagues from the NSC and the office of the Vice President. As the transcript is in the public record, we are all aware of what was said. I was concerned by the call. I did not think it was proper to demand that a foreign government investigate a U.S. citizen, and I was worried about the implications for the U.S. government’s support of Ukraine. I realized that if Ukraine pursued an investigation into the Bidens and Burisma, it would likely be interpreted as a partisan play which would undoubtedly result in Ukraine losing the bipartisan support it has thus far maintained. This would all undermine U.S. national security. Following the call, I again reported my concerns to NSC’s lead counsel.

Throughout the last five weeks, Congressional Republicans have presented a series of strawman arguments designed to deflect but not delve into the very serious charges against the President.

Congressional Republicans’ claims that the whistleblower complaint was hearsay are specious because its contents have been independently and repeatedly confirmed.

Similarly, there is no merit to the claim that there was no quid pro quo when the evidence adduced to date confirms there was.

In their perverse logic, Congressional Republicans decried the lack of due process for a man who once suggested that the Central Park Five should be summarily executed for a crime for which they were later exonerated, and could shoot someone in broad daylight with impunity.

Despite these specious arguments, it is likely that these process arguments are only made because the substance of the president’s allegations are utterly indefensible.

The American people and their elected representatives cannot be distracted; they are paying close attention to the substantial wrongdoing emanating from this White House.

They know what the President, which is why a clear majority support impeachment and removal of this President.

As the House of Representatives continues its impeachment inquiry, H. Res. 660 is an especially timely piece of legislation, which squarely addresses the concerns of the President’s most fervent supporters.

Specifically, this legislation reaffirms that the six investigating committees—including the House Judiciary Committee, of which I am a senior member and which has exclusive jurisdiction to draft Articles of Impeachment—announced by Speaker NANCY PELOSI have been engaged in an impeachment inquiry and directs them to continue their vital work.

That we have been engaged in an ongoing impeachment inquiry was ratified by the Article III branch when Judge Beryl Howell, the Chief Judge for the United States District court for the District of Columbia, recently held that the House is conducting an impeachment inquiry, which does not require a formal floor vote.

Second, H. Res. 660 authorizes the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) to make public transcripts of recent depositions with appropriate redactions made for classified or other sensitive information.

This legislation, too, establishes procedures for all investigating committees to transmit their evidence to the Committee on the Judiciary for use in their proceedings.

The resolution is also prospective, as it relates to these hearings moving from secure intelligence facilities to public view. H. Res. 660 also serves to enable effective public hearings as it permits staff counsels to question witnesses for up to 45 minutes.

This is consistent with precedent established in 1998 of having staff counsel conduct initial questioning, followed by Member questions, by Republicans used to question Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr in 1998.

The resolution also continues the precedent of giving the minority the same rights to question witnesses that was afforded the majority. This has been true at every step of the inquiry.

Additionally, H. Res. 660 also permits the President opportunities to participate in this inquiry, in a manner consistent with past participation by Presidents.

The resolution establishes opportunities for the President or his counsel to participate in impeachment proceedings held by the Committee on the Judiciary, including to present his case and respond to evidence.

The President can submit written requests for additional testimony or other evidence.

The President can attend hearings, including those held in executive session, raise an objection to testimony given and cross-examine witnesses.

But, if the President unlawfully refuses to cooperate with Congressional requests, the Chair shall have the discretion to impose sanctions to enforce appropriate remedies, including by denying specific requests by the President or his counsel.

H. Res. 660 explicates the procedure that applies after testimony is adduced in the HPSCI.

H. Res. 660 directs the Committee on the Judiciary to review the evidence and, if necessary, to report Articles of Impeachment to the House.

Following the precedent of every modern impeachment inquiry, the Committee on the Judiciary will decide whether Articles shall be reported to the House.

H. Res. 660 is important legislation that specifies the parameters and the terms this body will follow as it undergoes its solemn and constitutional task.

It affords equal time to the Chairman and Ranking Member to question witnesses and it treats the President and his counsel fairly.

And, importantly, it lays out for the American people the manner in which this inquiry will proceed to the House Judiciary Committee—the committee of jurisdiction for impeachment and where I will bring to bear my decades of experience on Capitol Hill, including the lessons learned in the impeachment of 1998.

Unlike that occasion, the allegations at the heart of this matter are serious, and damning of the president’s conduct and fitness to serve and his ability to safeguard our national security.

These allegations represent a violation of his oath, a betrayal of our national interests, a repudiation of Americans’ cherished Democratic Values, and a violation of federal campaign finance laws.

When the President stated that Article II permits him to do whatever he wants, he was invoking a fear of Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence.

As the author of one of our nation’s enduring documents, Jefferson was well-versed with

what troubles would merit the erosion of public trust in its leaders.

After all, the Declaration of Independence was a list of grievances of a lawless King, who felt impunity.

But, almost 50 years after the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson wrote to another of our nation's founders: Nathaniel Macon.

In 1821, Jefferson wrote: "Our government is now taking so steady a course, as to shew by what road it will pass to destruction, to wit, by consolidation first; and then corruption, it's necessary consequence."

It is clear that the consolidation that Jefferson feared—and the corruption which he said would be its necessary consequence—has now been realized in the actions of this President.

We will not permit this to continue and we will put a stop to it.

The President will be held to account. H. Res. 660 is the first step towards that accountability, and I am proud to support it.

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

AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 660, AS REPORTED OFFERED BY MR. COLE

In section 2, strike paragraph (5) and insert the following:

(5) Not later than 15 days after the Permanent Select Committee conducts a deposition or an interview in furtherance of the investigation described in the first section of this resolution, the chair shall make publicly available in electronic form the transcript of such deposition or interview, with appropriate redactions for classified and other sensitive information.

In section 3, strike "is authorized" and insert "shall".

In section 3, strike "to transfer" and insert "transfer".

In section 3, insert after "records or materials" the following: ", including exculpatory records or materials, with appropriate redactions for classified or other sensitive information."

In section 4, strike subsection (d) and insert the following:

(d) In the case that the Committee on the Judiciary proceeds to consideration of a resolution, article of impeachment, or other recommendation, the chair shall, at least 72 hours prior to committee consideration, make available to the public, the report received from the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and any and all records or materials, including exculpatory records or materials, with appropriate redactions for classified or other sensitive information, that were transferred from the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence or any other committee involved in the inquiry referenced in the first section of this resolution.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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. COLE. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 231, nays 196, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 603]

YEAS—231

Adams	Garcia (TX)	O'Halleran
Aguilar	Golden	Ocasio-Cortez
Allred	Gomez	Omar
Amash	Gonzalez (TX)	Pallone
Axne	Gottheimer	Panetta
Barragán	Green, Al (TX)	Pappas
Bass	Grijalva	Pascarell
Beatty	Haaland	Payne
Bera	Harder (CA)	Perlmutter
Beyer	Hastings	Peters
Bishop (GA)	Hayes	Phillips
Blumenauer	Heck	Pingree
Blunt Rochester	Higgins (NY)	Pocan
Bonamici	Hill (CA)	Porter
Boyle, Brendan F.	Himes	Pressley
Brindisi	Horn, Kendra S.	Price (NC)
Brown (MD)	Horsford	Quigley
Brownley (CA)	Houlihan	Raskin
Bustos	Hoyer	Rice (NY)
Butterfield	Huffman	Richmond
Carbajal	Jackson Lee	Rose (NY)
Cárdenas	Jayapal	Rouda
Carson (IN)	Jeffries	Roybal-Allard
Cartwright	Johnson (GA)	Ruiz
Case	Johnson (TX)	Ruppersberger
Casten (IL)	Kaptur	Rush
Castor (FL)	Keating	Ryan
Castro (TX)	Kelly (IL)	Sánchez
Chu, Judy	Kennedy	Sarbanes
Cicilline	Khanna	Scanlon
Cisneros	Kildee	Schakowsky
Clark (MA)	Kilmer	Schiff
Clarke (NY)	Kim	Schneider
Clay	Kind	Schrader
Cleaver	Kirkpatrick	Schrier
Clyburn	Krishnamoorthi	Scott (VA)
Cohen	Kuster (NH)	Scott, David
Connolly	Lamb	Serrano
Cooper	Langevin	Sewell (AL)
Correa	Larsen (WA)	Shalala
Costa	Larson (CT)	Sherman
Courtney	Lawrence	Sherrill
Cox (CA)	Lawson (FL)	Sires
Craig	Lee (CA)	Slotkin
Crist	Lee (NV)	Smith (WA)
Crow	Levin (CA)	Soto
Cuellar	Levin (MI)	Spanberger
Cunningham	Lewis	Speier
Davids (KS)	Lieu, Ted	Stanton
Davis (CA)	Lipinski	Stevens
Davis, Danny K.	Loebsack	Suozzi
Dean	Lofgren	Swalwell (CA)
DeFazio	Lowenthal	Takano
DeGette	Lowe	Thompson (CA)
DeLauro	Luján	Thompson (MS)
DelBene	Luria	Titus
Delgado	Lynch	Tlaib
Demings	Malinowski	Tonko
DeSaulnier	Maloney,	Torres (CA)
Deutch	Carolyn B.	Torres Small
Dingell	Maloney, Sean	(NM)
Doggett	Matsui	Trahan
Doyle, Michael F.	McAdams	Trone
Engel	McBath	Underwood
Escobar	McCollum	Vargas
Eshoo	McGovern	Veasey
Espallat	McNerney	Vela
Evans	Meeks	Velázquez
Finkenauer	Meng	Visclosky
Fletcher	Moore	Wasserman
Foster	Morelle	Schultz
Frankel	Moulton	Waters
Fudge	Mucarsel-Powell	Watson Coleman
Gabbard	Murphy (FL)	Welch
Gallego	Nadler	Wexton
Garamendi	Napolitano	Wild
García (IL)	Neal	Wilson (FL)
	Neguse	Yarmuth
	Norcross	

NAYS—196

Abraham	Bishop (NC)	Carter (TX)
Aderholt	Bishop (UT)	Chabot
Allen	Bost	Cheney
Amodei	Brady	Cline
Armstrong	Brooks (AL)	Cloud
Arrington	Brooks (IN)	Cole
Babin	Buchanan	Collins (GA)
Bacon	Buck	Comer
Baird	Bucshon	Conaway
Balderson	Budd	Cook
Banks	Burchett	Crawford
Barr	Burgess	Crenshaw
Bergman	Byrne	Curtis
Biggs	Calvert	Davidson (OH)
Bilirakis	Carter (GA)	Davis, Rodney

DesJarlais	Kelly (MS)	Rogers (KY)
Diaz-Balart	Kelly (PA)	Rooney (FL)
Duncan	King (IA)	Rouzer
Dunn	King (NY)	Roy
Emmer	Kinzinger	Rutherford
Estes	Kustoff (TN)	Scalise
Ferguson	LaHood	Schweikert
Fitzpatrick	LaMalfa	Scott, Austin
Fleischmann	Lamborn	Sensenbrenner
Flores	Latta	Shimkus
Fortenberry	Lesko	Simpson
Fox (NC)	Long	Smith (MO)
Fulcher	Loudermilk	Smith (NE)
Gaetz	Lucas	Smith (NJ)
Gallagher	Luetkemeyer	Smucker
Gianforte	Marchant	Spano
Gibbs	Marshall	Staubert
Gohmert	Massie	Stefanik
Gonzalez (OH)	Mast	Steil
Gooden	McCarthy	Steube
Gosar	McCaul	Stewart
Granger	McClintock	Stivers
Graves (GA)	McHenry	Taylor
Graves (LA)	McKinley	Thompson (PA)
Graves (MO)	Meadows	Thornberry
Green (TN)	Meuser	Tipton
Griffith	Miller	Turner
Grothman	Mitchell	Upton
Guest	Moolenaar	Van Drew
Guthrie	Mooney (WV)	Wagner
Hagedorn	Mullin	Walberg
Harris	Murphy (NC)	Walden
Hartzler	Newhouse	Walker
Hern, Kevin	Norman	Walorski
Herrera Beutler	Nunes	Waltz
Higgins (LA)	Olson	Watkins
Hill (AR)	Palazzo	Weber (TX)
Holding	Palmer	Pence
Hollingsworth	Pelley	Webster (FL)
Hudson	Perry	Wenstrup
Huizenga	Peterson	Westerman
Hunter	Posey	Williams
Hurd (TX)	Ratcliffe	Wilson (SC)
Johnson (LA)	Reed	Wittman
Johnson (OH)	Reschenthaler	Womack
Johnson (SD)	Rice (SC)	Woodall
Jordan	Riggleman	Wright
Joyce (OH)	Roby	Yoho
Joyce (PA)	Rodgers (WA)	Young
Katko	Roe, David P.	Zeldin
Keller	Rogers (AL)	

NOT VOTING—4

Hice (GA)
McEachin
Rose, John W.
Timmons

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

□ 1119

Messrs. TURNER and VAN DREW changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Miss RICE of New York changed her vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the resolution.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 232, nays 196, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 604]

YEAS—232

Adams	Allred	Axne
Aguilar	Amash	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
Ciociline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clever
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
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Finkenauer
Fletcher
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Galleo
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)

Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
Kirpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loeb sack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowe y
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
Pelosi
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
Schradler
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Suo zzi
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small (NM)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

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
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
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
McHenry
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Mitchell
Mooleenaar
Mooney (WV)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Norman
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Peterson
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rooney (FL)
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford

Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Shimkus
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spano
Staubert
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Van Drew
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

further consideration of the bill (H.R. 823) to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes, with Mr. AGUILAR (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Wednesday October 30, 2019, a request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 6 printed in part B of House Report 116-264 offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW) had been postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in part B of House Report 116-264 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 1 by Mr. CURTIS of Utah.

Amendment No. 5 by Mr. TIPTON of Colorado.

Amendment No. 6 by Mr. CROW of Colorado.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. CURTIS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered. The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 180, noes 240, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 605]

AYES—180

Abraham	Cloud	Graves (LA)
Aderholt	Cole	Graves (MO)
Allen	Collins (GA)	Green (TN)
Amodel	Comer	Griffith
Armstrong	Conaway	Grothman
Arrington	Cook	Guest
Babin	Crawford	Guthrie
Bacon	Crenshaw	Hagedorn
Baird	Curtis	Harris
Balderson	Davidson (OH)	Hartzler
Banks	Davis, Rodney	Hern, Kevin
Barr	DesJarlais	Herrera Beutler
Bergman	Diaz-Balart	Higgins (LA)
Biggs	Duncan	Hill (AR)
Billirakis	Dunn	Holding
Bishop (NC)	Emmer	Hollingsworth
Bishop (UT)	Estes	Huizenga
Bost	Ferguson	Hunter
Brady	Fleischmann	Hurd (TX)
Brooks (AL)	Flores	Johnson (LA)
Brooks (IN)	Fortenberry	Johnson (OH)
Buchanan	Foxx (NC)	Johnson (SD)
Buck	Gaetz	Jordan
Bucshon	Gallagher	Joyce (OH)
Budd	Gianforte	Joyce (PA)
Burchett	Gibbs	Kelly (MS)
Burgess	Gonzalez (OH)	Kelly (PA)
Byrne	Gooden	King (IA)
Carter (GA)	Gosar	Kinzinger
Carter (TX)	Granger	Kustoff (TN)
Chabot	Graves (GA)	LaHood
Cheney		
Biggs		
Billirakis		
Bishop (NC)		
Bishop (UT)		
Bost		
Brady		
Brooks (AL)		

NOT VOTING—4

Hice (GA)
McEachin
Rose, John W.
Timmons

□ 1127

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE HOUSE FOR 1 MINUTE

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I request permission to speak for 1 minute out of turn.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I object.

The SPEAKER. Objection is heard.

COLORADO OUTDOOR RECREATION AND ECONOMY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE). Pursuant to House Resolution 656 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 823.

Will the gentleman from California (Mr. AGUILAR) kindly take the chair.

□ 1130

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the

NAYS—196

Abraham	Brooks (IN)	Crawford
Aderholt	Buchanan	Crenshaw
Allen	Buck	Curtis
Amodel	Bucshon	Davidson (OH)
Armstrong	Budd	Davis, Rodney
Arrington	Burchett	DesJarlais
Babin	Burgess	Diaz-Balart
Bacon	Byrne	Duncan
Baird	Calvert	Dunn
Balderson	Carter (GA)	Emmer
Banks	Carter (TX)	Estes
Barr	Chabot	Ferguson
Bergman	Cheney	Fitzpatrick
Biggs	Cline	Fleischmann
Billirakis	Cloud	Flores
Bishop (NC)	Cole	Fortenberry
Bishop (UT)	Collins (GA)	Foxx (NC)
Bost	Comer	Fulcher
Brady	Conaway	Gaetz
Brooks (AL)	Cook	Gallagher

LaMalfa Olson
 Lamborn Palazzo
 Latta Palmer
 Lesko Pence
 Long Perry
 Loudermilk Posey
 Lucas Ratcliffe
 Luetkemeyer Reed
 Marchant Reschenthaler
 Marshall Rice (SC)
 Massie Rigglesman
 Mast Roby
 McCarthy Rodgers (WA)
 McCaul Roe, David P.
 McClintock Rooney (FL)
 McHenry Rouzer
 McKinley Roy
 Meadows Rutherford
 Meuser Scalise
 Miller Schweikert
 Mitchell Scott, Austin
 Moolenaar Sensenbrenner
 Mooney (WV) Shimkus
 Mullin Simpson
 Murphy (NC) Smith (MO)
 Newhouse Smith (NE)
 Norman Smucker
 Nunes Spano

NOES—240

Adams Finkenauer
 Aguilar Fitzpatrick
 Allred Fletcher
 Amash Foster
 Axne Frankel
 Barragán Fudge
 Bass Gabbard
 Bera Gallego
 Beyer Garamendi
 Bishop (GA) García (IL)
 Blumenauer García (TX)
 Blunt Rochester Golden
 Bonamici Gomez
 Boyle, Brendan Gonzalez (TX)
 F. Gottheimer
 Brindisi Green, Al (TX)
 Brown (MD) Grijalva
 Brownley (CA) Haaland
 Bustos Harder (CA)
 Butterfield Hastings
 Calvert Hayes
 Carbajal Heck
 Cárdenas Higgins (NY)
 Carson (IN) Hill (CA)
 Cartwright Omar
 Case Himes
 Casten (IL) Horn, Kendra S.
 Horsford
 Castor (FL) Houlihan
 Castro (TX) Hoyer
 Chu, Judy Huffman
 Cicilline Jayapal
 Cisneros Jackson Lee
 Clark (MA) Jayapal
 Clarke (NY) Jeffries
 Clay Johnson (GA)
 Cleaver Johnson (TX)
 Clyburn Kaptur
 Cohen Katko
 Connolly Keating
 Cooper Kelly (IL)
 Correa Kennedy
 Costa Khanna
 Courtney Hill (CA)
 Cox (CA) Kilmer
 Craig Kim
 Crist Kind
 Crow King (NY)
 Cuellar Kirkpatrick
 Cunningham Krishnamoorthi
 Davids (KS) Kuster (NH)
 Davis, Danny K. Lamb
 Dean Langevin
 DeFazio Larsen (WA)
 DeGette Larson (CT)
 DeLauro Lawrence
 DelBene Lawson (FL)
 Delgado Lee (CA)
 Demings Lee (NV)
 DeSaulnier Levin (CA)
 Deutch Levin (MI)
 Dingell Lewis
 Doggett Lieu, Ted
 Doyle, Michael Lipinski
 F. Loeb sack
 Engel Lowenthal
 Escobar Luján
 Eshoo Luria
 Espaillat Lynch
 Evans Malinowski

Stauber Slotkin
 Steil Smith (NJ)
 Steube Smith (WA)
 Stewart Soto
 Stivers Spanberger
 Taylor Speier
 Thompson (PA) Stanton
 Thornberry Stefanik
 Turner Stevens
 Walberg Rizzo
 Walden Swalwell (CA)
 Walker Takano
 Walorski Thompson (CA)
 Waltz
 Watkins
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Williams
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Woodall
 Wright
 Yoho
 Young
 Zeldin

Slotkin
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Speier
 Stanton
 Stefanik
 Stevens
 Rizzo
 Swalwell (CA)
 Takano
 Thompson (CA)

NOT VOTING—17

Beatty
 Carter (TX)
 Davis (CA)
 Gohmert
 González-Colón (PR)

Hice (GA)
 Hudson
 Lofgren
 Lowey
 McEachin
 Plaskett

Tipton
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres Small (NM)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Underwood
 Upton
 Van Drew
 Vargas

Veasey
 Vela
 Velázquez
 Visclosky
 Wasserman
 Schultz
 Waters
 Watson Coleman
 Welch
 Wexton
 Wild
 Wilson (FL)
 Yarmuth

Murphy (NC)
 Newhouse
 Norman
 Nunes
 Olson
 Palazzo
 Palmer
 Pence
 Perry
 Posey
 Ratcliffe
 Reed
 Reschenthaler
 Rice (SC)
 Rigglesman
 Roby
 Rodgers (WA)
 Roe, David P.
 Rogers (KY)
 Rouzer
 Roy

Turner
 Upton
 Walden
 Walker
 Walorski
 Waltz
 Watkins
 Weber (TX)
 Webster (FL)
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Williams
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Woodall
 Wright
 Yoho
 Young
 Zeldin

□ 1135

So the amendment was rejected.
 The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. TIPTON
 The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. TIPTON) on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 185, noes 231, not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 606]

AYES—185

Abraham
 Aderholt
 Allen
 Amash
 Amodei
 Armstrong
 Arrington
 Babin
 Bacon
 Baird
 Balderson
 Banks
 Barr
 Bergman
 Biggs
 Bilirakis
 Bishop (UT)
 Bost
 Brooks (AL)
 Brooks (IN)
 Buchanan
 Buck
 Bucshon
 Budd
 Burchett
 Burgess
 Byrne
 Calvert
 Carter (GA)
 Carter (TX)
 Chabot
 Cheney
 Cline
 Cloud
 Cole
 Collins (GA)
 Comer
 Conaway
 Cook
 Crawford
 Crenshaw

Curtis
 Davidson (OH)
 Davis, Rodney
 DesJarlais
 Diaz-Balart
 Duncan
 Dunn
 Emmer
 Estes
 Ferguson
 Fleischmann
 Flores
 Portenberry
 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
 Higgins (LA)
 Hill (AR)
 Holding
 Hollingsworth

Adams
 Aguilar
 Allred
 Axne
 Barragán
 Bass
 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
 Correa
 Costa
 Courtney
 Cox (CA)
 Craig
 Crist
 Crow
 Cuellar
 Cunningham
 Davids (KS)
 Davis, Danny K.
 Dean
 DeFazio
 DeGette
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Delgado
 Demings
 DeSaulnier
 Deutch
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Doyle, Michael F.
 Engel
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espaillat
 F.
 Finkenauer
 Fitch
 Fletch
 Foster
 Frankel
 Fudge
 Gabbard
 Gallego
 Garamendi

NOES—231

García (IL)
 García (TX)
 Golden
 Gomez
 Gonzalez (TX)
 Gottheimer
 Green, Al (TX)
 Grijalva
 Haaland
 Harder (CA)
 Hastings
 Hayes
 Heck
 Higgins (NY)
 Hill (CA)
 Himes
 Horn, Kendra S.
 Horsford
 Houlihan
 Hoyer
 Huffman
 Jackson Lee
 Jayapal
 Jeffries
 Johnson (GA)
 Johnson (TX)
 Kaptur
 Keating
 Kelly (IL)
 Kennedy
 Khanna
 Kildee
 Kilmer
 Kim
 San Nicolas
 Kind
 Kirkpatrick
 Krishnamoorthi
 Kuster (NH)
 Lamb
 Schiff
 Langevin
 Larsen (WA)
 Larson (CT)
 Lawrence
 Lawson (FL)
 Lee (CA)
 Lee (NV)
 Levin (CA)
 Levin (MI)
 Lewis
 Lieu, Ted
 Lipinski
 Loeb sack
 Lowenthal
 Luján
 Luria
 Lynch
 Malinowski
 Maloney,
 Carolyn B.
 Maloney, Sean
 Matsui
 McAdams
 McBath
 McCollum
 McGovern
 McNeerney
 Meeks
 Meng
 Moore
 Morelle
 Moulton
 Mucarsel-Powell
 Vargus
 Murphy (FL)
 Veasey
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal

Neguse
 Norcross
 Norton
 O'Halleran
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Omar
 Pallone
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Pascarell
 Payne
 Perlmutter
 Peters
 Peterson
 Phillips
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Porter
 Pressley
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Rice (NY)
 Richmond
 Rooney (FL)
 Rose (NY)
 Rouda
 Roybal-Allard
 Ruiz
 Ruppersberger
 Rush
 Ryan
 Sablan
 San Nicolas
 Sánchez
 Sarbanes
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schiff
 Schneider
 Schrier
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, David
 Serrano
 Sewell (AL)
 Shalala
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Slotkin
 Smith (WA)
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Speier
 Stanton
 Stevens
 Suozzi
 Swalwell (CA)
 Takano
 Thompson (CA)
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (CA)
 Torres Small (NM)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Underwood
 Van Drew
 Vargus
 Veasey
 Vela
 Velázquez
 Visclosky

Wasserman
Schultz
Waters

Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton

Wild
Yarmuth
Yarmuth

Wild (FL)

NOT VOTING—21

Beatty
Bishop (NC)
Brady
Davis (CA)
González-Colón
(PR)
Hice (GA)
Hudson

Lofgren
Lowey
McEachin
Mitchell
Plaskett
Radewagen
Rogers (AL)
Rose, John W.

Sires
Smucker
Thompson (MS)
Timmons
Wagner
Walberg

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1140

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Chair, I
was momentarily indisposed and unable to
cast my vote on this amendment.

Had I been present, I would have voted
“yea” on rollcall No. 606.

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. CROW

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on the amendment offered by the
gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW)
on which further proceedings were
postponed and on which the ayes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 410, noes 6,
not voting 21, as follows:

[Roll No. 607]

AYES—410

Abraham
Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brindisi
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan

Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten (IL)
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Chu, Judy
Cicilline
Cisneros
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Collins (GA)
Comer
Conaway
Connolly

Cook
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Cox (CA)
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson (OH)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael
F.
Dunn
Emmer
Engel
Escobar

Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Ferguson
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxy (NC)
Frankel
Frankel
Fulcher
Gabbard
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gianforte
Gibbs
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez (TX)
Gooden
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Haaland
Hagedorn
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill (AR)
Hill (CA)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlihan
Hoyer
Huffman
Huizenga
Hurtner
Hurd (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster (NH)
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood

LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loeb sack
Long
Loudermill
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCarthy
McCaull
McClintock
McCollum
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Meuser
Miller
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Norman
Norton
Nunes
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Riggelman

Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (KY)
Rooney (FL)
Rose (NY)
Rouda
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Sablan
San Nicolas
Lipinski
Loeb sack
Long
Loudermill
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McAdams
McBath
McCarthy
McCaull
McClintock
McCollum
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meadows
Meeks
Meng
Meuser
Miller
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Norcross
Norman
Norton
Nunes
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Olson
Omar
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Riggelman

Womack
Woodall
Wright

Yarmuth
Yoho
Young

Amash
Biggs

Beatty
Brady
Davis (CA)
González-Colón
(PR)
Hice (GA)
Himes
Hudson

Duncan
Gosar

Beatty
Brady
Davis (CA)
González-Colón
(PR)
Hice (GA)
Himes
Hudson

NOES—6

NOT VOTING—21

Rice (SC)
Roy
Sherrill
Sires
Thompson (MS)
Timmons
Wagner
Walberg

Rose, John W.

□ 1149

So the amendment was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR (Ms. KELLY of Illi-
nois). There being no further amend-
ments, under the rule, the Committee
rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose;
and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr.
AGUILAR) having assumed the chair,
Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Acting Chair of
the Committee of the Whole House on
the state of the Union, reported that
that Committee, having had under con-
sideration the bill (H.R. 823) to provide
for the designation of certain wilder-
ness areas, recreation management
areas, and conservation areas in the
State of Colorado, and for other pur-
poses, and, pursuant to House Resolu-
tion 656, she reported the bill, as
amended by that resolution, back to
the House with sundry further amend-
ments adopted in the Committee of the
Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under
the rule, the previous question is or-
dered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any
further amendment reported from the
Committee of the Whole? If not, the
Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gen-
tleman will state his parliamentary in-
quiry.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, when a
Member of the minority rises to object
to a motion to lay on the table, the
motion to reconsider to lay on the
table, whose discretion is it to recog-
nize that standing Member making the
objection?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gen-
tleman is not making a proper par-
liamentary inquiry.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the
gentlemen seek a recorded vote?

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I seek a
parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gen-
tleman will state his parliamentary in-
quiry.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, when a
Member of the minority party rises to
object to the motion to lay on the
table, not to reconsider a resolution,

whose discretion is it to recognize that standing Member making the objection?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is engaged in debate. The gentleman is not recognized.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, that is a parliamentary inquiry. That is absolutely a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman seek a recorded vote?

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I make a parliamentary inquiry.

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, under the rules, when a Member of the minority party rises to object to the motion to lay on the table the reconsideration of a resolution, under the rules, whose obligation is it, or at whose discretion is that Member recognized, under the rules?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is not stating an inquiry about the pending proceedings.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I make a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman seek a recorded vote?

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I make a parliamentary inquiry.

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

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, at this stage of House deliberations, what options do we have to reconsider the amendments or to consider the vote on the amendments on this bill?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair finds that the gentleman is referencing a previous resolution that was adopted by the House.

Mr. HARRIS. No, Mr. Speaker. I am referencing the piece of business that is in front of the House right now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman object to the amendments?

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I object to the amendments.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman seek a recorded vote?

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry. What options are available to a Member standing asking for recognition to seek a vote?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman seek a recorded vote on these amendments? That is the pending matter before the House.

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, this is a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman seek a recorded vote?

Mr. HARRIS. No. I actually seek an answer to my first parliamentary inquiry, and you can have your choice which one the Chair wants to answer.

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.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

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

Mr. TIPTON. Yes, in its current form.

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

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. Tipton moves to recommit the bill H.R. 823 to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

TITLE V—EFFECT OF ACT

SEC. 501. EFFECT OF ACT.

Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this Act restricts or precludes—

(1) any low-level overflight of military aircraft over any area subject to this Act or an amendment made by this Act, including military overflights that can be seen, heard, or detected within such an area;

(2) flight testing or evaluation over an area described in paragraph (1);

(3) the use or establishment of—

(A) any new unit of special use airspace over an area described in paragraph (1); or

(B) any military flight training or transportation over such an area; or

(4) military aircraft from deviating from service level requirements if oxygen requirements, icing levels, engine power limitations, cloud clearances, or turbulence prevent such aircraft from safely transiting an area described in paragraph (1) while maintaining such service level requirements.

Mr. TIPTON (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Colorado is recognized for 5 minutes in support of his motion.

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, my district is home to the High-Altitude Army National Guard Aviation Training Site, or HAATS. It is both a privilege and an honor representing the U.S. Department of Defense's lone training site where special aviators in the Nation's Armed Forces and the militaries of our foreign allies learn how to fly safely in mountainous, high-altitude environments. HAATS is a vital asset to our national security.

Proposed wilderness expansions in this bill around HAATS are creating concerns about the future of the site's ability to be able to ensure military readiness for the men and women who may be deployed in combat zones in the Middle East.

The sponsors of the CORE Act have indicated that their goal is to protect HAATS. The DOD looks to the Colorado-specific language of DOD's flight guidance, as published in the DOD AP/1 handbook, with regard to how to operate under the CORE Act.

While I appreciate the DOD's guidance, I know all too well that regulatory changes do not provide certainty. We cannot risk the guidance being overturned by future administrations.

So, in conversations with DOD, I asked if they had any objections to the Colorado language that is laid out in the AP/1 handbook being codified. Subsequently, in direct correspondence with my office on both May 13 and June 4 of this year, DOD both times stated no objection to the codification.

The only way to be able to provide certainty for HAATS is to ensure the implementation of the Colorado guidance by codifying that in this bill.

So, what is that guidance? Current law requires DOD aircraft to be able to fly at a minimum of 2,000 feet above designated wilderness areas. However, in Colorado, the terrain conditions make maintaining the 2,000-foot minimum altitude challenging and dangerous.

The Colorado guidance indicates that if oxygen requirements, icing levels, engine power limitations, cloud clearance, or turbulence prevent the DOD aircrews from meeting the 2,000-foot requirement, the aircraft are authorized to be able to deviate from the requirement to safely transit the wilderness areas.

You can see, clearly, why it is important that the CORE Act includes provisions to be able to codify the Colorado guidance. I do not understand the resistance of the majority to make this commonsense change to the bill.

Perhaps it is because some of my colleagues remain supportive of other pending wilderness legislation that, as drafted, would, among other things, have a direct and negative impact on HAATS, affecting aviators utilizing 71 landing zones amounting to 40 percent of the HAATS training area.

Perhaps the rejection of this commonsense idea thus far is yet another example of the need to be able to reach out to all stakeholders and hear the concerns and ideas from the district most impacted by it, not allowing important amendments even to be considered by this House. We let eight amendments, Mr. Speaker, sit in the Rules Committee, not allowing Members to be able to vote on them. These are voices from our communities in the Third District directly impacted by the bill.

It is important to be able to seek broad community support outreach. This is needed to be able to build true consensus for a successful public lands effort.

I will also note that calling up the ghosts of past failed public lands proposals that never had broad community consensus or got off the ground to begin with is not an adequate substitute for direct community outreach and consensus building, and also the compromise needed for a bipartisan success story. It is an unfortunate missed opportunity in the House to be able to get it right.

My good friend from Colorado's sense-of-Congress amendment that was just adopted is a good message on HAATS, but, after all, that is what a sense of Congress is: just a message with no legislative teeth.

Given wilderness legislation being considered by the House today concerning federally designated wilderness in Colorado, HAATS needs more than just a good message. It deserves something codified in law.

This MTR will do just that, at least in H.R. 823. We will be able to codify this and ensure that nothing in this bill will override the important Colorado guidance critical to the mission and operation of HAATS and the safety of our men and women in the United States military.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this motion to recommit that promotes our national security, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

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

Mr. NEGUSE. Mr. Speaker, this bill that we are considering today, the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act, is about more than partisan debate. This bill is about hiking; it is about hunting; it is about fishing; it is about skiing—some of you all might not think I ski, but I do—it is about camping; and it is about a Colorado way of life and preserving our public lands.

The experiences we have outdoors with our loved ones bond us together. And, for me, that was hiking with my father in Rocky Mountain National Park.

Yesterday, my wife called me to let me know that our 1-year-old daughter walked for the first time. I cannot wait to go back to Colorado and be able to hike with my daughter in the iconic public lands that are protected under this bill.

Ultimately, this bill is about ensuring that we protect our most pristine and treasured places for generations long after we are gone. That is the essence of our service: leaving a better world for those who come next.

As Teddy Roosevelt once said: “Here is your country. Cherish these national wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and the romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children’s children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches, or its romance.”

At the end of the day, we have an obligation to protect these public lands, which is why I am so honored to lead this bill. And I will just say that we have worked incredibly hard to make this bill something that our State can be proud of.

I am proud that the House has voted to accept two of my colleagues’ amendments, because in Colorado we get things done by collaboration and consensus.

I am proud that every local jurisdiction impacted by a title of this bill supports those very same titles—Republican and Democrat.

I am proud that this bill has bipartisan support back in the State of Colorado.

It is unfortunate that this motion to recommit is not about any of those things: It is not about improving the bill; it is not about reaching consensus. It is purely political, and here is why.

Just a few moments ago, over 400 Members in this Chamber voted in favor of an amendment offered by my distinguished colleague from Colorado (Mr. CROW), who bravely served in our Armed Forces—fought for our country in Afghanistan and Iraq—and he offered an amendment to stress the importance of Colorado’s Army National Guard High Altitude Aviation Training Site.

That measure passed unanimously—or almost unanimously; I guess seven or eight folks voted against it—because they recognized that the HAATS program is something we must protect.

But the truth of the matter is this bill already addresses the concerns offered by my colleague.

I will quote from the bill on page 37, subparagraph (f): “Military Overflights. Nothing in this title or an amendment made by this title restricts or precludes any low-level overflight of military aircraft over any area subject to this title or an amendment made by this title. . . .”

I could go on, but you also are going to have to take my word for it.

I have a letter from the Colorado National Guard. As my colleague, Mr. CROW, said yesterday during floor debate, we ought to listen to our troops, to our commanders and what they have told us:

It is through the diligent efforts of staff within the Department, the offices of the bill sponsors, and the Department of Defense we have mitigated prior concerns related to military overflight over the potential wilderness areas identified in this bill, and I appreciate the efforts of Congressman NEGUSE and yourself.

The letter from the Colorado National Guard concludes by thanking the delegation for their effort to preserve Colorado’s natural beauty and looking forward to the passage of this important legislation. Those are not my words, those are the words of the Colorado National Guard.

It is important for us not to lose sight of the bigger picture. The CORE Act presents an opportunity for us to come together to show that we can still govern on issues that are so important to all of our constituents.

While I may be new to Congress, Mr. Speaker, the components of this bill that we are slated to vote on in just a few short minutes are not new to this Congress:

Title I of this bill has been introduced for five straight Congresses;

Title II of this bill dates back to 2009;

Local advocates have been asking for the withdrawal of the Thompson Divide since 2010;

Title IV of this bill was introduced in 2009.

Mr. Speaker, these bills have been around since George W. Bush was President. When those bills were being

drafted, the Washington Nationals had not yet played their first game in Nationals Park.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that we all vote against this motion to recommit and support our public lands.

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.

RECORDED VOTE

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

A recorded vote was 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—ayes 199, noes 210, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 608]

AYES—199

Abraham	Fortenberry	Luetkemeyer
Aderholt	Fox (NC)	Marchant
Allen	Fulcher	Marshall
Amash	Gaetz	Masie
Amodei	Gallagher	Mast
Armstrong	Gianforte	McAdams
Arrington	Gibbs	McCarthy
Axne	Gohmert	McCaul
Babin	Golden	McClintock
Bacon	Gonzalez (OH)	McHenry
Baird	Gooden	McKinley
Balderson	Gosar	Meadows
Banks	Gottheimer	Meuser
Barr	Granger	Miller
Bergman	Graves (GA)	Moolenaar
Biggs	Graves (LA)	Mooney (WV)
Bilirakis	Graves (MO)	Mullin
Bishop (NC)	Green (TN)	Murphy (NC)
Bishop (UT)	Griffith	Newhouse
Bost	Grothman	Nunes
Brooks (AL)	Guest	Olson
Brooks (IN)	Guthrie	Palazzo
Buchanan	Hagedorn	Palmer
Buck	Harris	Pence
Bucshon	Hartzler	Perry
Budd	Hern, Kevin	Porter
Burchett	Herrera Beutler	Posey
Burgess	Higgins (LA)	Ratcliffe
Byrne	Hill (AR)	Reed
Calvert	Holding	Reschenthaler
Carter (GA)	Hollingsworth	Rice (SC)
Carter (TX)	Horn, Kendra S.	Riggleman
Chabot	Houlahan	Roby
Cheney	Huizenga	Rodgers (WA)
Cline	Hunter	Roe, David P.
Cloud	Hurd (TX)	Rogers (KY)
Cole	Johnson (LA)	Rooney (FL)
Collins (GA)	Johnson (OH)	Rose (NY)
Comer	Johnson (SD)	Rouzer
Conaway	Jordan	Roy
Cook	Joyce (OH)	Rutherford
Cox (CA)	Joyce (PA)	Scalise
Crawford	Katko	Schweikert
Crenshaw	Keller	Scott, Austin
Curtis	Kelly (MS)	Sensenbrenner
Davidson (OH)	Kelly (PA)	Shimkus
Davis, Rodney	King (IA)	Simpson
DesJarlais	King (NY)	Slotkin
Diaz-Balart	Kinzinger	Smith (MO)
Duncan	Kustoff (TN)	Smith (NE)
Dunn	LaHood	Smith (NJ)
Emmer	Lamb	Smucker
Estes	Lamborn	Spanberger
Ferguson	Latta	Spano
Finkenauer	Lesko	Stauber
Fitzpatrick	Long	Stefanik
Fleischmann	Lucas	Steil

Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Van Drew

Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams

Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Stated for:

Mr. FLORES. Madam Speaker, on rollcall no. 608, I mistakenly voted no when I intended to vote yes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. KELLY of Illinois). The question is on the passage of the bill.

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

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 227, noes 182, not voting 22, as follows:

[Roll No. 609]

AYES—227

NOES—210

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Barragán
Bass
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Cabajal
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
Craig
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Cunningham
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Engel
Escobar
Eshoo
Españlat
Evans
Fletcher
Flores
Foster
Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)

Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Rice (NY)
Richmond
Rouda
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schradler
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shalala
Sherman
Smith (WA)
Soto
Speier
Stanton
Stevens
Suozi
Swailwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small
Cooper
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

Adams
Allred
Axne
Barragán
Bass
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brindisi
Brown (MD)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Cabajal
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, Danny K.
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Engel
Escobar
Españlat
Evans
Finkenauer
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster

Frankel
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Golden
Gomez
Gonzalez (TX)
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Haaland
Harder (CA)
Hastings
Hayes
Heck
Higgins (NY)
Hill (CA)
Himes
Horn, Kendra S.
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Huffman
Jackson Lee
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (TX)
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster (NH)
Krishnamoorthi
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (CA)
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lewis
Lieu, Ted
Lipinski
Loeb sack
Lowenthal
Lujan
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Matsui
McBath
McCollum
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Moore
Morelle
Moulton
Mucarsel-Powell
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Norcross
O'Halleran

Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres Small
(NM)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood

Upton
Van Drew
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman
Schultz

Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wexton
Wild
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOES—182

Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden
Gosar
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hagedorn
Harris
Hartzler
Hern, Kevin
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (LA)
Hill (AR)
Holding
Hollingsworth
Roy
Huizenga
Hunter
Hurd (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Katko
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger
Kustoff (TN)
LaHood
LaMalifa
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Marchant
Marshall
Massie
Mast
McAdams
McCarthy
McCaull
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
Meadows
Meuser
Miller
Moolenaar
Mooney (WV)

Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Newhouse
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Perry
Posey
Ratcliffe
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Riggleman
Roby
Rodgers (WA)
Roe, David P.
Rogers (KY)
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Shimkus
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spano
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Stivers
Taylor
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tipton
Turner
Walden
Walker
Walorski
Waltz
Watkins
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Woodall
Wright
Yoho
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—22

Aguilar
Beatty
Brady
Davis (CA)
Davis (CA)
DesJarlais
Eshoo
Hice (GA)
Hudson
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lowey
McEachin
Mitchell
Norman
Rogers (AL)
Rose, John W.

□ 1220

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. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote series. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 605, "yea" on rollcall No. 606, "yea" on rollcall No. 607, "yea" on rollcall No. 608, and "nay" on rollcall No. 609.

NOT VOTING—22

Beatty
Brady
Davis (CA)
Doyle, Michael F.
Hice (GA)
Hudson
LaMalifa

Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lowey
McEachin
Mitchell
Norman
Rogers (AL)
Rose, John W.

Sherrill
Sires
Thompson (MS)
Timmons
Wagner
Walberg
Welch

□ 1214

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker. I was not present for the following votes due to the passing of my father. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall No. 603, “nay” on rollcall No. 604, “yea” on rollcall No. 605, “yea” on rollcall No. 606, “yea” on rollcall No. 607, “yea” on rollcall No. 608, and “nay” on rollcall No. 609.

PERMISSION TO INCLUDE AMENDMENT TEXT IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO VOTE ON PREVIOUS QUESTION ON H. RES. 660

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my colleague from the Rules Committee, Ranking Member COLE from Oklahoma, be permitted to insert the text of the amendment he would have offered had the House rejected the previous question on H. Res. 660, along with extraneous material, into the RECORD immediately prior to the vote on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 660.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. LEE of Nevada). Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, October 31, 2019.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on October 30, 2019, at 1:32 p.m.:

That the Senate passed S. 1678.

With best wishes, I am
Sincerely,

LLOYD HORWICH,
Legal Counsel.

REMOVAL OF NAMES OF MEMBERS AS COSPONSORS OF H.R. 2505

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove Representatives WELCH, KIRKPATRICK, TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, and WESTERMAN from H.R. 2505.

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

There was no objection.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Miss Kaitlyn Roberts, on of his secretaries.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 1 p.m. tomorrow.

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

There was no objection.

CONGRATULATING WASHINGTON NATIONALS ON WINNING WORLD SERIES

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

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, today is a serious day. Last night was an extraordinary night.

I rise for the millions of people who live in the Washington metropolitan area to congratulate and to exalt with all of our region on the extraordinary achievement of the Washington Nationals.

This morning in Washington, the heavens are crying tears of joy. In other words, it is raining. But there is no rain in any of our hearts or minds today. It may be raining, but the faces of Nationals fans are shining with pride and happiness.

For the first time in 95 years—we have waited a long time, Madam Speaker—the Major League Baseball team from our Nation’s Capital is bringing home a World Series Championship. My colleague Ms. NORTON is here, being urged to put on a sweater, over her pride.

With the might of their bats and the lightness of their feet, the Nats pushed through to a hard-won victory in game seven last night against the Houston Astros—arguably, the best team in either league this year—who won the most games.

While I congratulate the Houston Astros on an extraordinary season, they just didn’t count on the Washington Nationals.

But, today, the Houston Astros and the Washington Nationals are in absolute agreement. It is my understanding that they are sending a joint letter to Major League Baseball, saying: “We want all of our games to be road games from now on.”

In case you didn’t get that, neither team won at home. They all won games on the road. The good news was, the Washington Nationals had four games in Houston, and the Astros had only three games in Washington.

So there is joy in Washington this day. It is sustained by a spirit of camaraderie and sportsmanship. Our Nats grew strength from their dedicated fans across this region, including, of course, my district.

We have been waiting a very long time for this day, so I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the 2019 Nationals, led by their extraordinary manager Dave Martinez, who played earlier in his career for the

team that moved from Montreal to become the Nats. How appropriate. How wonderful.

I hope my colleagues will also join me in congratulating this year’s most valuable player. Very frankly, there were a lot to choose from on the Washington Nats, who started out with a 19-wins-and-31-losses season.

What an extraordinary achievement to come that far that quickly, to meet, arguably, as I said at the beginning, the best team in baseball, the Houston Astros.

I also want to mention, as I said, the most valuable player. There were a lot to choose from. Stephen Strasburg was recruited and signed by the Washington Nationals some years ago as a very young man. He pitched extraordinarily, then got his elbow and had to be operated on, a Tommy John operation, they call it, and he has come back to be one of the best pitchers in the major leagues. He won three games. What an extraordinary achievement. So let’s congratulate, as well as Stephen Strasburg, all the members of the team on this victory.

To paraphrase the old poem: “Oh, somewhere in this favored land the sun is shining bright;

The band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light;

And somewhere men are laughing, and somewhere children shout.”

Today, Madam Speaker, that somewhere is the Nation’s Capital.

Congratulations, Nationals. We love you.

□ 1230

SOVIET-STYLE IMPEACHMENT

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

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, last week I joined several dozen of my colleagues at the SCIF in protest of the secret impeachment inquiry.

Seventy-five percent of the elected Members of Congress have been shut out of this impeachment inquest. This whole inquiry is a sham led by the Speaker of this House and her impeachment czar, the chairman of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. Their attempt today to try and open these proceedings is nothing short of Soviet glasnost—a fake transparency that only leads to less participation, more secrecy, and less due process.

Madam Speaker, this is too little too late. You can’t unring the bell on this sham process that is your high watermark in seeking to undo the 2016 election at all costs.

Case in point: while saying there will be a resolution to try and bring transparency to these proceedings, this inquiry has continued to take depositions in secret. Democrats in this Chamber have been acting like bank robbers after they have tripped an alarm and they are trying to shove as much money in the bag as they can before the police get there.

We demand due process.

LAW AND ORDER IMPEACHMENT

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, this is a somber and solemn time.

I rise in support of H. Res. 660, a resolution establishing procedures for the impeachment of the President. I do it with a heavy heart.

But today we choose our beloved Nation over individual self-interest and political party. We choose due process, regular order, and fairness. We choose this little document called the Constitution, lasting for over 200 years.

We are reminded of the words of James Madison who argued in favor of impeachment, stating that some provision was indispensable to defend the community against the incapacity or negligence of the chief magistrate.

We do not do this in a rush, and we do not do it eagerly.

We are reminded of Lieutenant Colonel Vindman who came here at 3 years old. He said he had dedicated his entire professional life to the United States of America. And he said about the call that he was on: I realized that this was troubling, that if Ukraine pursued an investigation into the Bidens, it would be heavy and wrong. I do not think it is proper to demand that a foreign government investigate a U.S. citizen.

Again, we stand on the Constitution. We must do it right and do it fairly.

This is a somber and solemn time.

Today we choose our beloved nation over individual self-interest and a political party.

We choose due process, regular order and fairness.

And as the founding fathers crafted a document, which 230 years later, from 1789 to 2019, we can abide by, we choose the Constitution.

When the Framers of our Constitution designed our government, they bifurcated power between the federal and state governments, and divided power among the branches.

Indeed as the Framers debated ratification of the Constitution, they knew of the need to remove an individual who breached the public trust.

James Madison of Virginia argued in favor of impeachment stating that some provision was "indispensable" to defend the community against "the incapacity, negligence or perfidy of the chief Magistrate."

With a single executive, Madison argued, unlike a legislature whose collective nature provided security, "loss of capacity or corruption was more within the compass of probable events, and either of them might be fatal to the Republic."

They wrote Article I and vested in the Congress the capacity to make the laws.

They wrote Article II, and in the Executive vested the power to faithfully execute those laws.

Because the House enjoyed a natural superiority, as most representative of the passions of the populace, the Framers vested in the House of Representatives the sole power of

impeachment, and made the Senate the judges.

In Article II, they specified the standard by which a president or any constitutional officer is to be removed from office: for High Crimes and Misdemeanors.

It is against that backdrop that we debate this resolution.

I support this resolution because it protects our interests, holds us responsible, protects the American people and gives the president ample opportunity to try to justify his conduct.

In September, members of the House of Representatives learned of a complaint filed by a whistleblower within the Intelligence Community.

The whistleblower alleged that on July 25, 2019, in a telephone conversation with the President of Ukraine, the American President sought to withhold foreign military aid from the besieged and beleaguered nation of Ukraine unless and until the Government of Ukraine produced or manufactured produced political dirt against a person he deemed his most formidable political rival.

The allegation suggests an effort and intent to extort the assistance of a foreign power to help the current president retain his office.

This is similar to the allegations surrounding his 2016 election victory, which were at the heart of the Special Counsel's Report regarding Russian election interference.

After the whistleblower's details were made public, the White House engaged in a series of untenable defenses, all designed to discredit the courageous whistleblower's account, which the Intelligence Community Inspector General found credible.

First, the White House indicated that the whistleblower should not be trusted because it referenced secondhand information, forgetting that much of the information in the Whistleblower's complaint was corroborated by the White House itself.

Next, the White House claimed, without proof, that the whistleblower was a liar.

Then, the White House spread a lie that it was a "perfect" call between the two leaders.

Outrageously, the White House then claimed that Chairman Adam Schiff is lying and had helped the Whistleblower draft his complaint.

That was before the President said that the whistleblower's complaint is a lie made up by the "Deep State."

And that was before the President said that he made the call at Rick Perry's urging and that the phone conversations with the Vice President are more problematic than his.

The President and his last defenders are now trying to denigrate the life and accomplishments of Ambassador Bill Taylor, a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, and decorated soldier, and dismissing him as a Never Trumper, as if that is a demerit.

This past Tuesday, Lt. Colonel Alexander Vindman, a member of the National Security Council who immigrated from Ukraine when he was three-years old and was dismissed by the President as insufficiently loyal to him, before one of the President's acolytes suggested Lt. Col. Vindman held a greater loyalty for Ukraine over the United States.

Lt. Col. Vindman has loyally served our country and our Constitution. He was injured in the war in Iraq, for which he was awarded the Purple Heart.

It is thus fitting that when Lt. Col. Vindman appeared to testify in this impeachment inquiry, he did so wearing his Army class A uniform, and had inside his leg shrapnel from the attack that wounded him, and won him the commendation of his superior officers in the Army.

And when he began his testimony, he indicated just what service to this nation meant.

He stated:

I have dedicated my entire professional life to the United States of America. For more than two decades, it has been my honor to serve as an officer in the United States Army. As an infantry officer, I served multiple overseas tours, including South Korea and Germany, and a deployment to Iraq for combat operations. In Iraq, I was wounded in an IED attack and awarded a Purple Heart.

And immigrant to this country, Lt. Col. Vindman stated:

The privilege of serving my country is not only rooted in my military service, but also in my personal history. I sit here, as a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army, an immigrant. My family fled the Soviet Union when I was three and a half years old. Upon arriving in New York City in 1979, my father worked multiple jobs to support us, all the while learning English at night. He stressed to us the importance of fully integrating into our adopted country. For many years, life was quite difficult. In spite of our challenging beginnings, my family worked to build its own American dream. I have a deep appreciation for American values and ideals and the power of freedom. I am a patriot, and it is my sacred duty and honor to advance and defend OUR country, irrespective of party or politics.

When Lt. Col. Vindman testified, he spoke of the horror he felt when he realized that our country's national security apparatus was being manipulated for the president's personal and political gain.

He stated in his testimony:

On July 21, 2019, President Zelenskyy's party won Parliamentary elections in a landslide victory. The NSC proposed that President Trump call President Zelenskyy to congratulate him. On July 25, 2019, the call occurred. I listened in on the call in the Situation Room with colleagues from the NSC and the office of the Vice President. As the transcript is in the public record, we are all aware of what was said. I was concerned by the call. I did not think it was proper to demand that a foreign government investigate a U.S. citizen, and I was worried about the implications for the U.S. government's support of Ukraine. I realized that if Ukraine pursued an investigation into the Bidens and Burisma, it would likely be interpreted as a partisan play which would undoubtedly result in Ukraine losing the bipartisan support it has thus far maintained. This would all undermine U.S. national security. Following the call, I again reported my concerns to NSC's lead counsel.

Throughout the last five weeks, Congressional Republicans have presented a series of strawman arguments designed to deflect but not delve into the very serious charges against the President.

Congressional Republicans' claims that the whistleblower complaint was hearsay are specious because its contents have been independently and repeatedly confirmed.

Similarly, there is no merit to the claim that there was no quid pro quo when the evidence adduced to date confirms there was.

In their perverse logic, Congressional Republicans decried the lack of due process for

a man who once suggested that the Central Park Five should be summarily executed for a crime for which they were later exonerated, and could shoot someone in broad daylight with impunity.

Despite these specious arguments, it is likely that these process arguments are only made because the substance of the president's allegations are utterly indefensible.

The American people and their elected representatives cannot be distracted; they are paying close attention to the substantial wrongdoing emanating from this White House.

They know what the President, which is why a clear majority support impeachment and removal of this President.

As the House of Representatives continues its impeachment inquiry, H. Res. 660 is an especially timely piece of legislation, which squarely addresses the concerns of the President's most fervent supporters.

Specifically, this legislation reaffirms that the six investigating committees—including the House Judiciary Committee, of which I am a senior member and which has exclusive jurisdiction to draft Articles of Impeachment—announced by Speaker NANCY PELOSI have been engaged in an impeachment inquiry and directs them to continue their vital work.

That we have been engaged in an ongoing impeachment inquiry was ratified by the Article III branch when Judge Beryl Howell, the Chief Judge for the United States District court for the District of Columbia, recently held that the House is conducting an impeachment inquiry, which does not require a formal floor vote.

Second, H. Res. 660 authorizes the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) to make public transcripts of recent depositions with appropriate redactions made for classified or other sensitive information.

This legislation, too, establishes procedures for all investigating committees to transmit their evidence to the Committee on the Judiciary for use in their proceedings.

The resolution is also prospective, as it relates to these hearings moving from secure intelligence facilities to public view. H. Res. 660 also serves to enable effective public hearings as it permits staff counsels to question witnesses for up to 45 minutes.

This is consistent with precedent established in 1998 of having staff counsel conduct initial questioning, followed by Member questions, by Republicans used to question Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr in 1998.

The resolution also continues the precedent of giving the minority the same rights to question witnesses that was afforded the majority. This has been true at every step of the inquiry.

Additionally, H. Res. 660 also permits the President opportunities to participate in this inquiry, in a manner consistent with past participation by Presidents.

The resolution establishes opportunities for the President or his counsel to participate in impeachment proceedings held by the Committee on the Judiciary, including to present his case and respond to evidence.

The President can submit written requests for additional testimony or other evidence.

The President can attend hearings, including those held in executive session, raise an objection to testimony given and cross-examine witnesses.

But, if the President unlawfully refuses to cooperate with Congressional requests, the

Chair shall have the discretion to impose sanctions to enforce appropriate remedies, including by denying specific requests by the President or his counsel.

H. Res. 660 explicates the procedure that applies after testimony is adduced in the HPSCI.

H. Res. 660 directs the Committee on the Judiciary to review the evidence and, if necessary, to report Articles of Impeachment to the House.

Following the precedent of every modern impeachment inquiry, the Committee on the Judiciary will decide whether Articles shall be reported to the House.

H. Res. 660 is important legislation that specifies the parameters and the terms this body will follow as it undergoes its solemn and constitutional task.

It affords equal time to the Chairman and Ranking Member to question witnesses and it treats the President and his counsel fairly.

And, importantly, it lays out for the American people the manner in which this inquiry will proceed to the House Judiciary Committee—the committee of jurisdiction for impeachment—and where I will bring to bear my decades of experience on Capitol Hill, including the lessons learned in the impeachment of 1998.

Unlike that occasion, the allegations at the heart of this matter are serious, and damning of the president's conduct and fitness to serve and his ability to safeguard our national security.

These allegations represent a violation of his oath, a betrayal of our national interests, a repudiation of Americans' cherished Democratic Values, and a violation of federal campaign finance laws.

When the President stated that Article II permits him to do whatever he wants, he was invoking a fear of Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence.

As the author of one of our nation's enduring documents, Jefferson was well-versed with what troubles would merit the erosion of public trust in its leaders.

After all, the Declaration of Independence was a list of grievances of a lawless King, who felt impunity.

But, almost 50 years after the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson wrote to another of our nation's founders: Nathaniel Macon.

In 1821, Jefferson wrote: "Our government is now taking so steady a course, as to shew by what road it will pass to destruction, to wit, by consolidation first; and then corruption, it's necessary consequence."

It is clear that the consolidation that Jefferson feared—and the corruption which he said would be its necessary consequence—has now been realized in the actions of this President.

We will not permit this to continue and we will put a stop to it.

The President will be held to account.

H. Res. 660 is the first step towards that accountability.

Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the House Judiciary Committee and one of only 5 members and one of three Democrats to serve on that House Judiciary Committee during the impeachment of 1998, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 660, a resolution directing committees to continue their ongoing investigations as part of the existing House of Rep-

resentatives inquiry into whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise the constitutional power, solely vested in the House of Representatives, to impeach Donald John Trump, the current President of the United States of America.

USMCA

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

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to reiterate my support for the United States-Mexico-Canada Trade Agreement, a commonsense deal that supports farmers and workers.

However, USMCA sits unratified even as President Trump, Mexico, and Canada signed the agreement over a year ago. Each day that the USMCA is not ratified, we are losing out on valuable jobs and opportunities. Speaker PELOSI must get serious about bringing this legislation to a vote in Congress.

My Republican colleagues and I are ready to vote on the deal, but House Democrats setting their sights on the baseless impeachment of the President choose to neglect important opportunities like this.

I just voted against an impeachment resolution against the President when I should be voting on issues like USMCA.

I implore Speaker PELOSI to bring USMCA for a vote so we can finally deliver for American farmers and manufacturers. Let's get back to what we promised the American people we would do.

I hope that my colleagues across the aisle can agree that expanding access to markets, remaining competitive, and growing our economy is what is best for Americans instead of engaging in political shams that do nothing to move this country forward.

SAN PEDRO PACKAGES FOR PATRIOTS

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

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, currently military families who send all-important care packages to their loved ones overseas have to pay some postage. These families are already paying a lot just by enduring the absence of their loved one. That is why I am reintroducing the Military Care Package Program Act which would waive these postal fees for family-sent care packages.

In this spirit, I would like to take a moment to recognize an organization in my district called San Pedro's Packages for Patriots. Packages for Patriots have been sending care packages, letters, and comfort items to our Armed Forces members overseas since 2008.

These packages symbolize love and hope. For some soldiers, it truly means the world. This amazing organization was started by San Pedro residents

Mike Walker and his wife, Shirley Vojkovich. Together, along with their group of dedicated volunteers, Packages for Patriots has shipped over 16,000 care packages with over 200,000 pounds of supplies to American servicemembers deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

I am sure every Member of this body would like to join me in applauding their efforts in support of our servicemembers overseas.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS BRYAN JENKINS

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

Mr. YOHO. Madam Speaker, Michel de Montaigne once said: "Valor is stability, not of legs and arms, but of courage and the soul."

This quote describes Sergeant First Class Bryan Jenkins of Gainesville, Florida, who tragically lost his life during a military exercise last week in Georgia.

Throughout his 18-year military career, he has distinguished himself as a true patriot. Sergeant First Class Jenkins has a long list of accomplishments. He went on two tours in Iraq and also earned 14 different military awards.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Shana; his three children, Branson, Bryanna, and Delilah, as well as the families of the other two colleagues, Corporal Thomas Walker and Private First Class Antonio Garcia who were also killed during this exercise.

The impact that Sergeant First Class Jenkins had on those around him will not soon be forgotten. We thank him for all the sacrifices he made for this great Nation. He truly was a man of honor.

INTRODUCING THE THREE SEAS RESOLUTION

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution supporting the Three Seas Initiative to bolster energy infrastructure security in Central and Eastern Europe. I am pleased to co-lead this bipartisan effort with the ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, Energy, and the Environment, ADAM KINZINGER.

Energy security is national security. For years, Russia has sought to undermine liberty and security in Europe by forcing Central and East European nations into reliance on Russia for their energy needs. They do this through projects including the Nord Stream 2 and TurkStream, Russian gas pipelines.

Thankfully, 12 of our closest allies in Central and Eastern Europe have banded together to increase their energy

autonomy through collective financing of energy infrastructure projects: the Three Seas Initiative.

This resolution makes clear U.S.'s strong support for the initiative and encourages member nations to take action on joint financing of future projects. Additionally, it encourages the member nations to consider financing of clean energy projects as the world addresses our dire climate change crises.

In the face of increased Russian aggression, the U.S. must play a leading role in energy security in Europe, and I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

CONGRATULATING OWEN ALLEN

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

Mr. WRIGHT. Madam Speaker, 15 years ago a future gridiron star named Owen Allen was born. He was born with a gift, and that gift was superior athletic ability.

At 15 he is already a standout running back for the Southlake Carroll varsity football team. In last week's game alone, he rushed more than 200 yards and scored four touchdowns.

Madam Speaker, Texans love competition, we love champions, and we love winners. We find the best of all these things in high school football. If you want to know why Texans are crazy about those Friday night lights, look no further than Owen Allen. His performance on the field excites and inspires.

Running back Allen was just named the Dallas-Fort Worth High School Offensive Player of the Week. But athleticism is only one of young Mr. Allen's qualities. He is also a young man of great character, integrity, and decency.

As a Member of Congress, I congratulate Mr. Allen and wish him many years of success as an athlete and as a human being. I have prayed God's blessings on him and his family.

ACCIDENTAL SHOOTINGS

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

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, every single day, eight kids are killed or injured by unintentional shootings with guns found in the home. Last week a 9-year-old child accidentally shot their 4-year-old sibling in the face at their home in Tennessee. Earlier this year a 4-year-old boy in Oakland barely survived after accidentally shooting himself in the head with a gun he found under the pillow.

These accidental shootings are preventable. That is why I am introducing the Prevent Family Fire Act of 2019, a bipartisan bill to reduce gun violence by providing a modest tax credit to incentivize the sale of things like gun

safes. If we expand safe storage, we can reduce accidental shootings by 73 percent.

It is not just accidental shootings. Over 75 percent of school shootings involve kids and teens having access to unsecured guns at home, and more than 80 percent of guns used by youth in suicide attempts were kept in the home of a victim, a relative, or a friend.

There is much more we need to do to address gunfire, but this commonsense bill is a step we can take to save lives.

VOTERS ARE ANGRY AT MEDIA

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

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Madam Speaker, a Rasmussen poll conducted on October 2 of 2019 found that a sky-high 69 percent of independent voters were "angry" at the media, and over 60 percent of all voters share that anger.

These voters are not upset at the media because they are balanced and fair, they are upset because the media is biased and telling them what to think—or not telling them at all.

The results of this astounding poll didn't appear in the Nation's largest newspapers or the most watched TV news programs and was hardly mentioned on social media.

The media's credibility is already at a record low. The road back to credibility for the media is to give the American people the truth and let them make up their own minds.

AMERICA'S GROWING AGING POPULATION

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

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, today I rise to praise the House for unanimously passing the Dignity in Aging Act. This act includes two bipartisan bills that I led to respond to challenges facing a growing aging American population: social isolation and younger onset Alzheimer's.

As I heard from seniors and their families in my district at my seniors workshop, we need to do more to support caregivers, improve economic opportunities for older individuals, and ensure Americans can age with dignity, security, and quality of life. This act does that.

This week Democrats and Republicans worked together in Washington to pass the Dignity in Aging Act. That is a win for Congress, a win for seniors, and a win for the American people.

□ 1245

PASS LEGISLATION FOR THE
PEOPLE

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

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, Congress exists to serve the American people by passing legislation that will protect their rights and promote their welfare.

Since January of this year, House Democrats have been vigorously legislating for the people and have passed more than 200 bills—200 bills—bills to secure a living wage for American workers, bills to protect pensions and fight discrimination in the workplace, bills to expand access to healthcare and lower the cost of prescription drugs. We have passed bills to safeguard our elections, the bedrock of our democracy, from both foreign and domestic interference.

In contrast, the Republican-controlled Senate has offered little but obstruction and inaction. Their leader proudly calls himself the “grim reaper” for laying waste to our 200 bills.

So, I rise today to implore Senate lawmakers: Do your job. Take up these House-passed measures and start serving the American people.

HONORING FIL BAKE SHOP DURING
FILIPINO AMERICAN HERITAGE
MONTH

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

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today, on the last day of Filipino American Heritage Month, to honor the Fil Bake Shop in Delano, California, and to congratulate them on becoming the Delano Business of the Year.

Owner Tessie Patricio, or Auntie Tess, and workers of the Fil Bake Shop have been dedicated to hard work and unconditional love for their business for nearly 30 years. As a result, Fil Bake Shop has become a staple of the Delano community and a personal favorite of mine.

One-third of the 52,000 residents of Delano are Filipino, and Fil Bake Shop has been a steadfast supporter of our community in Delano and across the Pacific.

When the Philippines are struck by natural disasters, Fil Bake Shop sends care to the islands. They collect donations in times of disaster to support families back in the Philippines, while still providing the hardworking farmworkers and families of Delano with their delicious sweetbreads.

As this local gem is honored as Business of the Year by the Delano Filipino community, I am proud to represent such a tremendous place in the 21st District of California.

CELEBRATING A DOUBLE WIN FOR
D.C.

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

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, with the impeachment inquiry vote, the House made history today, but the Washington Nationals made unprecedented history just last night.

Our D.C. Nats won the World Series for the very first time in American history. Our Nats were the underdogs throughout the series, just like their hometown, the District of Columbia, has been for 218 years.

But hold on, America. We are about to make it a double: Nats' victory last night; House passage of H.R. 51, the D.C. statehood bill, during the 116th Congress.

Watch for how I make my friend, SHEILA JACKSON LEE, pay up on our bet against the Houston Astros.

Go Nats! Long live D.C. statehood!

HONORING OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, on Veterans Day, we remember the devotion of the brave men and women of the military who have honorably served our Nation. Our veterans have fought to preserve this Nation, its ideals, democracy, freedom, and prosperity.

American veterans not only have helped maintain the rights that were established by our Founding Fathers, but they have also set an example of enduring patriotism, returning home to become leaders in their communities, States, and Nation. Back home, they have helped advance our country by embodying the American spirit of hard work and preservation.

Today, we acknowledge these men and women who have served our Nation as members of our military. We thank them for their many contributions to our country. We remember in prayer those men and women who never returned home from foreign soil.

SPEAK OUT AGAINST GENOCIDE

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

Ms. GABBARD. Madam Speaker, the history of the United States has been intertwined with that of the Armenian people and the Armenian genocide.

It was American missionaries and diplomats who let the world know that the Ottoman Empire was attempting to cleanse itself of the Armenian and Christian populations. The U.S. became home to many survivors.

Their experience inspired Raphael Lemkin to create the term “genocide,” only to see his Jewish family suffer the same fate at the hands of Nazi Germany.

The denial of the Armenian genocide has had contemporary consequences. I have visited both Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh. I saw that a Turkey which denies genocide has no fear of committing it again. In fact, Turkey has begun an ethnic cleansing of the Syrian Kurds in northern Syria.

I have long called for our government to officially recognize the Armenian genocide. I am an original cosponsor of H. Res. 296.

The House has spoken with a clear voice, breaking the silence, recognizing the Armenian genocide. We call on the Senate and President Trump to do the same.

We cannot allow history to repeat itself.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS
MONTH

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

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, I rise in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Over 25 years ago, I was in an abusive relationship with my ex-husband. I became a single mother to a young daughter, working just to survive day to day. I never dreamed in a million years that I would be standing here before you today as a Member of Congress, speaking on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. But I not only survived, I thrived.

I share my story in hopes of helping others. I hope they find strength in our efforts to acknowledge their suffering and recognize the many organizations that exist to help them today.

TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION
OF REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON AS
A BENEFICIARY SUB-SAHARAN
AFRICAN COUNTRY UNDER
AGOA—MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-77)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 506A(a)(3)(B) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(3)(B)), I am providing notice of my intent to terminate the designation of the Republic of Cameroon (Cameroon) as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

I am taking this step because I have determined that the Government of Cameroon currently engages in gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, contravening the eligibility requirements of section 104 of the AGOA.

Despite intensive engagement between the United States and the Government of Cameroon, Cameroon has

failed to address concerns regarding persistent human rights violations being committed by Cameroonian security forces. These violations include extrajudicial killings, arbitrary and unlawful detention, and torture.

Accordingly, I intend to terminate the designation of Cameroon as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under the AGOA as of January 1, 2020. I will continue to assess whether the Government of Cameroon engages in gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, in accordance with the AGOA eligibility requirements.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 31, 2019.

CONTINUATION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 116-78)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Sudan declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, is to continue in effect beyond November 3, 2019.

Despite recent positive developments, the crisis constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Sudan that led to the declaration of a national emergency in Executive Order 13067; the expansion of that emergency in Executive Order 13400 of April 26, 2006; and with respect to which additional steps were taken in Executive Order 13412 of October 13, 2006, Executive Order 13761 of January 13, 2017, and Executive Order 13804 of July 11, 2017, has not been resolved. These actions and policies continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13067, as expanded by Executive Order 13400, with respect to Sudan.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 31, 2019.

IMPEACHMENT: THEN AND NOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan-

uary 3, 2019, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, we had a vote today. Some would say it was very important, but actually, it didn't do so much. In fact, it revoked some of our history, some of our precedent, some of our rules to take an unusual step toward supposed impeachment.

I still continue to be of the opinion that we will not end up having a vote in this Chamber on whether or not to actually impeach President Trump because if that happens, it goes to the Senate. It gets slam-dunked down in the Senate, both on the basis of a massive failure of due process as well as no direct evidence of any wrongdoing, unless we are talking about someone who is a Democrat and has held the second-highest office before. But this is not due process.

By the way, of course, once it gets to the Senate, they vote it down, and then it ensures a repeat of 1996, where the current President is reelected. I am sure my friends across the aisle don't want to do that.

I am still of the opinion that I don't think we will end up with a vote to actually impeach or not impeach President Trump. We will see how that plays out. But it is worth looking at precedent, as an old history major who has never quit studying history.

If we look at the impeachment committee authorizations in 1974 and 1998, back then, when there was bipartisan concern about due process, not just one-sided concern, the authorization by the House directed the Committee on the Judiciary to investigate if there were sufficient grounds for impeachment.

Currently, though, the Speaker directed six different committees, with the House Intelligence Committee at the forefront, to continue their ongoing investigations as part of what was called an impeachment inquiry.

Regarding the subpoena power in 1974 and 1998, what was authorized in the resolution back in the days when there was concern about due process and fairness and ensuring justice would be done, the resolution authorized both the chairman and the ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary to issue subpoenas acting jointly or unilaterally.

□ 1300

If either the chairman or the ranking member declined to act, then the other had the right to refer the decision to the full committee.

Currently, under what we voted on today, it authorized the chair of the Intelligence Committee, Chairman SCHIFF, and Judiciary Committee to issue subpoenas, but the authorization to the ranking member only is with the consent or approval of the chairman. It is incredible.

I mean, basically, our friends have said, well, it is like a grand jury. Well,

I have been a prosecutor in front of grand juries. I have been a judge who impaneled grand juries, answered their questions, and dealt with issues that arose over grand juries. I am quite familiar with them.

With a grand jury, every single person on the grand jury who is going to get a vote gets to hear every witness, gets to ask any question they wish, and they could even send the prosecutor out of the grand jury if they wish. He is only there as an adviser.

But what we have had not only was a sham impeachment inquiry, but they actually had armed guards outside of the Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility, the SCIF. They had armed guards with guns to try to keep us out, people like me, on the Judiciary Committee, who is fully authorized, under the current rules, to sit in on any impeachment inquiry, participate, because the rules, through precedent, have made clear it is the Judiciary Committee that does that.

The Speaker can't just stand up and say: "I am changing all the rules unilaterally"—except for the fact that, in this case, that is exactly what happened. "Forget the rules. I am decreeing these are the committees that will do an investigation."

And I didn't realize until we went into the SCIF, which I am authorized to do and which, under the rules, Judiciary having jurisdiction, I should have a right to hear each one of those witnesses.

I didn't know until we got in there, it turns out, Chairman SCHIFF, each time a witness was about to begin to speak to the Intelligence Committee, the committees, he would instruct, now, this is unclassified, so if a question is asked that you think might end up revealing something classified, then you can just say you can't answer, it might reveal classified information.

It sounds to me like that was instruction, when the Republicans ask you a question you don't want to answer, just say, well, it may reveal classified information, and you don't have to answer their questions.

Except that then we find out that, in the more recent depositions, the witnesses were actually instructed not to answer questions.

Well, this metaphor of a grand jury totally breaks down. It doesn't apply. There has never been a grand jury where one grand juror could tell the witness you don't have to answer these other grand jurors' questions, and we are going to put armed guards where people that are on the grand jury can't get in to hear the testimony if we don't want to hear the testimony.

Sure, they will have to vote at some point, but we are going to put armed guards to keep the biggest part of the grand jury out of being able to see the witnesses, to see their countenance as they answered questions.

It is why in military courts martial that I participated in, in Federal trials, in State trials we have an aversion to

having depositions. Yes, you have a lot of depositions in civil trials.

But in criminal trials, something as important as liberty—and I would submit, a President being thrown out that was duly elected is just as important. In such a case, you get to ask the questions, see the questions; you get to hear the answers; and you get to observe the witnesses. It is important.

Yet, under orders of the Speaker and Chairman SCHIFF, this so-called comparative grand jury kept the huge majority out of those hearings where we could hear and see for ourselves.

Now we find out, through the vote today, that, yes, the Judiciary Committee is ultimately going to get this from the Intelligence Committee. But never in the history of this country have we had such gross unfairness that one party would put armed guards with guns to prevent the duly authorized people from being able to hear the witnesses and see them for themselves.

Then, oh, we hear from this resolution today, we are going to send you the depositions after we get through doctoring and looking at and editing the transcripts. We will send you those so you have the evidence you need.

That is not the kind of evidence that a coup should be based on. If we are going to have what they are trying to legalize as a coup, we ought to have a right to see each of those witnesses. And the only potential use for the depositions should be impeachment of those witnesses, nothing else, not for anything substantive.

The President's attorneys, unlike in 1974 and 1998, were not allowed to be there or even see and hear the witnesses. So the references to this being a Star Chamber are not inappropriate. It is outrageous what has been going on for people who truly care about due process.

Regarding the procedures now, the Judiciary Committee must operate pursuant to the procedures imposed by the chairman of the Rules Committee.

Well, previously, one of the oldest committees in the House of Representatives, the Judiciary Committee, in prior impeachments made the rules for the impeachment hearing. We didn't have it dictated by the Rules Committee, no, because this is the Judiciary Committee. These are people who are supposed to have expertise in constitutional issues.

So when you have the committee that has more expertise in constitutional issues, what did the majority do? We don't want the committee with the most expertise on constitutional issues dealing with these constitutional issues. We want to put armed guards outside a hearing and have it in a Secret Compartmented Information Facility.

And we are not going to let the other side call their own witnesses so we get a fair picture of what actually went on, and we are not even going to let them ask questions we don't want them to ask. We will instruct the witnesses not

to answer because, you see, they want it to be a one-sided, non-due process, sham court.

It is about to push this country to a civil war if they were to get their wishes. And if there is one thing I don't want to see in my lifetime, I don't want to ever have participation in, it is a civil war.

Some historian—I don't remember who—said guns are only involved in the last phase of a civil war. What is going on here has not protected the Constitution. It has not protected the institutions. It has not protected this little experiment in self-government. No.

What it has done is put it all at risk because what some people in this body don't seem to understand is, when you set a precedent as dangerous as what we have been watching for the last 3 years, it won't be me, but there will be Republicans, if this isn't stopped, there will be Republicans who will take the precedent of what the Democrats have done here and use it against a Democratic President, try to set him up and create a coup.

Like I say, it won't be me, but that is the way history works. When somebody sets a precedent, then eventually somebody also not concerned about due process is going to try to mimic that and go one further.

In 1974 and 1998, the committee procedures during the Nixon and Clinton impeachment processes, they included the ability of the President's counsel to attend all hearings, including those in executive session; question any and all witnesses called before the committee; submit written questions for additional testimony; provide summaries of what he would propose to show; and respond to evidence received and testimony presented, either orally or in writing, as determined by the committee. The President's counsel could also review all evidence obtained in the course of the impeachment inquiry.

Not only has the President's counsel not been allowed to do any of those things that have been done in the past to ensure due process and fairness, even the rest of this voting body that will have to vote on an impeachment were not allowed to see the witnesses, to hear the witnesses, to review the transcript until after they are through working with the transcripts.

This resolution today, it bifurcates the impeachment, only allows the President's counsel to participate in Judiciary Committee proceedings. It provides no ability to participate in the ongoing Intelligence Committee investigation.

If we presume that the procedures the Rules Committee has dictated to us on high allow the President's counsel to participate in Judiciary Committee proceedings at all, they will only have access to documents transmitted to the Judiciary Committee and not all the material obtained in the course of the Intelligence Committee's hearings.

I just happen to have H. Res. 803 from 1974 that involved—well, it was from

Chairman—Democratic Chairman Rodino, from the Committee on the Judiciary.

See, that is the way it is supposed to be done. That is the way it has been done in the past, 1974, 1998.

Under the rules that the Democrats passed earlier this year, in January, the rules say, if a rule is not specific about a matter, then precedence is the rule. That is the rule, and it has been ignored repeatedly.

So we voted today basically rubberstamping the secret Star Chamber hearings, the one-sided questioning of the witnesses. Oh, we did hear today Republicans have equal time to the Democrats. It is just that Democrats could ask whatever they wanted and get answers, and Republicans couldn't.

Impeachment in the past, when we have impeached Federal judges before, came through our Judiciary Committee, very bipartisan, because, even as recent as the last 10, 12 years, even ADAM SCHIFF realized, when you are going to remove a Federal officer from a position he is duly placed in, you have got to make sure you provide due process, and you allow buy-in on both sides.

There was no buy-in today because, even though there are some Republicans who are not big fans of the President, to put it mildly, they realize this process is an outrage, and it is a threat to our little experiment in self-government.

□ 1315

So an article comes out yesterday by Paul Sperry, entitled: "The Beltway's 'Whistleblower' Furor Obsesses Over One Name."

To my knowledge, I have not ever talked to this Paul Sperry with RealClearInvestigations, but he brings out a name that has been bandied about on the internet. A lot of people are speculating this guy was the whistleblower.

Regardless of whether this guy is the whistleblower or not, it is important to look at what has been going on with him. Just forget about the claim he is a whistleblower; look at what he has been doing.

The more you find out, the more you realize, wow, President Trump should have revoked clearances for prior potential conspirators long before he did.

But then, in the article, it mentions a 33-year-old—we already knew he was a male, that he worked for Vice President Biden, this guy. He was held over from the Obama White House.

And one of the things that President Obama was able to do so much better than President Trump was make sure that the people who worked in the White House, in the CIA, in the DOJ, the FBI, but especially in the White House, in the Old Executive Office Building for the Vice President, they made much better certainty that everybody there was going to be loyal to President Obama and Vice President Biden. They did a magnificent job of that.

So anybody who is held over—in fact, I understand H. R. McMaster, great Obama Democrat loyalist that was working, continuing to work in the Trump administration, made clear that he didn't want to hear any of his people ever say again that someone was an Obama holdover. I guess he didn't want people outed in front of people loyal to the President as being loyal to President Obama.

But McMaster also was a boss of this guy. He did work for Biden. He worked for CIA Director John Brennan.

Brennan, as the article said, was "a vocal critic of Trump who helped initiate the Russia 'collusion' investigation of the Trump campaign during the 2016 election."

Further, this guy "left his National Security Council posting in the White House's West Wing in mid-2017. . . ."

This guy was working in the White House; Loved Brennan, loved McMaster, and he is in President Trump's White House and part of the National Security Council. They get to see everything that concerns anything on foreign policy and our own national security.

But there were "concerns about negative leaks to the media. He has since returned to CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia."

The article says: "'He was accused of working against Trump and leaking against Trump,' said a former NSC official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence matters."

Alas, this guy "huddled for 'guidance' with the staff of House Intelligence Committee Chairman ADAM SCHIFF, including former colleagues also held over from the Obama era whom SCHIFF's office had recently recruited from the National Security Council."

This guy "worked with a Democratic National Committee operative who dug up the dirt on the Trump campaign during the 2016 election, inviting her into the White House for meetings, former White House colleagues said. The operative, Alexandra Chalupa, a Ukrainian American who supported Hillary Clinton, led an effort to link the Republican campaign to the Russian Government. 'He knows her. He had her in the White House,' said one former coworker. . . ."

"Documents confirm the DNC opposition researcher attended at least one White House meeting with" this guy "in November 2015. She visited the White House with a number of Ukrainian officials lobbying the Obama administration for aid to Ukraine."

And that is the aid we know we have seen, heard former Vice President Biden bragging: Hey, I am leaving in 6 hours, and if they want this \$1 billion, then they are going to have to fire the prosecutor, who just happened to be investigating the gas company that was giving millions of dollars to his son.

The article says: "'Everyone knows who he'"—the whistleblower—"is. CNN knows. The Washington Post

knows. The New York Times knows. Congress knows. The White House knows. Even the President knows who he is," said Fred Fleitz, a former CIA analyst and National Security Advisor to Trump, who has fielded dozens of calls from the media.

"Yet a rare hush swept across the Potomac."

You know, normally, The New York Times and The Washington Post, they can't wait to out a whistleblower, can't wait, don't mind seeing them destroyed. But you look at a real whistleblower, not a fake one like we have here, a real whistleblower with direct information like Adam Lovinger, who, working in the Defense Department—I didn't know that this scheme went that far.

But Lovinger is supposed to investigate improper payments by the Defense Department, and he saw hundreds of thousands of dollars being paid at different times to a guy named Stefan Halper, who is a professor, and he couldn't see anything in return for all the money.

Then we have this investigation about President Trump and find out that, actually, Halper was getting paid by the Defense Department to help set up Trump campaign people so they could use that information to go before a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act court and get a warrant to spy on the Trump campaign.

Phenomenal. The Defense Department is paying a guy to help set up the Trump campaign before President Trump was ever elected so they could get warrants to spy on the campaign.

It is incredible. The article says, "Trump supporters blame the conspiracy of silence on a 'corrupt' and 'biased' media trying to protect the whistleblower from due scrutiny about his political motives. They also complain Democrats have falsely claimed that exposing his identity would violate whistleblower protections, even though the relevant statute provides limited, not blanket, anonymity, and doesn't cover press disclosures.

"His Democrat attorneys meanwhile have warned that outing him would put him and his family 'at risk of harm,' although the government security personnel have been assigned to protect him."

And I come back to the facts. There are lots of people that have testified adversely to President Donald J. Trump. As far as I know, they are all still living, breathing, and saying nasty things about him. Their health is not put in jeopardy in any way. Their personal safety is not a problem.

Now, that is not true of some other people that have been in high positions in this town where people end up dead in the morgue. I am not saying they caused it. I am just saying, if you are worried about outing some incident, somebody, President Trump is not the one you need to worry about.

Fleitz said, "They're hiding him. They're hiding him because of his po-

litical bias. A CIA officer specializing in Russia and Ukraine," this person, "was detailed over to the National Security Council from the agency," meaning CIA, "in the summer of 2015, working under Susan Rice, President Obama's national security adviser. He also worked closely with the former vice president."

That is the same Susan Rice—according to a book a few years after—according to that book it reported that Secretary Clinton called her husband and said, they are wanting me to go out there and say this attack in Benghazi was all about a video. And the advice was, you know, you can't be the one that goes on the Sunday shows because nobody is going to buy that.

So Susan Rice was picked to go out and tell people the attack in Benghazi was based on a video, when most everybody, maybe not Susan Rice, but most people who had looked into it at all knew it was not about a video at all. And the Obama administration had been warned repeatedly of the threat that was coming and didn't give them the security they needed, nor did they allow anyone to go lift a finger to help the people at Benghazi.

And I love hearing people on the other side say, oh, you investigated Benghazi for so long and you had nothing. Yes, that is because the Obama administration wouldn't produce anything that we asked for, the important things we asked for. They covered things up. Same on Fast and Furious, and we didn't have a Speaker on the Republican side that would allow us to go to court and get those things released.

So the more important things that got released were a result of Judicial Watch, Tom Fitton's folks going to court and getting the court order to get things produced, but still there was so much that was not produced we don't know all the facts about what happened.

By the way, I do know that Intelligence people lied to the Republican chairman of Intelligence back then and he never would wake up and realize it. Because he reported to our Republican conference after Benghazi about 6 months after, well, guys, some of you have asked me, isn't there somebody at Walter Reed that was injured? We keep hearing rumors. And Mike said, no, I can tell you, there is no one who was injured at Benghazi that is at Walter Reed.

I couldn't sit still anymore. It was in one of my trips to Walter Reed I met such a person. He was on the roof with Tyrone Woods and the other heroes. He had much of his leg blown off. And I had met him, and I honored his request for anonymity being out there.

But I couldn't sit there and listen to the Republican chairman of Intelligence perpetrating what he thought was true but was not, and I knew it wasn't. I said, That is not true. He got red faced and said, That is true. I said, No, I had lunch with the one yesterday. He said, That is not true.

And he told me later after the meeting, I have talked to our intelligence people, and they tell me that the guy you must have seen, he is not at Walter Reed, he comes there for physical therapy. And I said, No, I can tell you the building number and where his apartment is, and it adjoins the physical therapy. It is right there on Walter Reed.

□ 1330

Anyway, he didn't believe it.

I had emailed this great hero and didn't hear from him for a couple of weeks. He later emailed back that: Gee, the strangest thing happened. I had the most painful surgery on my leg.

He had numerous surgeries, but this was the most painful since half of it got blown off on that rooftop in Benghazi. He said: They medicated me because of all the pain. That night, in the middle of the night, these guys show up at our apartment there, and they moved my wife, my kids, all of us immediately off the hospital property. It doesn't make sense.

Well, it made sense to me because we had intelligence people that were covering up the lie that they had told the chairman of the Intelligence Committee because he was a Republican chair. I bet they don't lie like that to ADAM SCHIFF.

Anyway, Federal records, according to the article, show that Biden's office invited this guy "to an October 2016 state luncheon the Vice President hosted for Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi. Other invited guests included Brennan, as well as then-FBI Director James Comey and then-National Intelligence Director James Clapper."

Several U.S. officials told RealClearInvestigations that the invitation that was extended to this guy, who was a relatively low-level GS-13 Federal employee, "was unusual and signaled he was politically connected inside the Obama White House."

Former White House officials said this guy "worked on Ukrainian policy issues for Biden in 2015 and 2016, when the Vice President was President Obama's 'point man' for Ukraine." He is a Yale graduate, speaks Russian, Ukrainian, as well as Arabic.

"He had been assigned to the NSC by Brennan. He was held over into the Trump administration and headed the Ukraine desk at the NSC," under President Trump, "eventually transitioning into the West Wing, until June 2017. 'He was moved over to the front office,' to temporarily fill a vacancy, said a former White House official, where he 'saw everything, read everything.'"

The official added that it soon became clear among NSC staff that this guy "opposed the new Republican President's foreign policies. 'My recollection . . . is that he was very smart and very passionate, particularly about Ukraine and Russia. That was his thing, Ukraine,' he said. 'He didn't ex-

actly hide his passion with respect to what he thought was the right thing to do with Ukraine and Russia, and his views were at odds with the President's policies.'"

In May 2017, this guy went "'outside his chain of command,' according to a former NSC coworker, to send an email alerting another agency that Trump happened to hold a meeting with Russian diplomats in the Oval Office the day after firing Comey, who led the Trump-Russia investigation. The email also noted that Russian President Vladimir Putin had phoned the President a week earlier. Contents of the email appeared to have ended up in the media, which reported Trump boasted to the Russian officials about firing Comey, whom he allegedly called 'crazy, a real nut job.'"

In effect, this guy "helped generate the 'Putin fired Comey' narrative, according to the research dossier making the rounds in Congress."

Anyway, it is a mess.

Now, one of the things about whistleblower protections, though, is if you were to be prosecuted for committing a crime, then the whistleblower status could be used to help hold off potential prosecution. It is my understanding that it would not likely win the day, but it could delay a prosecution.

Say, hypothetically, you worked for somebody like Brennan, or say, hypothetically, you worked for somebody like McMaster and Brennan, and you helped come up with a conspiracy to oust a duly-elected sitting President by alleging some conspiracy with Russia, and you found out that the Attorney General and the U.S. attorney assigned to investigate the origins of the Russia hoax were closing in on participants of your conspiracy.

Well, if you had a really smart lawyer, he might just tell you, if you could get whistleblower status, if they start closing in on you, then we can start filing motions to keep you out of that prosecution because if you are a whistleblower, you are in a protected status. It shouldn't prevent the ultimate prosecution, but it could delay things for a while.

So it could make sense, if you are a coconspirator and trying to bring down a duly-elected President, that you might want that whistleblower status.

The problem with that is—and this is a problem for a tainted inspector general who would protect such a whistleblower—if you are complaining, it has to be, to get that status, somebody in your chain of command. The President, we were told, is not in the whistleblower's chain of command because that is outside, the CIA.

It has to be within that leadership ladder, and the President is outside of that. So he wasn't a real whistleblower. Plus, a whistleblower has to have direct evidence.

What we have seen with this march of the gossipmongers, as it is best described, that have been paraded into the secret Star Chamber with the

armed guards outside of it so that other members of this grand jury can't get to see and hear the witnesses, it really appears to be a march of those who don't like President Trump and are willing to sully in some cases valiant military service, a great career. They are willing to have that tarnished and sullied by becoming gossipmongers.

For example, one person who apparently had a great career in the Army, William Taylor, I understand he was in the infantry for 6 years. I was at Fort Benning for 4 years, and I can tell you, anybody who was a commander in the infantry didn't last any time at all if he allowed gossipmongers, like he has become, to come before him and say: Captain, Captain, I heard that somebody else heard something that was said.

He would throw him out of the office: I am not going to be running a gossip column here. If somebody knows something directly, send them to me, but don't you come in here being a gossipmonger.

Well, now he has become the gossipmonger. "Well, I heard that somebody else heard that they heard the President say. . . ."

I just come back to this, as someone who had to sit and listen and evaluate evidence and make life and death decisions in a courtroom, you analyze what kind of person this is before me as a witness. If you have a witness before you that is willing to try to destroy and remove a President from office who was duly elected under our Constitution, and they are now willing to use secondhand, thirdhand, fourth-hand gossip, it tells you they are not the great person that they once were. They are not the patriot they once were. They are nothing but gossipmongers.

If you are going to be a fair arbiter of truth and justice, it should dramatically diminish your evaluation and analysis of what they have to say. This is not a classy person. This is a gossipmonger.

That is what William Taylor became for the Intelligence Committee, and that is what Vindman became.

Some have said: Oh, gee, Lieutenant Colonel Vindman, he is the ultimate American. He even came in uniform.

Well, I was trained that if you are going to say bad things about someone in your chain of command, including the Commander in Chief—because a lot of us were not happy with President Carter when I was at Fort Benning, but we all knew you can't say anything negative about President Carter, especially not in uniform. It doesn't matter if it is true. You can't do it.

He comes parading in, in his uniform, to try to take down a sitting President, and he uses gossip to do that.

We also have to wonder, okay, so whistleblower number one, this great patriot, we are told—who he is not. He is a gossipmonger. Where did he get that information since he didn't get it

firsthand? He was not allowed to receive information about those telephone calls the President made to the leader of another country, so somebody violated the law by telling him. We don't know who that was. Whoever it was, Vindman or anybody else, there is a good chance they committed a crime.

That crime and all the surrounding information about their crime should be admissible in helping impeach and analyze that witness's testimony. You ought to be able to pursue it, but we are told, when Republicans were asking Colonel Vindman who he told about this, who did he transfer information to, they were shut down by the chairman.

That tells you the chairman must know what the answers were, and he didn't want the Republicans to have them. It sounds to me like there is a chance he committed a crime, and that was being covered up. Otherwise, if you want due process, if you want a fair process, if you want justice, then we have to hear the good, the bad, the ugly, so we can make a fair determination.

Every person elected as a Member of Congress is going to have a right to vote on that impeachment, if it ever comes up, and we have a right to hear the witnesses. Anything else is a sham.

By the way, this Colonel Vindman, it turns out, it has been published, he went to the stenographers. We had heard previously from the President there were four stenographers who take down everything.

Well, I have used court reporters my whole adult life, and they miss a word from time to time. I have had to fix transcripts where they have missed something. We have that problem here. They are amazing. These stenographers are absolutely incredible, but they miss a word from time to time.

But they have four. Apparently, we are told, the reason is that they don't want to tape it so that no foreign leader has to worry about ever hearing his own voice say things that he said in a private conversation with the President of the United States. So they have four stenographers so that they make sure they get exactly what was said.

And this guy Vindman goes to the stenographers and tells them: I want to get these words inserted in the transcript, Burisma—the name of the gas company they are trying to go after President Trump and say he demanded information on them.

Apparently, none of the stenographers heard that. It sounds like not only is he a potential criminal for leaking information to people who weren't supposed to get it, but there is also potential there that this is part—when you go to prove a conspiracy in Federal court, you have to prove not only that you plotted but that there was an overt act. His overt act of going to stenographers and trying to get words embedded into the transcript that the President didn't say could potentially be such an overt act in furtherance of the conspiracy.

□ 1345

There is a lot we don't know here, but this process has the possibility to bring this Nation's constitutional Republic to the brink of the end on our watch.

This ought to be a bipartisan thing. You can hate a President; you can disagree with him; but let's make sure that we have due process so we don't get drug into a third world status.

We know no country lasts forever, no country ever will. If we are going to perpetuate this any further, we have got to have some bipartisan concern for justice, for due process, for making sure that all of the protections to protect against a Star Chamber-type thing are not what we use here. Unfortunately, that is what we have been seeing for nearly 3 years.

One of the things I was taught in law school is what separates us is that we don't just take somebody and try to find a crime. That is unconstitutional. You have a crime that you find was committed, and then you try to find out who probably committed it. When you get probable cause, you can get them indicted, then you can have a trial.

What we have seen clearly is that, over 3 years ago, some people in Justice, FBI, Intelligence, maybe Defense, maybe somebody in the White House, decided: Here is Donald J. Trump. Let's find a crime, whether he committed it or not, that we can wrap around his throat.

That is what we have been watching happen. They found somebody. Now let's find a crime that we can allege.

The problem with this one about the quid pro quo, demanding something, they are going to have to prosecute Vice President Joe Biden. They are going to have to prosecute some U.S. Senators who have sent letters that have said: Gee, if you don't do this or that, we are going to cut off funding to you.

Whoa, Joe Biden bragged about it: I told him that, if you want this billion dollars, you better fire that prosecutor.

They are going to have to prosecute all of those people before they go after President Trump, and he didn't do anything nearly like he was accused of.

There is nothing wrong with a President saying to a foreign leader: Your country apparently was involved in a conspiracy to affect our election. Could you help us out by giving us information about what happened? We just need to know.

There is nothing wrong with it.

And you look at the transcript not amended by somebody who was trying to set up the President, but by four stenographers who were intent on having everything in there that was said, and you see there was nothing wrong with this phone call. What was wrong was the process of trying to commit a coup d'etat and take out a duly elected President.

It is time we wake up and we do what is right for this country.

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

RISE AND MAKE TOMORROW BETTER THAN TODAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. HILL) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. HILL of California. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. HILL of California. Madam Speaker, this is the last speech that I will give from this floor as a Member of Congress. I wasn't ready for my time here to come to an end so soon. It is a reality I am still grappling with, and I will be for a long time to come.

I expected, or I at least hoped, to be here for as long as the voters of California's 25th District deemed me worthy of the honor of representing them. I thought I could make a difference here in making our community, our great country, and the world a better place for generations to come.

I, like so many of my colleagues, ran for office because I believed that our political system was broken, controlled by the powerful and the wealthy, ignoring and failing the regular people that it is supposed to serve. I came here to give a voice to the unheard in the halls of power.

I wanted to show young people, queer people, working people, and imperfect people that they belong here because this is the people's House. I fell short of that, and I am sorry.

To every young person who saw themselves and their dreams reflected in me, I am sorry.

To those who felt like I gave them hope in one of the darkest times in our Nation's history, I am sorry.

To my family, my friends, my staff, my colleagues, my mentors, and to everyone who has supported and believed in me, I am sorry.

To the thousands of people who spent hours knocking on doors in the hot summer Sun, who made countless phone calls, and who sacrificed more than I could ever know to give everything they could in every possible way so that I could be here, I am so, so sorry.

And to every little girl who looked up to me, I hope that one day you can forgive me.

The mistakes I made and the people I have hurt that led to this moment will haunt me for the rest of my life, and I have to come to terms with that.

Ever since those images first came out, I barely left my bed. I have ignored all the calls and the texts. I went

to the darkest places that a mind can go, and I have shed more tears than I thought were possible.

I have hidden from the world because I am terrified of facing the people that I let down. But I made it through because the people who loved me most dragged me back into the light and reminded me that I was stronger than that.

To those of you who were by my side in my worst moments—you know who you are—I love you. I am so grateful, and I will never forget.

And I am here today because so many of the people I let down—people close to me, supporters, colleagues, people I have never even met—told me to stand back up and that, despite all of my faults, they still believed in me and they were still counting on me. And I realized that hiding away and disappearing would be the one unforgivable sin.

I will never shirk my responsibility for this sudden ending to my time here, but I have to say more because this is bigger than me.

I am leaving now because of a double standard.

I am leaving because I no longer want to be used as a bargaining chip.

I am leaving because I didn't want to be peddled by papers and blogs and websites, used by shameless operatives for the dirtiest gutter politics that I have ever seen and the rightwing media to drive clicks and expand their audience by distributing intimate photos of me taken without my knowledge, let alone my consent, for the sexual entertainment of millions.

I am leaving because of a misogynistic culture that gleefully consumed my naked pictures, capitalized on my sexuality, and enabled my abusive ex to continue that abuse, this time with the entire country watching.

I am leaving because of the thousands of vile, threatening emails, calls, and texts that made me fear for my life and the lives of the people that I care about.

Today is the first time I have left my apartment since the photos taken without my consent were released, and I am scared.

I am leaving because, for the sake of my community, my staff, my family, and myself, I can't allow this to continue, because I have been told that people were angry when I stood strong after the first article was posted and that they had hundreds more photos and text messages that they would release bit by bit until they broke me down to nothing, while they used my faults and my past to distract from the things that matter most.

I am leaving because there is only one investigation that deserves the attention of this country, and that is the one that we voted on today.

Today, I ask you all to stand with me and commit to creating a future where this no longer happens to women and girls.

Yes, I am stepping down, but I refuse to let this experience scare off other

women who dare to take risks, who dare to step into this light, and who dare to be powerful.

It might feel like they have won in the short term, but they can't in the long term. We cannot let them.

The way to overcome this setback is for women to keep showing up, to keep running for office, and to keep stepping up as leaders; because the more we show up, the less power they have.

I am leaving, but we have men who have been credibly accused of intentional acts of sexual violence and remain in boardrooms, on the Supreme Court, in this very body, and, worst of all, in the Oval Office.

So, the fight goes on to create the change that every woman and girl in this country deserves. Here in the Halls of Congress, the fight will go on without me.

I trust so many of my colleagues to be strong on this front while I move on to one of the many other battlefields, because we have an entire culture that has to change, and we see it in stark clarity today:

The forces of revenge by a bitter, jealous man, cyber exploitation and sexual shaming that target our gender, and a large segment of society that fears and hates powerful women have combined to push a young woman out of power and say that she doesn't belong here; yet a man who brags about his sexual predation, who has had dozens of women come forward to accuse him of sexual assault, who pushes policies that are uniquely harmful to women, and who has filled the courts with judges who proudly rule to deprive women of the most fundamental right to control their own bodies sits in the highest office of the land.

And so today, as my last vote, I voted on impeachment proceedings, not just because of corruption, obstruction of justice, or gross misconduct, but because of the deepest abuse of power, including the abuse of power over women.

Today, as my final act, I voted to move forward with the impeachment of Donald Trump on behalf of the women of the United States of America. We will not stand down; we will not be broken; and we will not be silenced. We will rise, and we will make tomorrow better than today.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time for now, but not forever.

ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2019, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to be here on the floor of the House of Representatives this 502nd anniversary of Reformation Day.

Madam Speaker, prior to discussing immigration policy and the other issues of the day, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON).

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his leadership on the Budget Committee, and I thank him for his patriotism, his love of this country, and for his desire to do what is right for our country, first and foremost.

Madam Speaker, today was a sad day, I believe, for our country. We have got, now, round two of this phony impeachment process.

It is purely political. It is not based in facts, not based in the pursuit of truth and justice. There is no openness; there is no fairness; and there is, really, no credibility.

The American people are not buying this bologna, not a single bit.

That is why we are seeing round two of putting lipstick on a pig, as we say in Texas. But, listen, the nature of this phony process is what it is, no matter how you dress it up.

It is sad because we are allowing this institution to be degraded. We are making a mockery out of this Chamber, the serious business of this country, and the serious nature of impeachment.

I would say, first and foremost, that the claim that this President has committed a high crime, treason, or impeachable offense is absurd, really.

From the outset, I would say that this is a baseless claim that only first-hand knowledge, the only primary source of evidence, is his conversation with President Zelensky. Unlike the cherry-picked leaks from Chairman SCHIFF, he let it be known what he said, what their conversation was about, in the full sunshine, for all the public to see.

And it was clear that the President not only didn't have a quid pro quo, the President not only didn't commit some impeachable offense, for heaven's sake, he was ensuring that taxpayer dollars, as the fiduciary, the chief fiduciary of this country, weren't going to be wasted or abused or misspent on anything except for what they were intended for and that every stone would be turned over to root out graft and corruption.

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Now, that is not just appropriate; that is to be commended for any chief executive, especially for our President.

I think that this process is purely political and aimed, again, not at truth and justice, but at a distraction from what is not happening on trade, on prescription drugs, and a whole host of things that we have to address if we are going to have a real impact on our fellow countrymen and move this country forward.

I think it is a distraction from the socialist policies that have been advanced through this Chamber that have no chance of having any real effect on mainstream America.

I think, ultimately, it is to discredit this President; and instead of actually doing battle for hearts and minds the old-fashioned way in the public squares and at the ballot box, they are doing it

by weaponizing this serious constitutional provision of impeachment.

Again, it is a sad day. But what I would say in closing, to my dear friend from Wisconsin, is that it is one thing to take the oxygen out of this Chamber for actually doing things that are going to have a real impact and make a real difference in the lives of our fellow Americans, it is one thing to take this President down yet another rabbit hole, another Russian collusion hoax, but another thing to do irreparable harm to our democracy.

The Presidency, how is it ever going to be the same after this? How will a President ever have a phone call with a foreign leader where they can have the candor that is necessary to build relationships and to do the people's business.

Madam Speaker, I say to my fellow Americans: This isn't about truth and justice. This is about fear and hate, hate for our President and for what he stands for, for his agenda, and fear that they can't beat him at the ballot box, so they are going to do it by weaponizing our congressional oversight responsibility and abusing the power of this great institution for their political objectives. I say that is wholly un-American.

For my children's sake, they are doing irreparable harm to not only the Presidency, but to all of our democratic institutions. If you lose that, you lose the ability to govern, Republican or Democrat; you lose the ability to govern functionally for the American people.

What a sad day. History will judge cruelly those who participated in this instead of doing it the old-fashioned American way, from house to house in the neighborhoods, in the public squares, and at the ballot box.

God save our great country, and God help us all if this political railroad job and farce continues any longer.

I thank my friend from Wisconsin for yielding to me. I am grateful for the opportunity.

God bless America, and go, West Texas.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

I realized that a lot of what has been said here the last few days focuses on an impeachment inquiry, and one has to ask oneself why we have so many people who have been wanting to try to impeach President Trump immediately.

It was, obviously, a very important vote today, but it is the fourth vote I have taken, I believe, since President Trump has been sworn in on impeachment. So far, nothing has turned up. I don't expect anything to turn up in the future.

But I think one of the motivations for this impeachment inquiry is to keep other stories off the page, to keep other stories out of the mainstream media. And that is why, today, I want to address what I think is the biggest threat to America in the short term

and a threat, unless we deal with it, which will ultimately destroy our country, and that is the threat of illegal immigration, of people flowing across the southern border.

I have been at the southern border three times this year to see for myself what Border Patrol and other people in charge of securing our border have to put up with, and I would like to say that they have done a tremendous job.

Yesterday, in this building, while so many people were focused on the impeachment inquiry, we had a hearing in the subcommittee of the Oversight and Reform Committee in which Ken Cuccinelli, the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services office head, and Matthew Albence, Acting Director of ICE, were testifying before our subcommittee.

It was interesting, the appalling comments that they had to put up with from Members of this House, being called white supremacists, just doing their job trying to secure the border. Those are the type of things that every American should be aware of what is going on in this building.

But I would like to update people on the good job that President Trump has been able to do in the last 6 months, why he has been able to do this job, and the hatred which it has brought our President.

In May, over 145,000 people were processed trying to get into this country, and we allowed over 100,000 people in this country.

About a year ago, there was a study put out by MIT and Yale which increased the estimated number of people in this country illegally from 10 to 11 million to 20 to 22 million people. That is a lot of people.

Obviously, we could not forever go on, May after May after May, in which 100,000 people were allowed in this country.

That, by the way, is in addition to people who sneak in the country without being detected because we have no wall and we have not adequately funded our Border Patrol. I think experts believe another 10,000 people probably came in, at least 10,000 came into this country in May undetected.

Since that time, President Trump has reached agreements with Mexico, in part by threatening tariffs, in part by just general suasion, and we have reduced the number of people coming into this country from over 100,000 in May to, I am told by the Border Patrol, perhaps under 5,000 in September after processing 40,000 to 50,000. This is because President Trump reached an agreement with Mexico that they will hold asylum seekers down there.

He has reached out and reached agreements or received help from Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, in addition to Mexico, in not only keeping more of their citizens there, but if people try to leave other countries for asylum, more are being kept in places like Mexico, El Salvador, and Honduras.

I want to point out, too, that this is not something that Congress helped

him with. These are things that he has had to do on his own.

There are other things that he is trying to do that Congress should be taking up, but isn't.

He has been trying to keep people from coming into this country if they are a public charge. We have enough people who we are taking care of in our country—some through their own fault, some through no fault of their own—on various welfare programs.

President Trump tried to say: Hey, we will maybe take people who are working. We will take people who want to come here legally. But courts, including a prominent judge appointed by President Clinton, struck that down. So President Trump was denied the opportunity to prevent people from coming here who are going to be a public charge.

President Trump is still waiting—and I hope he does—to do something about birthright citizenship, another situation that I saw when I was on the border in which, obviously, America, being 1 of only 2 of the 40 wealthiest countries in the world to say, if you have a child here, you get to be a citizen.

His Border Patrol has been acting with inadequate funding. They have had, up until recently, 2,000 vacancies. They could use more people in addition to that.

We are in the process of building 500 miles of wall. It is not going to be enough. But we like to believe we are going to be able to get that done by the end of December.

But, in any event, after doing all of these actions, we have done a much better job—I would say the best job we have had in years—of holding down the number of immigrants in this country.

Like I said, the sad thing is, largely, this is President Trump acting on his own while Congress tries to remove the immigration crisis from the headlines by spending day after day talking about impeachment, trying to chase some rumor down, or maybe somebody operating under the guidance of a Congressman making charges against President Trump.

But I will just ask the American public to keep their eye on the ball, and that ball is immigration. We cannot go back to the days of 100,000 people being allowed in this country every month.

We have to make sure that the policies that President Trump has implemented in the last 5 months continue to be implemented.

We have to demand from Congress action on the variety of things that they should be doing instead of filling up the press with stories on impeachment.

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

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1678. An Act to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances

around the world; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs; in addition, to the Committee on Ways and Means for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 10 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, November 1, 2019, at 1 p.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

2810. A letter from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Company-Run Stress Testing Requirements for FDIC-Supervised State Nonmember Banks and State Savings Associations (RIN: 3064-AE84) received October 30, 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.

2811. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Restricting Additional Exports and Reexports to Cuba [Docket No.: 191011-0062] (RIN: 0694-AH90) received October 30, 2019, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

2812. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2018-0030; FF09M21200-189-FXMB1231099BPP0] (RIN: 1018-BD10) received October 29, 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.

2813. A letter from the Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2019-20 Season [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2018-0030; FF09M21200-189-FXMB1231099BPP0] (RIN: 1018-BD10) received October 29, 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.

2814. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Delisting and Foreign Species, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Foskett Speckled Dace From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife [Docket No.: FWS-R1-ES-2017-0051; FXES11130900000-178-FF09E42000] (RIN: 1018-BC09) received October 29, 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.

2815. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing Policy and Support, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior,

transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Interagency Cooperation [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-ES-2018-0009; FXES11140900000-189-FF09E300000; Docket No.: 180207140-8140-01; 4500090023] (RIN: 0648-BH41; 1018-BC87) received October 29, 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.

2816. A letter from the National Species Status Assessment Team Lead, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Barrens Topminnow [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2017-0094; 4500030113] (RIN: 1018-BC52) received October 29, 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.

2817. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Delisting and Foreign Species, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Kirtland's Warbler From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife [Docket No.: FWS-R3-ES-2018-0005; FXES11130900000] (RIN: 1018-BC01) received October 29, 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.

2818. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Delisting and Foreign Species, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Monito Gecko (*Sphaerodactylus micropithecus*) From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2017-0082; FXES11130900000C2-178-FF09E42000] (RIN: 1018-BB76) received October 29, 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.

2819. A letter from the Branch Chief, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2018-0030; FF09M21200-189-FXMB1231099BPP0] (RIN: 1018-BD10) received October 29, 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.

2820. A letter from the Branch Chief, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Migratory Bird Permits; Regulations Concerning a Depredation Order [Docket Number: FWS-HQ-MB-2018-0225; FF09M29000-190-FXMB12320900000] (RIN: 1018-BB77) received October 29, 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.

2821. A letter from the Supervisory Regulations Specialist, Office of Subsistence Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska-2019-20 and 2020-21 Subsistence Taking of Fish Regulations [Docket No.: FWS-R7-SM-2017-0096; FXFR13350700640-190-FF07J00000; FBMS #4500133004] (RIN: 1018-BC06) received October 29, 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.

2822. A letter from the Supervisory Regulations Specialist, Office of Subsistence Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, De-

partment of the Interior, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska-Cook Inlet Area Regulations [Docket No.: FWS-R7-SM-2018-0003; FXFR13350700640-190-FF07J00000; FBMS# 4500133005] (RIN: 1018-BB99) received October 29, 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.

2823. A letter from the Fish and Wildlife Administrator, Policy Lead, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Financial Assistance: Wildlife Restoration, Sport Fish Restoration, Hunter Education and Safety [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-WSR-2017-0002; 91400-5110-POLI-7B; 91400-9410-POLI-7B] (RIN: 1018-BA33) received October 29, 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.

2824. 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; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Less Than 50 Feet Length Overall Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 180831813-9170-02] (RIN: 0648-XY024) received October 30, 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.

2825. 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; Pacific Cod in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 180831813-9170-02] (RIN: 0648-XY047) received October 30, 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.

2826. 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; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Central Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 180831813-9170-02] (RIN: 0648-XY022) received October 30, 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.

2827. 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; Reallocation of Atka Mackerel in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area [Docket No.: 180713633-9174-02] (RIN: 0648-XY040) received October 30, 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.

2828. A letter from the Director, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Center for Innovation for Care and Payment (RIN: 2900-AQ56) received October 30, 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.

2829. A letter from the Director RMD, RD Innovation Center, Rural Development, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rural Development Environmental Regulation for Rural

Infrastructure [RUS-18-Agency-0005, RBS-18-None-0029, RHS-18-None-0026] (RIN: 0572-AC44) received October 30, 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 Agriculture and Financial Services.

2830. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Administrative Simplification: Rescinding the Adoption of the Standard Unique Health Plan Identifier and Other Entity Identifier [CMS-0054-F] (RIN: 0938-AT42) received October 29, 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 Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 35. A bill to amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a hate crime act (Rept. 116-267). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

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 Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself and Mr. CISNEROS):

H.R. 4936. A bill to establish a grant program to provide temporary housing to homeless individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 4937. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to make permanent a grant program to promote and assist in the reentry of justice-involved individuals into the workforce; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. SEWELL of Alabama (for herself, Mr. NUNES, Mr. WELCH, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 4938. A bill to amend title XVIII to strengthen ambulance services furnished under part B of the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BACON (for himself and Mr. CISNEROS):

H.R. 4939. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to combat straw purchases of firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FLORES:

H.R. 4940. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation's first statewide investigative law enforcement agency, the Ranger Division of the Texas Department of Public Safety; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. KIM (for himself, Mr. COOK, and Mr. CISNEROS):

H.R. 4941. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the Transition Assistance Program by allowing certain veterans' service organizations to contact veterans regarding benefits and to better inform

veterans of employment opportunities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' 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. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 4942. A bill to direct the Transportation Security Administration to develop and disseminate best practices for rental companies and dealers to report suspicious behavior to law enforcement agencies at the point of sale of a covered rental vehicle to prevent and mitigate acts of terrorism using motor vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mrs. MURPHY of Florida (for herself and Mr. DIAZ-BALART):

H.R. 4943. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide that children who have relocated from Puerto Rico to the States are fully considered for purposes of State allotments under the English Language Acquisition grants; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 4944. A bill to require the Small Business Administration to issue licenses under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 within particular time frames, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. GRIFFITH (for himself, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SOTO, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut):

H.R. 4945. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exclude ventilators from competitive acquisition programs under the Medicare program for 5 years, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. GRIFFITH, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. PETERSON):

H.R. 4946. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure equal access of Medicare beneficiaries to community pharmacies in underserved areas as network pharmacies under Medicare prescription drug coverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 4947. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the deduction for qualified business income, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. MEADOWS):

H.R. 4948. A bill to provide for the effective use of immigration detainers to enhance public safety; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOST (for himself, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. CALVERT, and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 4949. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish qualifications for the human resources positions within the Veterans Health Administration of the De-

partment of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BUDD (for himself and Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina):

H.R. 4950. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to conduct a study on Federal data collection related to student participation and performance in career and technical education programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. CARTER of Texas:

H.R. 4951. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to strengthen school security; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. CHENEY:

H.R. 4952. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations to revise title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, to require an air carrier to permit eligible service animals to accompany eligible veterans during travel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself and Mr. HOLDING):

H.R. 4953. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the tax rate for excise tax on investment income of private foundations; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4954. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Act of 1986 to strengthen the earned income tax credit and expand eligibility for childless individuals, homeless youth, and qualified foster youth; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ENGEL (for himself, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. HUDSON):

H.R. 4955. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the meaning of a new chemical entity; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. FOXX of North Carolina (for herself and Mrs. WAGNER):

H.R. 4956. A bill to provide that the Executive order entitled "Establishing a White House Council on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing" shall have the force and effect of law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GALLEGRO (for himself and Mr. COOK):

H.R. 4957. A bill to amend the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GOHMERT:

H.R. 4958. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to tax bona fide residents of the District of Columbia in the same manner as bona fide residents of possessions of the United States; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma (for himself, Mr. BANKS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROY, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. UPTON, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. GREEN of Tennessee):

H.R. 4959. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide for cost estimates of major legislation; to the Committee on Rules, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HILL of Arkansas (for himself, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. CHABOT):

H.R. 4960. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to conduct an assessment and analysis relating to the decline in the business formation rate in the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Ms. TLAI, and Ms. BARRAGAN):

H.R. 4961. A bill to limit financial support for certain international energy projects; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, and 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. KATKO (for himself and Miss RICE of New York):

H.R. 4962. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to award grants for cybersecurity curriculum for secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KATKO (for himself, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 4963. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify how controlled substance analogues that are imported or offered for import are to be regulated, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4964. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the employer credit for paid family and medical leave, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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. POCAN (for himself, Mr. ESPALLAT, Mr. SIRE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. LAMB, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. SOTO, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. HAALAND, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. KILMER, Mr. EVANS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. SABLAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CROW, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. ROSE of New York, and Mr. LOWENTHAL):

H.R. 4965. A bill to promote effective registered apprenticeships, for skills, credentials, and employment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 4966. A bill to require the chief executive officers of global systemically important bank holding companies to provide annual testimony to Congress, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. HOYER, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. TRONE, Ms. WEXTON, and Mr. BEYER):

H.R. 4967. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to re-

store and protect the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, 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. TORRES of California (for herself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. VARGAS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 4968. A bill to provide for the basic needs of students at institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico (for herself, Mr. LUJÁN, and Ms. HAALAND):

H.R. 4969. A bill to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Las Cruces, New Mexico, as the "Las Cruces Bataan Memorial Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 4970. A bill to restrict the authority of the Attorney General to enter into contracts for Federal correctional facilities and community confinement facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WEXTON (for herself, Mr. BEYER, Mr. CLINE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. MCEACHIN, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Ms. SPANBERGER):

H.R. 4971. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15 East Market Street in Leesburg, Virginia, as the "Norman Duncan Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. GABBARD:

H. Con. Res. 70. Concurrent resolution directing the President pursuant to section 5(c) of the War Powers Resolution to remove United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Syrian Arab Republic that have not been authorized by Congress; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HASTINGS (for himself and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H. Con. Res. 71. 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. COLE:

H. Res. 668. A resolution providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 660) directing certain committees to continue their ongoing investigations as part of the existing House of Representatives inquiry into whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its Constitutional power to impeach Donald John Trump, President of the United States of America, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. YARMUTH (for himself, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Ms. TITUS):

H. Res. 669. A resolution expressing support for designation of the week of November 3 through 9, 2019, as National Family Service Learning Week; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H. Res. 670. A resolution commemorating the 30th annual event of the All Souls Pro-

cession in Tucson, Arizona, and calling for an end to migrant deaths along the United States-Mexico border; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CLEAVER:

H. Res. 671. A resolution urging the United Arab Emirates to immediately end any activities enabling money laundering in violation of United States sanctions against Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. KEATING, Mr. SIRE, Mr. PENCE, Mr. GOODEN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. ROONEY of Florida, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. HECK, Mr. TURNER, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina):

H. Res. 672. A resolution expressing support of the Three Seas Initiative in its efforts to increase energy independence and infrastructure connectivity thereby strengthening the United States and European national security; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself, Mrs. WAGNER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mrs. LESKO, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. PANETTA, and Ms. MENG):

H. Res. 673. A resolution expressing appreciation during "National Domestic Violence Awareness Month" to all providers working tirelessly to educate communities, provide shelter and assistance to victims, and end the scourge of domestic violence; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H. Res. 674. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the achievements of Edgar Ricardo Arjona Morales, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. WALKER (for himself, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. WILLIAMS, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. RIGGLEMAN, Mr. DAVID P. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. BANKS, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GUEST, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. EMMER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. SPANO, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. COMER, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. WRIGHT, Mr. BABIN, Mr. GOODEN, and Mr. MULLIN):

H. Res. 675. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that socialist proposals such as Medicare for All, student loan forgiveness, and the Green New Deal with a guaranteed job for all, are antithetical to American foundational values of self-responsibility and opportunity, and by guaranteeing these programs as "rights", we risk abandoning our actual rights; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

PRIVATE BILLS AND
RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

Miss RICE of New York introduced A bill (H.R. 4972) for the relief of Ted Simonson and Reoforce, Inc; 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 Mrs. NAPOLITANO:

H.R. 4936.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. SMUCKER:

H.R. 4937.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 3 of section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution.

By Ms. SEWELL of Alabama:

H.R. 4938.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Sec. 8, Clause 18

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 4939.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution, which gives Congress the power "to regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes."

By Mr. FLORES:

H.R. 4940.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 5 of the Constitution of the United States:

The Congress shall have Power to coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

By Mr. KIM:

H.R. 4941.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GOTTHEIMER:

H.R. 4942.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

section 8 of article I of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. MURPHY of Florida:

H.R. 4943.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, which provides Congress with the power to regulate commerce among the several states, the power to promote the progress of science and the useful arts, and the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the foregoing powers.

By Mr. BURCHETT:

H.R. 4944.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV,

Section 3, Clause 2. The Congress shall have Power to dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory or other Property belonging to the

United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to Prejudice any Claims of the United States, or of any particular State.

By Mr. GRIFFITH:

H.R. 4945.

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, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 4946.

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. BIGGS:

H.R. 4947.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina:

H.R. 4948.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 of the Constitution

By Mr. BOST:

H.R.. 4949.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Mr. BUDD:

H.R. 4950.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. CARTER of Texas:

H.R. 4951.

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 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. CHENEY:

H.R. 4952.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4953.

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. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 4954.

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. 4955.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Ms. FOXX of North Carolina:

H.R. 4956.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. GALLEGRO:

H.R. 4957.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. GOHMERT:

H.R. 4958.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, US Constitution:

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings

By Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma:

H.R. 4959.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

By Mr. HILL of Arkansas:

H.R. 4960.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 4961.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Impost and Excises; to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. KATKO:

H.R. 4962.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8: The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States

By Mr. KATKO:

H.R. 4963.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:

H .R. 4964.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Article I Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. POCAN:

H.R. 4965.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. PRESSLEY:

H.R. 4966.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:

H.R. 4967.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. TORRES of California:

H.R. 4968.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article 1: Section 8: Clause 18: of the United States Constitution, seen below, this bill falls within the Constitutional Authority of the United States Congress.

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 this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico:

H.R. 4969.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:

H.R. 4970.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. WEXTON:

H.R. 4971.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, clause 7

By Miss. RICE of New York:

H.R. 4972.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 3: Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. PERLMUTTER, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

H.R. 35: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 40: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 180: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 230: Mr. LEWIS.

H.R. 566: Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 838: Mr. MEEKS and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

H.R. 849: Mr. LANGEVIN and Mr. CASTEN of Illinois.

H.R. 935: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.

H.R. 1043: Mr. CUNNINGHAM and Mr. JOHN-SON of Ohio.

H.R. 1049: Mr. LYNCH.

H.R. 1092: Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1110: Mr. WRIGHT.

H.R. 1133: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.

H.R. 1155: Mr. PENCE.

H.R. 1171: Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 1175: Mr. RICHMOND.

H.R. 1188: Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 1254: Ms. WEXTON.

H.R. 1257: Mr. RUTHERFORD.

H.R. 1289: Ms. MATSUI.

H.R. 1309: Mr. RICHMOND and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.

H.R. 1367: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.

H.R. 1383: Mr. OLSON.

H.R. 1418: Mr. SCHRADER.

H.R. 1468: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 1498: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. DEAN, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 1528: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 1652: Mr. SCHRADER, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. CORREA, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. EVANS, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 1673: Mr. HARRIS.

H.R. 1680: Ms. SCANLON, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. FERGUSON, and Mr. BYRNE.

H.R. 1705: Mrs. LAWRENCE.

H.R. 1748: Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. CROW, Mr. VIS-CLOSKY, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, and Mr. KEATING.

H.R. 1754: Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. KIND, Ms. BASS, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.

H.R. 1765: Mr. MCKINLEY.

H.R. 1777: Ms. MENG.

H.R. 1923: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

H.R. 2051: Mr. SUOZZI.

H.R. 2075: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.

H.R. 2086: Mrs. LURIA.

H.R. 2117: Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.

H.R. 2147: Mr. KILDEE, Ms. MOORE, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Mr. CALVERT.

H.R. 2210: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 2222: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 2235: Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2279: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. NEGUSE, and Mr. KENNEDY.

H.R. 2283: Mr. LEWIS.

H.R. 2301: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 2411: Ms. SPANBERGER and Mr. COMER.

H.R. 2433: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 2498: Ms. SEWELL of Alabama.

H.R. 2501: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 2521: Mr. SOTO, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. BUCSHON, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 2584: Mr. OLSON and Mr. HICE of Georgia.

H.R. 2645: Ms. SUOZZI LEE.

H.R. 2653: Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 2656: Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 2668: Mr. YOUNG and Ms. FINKENAUER. H.R. 2693: Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, and Mr. ARRINGTON.

H.R. 2746: Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico.

H.R. 2747: Ms. SPEIER and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2788: Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 2802: Ms. FINKENAUER and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 2825: Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 2862: Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 2867: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 2985: Mr. NUNES and Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 2986: Mr. LEWIS and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 2990: Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. NORMAN, Ms. STEVENS, and Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

H.R. 3048: Mr. SMITH of Missouri.

H.R. 3062: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.

H.R. 3080: Mr. BRINDISI and Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 3127: Mr. WELCH and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.

H.R. 3138: Mr. NORCROSS.

H.R. 3155: Mr. GAETZ, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. WALTZ, Mr. HOLLINGSWORTH, Mr. PERRY, Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. HURD of Texas, Mrs. ROBY, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. KATKO, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. REED, Mr. PENCE, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. PETERSON, Mr. HOLDING, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BUCHANAN, and Mr. RESCIENTHALER.

H.R. 3157: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 3165: Mr. DOGGETT and Ms. STEVENS.

H.R. 3166: Mrs. BUSTOS and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 3192: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 3195: Ms. GARCIA of Texas and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 3212: Mr. TED LIEU of California and Mr. ESPAILLAT.

H.R. 3214: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 3224: Ms. MENG, Ms. GABBARD, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. MOORE, Mr. CUELLAR, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 3235: Mr. ROUDA.

H.R. 3250: Mr. VARGAS.

H.R. 3328: Ms. TLAIB and Mrs. DAVIS of California.

H.R. 3461: Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 3495: Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma, and Mrs. MCBATH.

H.R. 3497: Mr. STEIL, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. BACON, Mr. KIND, Mr. WENSTRUP, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mrs. LURIA.

H.R. 3502: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.

H.R. 3516: Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL.

H.R. 3584: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma and Mr. DEFazio.

H.R. 3598: Mr. CARBAJAL and Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas.

H.R. 3637: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 3654: Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 3657: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York and Mr. BACON.

H.R. 3708: Ms. SCHRIER.

H.R. 3762: Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. NEWHOUSE, and Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 3772: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 3801: Ms. HAALAND.

H.R. 3814: Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 3836: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 3910: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

H.R. 3911: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 3934: Mr. HICE of Georgia.

H.R. 3957: Mr. RICHMOND and Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 3961: Mr. TED LIEU of California.

H.R. 3969: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 4019: Mrs. DAVIS of California.

H.R. 4065: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 4104: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 4138: Mr. GALLAGHER.

H.R. 4148: Mr. MEEKS.

H.R. 4162: Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 4189: Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

H.R. 4194: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. SCHNEIDER, and Mrs. NAPOLITANO.

H.R. 4206: Mr. CARSON of Indiana.

H.R. 4230: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 4266: Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 4269: Mr. SARBANES.

H.R. 4304: Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia.

H.R. 4347: Mr. KIND.

H.R. 4426: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COOPER, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. VELA, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. SHALALA, Mr. TRONE, and Ms. STEFANIK.

H.R. 4438: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 4524: Mr. PAPPAS.

H.R. 4540: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 4547: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 4553: Mr. STEIL.

H.R. 4607: Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 4640: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 4665: Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 4681: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 4684: Ms. JACKSON LEE.

H.R. 4691: Mr. SHERMAN.

H.R. 4697: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 4707: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 4708: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 4709: Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 4719: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 4724: Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BASS, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ.

H.R. 4777: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 4779: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 4782: Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico and Ms. SLOTKIN.

H.R. 4789: Mr. MEADOWS.

H.R. 4790: Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma.

H.R. 4807: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 4823: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. TLAIB, and Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 4890: Mr. RUSH, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. MOORE, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 4914: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H.R. 4924: Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 4928: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.J. Res. 76: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
 H. Con. Res. 10: Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma and Mr. STEUBE.
 H. Con. Res. 43: Mr. POCAN.
 H. Res. 54: Mr. SENSENBRENNER and Mr. YOHIO.
 H. Res. 250: Mr. PHILLIPS.
 H. Res. 255: Mr. SCALISE and Mr. BANKS.
 H. Res. 399: Mr. TONKO.
 H. Res. 517: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
 H. Res. 540: Ms. ESHOO, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. DEAN, Mr. CASE, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. TRONE,

Mr. MEEKS, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. AGUILAR, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. BASS, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mrs. LURIA, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. WILD, Ms. SHALALA, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. CASTEN of Illinois, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. KENDRA S. HORN of Oklahoma, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. MALINOWSKI, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
 H. Res. 621: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
 H. Res. 641: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. OMAR, Ms. NORTON, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

H. Res. 649: Mr. LEWIS and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.

DELETIONS 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. 2505: Mr. WESTERMAN, Ms. TORRES SMALL of New Mexico, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Mr. WELCH.



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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 116th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 165

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2019

No. 173

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Most High God, Your steadfast love endures throughout the generations. Your faithfulness sustains the seasons of our earthly pilgrimage. You are worthy of our praise.

Infuse our lawmakers with reverential awe, as they remember You are the one constituent they absolutely must please. Because of You, they live and move and breathe and have their being. Although they may plan, You alone decide what will or will not prevail. May our Senators make You their refuge, their shelter in the time of storms.

And Lord, we thank You for the inspiration of a stupendous World Series.

We pray in Your glorious Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 90 seconds.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, today is Halloween. This may sound a little "candy corny," but this Iowan wants to talk about the scary prices of prescription drugs.

Since January, I have joined with bipartisan forces to drive a stake in the

heart of ghoulish price-gouging. Senator WYDEN and I are working to shut down the pranks poisoning the drug supply chain. We need our fellow lawmakers to step up and nail the coffin shut on monstrous drug price increases.

One example that can't masquerade as a next-generation drug is the 500-percent increase for insulin, which helps Americans with diabetes regulate blood sugar. This medicine was discovered 100 years ago, about the time the first horror movie debuted. There is no rhyme or reason for the terrifying price hikes spooking Americans.

The real horror story this Halloween is what is preventing Congress from doing its job. Big Pharma is spending a frightening amount of money to kill drug-pricing reforms.

Let's fix the real injustice haunting the American people, which is sticker shock at the pharmacy counter. Every Senator can be a superhero for Halloween. All you have to do is join us to dig a grave for batty prescription drug prices. Ending Big Pharma's pricing tricks would be a real treat for Americans.

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. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONGRATULATING THE WASHINGTON NATIONALS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, to lead off, I would certainly be remiss not to congratulate the 2019 World Series champions, the Washington Nationals. This year, our national pastime came down to a dramatic finish. The Nationals and the Astros traded

blows right up until the final innings of game seven.

For the first time ever, the away team won all seven games of the series. And now Stephen Strasburg, Max Scherzer, Anthony Rendon, Juan Soto, and the rest of the 2019 Nationals are bringing a World Series trophy here to the Nation's Capital for the first time since 1924. Back then, of course, the home team was officially the Washington Senators, although still often called the Nationals. That is a distinguished name for a team.

This squad has to be hands-down the most athletic, most resilient, most team-spirited bunch of ballplayers certainly this city has ever had. These remarkable players; their manager, Dave Martinez; the Nationals' front office; and the team's owners, the Lerner family—and I particularly want to mention Ted Lerner, the patriarch, who is 94 years old. Many people thought he might not be around to see the Washington Nationals' first championship, but he was. He is a great owner, a great friend of the city, and it was fun to see him after the game revel in this great accomplishment. They achieved, actually, a small miracle. For a couple of weeks, they gave us something that all of Washington, DC, could unite around—a miracle indeed. It is something we can use around here these days. Congratulations to the champions.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, on another matter, later today we are going to vote on something that should not be controversial: funding for our national defense, for supporting servicemembers and their families, for sustaining American global leadership and strategic edge. This vital priority is not something that can take a back seat to partisan dysfunction.

Our men and women in uniform don't get to go on sabbatical while they wait

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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for Congress to get its act together. They have to stay vigilant, remain in harm's way, and stay at their posts.

Our military commanders don't get to put critical overseas operations on pause until Washington does its job. Their objectives loom large whether or not we give them a predictable planning foundation.

Russia, China, and Iran will certainly not take a water break if uncertainty leaves our Nation flat-footed. They will keep growing their defense spending and seeking to expand their influence.

I had hoped our Democratic friends would be able to put impeachment aside long enough to at least fund the Department of Defense. We had heard public pronouncements from Speaker PELOSI and my colleague the Democratic leader that they intended to work with us on substantial legislation. If anything qualifies as substantial legislation, it is this. It meets the Pentagon's request for targeted investments in the U.S. military of the future. There are new resources for expanded missile defense capabilities, trauma training, fleet maintenance, and key partnerships with allies around the world.

But, alas, the Democratic leader announced at a press conference Tuesday that he plans to filibuster the annual funding for our Armed Forces. This would put our colleagues across the aisle in quite an unusual position. The same Democrats who have recently rediscovered hawkish-sounding positions on Syria and the Middle East are really going to filibuster \$745 million for the Counter-ISIS Train and Equip Fund, for Iraq and for Syria, and filibuster all the other broader funding of our Armed Forces? Really? The same Democrats whose latest effort to impeach the President hinges on delayed military assistance to Ukraine are themselves—themselves—going to filibuster funding for the exact same program, the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative? Really? It looks like it. The Democratic Party is too busy impeaching President Trump for supposedly slow-walking assistance for Ukraine to fund the exact same program themselves?

These are political gymnastics performed at an Olympic level—at an Olympic level. The core message here is hard to miss: Our Democratic colleagues have a priority list. Picking fights with the White House is priority No. 1. And our men and women in uniform fall somewhat further down.

It does not have to be this way. Even in a time as politically charged as an impeachment inquiry, it doesn't have to be this way. Back in 1998, just days before the Republican House began its impeachment inquiry into President Clinton, the House and the Senate passed a regular appropriations bill.

Then, some weeks later, even after the inquiry was underway, both Chambers were still able to pass more bills to address the fundamental business of funding the government, and President

Clinton signed it into law during the impeachment.

So if Democrats follow through on their threat to filibuster the Defense funding later today, they will frankly be making even the 1998 impeachment period look like a clinic—a clinic—in bipartisan cooperation.

A Democratic filibuster of Defense funding is not the vote the military families and military installations in their home States deserve. It is not the vote our commanders deserve, and it is not the vote our national security deserves.

IMPEACHMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, now, on a related matter, speaking of past precedent, I understand this morning House Democrats will finally cast their first impeachment vote on an impeachment resolution, which I understand they are afraid to actually call an impeachment resolution.

As I mentioned yesterday, Democrats' draft does not even come close to restoring the kinds of customary due process rights and protections that past impeachment inquiries included, either for President Trump or for their own Republican colleagues in the minority.

Here is what their resolution announced today. This is basically what it says: "No due process now . . . but maybe some later . . . if we feel like it." It says: "No due process now . . . but maybe some later . . . if we feel like it." This is not a fair way to treat any American, and it certainly is no way to conduct something as grave as an impeachment process, which seeks to overturn the American people's choice in a democratic election.

I hope the House of Representatives sees the light and steps away from their unfair and arbitrary process.

TURKEY AND SYRIA

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, now, on another matter, many of us have been concerned for some time about the trajectory of our strategically important NATO ally Turkey under the leadership of President Erdogan.

Despite the hopes of the Obama administration and others that he would be a model of Islamic democracy, Erdogan has instead used democracy to work toward undemocratic ends. Freedom of the press, secularism, and human rights have suffered under his rule, while corruption has flourished. Opposition to Erdogan is growing, but the political space for Turks to express their opposition is shrinking.

Obviously, in recent days, our concerns have centered on Turkey's incursion into northeast Syria. We are angry about the damage Turkey has caused for our local Kurdish partners in Syria.

I have spoken at length about my concerns on Turkey's incursion and my

opposition to withdrawing U.S. forces from Syria, but I believe we need to be guided by our strategic interests, not emotions, as we seek to contain the damage of Turkey's incursion, peel Ankara away from Moscow, and encourage better behavior at home and abroad by Erdogan's government.

I hope we will carefully consider all of our options to achieve these important objectives and carefully examine whether a broad mandatory sanctions bill is really the best solution.

We should think carefully about what specific effect we want sanctions to have, how Turkey will respond to them, and how Russia or others may exploit growing tensions between Washington and Ankara.

Before targeting an economy that is highly integrated with Europe's economy, we should seek a better understanding of the specific economic impact that broad sanctions will have on the global economy, on our European partners, and on American workers and job creators. We should reflect on whether we would be better off working in concert with European allies to shape Turkey's behavior versus abruptly forcing European companies to cut ties with Turkey through the threat of sanctions.

Before using these kinds of policy tools—the kinds we use against Iran and North Korea—against a democracy of 80 million people, we should consider the political impact that blunt sanctions will have on the Turkish people. Will sanctions rally them to our cause or to Erdogan's? Would more targeted sanctions perhaps avoid some of these unintended consequences? These are just some of the critical questions I hope our committees of jurisdiction and the administration are able to examine before we act.

THE MIDDLE EAST

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, now, on one final matter, I have spoken at length in recent weeks about the protests in Hong Kong and the situation in Syria. I would like to close today by recognizing other important developments in the Middle East that, regrettably, haven't received much attention.

Massive protests are underway in Lebanon and Iraq. Millions have taken to the streets to demand more responsive, more transparent, and less sectarian governance, and an end to rampant corruption. By all accounts, these protests are cross-sectarian, directed at an entire class of political leaders who have behaved undemocratically and unethically.

The protests are also directed at Iran. The Islamic Republic has long sought, through proxies like Hezbollah and Iraqi militias, to undermine the sovereignty of Lebanon and Iraq. Now even Shiite communities that have typically been heavily influenced by Iran are demanding politicians represent their interests instead of Tehran's interests.

Unsurprisingly, the Iranian regime is reportedly involved in violently suppressing peaceful protests in Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, and, of course, Iran itself. The mullahs are showing the same fear as the Chinese Communist Party. They are afraid of citizens demanding reform and speaking up for basic freedoms. The United States should stand with the protesters.

The administration should use the tools at its disposal to expose corruption and foreign interference in these nations, impose consequences for violent crackdowns on peaceful protests, and work with the Lebanese and Iraqi leaders who are committed to doing right by their people.

AMENDMENT NO. 1121

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, for the information of the Senate, in the managers' package of amendments that was announced last night, amendment No. 1121 was misidentified as a Murkowski amendment. It is actually an amendment by Senator WHITEHOUSE that Senator MURKOWSKI cosponsored.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Duly noted.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2755

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2755) to require a report on the plan to secure the enduring defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

Mr. McCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will re-

sume consideration of H.R. 3055, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3055) 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.

Pending:

Shelby amendment No. 948, in the nature of a substitute.

McConnell (for Shelby) amendment No. 950, to make a technical correction.

AMENDMENT NOS. 953, 1023, 1037, 1088, AS MODIFIED, 1099, 1121, 1133, 1143, 1149, 1161, 1163, 1217, 1223, 1224, 951, 1077, 1094, 1129, 1146, 1150, 1234, 1025, 1079, 1081, 1151, 1159, 1160, 1162, 1182, 1193, 1199, 1211, 1215, 1220, 1227, 956, 1002, 1005, 1010, 1061, 1062, 1114, 1130, 1214, AND 1235 EN BLOC TO AMENDMENT NO. 948

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to the order of yesterday, the 45 amendments listed in the order are considered and agreed to en bloc and the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table.

The amendments (Nos. 953, 1023, 1037, 1088 As Modified, 1099, 1121, 1133, 1143, 1149, 1161, 1163, 1217, 1223, 1224, 951, 1077, 1094, 1129, 1146, 1150, 1234, 1025, 1079, 1081, 1151, 1159, 1160, 1162, 1182, 1193, 1199, 1211, 1215, 1220, 1227, 956, 1002, 1005, 1010, 1061, 1062, 1114, 1130, 1214, 1235) to Amendment No. 948 were agreed to en bloc as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 953

(Purpose: To provide for the availability of funds for Agricultural Research Service research facilities to provide public access)

On page 129, line 4, strike the period at the end and insert “: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading may be used to provide public access to a river at a research facility of the Agricultural Research Service.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1023

(Purpose: To amend provisions relating to the rental assistance program of the Rural Housing Service)

On page 155, line 10, insert after “one-year period:” the following: “*Provided further*, that upon request by an owner of a project financed by an existing loan under section 514 or 515 of the Act, the Secretary may renew the rental assistance agreement for a period of 20 years or until the term of such loan has expired, subject to annual appropriations:”.

On page 156, line 4, strike “third proviso” and insert “fourth proviso”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1037

(Purpose: To require a study on the economic and environmental impacts of importing orchids in growing media)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to Congress a report that describes the economic and environmental impacts of importing orchids in growing media.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of—
(A) the economic impact of importing orchids in growing media on a State-by-State basis, with data collected from local growers; and
(B) any incidents of pests detected on orchids imported with growing media; and

(2) an analysis with respect to the additional resources that are necessary to pre-

vent and mitigate the introduction of pests resulting from importing orchids in growing media.

AMENDMENT NO. 1088, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide appropriations for centers of excellence at 1890 Institutions, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) There is appropriated \$3,000,000 to carry out section 1673(d) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5926(d)).

(b) The amount made available under the heading “OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY” in title I for necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary shall be reduced by \$3,000,000, which shall be derived by reducing the amount provided under that heading for Departmental Administration by \$3,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1099

(Purpose: To increase the appropriation for the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount made available under the heading “EXTENSION ACTIVITIES” under the heading “NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE” under the heading “AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS” in title I shall be increased by \$5,000,000, which shall be used by increasing by that amount the amount specified for the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network in the table titled “National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Extension Activities” in the report accompanying this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount made available for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer under the heading “OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER” under the heading “AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS” in title I shall be reduced by \$5,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1121

(Purpose: To set aside funding for the ocean agriculture working group)

On page 122, line 19, insert “: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$3,000,000 shall be made available to the Office of the Secretary to carry out the duties of the working group established under section 770 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6; 133 Stat. 89)” before the period at the end.

AMENDMENT NO. 1133

(Purpose: To provide funding for the new beginning for Tribal students program, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) There is appropriated \$5,000,000 to carry out section 1450 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222e).

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount provided under the heading “AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES” under the heading “AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS” in title I shall be reduced by \$5,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1143

(Purpose: To increase the appropriation for rural decentralized water systems)

On page 164, line 21, strike “\$1,500,000” and insert “\$3,000,000”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1149

(Purpose: To require the Secretary of Agriculture to prioritize maintenance and staff needs relating to assistance provided by the Rural Housing Service)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7____. In providing assistance under title V of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1471 et seq.) using amounts made available under title III, the Secretary of Agriculture shall prioritize the maintenance needs for rural housing facilities and staff needs, which shall include prioritizing—

(1) oversight of aging rental housing program properties with capital repair needs;

(2) the needs of staff overseeing the Rural Housing Service and field staff conducting housing inspections; and

(3) enforcement against property owners when those owners fail to make necessary repairs.

AMENDMENT NO. 1161

(Purpose: To increase the appropriation for the distance learning and telemedicine program, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7____. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount appropriated under this Act to the Rural Utilities Service under the heading “DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM” for grants for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas shall be increased by \$1,000,000.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount appropriated under this Act to the Department of Agriculture under the heading “AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES” shall be reduced by \$1,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1163

(Purpose: To provide funding for the emergency and transitional pet shelter and housing assistance grant program, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7____. (a) There is appropriated \$3,000,000 to carry out the emergency and transitional pet shelter and housing assistance grant program established under section 12502(b) of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (34 U.S.C. 20127).

(b) The amount made available under the heading “OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY” in title I for necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary shall be reduced by \$3,000,000, which shall be derived by reducing the amount provided under that heading for Departmental Administration by \$3,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1217

(Purpose: To provide funding for States impacted by Eastern equine encephalitis, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7____. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount appropriated under the heading “SALARIES AND EXPENSES” under the heading “ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE” in title I shall be increased by \$1,000,000, to remain available until expended, which shall be for surveillance, testing, prevention, and research relating to Eastern equine encephalitis in impacted States.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount appropriated under this Act to the Department of Agriculture under the heading “OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER” shall be reduced by \$1,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1223

(Purpose: To provide funding for the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7____. (a) There is appropriated \$5,000,000 to carry out section 222 of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 6923).

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount provided under the heading “AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES” under the heading “AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS” in title I shall be reduced by \$6,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1224

(Purpose: To provide funding for pilot projects to address food insecurity, with an offset)

On page 223, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

SEC. 7____. (a) There is appropriated \$2,000,000 to carry out section 30 of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2036d).

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount provided under the heading “AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES” under the heading “AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS” in title I shall be reduced by \$2,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 951

(Purpose: To require the Attorney General to report to Congress on, and establish a deadline for, the implementation of the Ashanti Alert Act of 2018)

At the appropriate place in division A, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) details the progress of the implementation of the Ashanti Alert Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-401; 132 Stat. 5336) and the amendments made by that Act; and

(2) establishes a deadline for full implementation of that Act and the amendments made by that Act, which shall be not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 1077

(Purpose: To make \$10,000,000 available for the SelectUSA program)

On page 5, line 19, insert “*Provided further*, That, of the amounts provided under this heading, up to \$10,000,000 shall be available for the SelectUSA program:” after “activities:”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1094

(Purpose: To require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration submit to Congress a report on existing supercomputing capacity and needs of the Administration)

On page 17, line 7, before the period, insert the following: “*Provided further*, That the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration submit to Congress a report on existing supercomputing capacity and needs of the Administration and on the incremental improvement to operational weather forecasts that would result from a significant investment in additional compute capacity”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1129

(Purpose: To require that the Secretary of Commerce use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the Bureau of Industry and Security for operations and administration to publish and submit to Congress a report on the findings of the investigation into the effect on national security of imports of automobiles and automotive parts)

At the appropriate place in title I of division A, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Not later than one day after the date of the enactment of this Act, using amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this title for the Bureau of Industry and Security for operations and administration, the Secretary of Commerce shall—

(1) publish in the Federal Register the report on the findings of the investigation into the effect on national security of imports of automobiles and automotive parts that the Secretary initiated on May 23, 2018, under section 232(b) of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (19 U.S.C. 1862(b)), as required under paragraph (3)(B) of that section; and

(2) submit to Congress any portion of the report that contains classified information, which may be viewed only by Members of Congress and their staff with appropriate security clearances.

AMENDMENT NO. 1146

(Purpose: To require the Drug Enforcement Administration to continue to establish and utilize data collection and sharing agreements in order to properly estimate rates of overdose deaths and overall public health impact related to certain controlled substances, for the purpose of determining diversion and establishing annual opioid production quotas)

On page 38, line 18, strike “expenses” and insert the following: “expenses: *Provided*, That, using amounts made available under this heading, the Drug Enforcement Administration shall continue to establish and utilize data collection and sharing agreements with other Federal agencies and continue to consider other sources of information to properly assess the estimated rates of overdose deaths and abuse and the overall public health impact regarding covered controlled substances as required under section 306(i) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 826(i)), and shall report to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act regarding the establishment and utilization of such data collection and sharing agreements”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1150

(Purpose: To increase funding for the COPS Office Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces grant program)

At the appropriate place in title II of division A, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the total amount made available under the heading “COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES PROGRAMS (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)” under the heading “COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES” under the heading “DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE” in this title shall be increased by \$1,000,000, which shall be used by increasing by that amount the amount specified in paragraph (3) under such headings for competitive grants to State law enforcement agencies in States with high seizures of precursor chemicals, finished methamphetamine, laboratories, and laboratory dump seizures.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the total amount made available for necessary expenses for information sharing technology under the heading “JUSTICE

INFORMATION SHARING TECHNOLOGY (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)" under the heading "GENERAL ADMINISTRATION" under the heading "DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE" in this title shall be decreased by \$1,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1234

(Purpose: To require the Attorney General to submit a report on the enforcement of animal welfare laws)

At the appropriate place in title II of division A, insert the following:

SEC. 2 _____. Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit a report to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate detailing the efforts of the Department of Justice to combat and enforce animal fighting and animal welfare statutes, which shall include—

(1) a break down of the number of personnel dedicated to animal welfare crimes on a full-time basis, including their respective departmental component;

(2) a list of all cases involving animal welfare crimes that the Department of Justice has prosecuted since 2014;

(3) a list of investigations that were referred to the Department of Justice that have been delayed or declined to be prosecuted by the Department of Justice and the reason for any deferral or declination; and

(4) a qualitative description of how the Department of Justice coordinates the efforts of the Department with other governmental partners to ensure proper enforcement of animal welfare laws.

AMENDMENT NO. 1025

(Purpose: To require a Bureau of Indian Affairs report analyzing the facilities investments required to improve direct service and tribally operated detention and public safety facilities in Indian country)

On page 253, line 2, strike "costs:" and insert the following: "costs: *Provided further*, That not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report describing the facilities investments required to improve the direct service and tribally operated detention and public safety facilities in Indian country that are in poor condition, including associated cost estimates:".

AMENDMENT NO. 1079

(Purpose: To prohibit bogus bonus payments to contractors)

In division C, insert after section 429 the following:

SEC. 430. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay award or incentive fees for contractor performance that has been judged to be below satisfactory performance or for performance that does not meet the basic requirements of a contract, unless the Agency determines that any such deviations are due to unforeseeable events, government-driven scope changes, or are not significant within the overall scope of the project and/or program and unless such awards or incentive fees are consistent with 16.401(e)(2) of the FAR.

AMENDMENT NO. 1081

(Purpose: To require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to Congress a report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule)

At the appropriate place in division C, insert the following:

SEC. _____. (a) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget

shall submit to Congress and post on the website of the Office of Management and Budget a report on each project funded by an agency that is appropriated funds under this division—

(1) that is more than 5 years behind schedule; or

(2) for which the amount spent on the project is not less than \$1,000,000,000 more than the original cost estimate for the project.

(b) Each report submitted and posted under subsection (a) shall include, for each project included in the report—

(1) a brief description of the project, including—

(A) the purpose of the project;

(B) each location in which the project is carried out;

(C) the year in which the project was initiated;

(D) the Federal share of the total cost of the project; and

(E) each primary contractor, subcontractor, grant recipient, and subgrantee recipient of the project;

(2) an explanation of any change to the original scope of the project, including by the addition or narrowing of the initial requirements of the project;

(3) the original expected date for completion of the project;

(4) the current expected date for completion of the project;

(5) the original cost estimate for the project, as adjusted to reflect increases in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics;

(6) the current cost estimate for the project, as adjusted to reflect increases in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics;

(7) an explanation for a delay in completion or increase in the original cost estimate for the project; and

(8) the amount of and rationale for any award, incentive fee, or other type of bonus, if any, awarded for the project.

AMENDMENT NO. 1151

(Purpose: To increase funding for the construction of high priority water and wastewater facilities on the United States-Mexico Border, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title IV of division C, insert the following:

UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER PROGRAM

SEC. 4 _____. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, funds made available under the heading "ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT" under the heading "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY" under title II shall be reduced by \$5,489,000, which shall be reduced from amounts for Operations and Administration as described in the report accompanying this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the amount made available under the heading "STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS" under the heading "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY" under title II shall be increased by \$5,489,000.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the amount made available under paragraph (2) under the heading "STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS" under the heading "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY" under title II shall be increased by \$5,489,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1159

(Purpose: To provide for a report on certain programs of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum)

On page 346, line 14, strike the period and insert "": *Provided*, That, not later than 120

days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report that describes the efforts of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to support memory and a range of educational programs relating to the Holocaust, including the collection and usage of historical documentation, such as survivor testimony."

AMENDMENT NO. 1160

(Purpose: To set aside funds for certain Lake Tahoe restoration activities)

On page 230, line 18, insert " , of which \$4,088,000 shall be for activities under section 5(d)(2) of the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act (Public Law 106-506; 114 Stat. 2353; 130 Stat. 1786)" after "2021".

AMENDMENT NO. 1162

(Purpose: To require a study of law enforcement staffing needs of Indian Tribes)

At the end of title I of division C, add the following:

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORTING

SEC. 1 _____. The Bureau of Indian Affairs shall conduct a study to identify the law enforcement staffing needs of Indian Tribes, which shall include—

(1) a detailed analysis, by Indian Tribe, of law enforcement hiring impediments and challenges;

(2) a strategy on how to recruit and train law enforcement officers and fill law enforcement vacancies; and

(3) a proposed strategy that could be used to address the impediments and challenges identified in paragraph (1).

AMENDMENT NO. 1182

(Purpose: To increase money appropriated for Geographic Programs, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title IV of division C, insert the following:

GEOGRAPHIC PROGRAMS

SEC. 4 _____. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the amount made available for Geographic Programs under the heading "ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT" under the heading "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY" under title II shall be increased by 3 percent, and the amount made available for each Geographic Program described in the report accompanying this Act shall be increased by 3 percent.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, the amount authorized to be transferred under the fourth paragraph under the heading "ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY" under the heading "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY" under title II shall be increased by the additional amount made available for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative under subsection (a).

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, funds made available under the heading "ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT" under the heading "ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY" under title II for operations and administration, as specified in the report accompanying this Act, shall be reduced by an amount equal to the total amount additionally appropriated for Geographic Programs under subsection (a).

AMENDMENT NO. 1193

(Purpose: To make available funds for the Smithsonian Latino Center)

On page 338, line 22, after the semicolon insert the following: " *Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated herein, not less than \$4,292,000 shall be made available for the

Smithsonian Latino Center and related initiative.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1199

(Purpose: To set aside funds for the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program)

On page 238, line 5, strike the period and insert the following “: *Provided further*, That, of the funds made available under this heading, \$3,576,000 shall be made available for the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program and similarly managed rivers.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1211

(Purpose: To set aside funds for the 400 Years of African-American History Commission)

On page 238, line 5, strike the period and insert the following: “: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding sections 7(b), 8, and 9 of the 400 Years of African-American History Commission Act (36 U.S.C. note prec. 101; Public Law 115–102), of the amount made available under this heading, \$500,000 shall be provided to the 400 Years of African-American History Commission for expenditure on activities authorized by that Act through July 1, 2021.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1215

(Purpose: To require a report on the status of the Four Forest Restoration Initiative)

On page 311, line 2, insert “*Provided further*, That not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Chief of the Forest Service shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report detailing the status of efforts to accelerate forest ecosystem restoration under the Four Forest Restoration Initiative:” after “7303(f):”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1220

(Purpose: To make available funds for the Women’s History Initiative)

On page 338, line 22, at the appropriate place insert the following: “*Provided further*, That of the funds appropriated herein, not less than \$3,700,000 shall be made available for the Women’s History Initiative.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1227

(Purpose: To provide for a Government Accountability Office study on outdoor recreation)

At the appropriate place in title I of division C, insert the following:

SEC. 1 ____ . GAO STUDY ON OUTDOOR RECREATION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:
(1) COVERED AGENCY.—The term “covered agency” means—

- (A) the Department of Agriculture;
- (B) the Department of the Interior;
- (C) the Corps of Engineers;
- (D) the National Marine Fisheries Service; and

(E) the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(2) OUTDOOR RECREATION.—The term “outdoor recreation” means all recreational activities undertaken for pleasure that—

- (A) generally involve some level of intentional physical exertion; and
- (B) occur in nature-based environments outdoors.

(b) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that—

- (1) identifies each program carried out by a covered agency that directly impacts the outdoor recreation sector, including each program that affects the management and conservation of, and access to, the land, waters, and natural resources of the United States; and

(2) describes, for each program identified under paragraph (1), the spending level for that program during each of the 20 fiscal years preceding the year in which the report is submitted.

(c) REQUIRED COORDINATION.—In conducting the study under subsection (b), the Comptroller General of the United States shall coordinate with the outdoor recreation industry, nongovernmental organizations, the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce, and other interested stakeholders.

(d) REPORT.—Not later 240 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes the results of the study conducted under subsection (b).

AMENDMENT NO. 956

(Purpose: To require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide Congress with recommendations and associated costs for future research on rental payment insurance)

At the appropriate place in title II of division D, insert the following:

SEC. 2 ____ . The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall include in the budget materials submitted to Congress in support of the budget of the President submitted under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, for fiscal year 2021, recommendations and any associated costs for future research on insurance models designed to reduce evictions or expand access to rental opportunities for tenants, such as rental payment insurance.

AMENDMENT NO. 1002

(Purpose: To make a technical correction)
On page 489, line 17, strike “\$2,761,00,000” and insert “\$2,761,000,000”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1005

(Purpose: To express the sense of Congress)

At the appropriate place in title I of division D, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, as part of ongoing efforts to review regulations regarding the emergency medical equipment carried by passenger airlines, should continue to prioritize the demands of our nation’s growing opioid epidemic and take timely action to issue additional guidance to air carriers to ensure the expeditious inclusion of opioid antagonists in emergency medical kits.

AMENDMENT NO. 1010

(Purpose: To ensure funding for the FAA remote tower pilot program)

On page 383, line 10, insert the following after “Budget” : “*Provided further*, That of the amounts made available for Enterprise, Concept Development, Human Factors, and Demonstration, not less than \$9,500,000 shall be available for the remote tower pilot program as authorized by section 161 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (49 U.S.C. 47104 note)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1061

(Purpose: To require a report on engagement with local interests relating to intelligent transportation systems technologies and smart cities solutions)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations, Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations and

Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on efforts by the Department of Transportation to engage with local communities, metropolitan planning organizations, and regional transportation commissions on advancing data and intelligent transportation systems technologies and other smart cities solutions.

AMENDMENT NO. 1062

(Purpose: To prohibit the use of funds to terminate the ITS program advisory committee)

At the appropriate place in title II of Division D, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used to terminate the Intelligent Transportation System Program Advisory Committee established under section 5305(h) of SAFETEA-LU (23 U.S.C. 512 note; Public Law 109–59).

AMENDMENT NO. 1114

(Purpose: To improve the bill)

On page 482, line 10, strike the period and insert “: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this paragraph, not less than \$1,000,000 shall be available to support utilization, outreach, and capacity building with tribes and tribal housing organization for the Tribal HUD-VASH program.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1130

(Purpose: To provide a sense of Congress relating to preserving manufactured home communities)

At the appropriate place in title II of division D, insert the following:

SEC. 2 ____ . It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) more than 17,000,000 people live in manufactured homes and benefit from high-quality affordable homes which provide stability;

(2) owners of manufactured homes have disproportionately low-income households, and in 2013, the median annual household income for living in manufactured housing was \$28,400;

(3) approximately 75 percent of manufactured home households earn less than \$50,000 per year;

(4) more than 10 percent of veterans in the United States live in manufactured homes;

(5) in late 1990, manufactured housing represented ⅓ of the new affordable housing produced in the United States and remains a significant source of unsubsidized affordable housing in the United States;

(6) in 2015, the average cost per square foot for a new manufactured home was 48 dollars, less than half of the cost per square foot for a new-site built, structure-only home, which was \$101;

(7) in 2009, 43 percent of all new homes that sold for less than \$150,000 were manufactured homes;

(8) manufactured homes account for 23 percent of new home sales under \$200,000;

(9) more than 50,000 manufactured home communities, also referred to as “mobile home parks”, exist throughout the United States;

(10) more than 2,900,000 manufactured homes are placed in manufactured home communities;

(11) manufactured home communities provide critical affordable housing, but receive very little Federal, State, or local funds to subsidize the cost of manufactured homes;

(12) manufactured home owners in such communities may own the home, but they do not own the land under the home, which leaves the home owners vulnerable to rent increases, arbitrary rule enforcement, and in the case of a manufactured home community owner converting the land to some other use, community closure;

(13) an eviction or closure of a manufactured home community is very disruptive to a resident who may be unable to pay the thousands of dollars it takes to move the manufactured home or find a new location for the manufactured home;

(14) in an effort to preserve a crucial source of affordable housing within the past two decades, a national network of housing providers has helped residents purchase and own the land under the manufactured home community, and manage the manufactured home community;

(15) nationwide, there are more than 1,000 stable, permanent ownership cooperatives or nonprofit-owned developments in more than a dozen States;

(16) members of manufactured home communities continue to own such homes individually, own an equal share of the land beneath the entire manufactured home community, participate in the governing of the community, and elect a board of directors who make major decisions within the manufactured home community by a democratic vote;

(17) in New Hampshire, more than 30 percent of manufactured home communities are owned by residents;

(18) resident-owned cooperatives and nonprofit owned communities have also flourished in Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Washington, Oregon, and Minnesota;

(19) nationwide, only 2 percent of all manufactured home communities are resident or nonprofit-owned;

(20) when the owner of a manufactured home community or his or her heirs sell the community to the highest bidder, it can result in displacement for dozens and sometimes hundreds of families; and

(21) Congress should endeavor to protect residents of manufactured home communities by encouraging the owners of those properties to sell them to nonprofit organizations or to the residents themselves to own cooperatively.

AMENDMENT NO. 1214

(Purpose: To provide for a veterans pilot training competitive grant program)

At the appropriate place under the heading "OPERATIONS" under the heading "FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION" in title I of division D, insert the following: "Provided further, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than \$5,000,000 shall be used for a veterans pilot training competitive grant program."

AMENDMENT NO. 1235

(Purpose: To provide additional funding for the family unification program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development)

At the appropriate place in paragraph (2) under the heading "TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE" under the heading "PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING" in title II of division D, insert the following: "the family unification program under section 8(x) of the Act,".

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The majority whip is recognized.

H.R. 3055

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, last weekend, I had the privilege of attend-

ing the welcome-home ceremony for 112 members of the South Dakota National Guard. These men and women, who serve in the 147th Forward Support Company or the Bravo Battery of the 1-147th Field Artillery Battalion, were deployed to Europe as part of Atlantic Resolve, a partnership with our allies in Eastern and Central Europe developed in response to Russia's invasion of Crimea in 2014.

The Atlantic Resolve allows U.S. and allied forces to build strong working relationships and to hone their ability to conduct operations. Members of Bravo Battery and the 147th Forward Support Company spent most of the year in Europe working with partner forces. They participated in two multinational exercises and brought artillery to Germany and Hungary.

These soldiers finally got home last weekend, but they didn't leave Atlantic Resolve without South Dakota support. Other members of the 147th Forward Support Company and Alpha Battery of the 1-147th Field Artillery Battalion head for Europe in September. Other South Dakota-based military members—airmen from Ellsworth Air Force Base—also deployed abroad recently.

Four B-1 bombers from the 34th and 37th Bomb Squadrons at Ellsworth made a flying trip to Saudi Arabia late this month to support the U.S. military presence there. The bombers flew directly from South Dakota to Saudi Arabia, refueling six times in midair, once again demonstrating the incredible capability of this aircraft and of our Ellsworth airmen.

Atlantic Resolve, the B-1 mission, the death of ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi during a raid conducted by U.S. troops—they are all a reminder of the vital work that our military members are doing.

A lot of military missions don't make a big splash in the news. We don't hear a lot about everything that our men and women are doing on a daily basis. We don't hear details of all the operations: the joint exercises with our allies, the countless training evolutions, the never-ending aircraft and vehicle maintenance, the hours watching radar systems for contacts, the endless logistical work to support troops in the field, the painstaking weeks and months of intelligence gathering for a single mission.

Every hour of every day, members of the U.S. military are on duty working to keep the peace and to ensure the security of our Nation. As Members of Congress, we have no greater obligation than to ensure that our troops have the resources they need. We owe it to the men and women who get up each day willing to lay down their lives for us, and we owe it to every man, woman, and child we represent because the safety of our country depends upon the strength of our military.

Ensuring that our troops have the resources they need obviously means ensuring that they have adequate fund-

ing, but it also means getting that funding to them in a timely fashion. It means passing regular order appropriations bills instead of forcing our military to rely on temporary funding measures that leave the military in doubt about funding levels and unable to start important new projects.

Getting military funding approved in a timely manner is a priority for me and for a lot of my colleagues here in the Senate. Chairman SHELBY, the chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, worked hard this year to ensure that we could bring the Defense appropriations bill to the floor in a timely fashion, but Senate Democrats have so far blocked Senate consideration of this important legislation. Their refusal to allow the Senate to move forward on funding has left the military in limbo, unable to fully fund 2020 priorities and to move ahead on key projects for the future.

Later today, Democrats will have another chance to move forward with the Defense appropriations bill and to get our military the resources that it needs. I am hoping that they will have a change of heart and decide that funding our military is more important than the partisan games they have been playing. Our military members are waiting on that funding. Their ability to do their jobs is being jeopardized by Democrats' continued blockade of Defense appropriations.

We live in peace and safety every single day because of the men and women of the U.S. military. It is not a new sentiment, but it bears repeating because it is too easy to forget that we would not be enjoying the freedoms and benefits that we enjoy without the constant vigilance of our men and women in uniform. The least—the very least—that we can do in return is to make sure that they have every resource they need to do their jobs and to come home safely.

I strongly urge my Democratic colleagues to vote yes on moving forward with the Defense appropriations bill later today and to send a loud and clear message to the American military that we are going to ensure here in the Congress that you have the resources, the training, the weapons systems, the equipment, and everything that you need to keep Americans safe each and every single day.

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. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 1143 CORRECTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, for the information of the Senate, in the managers' package of amendments that was just agreed to, amendment No. 1143 was misidentified as a Capito

amendment. It is actually an amendment by Senator JONES that Senator CAPITO cosponsored.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Duly noted.

Mr. THUNE. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

AMENDMENT NO. 1141

Ms. MCSALLY. Madam President, I rise today in strong support of my amendment with the Senator from Alabama, Mr. JONES, to this domestic spending package.

Our amendment will permanently block an impending \$1.2 billion cut to Federal investments and Federal transportation. Without our legislative action to block this cut, public transit agencies across the country will suffer a 12-percent across-the-board cut. These cuts will be devastating to all of our communities.

Transit funds in my home State in Arizona are critically important to our quickly growing communities. Maricopa County was the fastest growing county in the United States last year, and cities such as Flagstaff and Tucson are also attracting more jobs and more families. Our State continues to have to meet the demands of our expanding cities and towns, and that is true from Phoenix to Flagstaff and all throughout the State.

Our amendment would block more than \$15.4 million in cuts to Arizona transit agencies. These cuts could result in drastically reduced services, including those for low-income individuals and individuals with disabilities, and reduce funds necessary to modernize bus and rail fleets, as well as slow construction of news stations and shelters.

A broad coalition of over 30 associations—including the American Public Transportation Association, the Associated General Contractors of America, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce—support our efforts and this amendment to block these cuts.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a copy of a letter from the 32 national associations urging Congress to support our amendment.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

OCTOBER 22, 2019.

Hon. RICHARD C. SHELBY,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. SUSAN M. COLLINS,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. PATRICK J. LEAHY,
Vice Chairman, Committee on Appropriations U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. JACK REED,
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHELBY, VICE CHAIRMAN LEAHY, CHAIRMAN COLLINS, AND RANKING MEMBER REED: We greatly appreciate your

bipartisan efforts to advance S. 2520, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) Appropriations Act, 2020. Although S. 2520 includes many critical investments for public transportation, it reduces total funding for public transportation by \$457 million compared to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 enacted levels. As you continue working together on the bill, we strongly urge you to increase investment in public transportation and permanently block the impending \$1.2 billion across-the-board cut to transit formula funds.

Infrastructure investment is critical for our nation's economic growth and now is the time to invest more, not less, in public transportation. Increased investment will provide the necessary resources to begin to address the more than \$90 billion state-of-good-repair backlog in our nation's transit systems and meet the mobility demands of growing communities.

In addition, we urge you to include a provision in the bill permanently blocking the impending 12 percent across-the-board cut to each public transit agency throughout the country. We greatly appreciate your leadership in ensuring that the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-59, Division A) included a provision temporarily preventing this cut, but further and immediate action is needed to ensure that this harmful provision does not take effect in FY 2020.

Americans ride public transportation 10 billion times a year, and every trip meets a need or provides an opportunity. It gets people to work, their doctors, local businesses, and schools. It is a lifeline that connects communities. We urge you to support increased investment in public transportation for critical projects in small, medium, and large communities across the nation.

In summary, as you continue working together on the Senate THUD Appropriations bill, we strongly urge you to increase investment in public transportation and permanently block the impending \$1.2 billion across-the-board cut to transit formula funds.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

American Public Transportation Association, Amalgamated Transit Union; American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials; American Concrete Pipe Association; American Council of Engineering Companies; American Planning Association; American Road & Transportation Builders Association; American Society of Civil Engineers; Associated General Contractors of America; Association of Equipment Manufacturers; Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations; The Bus Coalition; Community Transportation Association of America; Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute; The Intelligent Transportation Society of America; International Union of Operating Engineers; National Asphalt Pavement Association.

National Association of City Transportation Officials; National Association of Counties; National Association of Regional Councils; National League of Cities; National Precast Concrete Association; National Ready Mixed Concrete Association; Natural Resources Defense Council; National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association; Portland Cement Association; Railway Supply Institute; Transport Workers Union; Transportation for America; Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO; United States Chamber of Commerce; The United States Conference of Mayors.

Ms. MCSALLY. Madam President, I urge my colleagues to join Senator JONES from Alabama and me in supporting this important bipartisan amendment.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democratic leader is recognized.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, today we come to an inflection point in the appropriations process this year. Leader MCCONNELL has scheduled a vote on the Defense appropriations bill, which comes with a certain irony. A bill that is supposed to provide resources for our troops and their families actually steals money from them and puts it toward a border wall that President Trump promised Mexico would pay for.

Democrats will not vote to proceed to a bill that steals money from our troops and their families. Republicans know it is a nonstarter. Yet Leader MCCONNELL has scheduled a show vote this afternoon to demonstrate something that everyone already knows: There is nowhere close to the necessary votes in the Senate for President Trump's border wall and, of course, there is not in the House. So this is just a show vote.

Leader MCCONNELL, a few weeks ago, got on the floor and railed against show votes. He said: I only want to put things on the floor that are going to pass. But we all know this ain't passing. I understand memories in politics can be short, but the exercise we will go through today is absurd, even by those low standards.

Senate Republicans, by pursuing a partisan process, by doing President Trump's bidding on the wall—they know he is wrong, most of them. They are just so afraid of him they just say "Yes, sir" whenever he proposes an absurd idea. They repeat the same failed strategy that led to the longest shutdown in our Nation's history. I warned Leader MCCONNELL and our Republican friends that if they continue down this path, they will lead us straight to another government shutdown, and their party and President Trump will shoulder the responsibility. The last time, they had to retreat from that position after the longest shutdown in history with their tails between their legs. Isn't history teaching them anything? We know it will not teach President Trump much, but we would hope the Republicans in the Senate would have more sense.

Instead of standing up and defending their own position that they want the money for the wall—however indefensible in my judgment—Senate Republicans have resorted to bogus attacks against Democrats. Senate Republicans accuse Democrats of delaying a pay raise for our troops, even though, first, the pay raise is strongly bipartisan, and, more important, the standing law of the land dictates it will go into effect regardless of whether we pass the Defense appropriations.

Our Republican friends are so desperate to divert attention from their

holding up these bills for President Trump's wall that they come up with completely false arguments, such as the statement that if we don't pass this, the troops will not get a pay raise.

Yesterday, Leader MCCONNELL and President Trump repeated a slightly less specific but even more outrageous charge, claiming that Democrats are not supporting the fight against ISIS due to the disagreement on appropriations. Hello. Who was it who abandoned our Kurdish friends who led the fight against ISIS? Not the Democrats in the Senate, not even the Republicans in the Senate—it was President Trump.

President Trump's reckless decision to greenlight President Erdogan's invasion of northern Syria left hundreds of hardened ISIS fighters out of jail and, according to most experts, set a course for a likely resurgence of ISIS. But instead of blaming President Trump—although some of them did early on—they are trying to switch the blame. It is a typical tactic that Leader MCCONNELL is using with more and more regularity, but like his previous attempts, it fails.

We were briefed yesterday by senior administration officials, and they acknowledged the fallout in the wake of the President's decision and the need to pick up the pieces of what was their strategy to defeat ISIS.

The majority leader and I have been working together on legislation requiring specific plans and reports from the administration on the ISIS threat. I hope it will receive some action on the floor soon. Let's cut the nonsense that Democrats don't support the troops or the fight against ISIS. It is not true. It is laughable, and it ain't going to stick. So instead of this bunk, Leader MCCONNELL and my Republican friends, roll up your sleeves and work with us to get something done.

Democrats and Republicans have been working through a package of appropriations bills, as is clear in the bills we are voting on. Where there is agreement, we can move forward. This week has shown the Senate can efficiently work through these bills, and we have a bipartisan buy-in. That is how Democrats want to proceed on the remainder of the bills.

Republican friends, work with us as you did on these four bills to come up with bipartisan bills, and we can get them done.

IMPEACHMENT

Mr. President, on impeachment, at least a dozen witnesses have testified in Congress as part of the House's impeachment inquiry. The facts that are already in the public record are troubling and require further investigation.

The Founders greatly feared foreign interference in our elections. Here, we have a President who allegedly used the powers of his office to pressure or coerce a foreign leader to investigate a domestic political rival. The matter at hand is serious; both parties must treat it as such. But already some of our Re-

publican colleagues have tried to kick up as much dust as possible to distract or detract from the facts of the case because they know the reality will be damaging to the President if these facts prove to be true.

Last week, roughly 40 Republicans stormed the secure facility in the Capitol in a fit of staged protest, even though one-third of them were already allowed to participate in the hearings that were taking place.

In the Senate, my colleague Senator GRAHAM, a veteran of the House impeachment process, put together a resolution of trumped-up charges that the House process was unfair, all of which have been thoroughly debunked as misleading or baseless. Again, it is an attempt by our Republican friends to do Donald Trump's bidding no matter how false, reckless, or harmful that bidding is.

Meanwhile, the White House and its allies in the Congress and the media have leveled shameful attacks against the witnesses in the House inquiry, questioning the loyalties of a U.S. Army lieutenant colonel and Purple Heart recipient and calling the whistleblower a treasonous spy. That is despicable.

Worse still, reports suggest that Republicans on the House committee and members of their staffs are conducting a vicious campaign to deliberately disclose or cause to be disclosed the identity of the whistleblower, placing that courageous individual's safety and that of his or her family in jeopardy.

We are supposed to be engaging with the facts of the case on the merits. We have a solemn constitutional duty to do so. Even the President himself has said he would "rather go into the details of the case rather than the process."

My Republican friends in Congress should stick to the facts, quit the partisan theatrics, quit the politics of blame, and quit trying to harm the very serious patriots whose lives and safety might be in danger. This is a time to put country over party and examine the facts—only the facts.

PENSIONS

Madam President, finally, on pensions, this week, Murray Energy, which employed over 5,000 people, has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, putting thousands of hard-working Americans at risk of losing their pensions. Forty percent of Murray's employees are represented by either the United Mine Workers or the Seafarers International Union. Murray faces over \$8 billion in pension obligations, of which over \$2 billion are unfunded and under threat. This is only the latest example of the danger facing millions of Americans with pensions from construction, mining, truck driving, bakeries, and other industries.

These workers did nothing wrong. They saved up little by little, week by week, expecting to retire with security and dignity, but their pension plans are sadly now at risk of becoming insol-

vent because of circumstances totally outside of their control.

The time has come for Congress to bring relief to these working families. Members on both sides of the aisle have been working on legislation that would provide relief to these underfunded pensions. Just 2 months ago, the House passed the Butch Lewis Act, which I proudly support and which would provide immediate relief to critical and declining pension plans, but Leader MCCONNELL has inexplicably refused to take action on this bipartisan legislation—another tombstone in his legislative graveyard.

Leader MCCONNELL and the Republican majority are turning their backs on hard-working middle-class Americans who need their pensions. They could be robbed of them through no fault of their own. I hope the news this week magnifies the consequences of Republican inaction.

President Trump has claimed to be a champion for American workers, but under his Presidency, working Americans have slipped further and further behind. Now, for millions of hard-working Americans, a secure retirement is also at risk. If the President were truly a champion for working Americans, now is the time for him to show some leadership by urging Leader MCCONNELL and his Republicans in the Senate to work with Democrats to protect these pension plans.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I have a number of things I want to talk about today. On Monday of this week, we lost a fine lady in Kay Hagan. It is very difficult for me to put into words my admiration for the Senator from North Carolina, but the fact is, Kay was the kind of person who, the first time you met her, had the ability to calm the situation down.

When she was running in 2008, I went to North Carolina, and she had an event at a farm. I think it was a hog operation, if my memory serves me correctly. I had a chance to meet her for the first time. She was somebody who you knew, if she were able to get into this body, would be successful.

Well, in 2008, she won that election. She came here, and she made a difference. She made a difference for working families, small businesses, and family farm agriculture.

I just want to express my condolences to her husband Chip, her kids and grandkids, and let them know she was very loved by all in this body.

HEALTHCARE

Madam President, I also want to rise today and speak on behalf of the thousands of Montanans who have pre-existing conditions or struggle with the cost of prescription drugs.

Even with the Affordable Care Act's protections, many of these folks struggle to afford their medical bills, their copays at the pharmacy counter and

the local doctors' offices. Instead of working to fix these problems, this administration—the Trump administration—has issued a rule that brings us back to the dark ages by letting insurance companies discriminate against working families across Montana and this country.

The Affordable Care Act guaranteed health coverage for all Americans. It required health insurance companies to issue policies to folks regardless of whether they had preexisting conditions. The Trump administration is chipping away at these laws, and they are tossing these protections out the window so that big insurance can make big bucks.

Health insurance companies across this country are flooding the market with junk plans. They are called junk plans because they are cheap insurance that are junk. When you think you have health insurance and you get sick, it is not there.

Trust me, I know firsthand how this works. When I was 9 years old, I lost three fingers in a meat grinder, and my folks thought they had insurance. They didn't because they had bought a junk plan. They ended up paying every dime for the surgeries related to my left hand out of their pockets—money they didn't have.

These plans tell folks they have insurance, but, truthfully, they don't. They have less coverage, and they don't even cover the most essential health benefits.

Need prescription drugs? You can get them, but it's going to cost you. Maternity care? Sorry, the plan doesn't cover that. Mental health? You would not get that coverage in your wildest dreams. These insurers will tell you that you are getting a great deal, but the truth of the matter is your pocketbook is going to pay the price. God forbid if you ever get in a situation where you need to use it.

What we see is insurance companies lining their pockets and selling plans that do nothing. And the majority leader is working to make it easier for them to do it, all by blocking reasonable, bipartisan bills to improve the ACA and make healthcare more affordable to working families and small businesses around this country.

The Senate was established by our Founders as the greatest deliberative body in the world to be a check and balance on the Office of the Presidency, the executive branch. That simply is not occurring right now.

I mean take a look at the tariff situation. The President puts on tariffs in a knee-jerk reaction, doesn't bring any of our allies along. We are seeing small businesses and family farm agriculture literally being put to the point of being put out of business, and this body lets him do it. A couple of weeks ago, the President said: You know what, we are pulling our troops out of northern Syria, and to hell with our allies.

The Kurds, who have been fighting with us, fighting as partners for the

last 15 years, well, too bad. Done nothing. No checks and balances.

The President asked for other countries to come in and influence our elections, and it seems like the Senate is just fine with that. The greatest country in the world is going to let other countries determine who is elected to our elected offices in this country, whether it be the Presidency, the Senate, or any of us.

Now, we can't even pass a budget. We continue to kick the can down the road. We do have a vote on the Defense bill, which by the way, this body is going to allow the President, if the majority leader has his way, to take any amount of money they want out of that Defense bill and put it into a wall—a wall that costs \$25 million to \$35 million a mile—and we are not even talking about expenses down the road for upkeep.

So we just deal with continuing resolutions—more uncertainty, more uncertainty for families, more uncertainty for business. So right now, we are standing by letting funding for our schools, our roads, our hospitals run out, leaving families across this country—especially in rural America and States like Montana—without resources to be able to do the job.

And that is exactly the case for community health centers in this country. These facilities provide lifesaving care to nearly one-tenth of people in Montana, running 65 healthcare clinics across our State. They don't even know if they are going to have funding come November 21st when the continuing resolution we passed expires.

How can we expect these places to stay open, let alone recruit and retain staff, when they don't even know if they are going to be around in another month? What do I say to folks when their own community health clinics like Hardin, or Libby, or Haver—these communities rely on these health clinics to keep their communities healthy. And quite frankly, because we can't sit down and negotiate and come up with long-term funding agreements, they potentially are going to be out of business.

But the uncertainty for families doesn't start there. The number of kids who don't have insurance has gone up since this administration started its war on healthcare. Kids in Montana are getting the worst of it. The number of kids in my State without insurance went up 25 percent between 2016 and 2018.

Let me say that again. The number of kids in the State of Montana without insurance went up 25 percent between 2016 and 2018. That is the fifth highest percentage jump in the United States. There are places worse. The kids being hit hardest are the kids that are in the most vulnerable groups. They are in Indian Country, which continues to have the highest uninsured rate in this country. These young folks are our future leaders. They are our next generation. We are not doing our job. We are failing them.

This coordinated sabotage of our healthcare system by this administration and this body is unacceptable, and our children deserve better. I am not going to sit here and tell you that the Affordable Care Act was perfect. I said from day one that we needed to work together to make improvements and build upon the successes that were in that bill.

The ACA allowed States like Montana to pass Medicaid Expansion. That insured more than 90,000 Montanans in the process and helped greatly toward keeping our small hospitals open.

It helped millions of Montanans with preexisting conditions rest easy at night knowing that they were not going to be kicked off their plans because of that preexisting condition or hit an annual cap on care. All of that is gone. Americans have spoken clearly. They want more access to affordability, not less. When my colleagues on the other side of the aisle attempted to repeal the ACA a couple of years ago, folks all across this country stood up and said: No.

But here we are again, watching the majority and the Trump administration pushing plans to rip away affordable health insurance from hard-working Americans. I would encourage my colleagues to join together in working and find a bipartisan solution to improve our healthcare system. We need to reduce health insurance premiums and out-of-pocket costs. We need to crack down on skyrocketing prescription drugs, and we need to expand insurance to more Americans. We need to make sure that when people put their hard-earned money on the line to buy an insurance policy, that it is not junk.

CONGRATULATING THE WASHINGTON NATIONALS

Mr. President, now, on a lighter subject. Back in my early years on the farm, I would come in on Wednesday night and there would be baseball night in Canada. I got to watch the Montreal Expos for a couple of decades play some pretty darned good baseball. They didn't win, but they were very entertaining.

That franchise moved to Washington, DC, I think in 2006, the same year I got elected to the United States Senate. So consequently, I got to watch the Nats and be entertained by them again—occasionally, even in person.

Last night, they did the impossible. After being 19 and 31, I believe around the 23rd, 24th of May of this year, they ripped off a hundred games and won the World Series. I just want to congratulate them on that feat and look forward to a repeat next season.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.
The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT of Florida). The Senator from New Hampshire.

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise to honor the life and legacy of my friend and former colleague, Senator Kay Hagan of North Carolina. There have been several eloquent tributes to

Kay. I am sure we will hear many more in the days to come. They all note her profound grace, her fighting spirit, her charm, and of course, I agree with all of those remarks.

I want to especially extend my very sincere condolences to her husband, Chip; to her children, Jeanette, Tilden, and Carrie; and to her father Joe.

The news of her death on Monday was deeply felt here in the Senate. Kay and I were in the same class of freshmen Senators. We came in, in 2008, and as the only two women in that class, we became fast friends. But of course, it wasn't hard to make friends with Kay Hagan. She never met a stranger. She had contagious optimism and joy, and she drew everyone in with her smile and kindness.

Kay was first in the Senate, not as a Senator, but as an intern, where she had the job of operating the elevators. Of course, those were the days when women Senators were few, and they were often appointed to fill temporary vacancies. So I am sure it was a very powerful moment when Kay took the elevator here in the Capitol for the first time as a United States Senator, only the second woman from her State, North Carolina, to do that.

Kay and I often compared notes about our new roles as Senators. We talked about our families and the challenges of commuting to and from DC. I remember Kay showing me and the other women in the Senate pictures of her daughters' weddings and beaming with excitement. She was so tremendously proud of her children and so appreciated the support she received from them and from Chip during her campaigns for public office.

Of course, in addition to her character, Kay had boundless energy. Growing up, she studied ballet, and she aspired to be a professional dancer. And I remember she told me about her "magic bag" that she took with her everywhere, so she could exercise in the morning. It carried a yoga mat and everything else she needed to exercise. She recommended that I get one, and of course, I was never quite energetic enough to do that.

In addition to yoga, Kay loved early morning runs, Pilates, and swimming. It was that swimming that brought Kay some early "notoriety." I use that term in quotes because Kay wanted to use the Senator's swimming pool in the mornings, but when she first got here, there was a sign on the door that said it was for men only. What we learned, after Kay did a little bit of investigating, was it was because some of the male Senators were not interested in wearing appropriate swimming attire when they swam.

Well, Kay put a quick stop to that, and it wasn't long before all of the men were wearing swim trunks, and Kay was swimming laps in the pool with them.

That was Kay. She was incredibly kind, but she was also tough. When she was falsely accused of being an atheist

during her first Senate race, Kay didn't miss a beat. She responded immediately with an ad that set the record straight. She demonstrated to her supporters and to her detractors alike what she was made of.

I have fond memories of our calls when we were both up for reelection in 2014. Kay would call and buck me up. I remember she called me after her last debate to say she was finished. She didn't have to do any more debates. Since I was still looking at having to do two of them, she was very encouraging to me.

With Kay, the glass was always half full. When she arrived in the Senate, it didn't take long for her to make her mark on the issues of greatest importance to North Carolina and the Nation. She applied her skills as a pragmatic legislator, which were honed in the North Carolina Senate, and she got to work on the pressing issues of the day.

She fought tirelessly for jobs and the economic well-being of her constituents. She was a champion of small businesses, for expanding rural broadband, for developing regional infrastructure. She helped pass the historic reforms to Wall Street following the financial crisis because she served on the Banking Committee.

We worked together, along with the rest of the members of the class of 2008, to try and improve the Affordable Care Act as it was being drafted. Kay took a tough vote in favor of the ACA, but she did it because she knew it was going to help her constituents get insurance coverage and healthcare and that it would provide protections for millions of Americans.

Kay and I served together on the Armed Services Committee in the Senate. She fought for our servicemembers, for their families, and for improving the defense of our nation. Kay's husband, father, and brother all served their country in uniform. The challenges that servicemembers and military families face were always top of mind for Kay.

In my office here in the Capitol, there is a photo of me and Kay. It is on our first trip to Afghanistan. We had only been in the Senate about 5 months at that point. We were smiling from ear to ear, even though it was over 100 degrees, we were wearing body armor, and we were in a helicopter with the doors open heading to a Forward Operating Base.

We were smiling because we were so excited and because it was always so fun to travel with Kay. There wasn't a better partner than Kay for these trips. She was diligent. She was inquisitive. She always held herself with grace and kindness and resolve. That was her trademark.

Serving her country and her beloved home State in the United States Senate was a profound honor for Kay, as it is for all of us. I feel fortunate to have known and worked alongside her. She will be dearly missed, not just by all of

us in the Senate, but by so many of her constituents whom she represented in North Carolina.

I want to again extend my deepest condolences to the Hagan family and to the State of North Carolina.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, I just want to follow on the comments by my good friend Senator SHAHEEN with regard to Kay Hagan. We came to the Senate together with Senator SHAHEEN. We were all in that class of 2008. It was a big class. We traveled extensively with Kay Hagan. We got to know her very well.

It was really good to hear—I talked to her husband Chip on the phone. We call him Chip; he is Charles. He told me that up to the very last, she was extremely busy. They were traveling around North Carolina. They were doing things. She actually had a very special visit with Vice President Biden before she passed away.

Our heart goes out to the whole family—to the three children. We very much miss her and will miss her a lot. We missed her a lot in the Senate. We are going to miss her.

I will put in a more extensive statement about Kay Hagan.

AMENDMENT NO. 1209

Mr. President, I rise to oppose the Lee amendment and efforts to undermine the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This amendment would prohibit the Department of Interior from using land and water conservation funds to acquire Federal lands and waters.

The underlying bill actually increases funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund by \$30 million, and it does so with deep bipartisan support from a majority of Senators. The crucial point here is that this bill passed the Appropriations Committee 31 to 0, so this is a broadly supported program and a broadly supported bill. I urge the Senate to send another strong message today to support the LWCF.

There are many bipartisan land-acquisition priorities that are funded by this bill. They include things like funds to improve access to the Aravaipa Canyon in Arizona; preserve wildlife habitat in the Everglades Headwaters and St. Marks Refuges in Florida, I would let the Presiding Officer know. There is also money to protect the Palo Alto Battlefield in Texas and other historic battlefield sites, as well as funds to expand the El Malpais National Monument in my home State of New Mexico. These are just a few of the projects that our constituents back home are expecting the Department to fund. They would all be stopped in their tracks if this amendment were adopted.

We need LWCF to establish better access for Americans to their own public lands. This program works with private landowners and willing sellers to continue to protect special places for generations to come. I know a bipartisan

majority of this body understands that, and I ask my colleagues to stand with me to defeat this amendment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

AMENDMENT NO. 1141

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise to speak in favor of the Jones amendment No. 1141, cosponsored by Senator MCSALLY of Arizona. I want to thank the Senator from Alabama for filing this important amendment to preserve transit funding at the levels authorized by Congress under the FAST Act. Without this amendment, transit agencies across the country will face a 12-percent cut. A cut of this magnitude would be devastating, particularly for smaller agencies that rely on Federal funding to meet their annual operating expenses and to carry out necessary maintenance. Without this funding, communities would be forced to scale back capital projects and bus acquisitions, and reduce services, eliminating a major mobility option for many of our constituents, including seniors and persons with disabilities.

At a time when the transit industry faces a \$90 billion state of good repair backlog, we should be increasing transit investments in order to preserve these critical transportation systems. These cuts would reverse the progress we have made over the last 2 years due to the budget agreement that allowed for desperately needed investments in infrastructure. We must prevent any degradation of funding for our transit systems and instead help these agencies modernize their fleets.

This amendment is supported by over 63 associations, including the National League of Cities, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the list of the supporting organizations be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

American Public Transportation Association, Amalgamated Transit Union, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, American Concrete Pipe Association, American Council of Engineering Companies, American Planning Association, American Road & Transportation Builders Association, American Society of Civil Engineers, Associated General Contractors of America, Association of Equipment Manufacturers, Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations, The Bus Coalition, Community Transportation Association of America, Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute, The Intelligent Transportation Society of America, International Union of Operating Engineers, National Asphalt Pavement Association, National Association of City Transportation Officials, National Association of Counties, National Association of Regional Councils, National League of Cities, National Precast Concrete Association, National Ready Mixed Concrete Association, Natural Resources Defense Council, National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association, Portland Cement Association, Railway Supply Institute.

Transport Workers Union, Transportation for America, Transportation Trades Depart-

ment, AFL-CIO, United States Chamber of Commerce, The United States Conference of Mayors, American Road & Transportation Builders Association (co-chair), Associated General Contractors of America (co-chair), Transport Workers Union, American Coal Ash Association, American Concrete Pavement Association, American Concrete Pipe Association, American Council of Engineering Companies, American Subcontractors Association, American Iron and Steel Institute, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Traffic Safety Services Association, Asphalt Emulsion Manufacturers Association, Asphalt Recycling & Reclaiming Association, Associated Equipment Distributors, Association of Equipment Manufacturers.

Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute, International Slurry Surfacing Association, International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers, International Union of Operating Engineers, Laborers-Employers Cooperation and Education Trust, Laborers' International Union of North America, National Asphalt Pavement Association, National Association of Surety Bond Producers, National Electrical Contractors Association, National Ready Mixed Concrete Association, National Steel Bridge Alliance, National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association, National Utility Contractors Association, Portland Cement Association, Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute, The Road Information Program, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask that my colleagues join me and Senator COLLINS in supporting this amendment.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the staff members who actually made this Transportation, Housing and Urban Development—THUD—bill possible. They did extraordinary work. We all recognize that it is their efforts that make these difficult and complicated legislative initiatives possible. On the majority staff, I thank Clare Doherty, Jason Woolwine, Rajat Mathur, Gus Maples, Courtney Young, and LaShawnda Smith. On my staff, I particularly want to thank Dabney Hegg, Christina Monroe, Jessi Axe, and Elisabeth Coats.

I think I speak for all of my colleagues when I salute all the staff members who make this legislation possible.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

AMENDMENT NO. 1209

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, there is no doubt that we are blessed with beautiful, useful, and productive lands in our Nation. And there is no doubt that some of them should be preserved as what they are, which happen to be national treasures. But, unfortunately, the Federal Government owns far too much land. It owns far more of these Federal public lands than it should own and far more of these lands than it can possibly take care of.

Let's take a look at this map, for example. This shows in red the land that is owned by the Federal Government in parts of the United States. The Federal Government owns most of the land. This is certainly the case in my home State of Utah, where the Federal Gov-

ernment owns two-thirds of the land. Notice, by the way, that in every State east of Colorado, the Federal Government owns less than 15 percent of the land—in most States, significantly less. In every State west of Colorado, the Federal Government owns more than 15 percent of the land, and in many cases, a whole lot more than 15 percent.

The sheer volume of land that it owns is nothing short of staggering. In fact, the Federal Government owns 640 million acres of land. This is a total larger than the entireties of France, Spain, Germany, Poland, Italy, the United Kingdom, Austria, Switzerland, and the Netherlands combined. That is how much land the Federal Government owns just in America.

With such a vast estate, it is no wonder that there is currently a \$19.38 billion maintenance backlog on those lands. Of that backlog, \$11.92 billion is on lands owned and managed by just the National Park Service. In fact, there are National Park Service backlogs in every single State in the country, as this map demonstrates.

I see here that the question is not whether a particular State has a National Park Service backlog within its State; the question is, How much? In some States, it is very severe. In some States, it is significant but not yet severe. But there is a National Park Service maintenance backlog in every single State.

Many of my colleagues—especially those from the Midwest, as this map shows—don't have a whole lot of Federal land in their States. They have a whole lot less Federal land to maintain, and therefore they have less of a maintenance backlog. They should thank their lucky stars for that. That is a position to be envied.

On one end of the spectrum, there is a \$1.3 billion backlog on National Park Service properties in Delaware. The backlog for the parks in Rhode Island is just under \$1 million. But at the other end of the spectrum, California alone has a whopping \$1.8 billion maintenance backlog just on its national parks alone. That is in just one State. What does that mean? That means the damage from wildfires, ill-kept roads and trails, and neglected facilities have actually kept citizens from accessing our national treasures—national treasures like Yosemite and Yellowstone, our National Mall and the Grand Canyon. Visitors who come from far and wide to see them are either unable to see them at all, or perhaps they make it, but they don't have a good experience when they do. All the while, Washington continues to purchase ever more land, so the maintenance backlog continues to grow.

This must not continue. This staggering, stunning maintenance backlog on the Federal land that we own—the Federal land that is more than all of the long list of European countries I mentioned just a minute ago—can't continue. If we continue on this path, we will only do greater disservice to

our citizens and to the lands themselves.

That is why I have introduced an amendment that would stop the Federal Government's use of taxpayer dollars to acquire more lands in the next year. Specifically, it would prevent the money currently going to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Range Improvement Funds, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service from being used to acquire new lands that the Federal Government cannot properly care for.

It is important, when describing a piece of legislation—in this case, an amendment to another piece of legislation—to explain both what it does and what it does not do. Let me be very clear in telling you what this amendment does not do. This amendment would not reduce the dollar amount being given to any of these programs—not one of them, not by one dollar. It would simply reauthorize the money to ensure that it is being used to care for the lands we already own and lands that need to be cared for so desperately.

While some of my colleagues may disagree with me and may believe that we should continue growing the Federal estate, I ask that, at least for this year, we think of our current lands and our existing national parks and that we think of those States where there are a lot of them and States where the maintenance backlog is especially staggering. These lands won't be national treasures for everyone if we don't, can't, or simply won't properly care for them.

If we continue in this pattern of neglect, there will be treasures for no one. If we continue with this pattern of neglect, we will continue to inflict significant environmental harm that, in addition to being stunning in and of itself, may, in some cases, be difficult or impossible to reverse.

If you support the environment, if you want to protect the environment and the natural wonders and beauties with which this land has been blessed, if you want to protect our national treasures, then you should vote for this amendment.

Voting against this amendment means you are willing to have the glutinous Federal Government continue to acquire more land, even while it refuses to and professes itself to be utterly incapable of maintaining the land it has.

For now, at the very least, we ought to ensure that these lands are safe and accessible for generations to come. Our lands, our citizens, and our environment deserve nothing less.

AMENDMENT NO. 1209 TO AMENDMENT NO. 948

(Purpose: To prohibit the expenditure of certain amounts from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for land acquisition.)

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1209.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Utah [Mr. LEE] proposes an amendment numbered 1209 to amendment No. 948.

Mr. LEE. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of October 28, 2019, under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be 2 minutes of debate between each vote in this series and that all votes after the first be 10 minutes in length.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1209 TO AMENDMENT NO. 948

The question is on agreeing to the Lee amendment No. 1209.

Mr. LEE. 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. FISCHER). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 29, nays 64, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 339 Leg.]

YEAS—29

Barrasso	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Inhofe	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Sasse
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Crapo	Lankford	Sullivan
Cruz	Lee	Thune
Enzi	Moran	Tillis
Ernst	Paul	Toomey
Fischer	Risch	Wicker
Grassley	Romney	

NAYS—64

Alexander	Gardner	Peters
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Portman
Blackburn	Graham	Reed
Blumenthal	Hassan	Roberts
Blunt	Heinrich	Rosen
Boozman	Hirono	Schatz
Brown	Hoeven	Schumer
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Cantwell	Jones	Shaheen
Capito	Kaine	Shelby
Cardin	King	Sinema
Carper	Leahy	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Collins	Markey	Tester
Coons	McConnell	Udall
Cortez Masto	McSally	Van Hollen
Cotton	Menendez	Warner
Cramer	Merkley	Whitehouse
Daines	Murkowski	Wyden
Duckworth	Murphy	Young
Durbin	Murray	
Feinstein	Perdue	

NOT VOTING—7

Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Klobuchar	
Harris	Sanders	

The amendment (No. 1209) was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

AMENDMENT NO. 1141, AS MODIFIED, TO AMENDMENT NO. 948

Mr. JONES. Madam President, under the previous order, I call up amendment No. 1141, as modified.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Alabama [Mr. JONES], for himself and Ms. MCSALLY, proposes an amendment numbered 1141 to amendment No. 948.

Mr. JONES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To prohibit the implementation of the "Rostenkowski Test" with respect to the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund)

At the appropriate place in title I of division E, insert the following:

SEC. 1. None of the funds made available by this Act or any other Act may be used to adjust apportionments or withhold funds from apportionments pursuant to section 9503(e)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

Mr. JONES. Madam President, I rise in support of the amendment offered by myself and my friend from Arizona, Senator MCSALLY.

This amendment would permanently block an impending \$1.2 billion in cuts to the Federal public transportation investment. These cuts will affect every one of our States—every one—including 7 million in my home State of Alabama.

Without this legislation to block what is known as the "Rostenkowski Test," every public transit agency will suffer a 12-percent across-the-board cut to transit formula grants this year. For many transit agencies, particularly these smaller transit agencies that serve rural States such as mine, these cuts could be devastating. These cuts would reduce services that are so important to the community, for instance, services for low-income people and services to those who have disabilities.

These cuts would reduce funds for important bus and rail efforts to modernize our transportation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has used 1 minute.

Mr. JONES. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Ms. MCSALLY. Madam President, I rise in strong support of my amendment with Senator JONES from Alabama. As he said, this is a very important amendment to block \$1.2 billion in cuts to these transit agencies that are impacting every single one of our States. Across Arizona, this is millions

of dollars, a 12-percent cut in every State, and we are going to stop that from happening here today.

As Senator JONES mentioned, this is impacting people of low income, of disabilities, and in rural communities across the board. A broad coalition of over 30 associations—including the American Public Transportation Association, Associated General Contractors of America, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce—support our efforts today to block these cuts.

I urge our colleagues to please join us and vote for our amendment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. THUNE. 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), 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 82, nays 11, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 340 Leg.]

YEAS—82

Alexander	Gardner	Portman
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Reed
Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Blumenthal	Grassley	Roberts
Blunt	Hassan	Rosen
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Brown	Heinrich	Rubio
Burr	Hirono	Schatz
Cantwell	Hoeben	Schumer
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Inhofe	Shaheen
Carper	Johnson	Shelby
Casey	Jones	Sinema
Cassidy	Kaine	Sinema
Collins	Kennedy	Smith
Coons	King	Stabenow
Cornyn	Leahy	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Cotton	Markey	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	McSally	Udall
Daines	Menendez	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Moran	Whitehouse
Enzi	Murkowski	Wicker
Ernst	Murphy	Wyden
Feinstein	Murray	Young
Fischer	Peters	

NAYS—11

Blackburn	Lee	Sasse
Braun	Paul	Scott (FL)
Cruz	Perdue	Toomey
Lankford	Romney	

NOT VOTING—7

Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Klobuchar	
Harris	Sanders	

The amendment (No. 1141), as modified, was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 950 WITHDRAWN

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, amendment No. 950 was withdrawn.

Amendment No. 948, as amended, is agreed to.

The cloture motion on H.R. 3055 is withdrawn.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I see my friend, the senior Senator from Alabama, on the floor. I want to offer my praise for him because we are going to vote on final passage of the fiscal year 2020 Senate Commerce, Justice, and Science appropriations bill, the Agriculture appropriations bill, the Interior appropriations bill, and the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill. I urge all Members to vote aye.

These are good, bipartisan bills. They show that despite whatever political atmosphere we operate in, the Appropriations Committee can put partisan politics aside and do our work on behalf of the American people.

These bills make responsible investments that build on what we were able to accomplish in fiscal year 2019 while strongly rejecting the shortsighted cuts the Trump administration proposed. They back up our commitment to invest in rural communities and farms, law enforcement, and the environment.

We have reached this point because we worked together quietly during evenings and weekends to get it done. I want to thank the chairs and the ranking members of the subcommittees for their work: Senators HOEVEN and MERKLEY, Senators MURKOWSKI and UDALL, Senators COLLINS and REED, and Senators MORAN and SHAHEEN.

I have often said that Senators are merely constitutional impediments to their staff, and Senator SHELBY and I are lucky to have such a staff. They have worked very long days and nights.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the list of the staff, both Republicans and Democrats, who deserve our thanks.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

VICE CHAIRMAN LEAHY LIST FOR H.R. 3055
(MINIBUS #2) STAFF FOR THE RECORD

Charles Kieffer, Chanda Betourney, Jessica Berry, Jay Tilton, Hannah Chauvin, Olivia Matthews, Dianne Nellor, Jean Toal Eisen, Rachael Taylor, Dabney Hegg, Adrienne Wojciechowski, Bob Ross, Teri Curtin, Jennifer Eskra, Blaise Sheridan, Elisabeth Coats, Ryan Hunt, Melissa Zimmermann, Faisal Amin, Jessi Axe, Christina Monroe, Shannon Hines, Jonathan Graffeo, David Adkins, Margaret Pritchard, Morgan Ulmer, Hamilton Bloom, Emy Lesofski, Clare Doherty, Patrick Carroll, Elizabeth Dent, Anna Lanier Fischer, Amber Beck, Allen Cutler, Matt Womble, Sydney Crawford, Lucas Agnew, Nona McCoy, Gus Maples,

Rajat Mathur, LaShawnda Smith, Jason Woolwine, Courtney Young, Valerie Hutton, Elmer Barnes, Penny Myles, Karin Thames, Bob Putnam, Jenny Winkler, Christy Greene, George Castro

Mr. LEAHY. I yield the floor, and I urge an aye vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill, as amended, pass?

Mr. LEAHY. 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and 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 84, nays 9, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 341 Leg.]

YEAS—84

Alexander	Gardner	Peters
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Portman
Barrasso	Graham	Reed
Blumenthal	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hassan	Roberts
Boozman	Hawley	Romney
Brown	Heinrich	Rosen
Burr	Hirono	Rounds
Cantwell	Hoeben	Rubio
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Cardin	Inhofe	Schumer
Carper	Jones	Scott (SC)
Casey	Kaine	Shaheen
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Collins	King	Sinema
Coons	Lankford	Smith
Cornyn	Leahy	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Sullivan
Cotton	Markey	Tester
Cramer	McConnell	Thune
Crapo	McSally	Tillis
Daines	Menendez	Udall
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Moran	Warner
Enzi	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Ernst	Murphy	Wicker
Feinstein	Murray	Wyden
Fischer	Perdue	Young

NAYS—9

Blackburn	Johnson	Sasse
Braun	Lee	Scott (FL)
Cruz	Paul	Toomey

NOT VOTING—7

Bennet	Isakson	Warren
Booker	Klobuchar	
Harris	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 84, the nays are 9.

The 60-vote threshold having been achieved, the bill, as amended, is passed.

The bill (H.R. 3055), as amended, was passed, as follows:

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, DEFENSE, STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020—Motion to Proceed

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume consideration on the motion to proceed on H.R. 2740.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2740) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

FAIRNESS FOR HIGH-SKILLED IMMIGRANTS ACT

Mr. LEE. Madam President, I would like to speak briefly about an issue important to me, about an issue important to many Americans, and I would like to speak briefly about Senator DURBIN's recent request for a hearing concerning the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act.

The Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act is a bill that many Senators have worked for, for nearly a decade, and it has long been a top priority of mine. I have introduced this bill in every single Congress, ever since I was first elected to the Senate back in 2010.

During that time, it has been a subject of widespread debate and discussion. There has been a period of time in which a lot of people have learned a lot about this area. The debate and the discussion has occurred both on the Hill and off the Hill throughout the United States.

Other Members, including Senator SCHUMER, have sought to pass the bill, as I am doing. Whether that passage occurs by unanimous consent or through some other form matters less to me than that we get it passed, but we do need to get it passed. This year, we have come closer to making this important and bipartisan reform a reality, closer than we have ever come before at any point over the nearly decade that this has gotten a lot of attention.

In early July, the House of Representatives passed the bill on the Suspension Calendar by a wide bipartisan supermajority vote of 365 to 65. Around that time, I negotiated an agreement with Senator GRASSLEY to help advance the bill by adding provisions drawn from the Durbin-Grassley H-1B reform bill.

Senator GRASSLEY has for many years, openly and publicly, made it known that he had concerns with the

bill. I was therefore very pleased that we were able to sit down and work out an agreement to address those concerns, while keeping the bill narrow and focused on the immediate problem that it is trying to solve. That is eliminating the country of origin discrimination in our employment green card system. I thank Senator GRASSLEY for working with me on that.

The process by which I have tried to advance this bill through Congress has been open, transparent, and straightforward. I have sought and continue to seek unanimous consent to pass the bill on the floor. If any Member has raised concern about the bill, I have been willing to work with them quickly and in good faith to address their concerns.

That is why, after reaching an agreement with Senator GRASSLEY, I also worked with other Members to resolve their concerns. For much of the past few months, I simply didn't know who, if anyone else on the Democratic side of the aisle, might have had concerns with the bill. We were told that there might be holds on the Democratic hotline, but we were not told who exactly might be holding the bill, and no one approached me with objections.

I certainly had no reason to think that Senator DURBIN would have concerns with the bill. As I have explained before, he was a leading cosponsor of the bill in a previous Congress. What is more, the only substantial difference between the bill he supported and the bill I put forward in this Congress is the addition of the amendment that I negotiated with Senator GRASSLEY, which is drawn almost entirely from provisions of the Durbin-Grassley H-1B reform bill.

In September, I learned that Senator DURBIN did in fact have concerns about the bill in this Congress. As I have with other Members and as I have expressed the willingness to do with other Members, I am ready and willing to work with Senator DURBIN in good faith to quickly and reasonably resolve any objection he may have, while preserving the bipartisan support that this bill has long enjoyed and that it deserves to enjoy.

As I have said before, I don't believe that any further factual development concerning this bill is necessary. Indeed at this point, I believe a hearing can serve no purpose other than to delay speedy action on this important reform and jeopardize our ability to act before the end of the year.

For that reason, I do not support Senator DURBIN's calls for a public hearing. Every day that we delay action on this bill is another day that suffering experienced by immigrants stuck in the green-card backlog continues and indeed intensifies. That is precisely why I will continue to work to pass this bill at the earliest possible date.

The Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act arguably has wider and more bipartisan support than any

other immigration bill that has been considered in this body in recent years. The reason for that is that it is focused on a single, serious, solvable problem that I think we can all agree needs to be solved.

Whatever other reforms you think might need to be made to our immigration system, with good reason, we can all agree that America should not treat immigrants differently based on their country of origin. There is no reason for this bill to become yet another casualty to the polarized, partisan divisions that plague immigration policy.

I look forward to working with Senator DURBIN to resolve the concerns he may have about this bill. I reiterate that, once again, this is a narrowly focused bill, one that focuses on a simple but long-standing problem, a problem that subjects some immigrants to needlessly lengthy delays for no reason other than their country of origin. This is from a bygone era that we shouldn't be perpetuating in this country.

We need to fix the problem. The Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act would do that, and I encourage all of my colleagues to join me. We are almost there, but we need to get it over the finish line.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. YOUNG). The Senator from Georgia.

H.R. 2740

Mr. PERDUE. Mr. President, I rise to talk about the vote we are going to have in just a few minutes to appropriate our first appropriations bill for this fiscal year, which, by the way, we are already in the first month of our new fiscal year.

We are under a continuing resolution, which we have talked about ad nauseam in this body and how damaging that is to our military and how expensive it is over the long run. I had breakfast with one of our Secretaries in the DOD today, and he told me that just in the Navy alone, a continuing resolution this year would cost the Navy almost \$5 billion. That is \$50 billion just in one service over the next decade. We can do better than this.

I want to praise Senator SHELBY and Senator LEAHY, the ranking member and the chairman of the Appropriations Committee. They have done their job. The subcommittee chairman and ranking members have done their jobs. We are ready to vote on these bills, and it comes down to just an obstructionist issue about funding the wall versus funding our military.

Just last weekend, President Trump announced that Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of ISIS, had been taken off the battlefield by his own hand, I might say. This is a win not just for our country but for the world in this fight against terrorism.

As we now know, the world has gotten to be very dangerous—maybe the most dangerous in my lifetime—with five threats across five domains. We are worried now about places like China, Russia, North Korea, and Iran,

as well as the asymmetric threat of terrorism around the world in over five domains—air, land and sea, and now we have to worry about cyber and space as well.

Let's just take a moment and realize that without a strong military, this Special Operations op over the weekend would not have been possible. Our intelligence community, our special operators, our military personnel, all the supply people, all the people involved in supporting these people at the tip of the sphere came to bear and brought us a victory this week over the No. 1 terrorist in the world.

Everybody in America should be celebrating this incredible achievement by our military. Rather than celebrating, however, our friends across the aisle are trying to change the subject in many ways. One way is in the U.S. House with the hypocritical approach we are seeing right now of denying due process to our President and having a vote this week that is a real mockery of the process in itself. There is no guarantee of due process to the President in this resolution.

I believe the Democrats just don't understand how President Trump got elected, and they hate it so much, they will not even let him have this win relative to taking a major terrorist off the battlefield.

We must never forget how depraved this gentleman was and their ideology really is. These ISIS thugs have been a scourge on that part of the world, and they are not going away, by the way. Since 2014, ISIS has beheaded two American journalists, James Foley and Steven Sotloff. Let us never forget that these things occurred. They forced women into sex slavery, including 26-year-old Kayla Mueller, a humanitarian worker who went there to try to do good who was later killed.

These are the people, under al-Baghdadi's leadership, who set fire to a Jordanian pilot—a captured pilot—violating the rules of war. They put him in a cage, poured gasoline on him, and lit him on fire alive. These are the people who lined up 21 Coptic Christians on a beach in Libya and beheaded them in front of a video. They crucified Christians across the Middle East for years.

Al-Baghdadi inspired all of these atrocities. His death brings justice to these countless victims. The fight is not over yet. We have taken out the leadership. We denied them the territorial caliphate. We are now moving to protect the oil so these people will be denied resources so they cannot reconstitute again. These people will not go away. The ideology has not died. We have just taken their caliphate away. We have to continue to do that.

The current strategy has not changed in Syria. The President has said this publicly. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said it publicly. We are there to defeat ISIS. We are there to protect Iraq, deter Iran, and support our friends in Israel, but we need bipar-

tisan support and consistent funding to achieve this bigger mission. That is just one of them in one domain. We have others across the world. With an ever-growing military capacity in China alone, we have to get serious about how we fund, consistently, our U.S. military effort.

Yet, as I stand here today, we are under a continuing resolution, which we know handcuffs our own military and adds hundreds of billions of dollars over the next decade to the cost of funding our military. We have a CR right now that has us actually spending \$4 billion that the Department of Defense has already identified that they don't want to spend. Yet because of continuing resolution rules, they have to keep spending against these obsolete programs and wasting that \$4 billion.

In addition, we are sitting here at the end of October, the first month of the fiscal year, and we have not even finalized the authorization for our defense because of not being able to work this out with the House.

We have to do that and get to funding right away to fund our military. Our men and women in uniform are the best that we have in America, and we owe it to them to not drop the ball in this eleventh hour to show them that we have their backs. They can do the job, but only if we fund them.

This is a travesty, and right now it is broken down into partisan politics, not over defending our country. It puts our national security at risk.

I will give us just one little piece of data here to close this out. Over the last 50 years, we disinvested in our military by at least 25 percent three different times under three Democratic Presidents. That is just historical fact; that is not a partisan observation. We did it in 1976 to 1980; we did it in the 1990s; we did it in the last administration over 8 years. We disinvested in the military by at least 25 percent.

We saw the travesty that the military had in terms of readiness in January 1, 2017. We saw how bad our readiness was when two-thirds of our elite Strike Fighters, FA-18s, in the Navy could not fly. Only 3 of our 58 Army brigades could go to war that night. It was a terrible position to be in. Under new leadership, we have gotten that readiness back, but now we have to rebuild the military that has been burned up over the last 20 years fighting terrorism.

The challenge we have before us right now is to do our No. 1 job, and that is to fund and appropriate the Federal Government. Of that, discretionary spending is what this is all about. It is only \$1.3 trillion of the \$4.6 trillion the Federal Government will totally spend this year, but of that, the military, the VA, and all domestic discretionary programs make up \$1.3 trillion.

I am advocating today that we take our responsibility seriously to fund our military because of the growing threats around the world and the dam-

age we see that it does to the efforts of freedom by our friends abroad. There is no bigger responsibility we can have than to support our men and women in uniform who put their lives on the line every day. The best testament of that is this example we just saw of a success in Syria, very close to the Turkish border, pulled off through places where Russians and Syrian Government and Syrian rebels and Turkish soldiers were all in the general vicinity. We pulled off a miraculous victory for freedom in the world. Now it is our job to fund defense and get on with that. I highly suggest that we take that very seriously.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, the Senate is going to vote on whether to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to a package of appropriations bills that will include the Senate Defense appropriations bill, and the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (Labor-HHS) appropriations bill.

There are many things in these bills that I support, but I am going to strongly urge all Senators to vote no. I am disappointed that the majority leadership has taken this step. They bowed to demands by President Trump, and that is continuing to delay funding for our troops.

They insist on including in this bill authority for President Trump to raid American tax dollars from our military and their families. President Trump wants to raid that money to pay for his wall, after he had given his solemn word that Mexico would pay for it, and that is not acceptable. Because he cannot keep his word, he has already raided \$6.2 billion from the Department of Defense this year alone for his border wall.

He did all of that without congressional approval of either Republicans or Democrats. He diverted \$2.6 billion from the fiscal year 2019 Defense Appropriations Act. Then he took another \$3.6 billion from military construction projects for his southern border wall.

That money came from projects that would have improved the lives of our troops and their families: military schools, childcare centers, and improved training facilities, many of which have been damaged by hurricanes and other natural disasters.

On this side, we oppose this bill because we are fighting to protect funds that are meant for the women and men of our military and their families. We oppose this bill because we stand with those patriotic Americans, and we refuse to place the President's failed campaign promises on their backs.

That alone should convince every Member of this Chamber to oppose this package. Yet the Labor-HHS appropriations bill that is tied to this Defense bill also shortchanges the domestic priorities of the American people by stealing even more money to pay for President Trump's vanity wall.

If all things were equal, the Labor-HHS appropriations bill—our largest domestic funding bill—would receive a 3-percent increase in fiscal year 2020, but the Republican bill provides less than a 1-percent increase for Labor-HHS, while the Department of Homeland Security's appropriations bill receives a 7-percent increase to cover the cost of the President's demand for his wall. It doesn't add up to me, and it doesn't add up to most Americans, who broadly oppose President Trump's wall.

If, in the House and Senate, we were to have an up-or-down vote on the wall, I suspect it would fail. So now, they are trying to do it through a backdoor way—a shortsighted cash grab directed by President Trump. This is a bill that fails to cover even the annual costs of inflation in public health, Head Start, childcare, special education, veterans' training grants, and dozens of other programs that are relied upon by the American people. He will cut the veterans programs and he will cut the childcare programs to pay for this wall.

I am also disappointed by the willful spread of misinformation by President Trump and the Republican leadership regarding our opposition to this bill. They have baselessly accused the Democrats of blocking a 3.1-percent pay raise for our troops by our opposing this package. That is ridiculous.

Regardless of the action we take in this Chamber, the men and women of our military will see a raise in January. No matter what we do, they are going to get that raise. This well-deserved raise is based on a statutory formula that does not need to be authorized by the legislation before us. In fact, neither the House nor the Senate Defense appropriations bills contain any provision that is related to a pay raise. Reaching a bipartisan-bicameral consensus on a \$693 billion Defense appropriations bill is hard enough without there being the willful and irresponsible spreading of misinformation.

This campaign of misinformation does not stop there. The Republican leadership has even accused the Senate Democrats of holding up aid to Ukraine. That would be laughable if it were not for the real-world consequences we are seeing play out in Ukraine today. It is the Republicans who are holding both military funding and Ukraine aid hostage to President Trump's vanity wall. It is the Republicans who refuse to bring a bill to the floor unless Congress enables President Trump to continue stealing funds from our troops and our military families to pay for the wall that he gave his solemn word that Mexico would pay for.

The Senate Democrats have long advocated for aid to Ukraine. We insisted it be included in the fiscal year 2020 appropriations bills, and we will continue to do so because it is the right thing to do. Since 2015, I have personally supported more than \$3.3 billion in aid for Ukraine. That is a level that far exceeds the President's request.

These baseless accusations are merely attempts to distract from why the

Senate Democrats are actually opposing this package. We will not stand idly by as President Trump continues to rob our military families—using them as his personal piggy bank—for a failed campaign promise that he cannot keep. We will not stand idly by as the domestic priorities of the American people are shortchanged to pay for some unnecessary monument to the President's ego along our southern border.

We have been down this road before. Just last month, the Republican leadership failed to get the votes that were necessary to move these bills, but I think it is prudent to remind everyone that this entire strategy has been tried before. It failed before, and it will fail again—that strategy being the wall over everything, that strategy being the wall at all costs no matter how much damage it does to our veterans, no matter how much damage it does to our military families, and no matter how much damage it does to American children. It is a strategy of a wall and a campaign promise over the American people.

That same strategy drove the country into the longest government shutdown in American history earlier this year that cost the taxpayers billions of dollars, and they got absolutely nothing in return. Incidentally, that was when the Republicans controlled both Chambers of Congress, and they still allowed this shutdown. So, if you think this failed Republican strategy will work on the second go-around, I have a fence for you to paint back at my home in Vermont.

Everyone here knows there is only one real path forward to our reaching agreement on bipartisan bills, and I believe it is time we reached that agreement. I have tremendous respect for my good friend Chairman SHELBY. Look at the bills we just passed overwhelmingly. That is because Senator SHELBY and I were able to sit down and work on these bills, put them together, and do them in a bipartisan way. I have told the Secretary of Defense and others that we still have time to do that on the Defense appropriations bill. We can do it.

When we come back next week, we should try again. Let the grownups in both parties in this body work on it. We will get it done, but the clock is ticking. It is really time to stop the political maneuverings and to stop the sloganeering. Let's do real work.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise in the U.S. Senate to fight for America's military.

This past week, our Special Forces eliminated the leader of ISIS and his likely successor. Their accomplishments should remind all of us that our brave troops always carry out their duties no matter what the circumstances. They shouldn't expect anything different from the U.S. Congress. Yet they

do. They have come to expect that their elected leaders will fail to execute the most fundamental of their duties—funding the government. They don't deserve failure, and they certainly shouldn't expect it. They deserve our gratitude, and they deserve our unwavering commitment.

The best way to demonstrate that gratitude and commitment, I believe, is by passing an appropriations bill that gives our military what it needs. Our men and women in uniform should never find themselves on the battlefield, wondering if they will be able to support their families back home. They should never wonder if their training needs, support requirements, or mission objectives will be held hostage by partisan bickering in the Congress. They should never wonder why America's adversaries are doubling down on their military investments while America is sitting idle.

I believe the United States must maintain its edge over our adversaries. China is escalating its defense spending, which we all know. Yet America's military is operating under a continuing resolution. That means that our military is having to face tomorrow's threats with yesterday's funding levels. That means that our military's planning and operations are weighed down with uncertainty.

That should be unacceptable to all of us, on both sides of the aisle, in the U.S. Senate. We have an opportunity to change that today by voting to proceed to the fiscal year 2020 Defense appropriations bill. What are we talking about here? We are talking about \$695 billion in total defense funding. That is national security for the United States of America. That is an increase of about \$20 billion over last year's level. This increased funding, among other things, would provide a 3.1-percent pay increase for our men and women in uniform—the largest in 10 years. Believe me, they need it. It would continue the development of the world's most advanced weapons systems, and we will need them. It would increase our investments in hypersonics, 5G technology, artificial intelligence, missile defense, and cyber security, and we need that. I believe all of this is absolutely essential to maintaining America's strategic advantage over our main adversaries and competitors—China and Russia. We had better not lose sight of that here in the Senate.

Unfortunately, at the moment, my Democratic colleagues seem more focused on scoring political points than ensuring that our military has the certainty and the funding it needs to counter our adversaries. They have said they will not allow us to fund our military here in the Senate until the funding levels for all 12 appropriations bills are agreed to with the House. If that defies most Americans' senses of how our government works and what is most important, it should.

My Democratic colleagues want to press the pause button here in the Senate. I don't agree with that. I believe

that we must complete our work, and I believe that most of the Democrats want to get this done.

Foremost, we should certainly complete our work on the Defense bill. Funding America's military should be our priority. It should come first here in the Senate. Our men and women in uniform don't get to hit the pause button, as we do. They don't get to shirk their duties, and neither does Congress. We cannot afford additional delay. Our service men and women—those troops whom we have entrusted to keep us safe and protect our democracy, our country, and our allies—cannot afford additional delay. We must not kick the can down the road when it comes to America's security and America's military.

Let's come together. We have done this. Senator LEAHY and I worked together last year, and for the first time in years, we met the deadline. We can do this again. We need the green light here. We need to provide the resources that are necessary to maintain the greatest fighting force the world has ever known. We should never be second to anybody else. Let's show our troops that we can actually get our work done here, that we actually care about them.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I yield back all time.

I ask unanimous consent that the vote start now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The 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 motion to proceed to Calendar No. 140, H.R. 2740, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

Richard C. Shelby, Mike Crapo, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Shelley Moore Capito, Roger F. Wicker, Lisa Murkowski, Mike Rounds, Pat Roberts, John Boozman, Marco Rubio, Rick Scott, John Barrasso, Kevin Cramer, Richard Burr, Mitch McConnell.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to

proceed to H.R. 2740, an act making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), 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 yeas and nays resulted—yeas 51, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 342 Leg.]

YEAS—51

Alexander	Ernst	Peters
Barrasso	Fischer	Portman
Blackburn	Gardner	Risch
Blunt	Graham	Roberts
Boozman	Grassley	Romney
Braun	Hawley	Rounds
Burr	Hoeven	Rubio
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cassidy	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Collins	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Jones	Shelby
Cotton	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cramer	Lankford	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Tillis
Cruz	McSally	Toomey
Daines	Murkowski	Wicker
Enzi	Perdue	Young

NAYS—41

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Brown	Kaine	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Manchin	Smith
Casey	Markey	Stabenow
Coons	McConnell	Tester
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Udall
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murphy	Warner
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Paul	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NOT VOTING—8

Bennet	Isakson	Sanders
Booker	Klobuchar	Warren
Harris	Moran	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 51, the nays are 41. Three-fifths of the Senators having not voted in the affirmative, the motion is not agreed to.

The majority leader.

MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I enter a motion to reconsider the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

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. 355.

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 Austin Tapp, of Kentucky, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, there is a cloture motion at 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 Austin Tapp, of Kentucky, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Tim Scott, Roger F. Wicker, John Thune, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Mike Braun, Richard Burr, Thom Tillis, John Boozman, John Hoeven, David Perdue, Kevin Cramer, John Barrasso, Michael B. Enzi, Chuck Grassley, Mitch McConnell.

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. 463.

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 Danielle J. Hunsaker, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

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 Danielle J. Hunsaker, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

John Thune, Thom Tillis, Chuck Grassley, Mike Crapo, James E. Risch, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Mike Rounds, Lindsey Graham, Shelley Moore Capito, John Boozman, Tom Cotton, John Cornyn, Joni Ernst, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, Jerry Moran, Mitch McConnell.

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. 464.

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 William Joseph Nardini, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

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 William Joseph Nardini, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit.

John Thune, Thom Tillis, Chuck Grassley, Mike Crapo, James E. Risch, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Mike Rounds, Lindsey Graham, Mitch McConnell, John Boozman, Tom Cotton, John Cornyn, Joni Ernst, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, Jerry Moran, Shelley Moore Capito.

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. 458.

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 Lee Philip Rudofsky, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

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 Lee Philip Rudofsky, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

Richard C. Shelby, Mike Crapo, John Cornyn, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Shelley Moore Capito, Roger F. Wicker, Lisa Murkowski, Mike Rounds, Pat Roberts, John Boozman, Marco Rubio, Rick Scott, John Barrasso, Kevin Cramer, Richard Burr, Mitch McConnell.

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. 365.

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 Jennifer Philpott Wilson, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

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 Jennifer Philpott Wilson, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

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 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 Arkansas.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and 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.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

● Ms. HARRIS. Mr. President, on October 30, 2019, I was not present for the vote on S.J. Res. 52, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Health and Human Services relating to "State Relief and Empowerment Waivers." If I were present, I would have voted yes.●

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, today I voted against amendment No. 1141. I would like to take an opportunity to explain my position.

In September 2019, the Treasury Department reported, in accordance with Federal laws, that the highway trust fund's mass transit account had an unfunded authorization of \$27 billion but only estimated \$26 billion in revenue to be collected over the next 4 years. In other words, the account was expected to take on more than \$1 billion in obligations than it would be able to collect in revenue.

Instead of correcting the problem, the Jones amendment ignored it, preventing Treasury from implementing the law to bring the mass transit account back into balance.

Since I joined this body in January, I have repeatedly noted my concern for our nearly \$1 trillion annual budget deficit and our more than \$22 trillion

Federal debt. Washington is broken. We do not have the money to finance even the most basic functions of our government: infrastructure and our national defense.

Today's vote was an example of the consequences we may face when Congress lets these serious financial issues languish. We cannot continue to ignore these problems. We cannot continue to pretend our fiscal problems are solved by waving away protections placed by prior Congresses.

I believe that Congress must fix this problem and bring our trust funds into long-term solvency. When the Environment and Public Works Committee approved our highway bill in July, I ensured the bill contained language stating our intent to do just that.

Today, Congress was lucky—we could push our spending problem off to another day. One day soon, we will not be so lucky.

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I would like to say a few words in memory of my good friend and former colleague Kay Hagan, who passed away this week.

One of the hardest aspects of this work in the Senate is the loss of a colleague. So my thoughts are with Senator Hagan's family and friends in this difficult time.

I recall well her 6 years here with both deep respect and friendship.

In the time we served in this body together, I was able to get to know Kay very well, and I can honestly say I am lucky to call her a friend. She was always kind and a positive face and worked hard for her constituents and the Nation.

Kay was a dedicated public servant who served North Carolinians for 16 years. She got her start in politics in the 1970s when she interned right here in the Senate. As an elevator operator during her internship, she brushed shoulders with some of the biggest names of the day. Kay later described the experience as "infectious," and it inspired her own political ambitions.

In 1998, that political career took her to the North Carolina State Senate. It didn't take long for Kay's talents to be noticed. She rose through the ranks quickly and became cochair of the budget committee.

Her trademark pragmatism and focus on problem solving served her well in that position. Her hard work earned her a ranking as one of the top 10 most influential members in the State senate.

In 2008 Kay won a race that brought her here, to the U.S. Senate, where her passion and focus continued to distinguish her. Kay was a fierce advocate for her State, using her position on the Armed Service Committee to help North Carolina's military families. Whether it was asking the tough questions on water contamination at military bases or mustering support for

veterans' caregivers, Kay was always there for our servicemembers.

Kay was also a breath of fresh air in the Senate. There were only 15 women serving in the Senate when she came to Washington in January 2009. When she first arrived, she soon learned that the Senate pool was only open to men. She thought that was wrong and got the rules changed. She was a firm believer in equality and making the changes you want to see in the world.

No matter how big or small the issue, Kay always tried to help the people of North Carolina. Just a few months ago, she made one of her last public appearances at a groundbreaking for a new air traffic control tower at Piedmont Triad International Airport. When she was first elected to the Senate, she toured the old air traffic control tower at Piedmont and learned that a project to replace it was stalled in Washington. Kay took on the project and fought for funding to finally get it moving forward. It is through her work and diligence that the tower is being built today.

From reproductive rights to veterans' healthcare to transportation infrastructure, you could always count on Kay to deliver. She will be missed by many for her warmth and devotion to public service.

I send my deepest condolences to her husband, Charles "Chip", and her three children, Jeanette, Tilden, and Carrie.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

• Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I rise to honor and pay tribute to my good friend Senator Kay Hagan.

When I think of Kay, I will always think of joy, as reflected by the bright colors she used to love wearing. Regardless of how things could get at times, her wonderful spirit would make it all seem better.

You could always count on Kay to look out for people, whether it was restoring a program to pay tuition for Active-Duty servicemembers, establishing stronger protections for victims of domestic violence, or passing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act to stop pay discrimination.

Kay made history. She was the first woman Democratic Senator from North Carolina and the State's second woman ever elected to the U.S. Senate. I have always thought that the women of the Senate work harder, work together, and get things done. Kay was definitely one of those women.

In fact Kay, in her inimitable way, summed it up best when she said, "There are only two types of senators: those who'd spend all day on their hair . . . and the women senators."

Kay loved to swim, and when she arrived as a new Senator in 2009, she went down to the Senate pool only to find a sign outside that said "Men Only"—a fact that she mentioned during one of

her first speeches as a Senator without realizing media was present. When the press started calling around to various offices asking about the "men only" Senate pool, some were quick to push back on Kay's claim, so Kay asked them to meet her down at the pool to see for themselves. Within a day, the sign was changed to "Co-Ed Aquatic Facility: Please Dress Appropriately." As it turned out, four male Senators had been swimming naked. But because of Kay Hagan, now all Senators can enjoy the pool, and everyone wears "appropriate attire".

That is what I loved about working with Kay. She always looked out for her colleagues. And so when Kay left the Senate, the women Senators had a special farewell party for her next to the pool.

Kay's drive to get things done came in part from her family. Born in Shelby, NC, as the second of three children and the only daughter, Kay once remarked "being the girl in the middle . . . I had to fight for everything I got."

And fight she did, rising from an internship in the U.S. Capitol in the 1970s, where she operated the elevators for U.S. Senators, to eventually becoming a Senator herself. In between, Kay served as State senator for 10 years and was named as one of North Carolina's "Ten Most Effective Senators" three terms in a row.

My friend, former Vice President Walter Mondale, once told me that when elected officials gain power, they "either grow or they swell." Kay was a Senator who grew.

Kay was one bright yellow ray of sunshine for everyone she touched—the Senate, her beloved State of North Carolina, her friends, and her family. As she struggled with her illness the last few years, her loving husband, Chip, and their family were always at her side. I encourage everyone to look up at the Sun and think of Kay. •

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to former Senator Kay Hagan, who left us this week, much too early, at the age of 66. Kay and I entered the Senate together, in 2009. Our class of freshman Democratic Senators was very close, and I spent a lot of time with Kay. She was warm and vivacious and 100 percent committed to her home State of North Carolina.

Kay was the first woman Democratic Senator elected from North Carolina, and she beat a formidable incumbent. By the time she entered the Senate, she had already gained a reputation in her State as a leader and a fighter, having served in the State senate for 10 years.

Kay was a woman of great strength, grace, and accomplishment. She was a lawyer, a banker, a legislator, a mother of three, and grandmother of five. Kay came to the Senate to get things

done for North Carolina and the Nation. To be effective, she worked across the aisle to find solutions to the everyday problems facing Americans. When she entered the Senate, she said, “We have a Congress now that is kind of divided, and I want to be one of the ones that helps bring people together.”

Kay was a woman of principle. She was a key vote in support of the Affordable Care Act—that resulted in millions of Americans gaining access to health care. She stood in favor of choice for women, gay marriage, equal pay for women, the Violence Against Women Act, and expanding background checks on gun sales.

She was a fierce defender of military families, of which there are so many in North Carolina, and served on the Armed Services Committee. In hearings, she pressed the Army on the unexplained deaths of 11 infants at Fort Bragg and pushed for full disclosure of documents related to contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune. And before many others, she supported women serving in combat zones. “Anybody’s who qualified should be able to serve,” she said.

Kay fought for the “little guy.” She used her banking expertise to fight against payday lending. She wanted a fairer minimum wage, so families can support themselves. She supported job creation and small business. “For me in North Carolina, it’s jobs, jobs, jobs,” she said.

She understood that big money in politics was drowning the voice of regular Americans and that access to the ballot box is being blocked. After her Senate loss, Kay went on to serve as resident fellow at the Institute of Politics at Harvard University with a focus on money in politics and voting rights, saying, “We need to encourage young folks across the country to go exercise their constitutional right to vote. It is something that our Constitution gives us, but not enough people exercise it.”

Kay wanted to inspire young people—especially young women—to vote, to be informed, to run for office. Kay did inspire. And she leaves us with a legacy of integrity, commitment, and civility. I was proud to be her colleague, but I was even more proud to be her friend, and I send my heartfelt condolences to her family.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, it is with deep sadness that I remember and recognize the life of former U.S. Senator Kay Hagan of North Carolina.

I am grateful that I had the privilege to serve with Senator Hagan here in the United States Senate. Her approach to her job was something we would all do well to learn from. Kay was a model of civility, optimism, and selfless service to the State she loved.

Early in her life, Kay served as a Capitol Hill intern for her uncle, Senator Lawton Chiles of Florida. Her duties included operating the Senators-only elevator. In time, she would go on to prove that she belonged on that elevator, too.

After 10 years in the North Carolina Senate, she won election to the United States Senate and served her home State with dignity. Even in the face of one of the most expensive and challenging election campaigns in this body’s history, Senator Hagan remained focused first and foremost on how to find common ground in this Chamber and the ways she could deliver for her constituents in North Carolina.

I am particularly grateful for the model that Senator Hagan set as the cochair of the Congressional Sportsmen’s Caucus. In that role, she worked hard to forge bipartisan consensus around a comprehensive package of bills to increase public access for hunting and fishing and to extend important fish and wildlife conservation programs.

Julie and I are keeping her husband, Chip; their three children, Jeanette, Tilden, and Carrie; and all of their grandchildren in our hearts. We will all miss Kay.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I first met Kay Hagan at a People magazine photoshoot for the Senate’s “Leading Ladies” after I was elected in 2012. I appreciated how warm and welcoming she was towards me. I have fond memories of working with Kay on the Senate Armed Services Committee, and we forged a partnership through our leadership roles on the Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee.

My deepest sympathies are with her family during this difficult time.

NORTH DAKOTA

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, I rise today to mark the 130th birthday of the State of North Dakota. On November 2, 1889, President Benjamin Harrison signed the documents turning Dakota Territory into two States, North Dakota and South Dakota. In the 13 decades since then, the people of North Dakota have embraced the many opportunities and challenges of living in the geographic center of North America.

God has blessed us with abundant natural resources, and with hard work and innovation, North Dakotans have fed the world and fueled our Nation. We are top producers of wheat, sunflowers, dry edible beans, navy and pinto beans, canola, flaxseed, and honey. Our ranchers raise 1.7 million beef cattle—or almost three head of cattle for every North Dakotan.

As the Nation’s second largest producer of oil in the country, we are one of the reasons the United States becomes closer every year to being energy independent. As one of the country’s top 10 coal-producing States, our lignite reserves have an 800-year supply. Before there were Federal reclamation laws, North Dakota was enforcing its own, and our air quality has been ranked at among the best in the Nation. We proudly embrace an “all of the above” energy policy that, in addition to oil and coal, supports production of wind and biofuels.

Every year, visitors and new residents discover the beauty of our State, with its distinct geographic regions. A young Theodore Roosevelt’s years of ranching in the North Dakota Badlands greatly influenced his conservation policies as our Nation’s 26th President. North Dakota has been regarded the birthplace of conservation as Roosevelt, who was known as the Conservation President, established vast protections for wildlife and public lands through new national forests, bird reserves, game preserves, national parks, and national monuments. He said, “I would not have been President had it not been for my experience in North Dakota.”

My State can often be found at the top of quality of life rankings in America, largely due to the strong sense of community engagement and social support present from border to border.

I speak for all North Dakotans in the pride we have for what our State has given to the Nation and world in our first 130 years, but, in true North Dakota spirit, I believe most would agree with me that we are just getting started and the best is yet to come. Happy Birthday, North Dakota.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH R. BRITTON

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, it is an honor to recognize the years of dedication and service of my friend and departing chief of staff, Joseph R. Britton.

Joe has served as my chief of staff for more than 4 years and has managed my Senate office in a professional and purposeful manner. He has overseen my team with incredible leadership and has consistently motivated us all to work hard and make a difference for New Mexicans each and every day.

Joe’s career on Capitol Hill began in 2003, when he served as a legislative assistant for U.S. Senator Ben Nelson from his home State of Nebraska. He then served as legislative director and deputy chief of staff in the office of U.S. Senator MARK UDALL. He also served as a senior adviser to former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack before coming to my office in 2015. He brought with him passion and expertise in healthcare, public lands, budget, and appropriations policy.

As chief of staff, Joe has led both our Washington, DC, and New Mexico offices in Albuquerque, Roswell, Las Cruces, Farmington, and Santa Fe. Joe visited every corner of our State. It is a testament to his dedication to maintaining strong working relationships that New Mexicans know that they can count on our office to be reliable, accessible, and in their corner. Joe took the time to learn about New Mexico and understand our rich history, our thriving culture, and the complex, pressing issues we face in the Land of Enchantment. Throughout his service, Joe has shared my mission and drive to solve problems and find ways to make a difference for New Mexicans.

I recognize that Joe couldn't be where he is or who he is today without the love and support of his family. For her support of him and constant dedication, I thank his wife, Katie. I would also like to recognize Joe and Katie's children, Louise and Jamey, for lighting up their parent's lives. We all look forward to seeing them grow up in the years ahead.

On behalf of the American people, the people of the State of New Mexico, and on behalf of my team that Joe has so ably led for the past 4 years, I thank him for his service. While I am sad to see him go, I know that he will continue to make a difference in the lives of everyone he meets. Joe has been doing that from his first day on Capitol Hill.

I ask my colleagues in the United States Senate to join me in recognizing the dedicated service of my chief of staff, Joseph R. Britton.

TRIBUTE TO EVANN BERRY

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Mr. President, I am pleased to commend Evann Berry for her contributions and dedicated service as a member of my personal office staff.

A native of Jackson, MS, Evann earned her bachelor of science in biological engineering at Bagley College of Engineering at Mississippi State University. After her college tenure, Evann began her professional career by serving as an emerging leader scholar for the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation, followed by an internship with the office of the late U.S. Senator Thad Cochran. In May 2016, Evann was hired as a full-time staff member for Senator Cochran, where she easily proved how indispensable her talents were for serving the good constituents of Mississippi. Following Senator Cochran's retirement, Evann maintained a model work ethic within my office that has proven to be a testament to her good character.

Evann's contributions throughout her tenure have been invaluable to the legislative functions of not just my office but my predecessor's office as well, and her insightful input will be missed. I, along with the rest of my office, have benefitted from Evann's knowledge and experience. Her personal qualities are impeccable. She is a hard-working, courteous, and intelligent young woman, who has a strong sense of responsibility, good judgment, and a pleasant demeanor that makes her an easy person to like.

Mr. President, Mississippi and our Nation have been well-served by the diligence, dedication, and commitment to excellence Evann provided on a daily basis. She has put forth her best efforts to reflect credit on me, our State, and the U.S. Senate and has been successful in doing so. I will miss Evann's good counsel. She has my appreciation and gratitude for the notable job she has done in the Senate. I wish Evann all the best in her future endeavors.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET ST. CLAIR PLASTINO

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a true inspiration from my home State of Idaho, Margaret St. Clair Plastino. Likely the oldest living registered nurse in Idaho, Margaret has truly used her 102 years on this earth to improve the health of those in her community. Because of this lifetime of service, she is being honored on Monday, November 4, 2019, by her fellow nurses at the Idaho Nurses Recognition Dinner cosponsored by the Idaho Center for Nursing, Nurse Leaders of Idaho, and the American Nurses Association of Idaho. This is a well-deserved honor, as Margaret spent the majority of her life improving healthcare in Idaho.

Margaret was born in Utah in 1917 to Edwin St. Clair and Evelyn Borrow before she and her family moved to Shelley, ID. She has remained in eastern Idaho ever since, helping her community and serving as a positive influence in the lives of those she encounters. Margaret graduated from the Idaho Falls LDS Hospital School of Nursing in 1939 and was hired by Bonneville County as county nurse in 1942. Beginning her career during the Great Depression, Margaret not only provided much needed medical care, she also provided emotional support and comfort to patients. She treated each patient with the devotion and care that were central to her character.

Margaret married her husband, Ben Plastino, in 1948, and they were blessed with three daughters. She began a new full-time role raising their family in 1952. Although she was no longer spending her days caring for patients as a full-time nurse, Margaret continued to help provide healthcare to the community where she could, including administering important vaccines. She eventually returned to the nursing profession, becoming the first home health nurse in southeastern Idaho. After she retired, she maintained active in the field and volunteered in various roles for the next 25 years.

There are countless stories that illustrate Margaret's devotion as a nurse. Many of these have been shared in local and State newspapers recently and there are certainly more to be shared amongst her friends, family, and community. Such instances include Margaret's decision to administer tetanus shots to those affected by the Teton Dam collapse in 1976. She also cared for children of a struggling family when she found out they did not have sufficient food in their household. It is heartening to hear stories such as these and I hope they will continue to spread and inspire more individuals to do as Margaret has.

Margaret went the extra mile in all that she did to ensure the best care was administered to her community. She did not do this for accolades or atten-

tion. She recognized that she could be of service to her community and wanted to use her skill sets to help. She has demonstrated the love she has for her community and demonstrated how to treat each patient in a manner that reflects their dignity as a person. Margaret is selfless and the type of individual who makes her community and Idaho such a special place. There is no one more deserving to be honored.

Today, I express appreciation on behalf of countless individuals from the great State of Idaho, impacted by Margaret's selfless service. She's truly an extraordinary citizen who didn't just see providing healthcare as a profession but as a calling. I join her colleagues in honoring her lifetime of service.●

HONOR FLIGHT NEVADA

• Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I rise today with great pride to recognize a group of national heroes as they have embarked on their Honor Flight from Nevada to Washington, DC. Nevada is home to over 225,000 veterans, and I am glad that we are able to honor 41 of these brave individuals today. These courageous men and women served in our military and sacrificed so much to defend our freedoms and values. Today's honor flight includes individuals who served in the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, and the Coast Guard. As we welcome them to the Nation's Capital, let us remember that these men and women put their lives on the line to answer our country's call to duty, and let us strive to emulate the greatness that they have so selflessly displayed.

I would like to begin with honoring individuals who served in the United States Army. Mr. Glenn Christman, 93, who served in the Army from 1944-1960, spanning World War II and Korea. He was a soldier in the Special Forces, as well as a paratrooper, and attained the highest enlisted rank of sergeant major. He was shot nine times throughout his service and was awarded both the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. Mr. Vincent Cimino, 86, who served in the Army from 1953-1955 during the Korean war. He was a soldier stationed in Germany as a clerk typist, responsible for making dog tags for his battalion. Mr. Donald Davis, 85, who served in the Army from 1954-1956 during the Korean war. He was a soldier in the Quartermaster Corps. Mr. Alfred Fiel, 90, who served in the Army during the Korean war. He was stationed in Frankfurt, Germany, and served as a supply clerk for the military police. Mr. Ronald Fortmeyer, 87, who served in the Army during the Korean war from 1952-1954. He was a private first class serving as an infantry soldier on the 38th parallel. Mr. Charles Nola, 82, who served during the Korean and Cold wars. He was a soldier stationed in Germany, as well as in the U.S. working as a senior movement specialist. Mr. William Sanchanko, 92, who served in the Army

during World War II. He was stationed in Manila, Philippines, serving as a military policeman. Mr. Michael Stem, 82, who served in the Army from 1961–1968 during the Vietnam war. He was a chief warrant officer 2, and was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

The second group of individuals I would like to honor today are those that served in the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Jerome “Jerry” Gardberg, 82, served 32 years as a marine, a career that spanned both the Vietnam and Cold wars, as a communications officer. Mr. John Jesse, 83, who served in the Marines from 1954–1962, working in helicopter warfare development, and rising to the rank of sergeant before separating from the Marine Corps.

The third group of individuals I would like to honor today are those that served in the United States Navy. Mr. Anthony Barbaro, 85, who served during the Korean war and was stationed in the United States, Philippines, and Japan. He was a crew chief aboard the USS *Boxer*. Mr. Eugene “Frenchy” Bousquet, 84, who served during the Korean and Vietnam wars and spent 22 years in the Navy as an electrician and instructor. Mr. Kenneth Knudson, 81, who served during the Vietnam war as part of a Navy career that spanned from 1960–1980. He was a line and naval security group officer, and attained the rank of lieutenant commander. Mr. Gerald May, 86, who served from 1951–1955 during the Korean war. Seaman First Class David Miller, 92, who served during World War II aboard the USS *Breton*. Fireman Second Class Daniel Nall, 93, who served during World War II from 1944–1945 as a motor machinist mate. Mr. Larry “Nick” Nicolai, 82, who was stationed in the South Pacific during the Korean war as an electrician’s mate aboard the USS *Prestige* and the USS *Mattaponi*. Seaman Abraham Sabori, 86, who served from 1951–1954 during the Korean war. Mr. Donald Van De Steeg, 96, who served during World War II from 1943–1946 in the 7th Fleet under Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid. Torpedoman First Class Marvin Wear, 84, who served during both the Korean and Vietnam wars aboard destroyers and submarines as part of a Navy career that spanned from 1952–1972. Petty Officer First Class Patricia Whitlock, who served in Desert Storm during a career that spanned from 1978–1996 in which she worked as a mess specialist career counselor, and metal craftsman.

The fourth group of individuals I would like to honor today are those that served in the United States Air Force. Colonel Mack Boone, 90, who served 25 years of intermittent service of Reserve and Active Duty from 1949–1989. He was a B-26 Navigator, commander of Class A Unit, and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and four Air Medals. Ms. Anne Bousquet, 84, who served during the Korean war from 1953–1957. She worked in communications at the Pentagon and in Eng-

land. Mr. Donald Furlong, 85, who served during the Vietnam war as part of a 22-year career from 1953–1975. He was stationed in North Africa and England as an aircraft maintenance crew chief on the Recon Bomber 47. Mr. Skip Gruber, 81, who served during the Vietnam war in the Air Force and Army working as an aircraft electronics repairman. He was awarded the Bronze Star. Mr. Min Hiu Hen, 79, who served during the Vietnam war in the Air Force and Army as a transportation officer and pilot. He was shot down on his 318th combat mission and awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Purple Heart. Senior Airman Robert Kundel, 75, who served during the Vietnam war from 1963–1967 refueling aircraft. Private First Class Luis Maldonado, 92, who served during World War II in both the Army and Air Force, his career spanning from 1946–1949. He worked in the hangar storage department and guarded prisoners waiting to be repatriated. Airman First Class Ralph Reggans, 84, who served during the Korean war in the Army and Air Force from 1950–1960 as a combat engineer. Senior Master Sergeant Fredrick Marshall Stilt Sr., 93, who served during the second World War, as well as the Korean and Vietnam wars in both the Army and Air Force as a casualty reporting assistant. He earned the Bronze Star Medal for his service during the Tripoli Evacuation of 1967. Master Sergeant Fredrick Marshall Stilt Jr., 72, who served during the Vietnam war in the Army and Air Force. During his 20-year career, he worked in radio communications. Mr. Lloyd Tatro, 87, who served during the Korean and Vietnam wars. During his career that spanned from 1950–1970, he worked in radar support directing B-52 bombers to their targets. Mr. Rollie Tatro, 85, who served during the Korean and Vietnam wars. During his career that spanned from 1952–1975, he worked as a baker and supervisor. Mr. William “Bing” Tatro, 83, who served during the Korean and Vietnam wars, he was a navigator technician on B-52 bombers for 13 years. Major Francis Walls, 89, who served during the Korean, Vietnam, and Cold wars as part of a military career that spanned from 1948–1973. He worked in aircraft maintenance and was awarded the Bronze Star. Senior Master Sergeant Richard Wellington, 84, who served from 1954–1974 as an electrician, including during the Vietnam war, in both the Navy and Air Force. Mr. Clifford “Yank” Wiltse, who served during the Korean war from 1952–1956. He worked in the Strategic Air Command and the Military Transport Service.

Finally, I would like to honor Mr. Bernard Pachter, 92, who served in the Coast Guard from 1945–1948. With his service starting towards the end of World War II in the Pacific, he was a working medic in Guam, Iwo Jima, and Ulithi, and earned the rank of hospital corpsman second class.

Our Nation owes a debt of gratitude to all of these men and women, and it

is my distinct privilege to honor their service today and welcome them to the Nation’s Capital. ●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN AS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13067 OF NOVEMBER 3, 1997—PM 34

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Sudan declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, is to continue in effect beyond November 3, 2019.

Despite recent positive developments, the crisis constituted by the actions and policies of the Government of Sudan that led to the declaration of a national emergency in Executive Order 13067; the expansion of that emergency in Executive Order 13400 of April 26, 2006; and with respect to which additional steps were taken in Executive Order 13412 of October 13, 2006, Executive Order 13761 of January 13, 2017, and Executive Order 13804 of July 11, 2017, has not been resolved. These actions and policies continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared

in Executive Order 13067, as expanded by Executive Order 13400, with respect to Sudan.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 31, 2019.

TRANSMITTING NOTIFICATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S INTENT TO TERMINATE THE DESIGNATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON AS A BENEFICIARY SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN COUNTRY UNDER THE AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (AGOA)—PM 35

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with section 506A(a)(3)(B) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(3)(B)), I am providing notice of my intent to terminate the designation of the Republic of Cameroon (Cameroon) as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

I am taking this step because I have determined that the Government of Cameroon currently engages in gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, contravening the eligibility requirements of section 104 of the AGOA.

Despite intensive engagement between the United States and the Government of Cameroon, Cameroon has failed to address concerns regarding persistent human rights violations being committed by Cameroonian security forces. These violations include extrajudicial killings, arbitrary and unlawful detention, and torture.

Accordingly, I intend to terminate the designation of Cameroon as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under the AGOA as of January 1, 2020. I will continue to assess whether the Government of Cameroon engages in gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, in accordance with the AGOA eligibility requirements.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 31, 2019.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:23 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1373. An act to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and cultural heritage of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2181. An act to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico.

At 4:31 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by

Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 823. An act to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, 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. 823. An act to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1373. An act to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and cultural heritage of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2181. An act to provide for the withdrawal and protection of certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2755. A bill to require a report on the plan to secure the enduring defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3084. A communication from the Chief of the Law Enforcement Division, Department of the Army, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Military Police Investigation" ((RIN0702-AB01) (32 CFR Part 637)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3085. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018, with respect to Nicaragua; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3086. A communication from the Policy Associate Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Consumer Leasing (Regulation M)" ((RIN7100-AF59) (Docket No. R-1676)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3087. A communication from the Policy Associate Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appraisals for Higher-Priced Mortgage Loans Exemption Threshold" ((RIN7100-AF61) (Docket No. R-1678)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3088. A communication from the Policy Associate Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Truth in Lending (Regulation Z)" ((RIN7100-AF60) (Docket No. R-1677)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3089. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report on the Utilization of Federal Technology for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017"; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3090. A communication from the Supervisory Regulations Specialist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—2019-20 and 2020-21 Subsistence Taking of Fish Regulations" (RIN1018-BC06) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3091. A communication from the Supervisory Regulations Specialist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Subsistence Management Regulations for Public Lands in Alaska—Cook Inlet Area Regulations" (RIN1018-BB99) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3092. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Office of Hearings and Appeals Procedural Regulations" ((RIN1903-AA10) (10 CFR Part 1003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 30, 2019; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-3093. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting; Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations on Certain Federal Indian Reservations and Ceded Lands for the 2019-20 Season" (RIN1018-BD07) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3094. A communication from the Branch Chief, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting; Final Frameworks for Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations" (RIN1018-BD10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3095. A communication from the Branch Chief, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Permits; Regulations Concerning a Depredation Order" (RIN1018-BB77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3096. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Migratory Bird Hunting; Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds" (RIN1018-BD10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3097. A communication from the Branch Chief, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

“Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Interagency Cooperation (Delay of Effective Date)” (RIN1018-BC87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3098. A communication from the Branch Chief, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Foskett Speckled Dace from the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife” (RIN1018-BC09) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3099. A communication from the Fish and Wildlife Administrator, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Financial Assistance: Wildlife Restoration, Sport Fish Restoration, Hunter Education and Safety” (RIN1018-BA33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3100. A communication from the Branch Chief, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removal of the Monito Gecko (*Sphaerodactylus micropithecus*) from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife” (RIN1018-BB76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3101. A communication from the Branch Chief, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing the Kirtland’s Warbler from the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife” (RIN1018-BC01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3102. A communication from the National Species Status Assessment Team Lead, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for Barrens Topminnow” (RIN1018-BC52) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 29, 2019; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. GRAHAM for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Sarah E. Pitlyk, of Missouri, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri.

Richard Earnest Myers II, of North Carolina, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

Daniel Mack Traynor, of North Dakota, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota.

Jodi W. Dishman, of Oklahoma, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 2756. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to facilitate program-related investments by private foundations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. INHOPE):

S. 2757. A bill to waive the imposition of a civil fine for certain first-time paperwork violations by small business concerns; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2758. A bill to impose sanctions under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act to combat the suppression of the freedoms of speech, association, assembly, procession, and demonstration of the people of Hong Kong, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2759. A bill to require the United States Postal Service to designate a single, unique ZIP code for Swanzey, New Hampshire; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 2760. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to enhance direct certification under the school lunch program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 2761. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide that children who have relocated from Puerto Rico to the States are fully considered for purposes of State allotments under the English Language Acquisition grants; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 2762. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitation on the amount individuals filing jointly can deduct for certain State and local taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2763. A bill to require that internet platforms give users the option to engage with a platform without being manipulated by algorithms driven by user-specific data; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. ERNST, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2764. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify how controlled substance analogues that are imported or offered for import are to be regulated, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. KING, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. COONS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2765. A bill to improve Federal fiscal controls and the congressional budget process; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 2766. A bill to support and expand civic engagement and political leadership of adolescent girls around the world, and other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 2767. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a pilot competitive grant program for improving the sharing of water quality data, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 2768. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit smoking on Amtrak trains; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 2769. A bill to eliminate or modify certain Federal agency reporting requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. TESTER:

S. Res. 391. A resolution reaffirming a strong commitment to the U.S. producers and American-made commodities; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. YOUNG, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 392. A resolution recognizing the importance of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative to the relationship between the United States and the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and to advancing the policy of the United States in the Indo-Pacific region; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 393. A resolution recognizing the historical, cultural, and religious significance of the 500th birthday of Guru Nanak and the contributions and sacrifices made by Sikhs of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. Res. 394. A resolution honoring the members of the military and intelligence community who carried out the mission that killed Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, and for other purposes; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. Res. 395. A resolution recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Iran Hostage Crisis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. Res. 396. A resolution designating October 2019 as “National Health Literacy Month”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. DAINES):

S. Res. 397. A resolution celebrating the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Act creating the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. JONES:

S. Res. 398. A resolution recognizing the National Peanut Festival held annually in

Dothan, Alabama, and the importance of the peanut industry in the State of Alabama and the United States; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. ENZI, Mr. UDALL, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. SMITH):

S. Res. 399. A resolution designating November 2, 2019, as "National Bison Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. RISCH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. ERNST, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. DAINES, Mr. WICKER, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. ENZI, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HOEVEN, and Ms. MCSALLY):

S. Res. 400. A resolution recognizing October 2019 as "National Women's Small Business Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. Res. 401. A resolution recognizing the month of October 2019 as Filipino American History Month and celebrating the history and culture of Filipino Americans and their immense contributions to the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. Res. 402. A resolution honoring the life, work, and legacy of Toni Morrison; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. Res. 403. A resolution designating October 2019 as "National Farm to School Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. UDALL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. COONS, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARNER, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. Res. 404. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should work in cooperation with the international community and continue to exercise global leadership to address the causes and effects of climate change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. Res. 405. A resolution expressing support for the designation of October as "Brain

Health Awareness Month"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 206

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 206, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps, known as the "Hello Girls".

S. 283

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 283, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to, and utilization of, bone mass measurement benefits under part B of the Medicare program by establishing a minimum payment amount under such part for bone mass measurement.

S. 377

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 377, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate prices of prescription drugs furnished under part D of the Medicare program.

S. 386

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 386, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes.

S. 457

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 457, a bill to require that \$1 coins issued during 2019 honor President George H.W. Bush and to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bullion coins during 2019 in honor of Barbara Bush.

S. 500

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 500, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 560

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 560, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the In-

ternal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 878

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 878, a bill to foster security in Taiwan, and for other purposes.

S. 880

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 880, a bill to provide outreach and reporting on comprehensive Alzheimer's disease care planning services furnished under the Medicare program.

S. 1007

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1007, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1123

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1123, a bill to transfer and limit Executive Branch authority to suspend or restrict the entry of a class of aliens.

S. 1218

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1218, a bill to require the review of the service of certain members of the Armed Forces during World War I to determine if such members should be awarded the Medal of Honor, to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor based on the results of the review, and for other purposes.

S. 1235

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1235, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

S. 1257

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1257, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts to include rollovers for charitable life-income plans for charitable purposes.

S. 1294

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin

(Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1294, a bill to require Federal agencies with jurisdiction over broadband deployment to enter into an interagency agreement related to certain types of funding for broadband deployment.

S. 1590

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) 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. 1601

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1601, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue a rule requiring all new passenger motor vehicles to be equipped with a child safety alert system, and for other purposes.

S. 1657

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1657, a bill to provide assistance to combat the escalating burden of Lyme disease and other tick and vector-borne diseases and disorders.

S. 1703

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1703, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1757

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1757, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

S. 1781

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1781, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2020 through 2022 to provide assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras through bilateral compacts to increase protection of women and children in their homes and communities and reduce female homicides, domestic violence, and sexual assault.

S. 1782

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms.

ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1782, a bill to add suicide prevention resources to school identification cards.

S. 1812

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1812, a bill to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct research on wildfire smoke, and for other purposes.

S. 1813

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1813, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide wildfire smoke mitigation assistance to States and units of local government, and for other purposes.

S. 1814

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1814, a bill to authorize the President to declare a smoke emergency, and for other purposes.

S. 1815

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1815, a bill to establish an occupational safety and health standard to protect farmworkers from wildfire smoke, and for other purposes.

S. 1838

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1838, a bill to amend the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992, and for other purposes.

S. 2026

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2026, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to reauthorize the farm to school program, and for other purposes.

S. 2179

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2179, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide social service agencies with the resources to provide services to meet the urgent needs of Holocaust survivors to age in place with dignity, comfort, security, and quality of life.

S. 2246

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2246, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide equal coverage of in vitro specific IgE tests and percutaneous tests for allergies under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2248

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from

Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2248, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to redesignate and expand the Troops-to-Teachers Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2254

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) 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. 2491

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2491, a bill to terminate certain rules issued by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce relating to endangered and threatened species, and for other purposes.

S. 2570

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 2603

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2603, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to end the immigrant visa backlog, and for other purposes.

S. 2641

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2641, a bill to promote United States national security and prevent the resurgence of ISIS, and for other purposes.

S. 2671

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2671, a bill to build safer, thriving communities, and save lives by investing in effective violence reduction initiatives.

At the request of Mr. CASEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2671, supra.

S. 2680

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2680, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign support for Palestinian terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 2690

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma

(Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2690, a bill to reduce mass violence, strengthen mental health collaboration in communities, improve school safety, and for other purposes.

S. 2695

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2695, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide for the defense of United States agriculture and food through the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, and for other purposes.

S. 2710

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2710, a bill to prohibit the commercial export of covered munitions items to the Hong Kong Police Force.

S. 2722

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2722, a bill to prohibit agencies from using Federal funds for publicity or propaganda purposes, and for other purposes.

S. 2740

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2740, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the regulatory framework with respect to certain nonprescription drugs that are marketed without an approved new drug application, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 150

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 150, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that it is the policy of the United States to commemorate the Armenian Genocide through official recognition and remembrance.

S. RES. 376

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 376, a resolution emphasizing the importance of a career, nonpartisan Foreign Service of the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 1005

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1005 proposed to H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1088

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1088 proposed to

H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1099

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1099 proposed to H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1114

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1114 proposed to H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1122

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1122 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1130

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1130 proposed to H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1135

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1135 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1163

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1163 proposed to H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1182

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1182 proposed to

H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1193

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1193 proposed to H.R. 3055, a 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 1223

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1223 proposed to H.R. 3055, a 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.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 2762. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the limitation on the amount individuals filing jointly can deduct for certain State and local taxes; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise to introduce a bill to ensure that the treatment of the State and Local Property Tax deduction, also known as the "SALT deduction," does not unfairly penalize married taxpayers. The SALT Deduction Fairness Act would eliminate the marriage penalty imposed by the current \$10,000 cap on SALT by doubling this amount for married filers.

The SALT deduction has been in the tax code since 1913 when the income tax was first established and is intended to prevent double taxation. The original Senate tax reform bill in 2017 would have eliminated the deduction altogether. During the consideration of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, I fought to keep the SALT deduction in the Federal tax code because of the incredible tax burden a complete elimination of this deduction would have imposed on American taxpayers, many of whom pay high taxes on everything from their incomes to their vehicles.

My amendment, which was adopted by the Senate, retained the SALT deduction for up to \$10,000 in State and local taxes such as State income taxes, local property taxes, and vehicle excise taxes. This was especially important to families living in high-tax states like Maine, which not only has one of our Nation's highest tax burdens, but also a relatively low per household income—approximately \$6,300 below the U.S. average. Maintaining the deduction provided important tax relief for those hard-working Mainers who continued to itemize.

But a basic unfairness still exists in the tax code that penalizes married couples. Currently, individual taxpayers can deduct up to \$10,000 in State and local taxes. If two people marry, however, the deduction remains at \$10,000. As a result, a couple could be financially better off not getting married when it comes to the current SALT deduction.

This legislation very simply would remove the marriage penalty by doubling the SALT deduction from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for joint filers. This straightforward change would remove a bias against marriage from the tax code. And, most important, it would help make the dream of home ownership a reality for married couples.

The National Association of Realtors recently wrote to me about the importance of eliminating this marriage penalty, stating, “Homeownership has long been a vital part of the American Dream. Research shows that an overwhelming majority of current renters aspire to own a home, and we know that our Nation’s faith in homeownership has persisted through the Great Recession. For well over a century, our tax system has helped American families in reaching this Dream.”

Mr. President, we should not unfairly penalize American taxpayers for being married. This common sense legislation will fix this undue burden who are penalized for their filing status.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 2763. A bill to require that internet platforms give users the option to engage with a platform without being manipulated by algorithms driver by user-specific data; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. THUNE. 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. 2763

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 “Filter Bubble Transparency Act”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **ALGORITHMIC RANKING SYSTEM.**—The term “algorithmic ranking system” means a computational process, including one derived from algorithmic decision-making, machine learning, statistical analysis, or other data processing or artificial intelligence techniques, used to determine the order or manner that a set of information is provided to a user on a covered internet platform, including the ranking of search results, the provision of content recommendations, the display of social media posts, or any other method of automated content selection.

(2) **COMMISSION.**—The term “Commission” means the Federal Trade Commission.

(3) **CONNECTED DEVICE.**—The term “connected device” means a physical object that—

(A) is capable of connecting to the internet, either directly or indirectly through a network, to communicate information at the direction of an individual; and

(B) has computer processing capabilities for collecting, sending, receiving, or analyzing data.

(4) **COVERED INTERNET PLATFORM.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “covered internet platform” means any public-facing website, internet application, or mobile application, including a social network site, video sharing service, search engine, or content aggregation service.

(B) **EXCLUSIONS.**—Such term shall not include a platform that—

(i) is wholly owned, controlled, and operated by a person that—

(I) for the most recent 6-month period, did not employ more than 500 employees;

(II) for the most recent 3-year period, averaged less than \$50,000,000 in annual gross receipts; and

(III) collects or processes on an annual basis the personal data of less than 1,000,000 individuals; or

(ii) is operated for the sole purpose of conducting research that is not made for profit either directly or indirectly.

(5) **INPUT-TRANSPARENT ALGORITHM.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “input-transparent algorithm” means an algorithmic ranking system that does not use the user-specific data of a user to determine the order or manner that information is furnished to such user on a covered internet platform, unless the user-specific data is expressly provided to the platform by the user for such purpose.

(B) **INCLUSION OF AGE-APPROPRIATE CONTENT FILTERS.**—Such term shall include an algorithmic ranking system that uses user-specific data to determine whether a user is old enough to access age-restricted content on a covered internet platform, provided that the system otherwise meets the requirements of subparagraph (A).

(C) **DATA PROVIDED FOR EXPRESS PURPOSE OF INTERACTION WITH PLATFORM.**—For purposes of subparagraph (A), user-specific data that is provided by a user for the express purpose of determining the order or manner that information is furnished to a user on a covered internet platform—

(i) shall include user-supplied search terms, filters, speech patterns (if provided for the purpose of enabling the platform to accept spoken input or selecting the language in which the user interacts with the platform), saved preferences, and the user’s current geographical location;

(ii) shall include data supplied to the platform by the user that expresses the user’s desire that information be furnished to them, such as the social media profiles the user follows, the video channels the user subscribes to, or other sources of content on the platform the user follows;

(iii) shall not include the history of the user’s connected device, including the user’s history of web searches and browsing, geographical locations, physical activity, device interaction, and financial transactions; and

(iv) shall not include inferences about the user or the user’s connected device, without regard to whether such inferences are based on data described in clause (i).

(6) **OPAQUE ALGORITHM.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “opaque algorithm” means an algorithmic ranking system that determines the order or manner that information is furnished to a user on a covered internet platform based, in whole or part, on user-specific data that was not expressly provided by the user to the platform for such purpose.

(B) **EXCEPTION FOR AGE-APPROPRIATE CONTENT FILTERS.**—Such term shall not include

an algorithmic ranking system used by a covered internet platform if—

(i) the only user-specific data (including inferences about the user) that the system uses is information relating to the age of the user; and

(ii) such information is only used to restrict a user’s access to content on the basis that the individual is not old enough to access such content.

(7) **SEARCH SYNDICATION CONTRACT; UPSTREAM PROVIDER; DOWNSTREAM PROVIDER.**—

(A) **SEARCH SYNDICATION CONTRACT.**—The term “search syndication contract” means a contract or subcontract for the sale, license, or other right to access an index of web pages on the internet for the purpose of operating an internet search engine.

(B) **UPSTREAM PROVIDER.**—The term “upstream provider” means, with respect to a search syndication contract, the person that grants access to an index of web pages on the internet to a downstream provider under the contract.

(C) **DOWNSTREAM PROVIDER.**—The term “downstream provider” means, with respect to a search syndication contract, the person that receives access to an index of web pages on the internet from an upstream provider under such contract.

(8) **USER-SPECIFIC DATA.**—The term “user-specific data” means information relating to an individual or a specific connected device that would not necessarily be true of every individual or device.

SEC. 3. REQUIREMENT TO ALLOW USERS TO SEE UNMANIPULATED CONTENT ON INTERNET PLATFORMS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Beginning on the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, it shall be unlawful—

(1) for any person to operate a covered internet platform that uses an opaque algorithm unless the person complies with the requirements of subsection (b); or

(2) for any upstream provider to grant access to an index of web pages on the internet under a search syndication contract that does not comply with the requirements of subsection (c).

(b) **OPAQUE ALGORITHM REQUIREMENTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The requirements of this subsection with respect to a person that operates a covered internet platform that uses an opaque algorithm are the following:

(A) The person provides notice to users of the platform that the platform uses an opaque algorithm that makes inferences based on user-specific data to select the content the user sees. Such notice shall be presented in a clear, conspicuous manner on the platform whenever the user interacts with an opaque algorithm for the first time, and may be a one-time notice that can be dismissed by the user.

(B) The person makes available a version of the platform that uses an input-transparent algorithm and enables users to easily switch between the version of the platform that uses an opaque algorithm and the version of the platform that uses the input-transparent algorithm by selecting a prominently placed icon, which shall be displayed wherever the user interacts with an opaque algorithm.

(2) **NONAPPLICATION TO CERTAIN DOWNSTREAM PROVIDERS.**—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to an internet search engine if—

(A) the search engine is operated by a downstream provider with fewer than 1,000 employees; and

(B) the search engine uses an index of web pages on the internet to which such provider received access under a search syndication contract.

(c) SEARCH SYNDICATION CONTRACT REQUIREMENT.—The requirements of this subsection with respect to a search syndication contract are that—

(1) as part of the contract, the upstream provider makes available to the downstream provider the same input-transparent algorithm used by the upstream provider for purposes of complying with subsection (b)(1)(B); and

(2) the upstream provider does not impose any additional costs, degraded quality, reduced speed, or other constraint on the functioning of such algorithm when used by the downstream provider to operate an internet search engine relative to the performance of such algorithm when used by the upstream provider to operate an internet search engine.

SEC. 4. ENFORCEMENT BY FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION.

(a) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRACTICES.—A violation of this Act by an operator of a covered internet platform shall be treated as a violation of a rule defining an unfair or deceptive act or practice prescribed under section 18(a)(1)(B) of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 57a(a)(1)(B)).

(b) POWERS OF COMMISSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Federal Trade Commission shall enforce this Act in the same manner, by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction, powers, and duties as though all applicable terms and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and made a part of this Act.

(2) PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), any person who violates this Act shall be subject to the penalties and entitled to the privileges and immunities provided in the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.).

(3) COMMON CARRIERS AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.—Notwithstanding section 4, 5(a)(2), or 6 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 44, 45(a)(2), 46) or any jurisdictional limitation of the Commission, the Commission shall also enforce this Act, in the same manner provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this paragraph, with respect to—

(A) common carriers subject to the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.) and Acts amendatory thereof and supplementary thereto; and

(B) organizations not organized to carry on business for their own profit or that of their members.

(4) AUTHORITY PRESERVED.—Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the authority of the Commission under any other provision of law.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 2766. A bill to support and expand civic engagement and political leadership of adolescent girls around the world, and other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today I am pleased to be joined by my friend and colleague from Maryland, Senator CARDIN, to introduce the Girls Leadership, Engagement, and Advocacy in Development, or Girls LEAD, Act. Our legislation would support and expand civic engagement and political leadership of adolescent girls around the world.

Despite comprising over 50 percent of the world's population, women are underrepresented at all levels of public sector decision-making. Recently, Con-

gress has taken steps to combat this issue with new laws, including the Women, Peace, and Security Act and the Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act. The Girls LEAD Act will complement these efforts by specifically addressing the civic involvement and leadership of adolescent girls, an area where there is currently a gap in U.S. foreign assistance programming. The United States can help foster a pipeline of adolescent girls who will aspire to assume leadership roles in their communities.

Adolescence is a pivotal time in a girl's life that brings about significant physical, emotional, and social changes. Yet, according to UNESCO, 132 million adolescent girls between the age of 6 and 17 are not enrolled in school. As reported by UNICEF, more than 150 million girls will marry as children by 2030. It is vitally important that girls and young women in childhood are empowered, and that we invest in their leadership potential early so that they can develop pathways to positions of political leadership and civic engagement.

The Girls LEAD Act would combat these terrible statistics by making it the policy of the United States to promote and ensure that all adolescents are able to fully participate in society, and are specifically able to exercise their civil and political rights in their communities and countries. We know that women's political participation results in tangible change for democracies and the United States must continue to be a leader in this arena.

Specifically, our legislation would direct the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development to implement a strategy that strengthens adolescent girls' participation in democracy and governance. This strategy would include U.S. foreign assistance programs that focus on increasing adolescent girls' civic and political knowledge, advocacy, leadership, and research skills, while addressing the common barriers that can preclude their participation. The bill would require that this strategy be developed in consultation with civil society, including the participation of adolescent girls.

As a senior member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, for years I have pushed to set aside resources in the annual State Department funding bill for women's leadership and political participation programs, and I have seen first-hand the positive effects of greater political involvement on the part of women here in the United States. I believe our Nation can and must continue its leadership role in empowering women and girls worldwide, and turning more attention to the civic engagement of adolescent girls will help advance that mission.

I urge my colleagues to join me and Senator CARDIN in supporting the Girls LEAD Act, which will help to improve and create a more secure world now and in the future.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 391—RE-AFFIRMING A STRONG COMMITMENT TO THE U.S. PRODUCERS AND AMERICAN-MADE COMMODITIES

Mr. TESTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

S. RES. 391

Whereas the U.S. farmers and ranchers raise the best meat in the world;

Whereas Americans should have the right to knowingly buy made in America products; Whereas American farmers, ranchers, workers and consumers benefit from transparency on the origin of food;

Whereas Congress overwhelmingly supported Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) in the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-246; 122 Stat. 1651) because 87 percent of consumers want to know the country of origin of their meat;

Whereas in 2015, Congress repealed the Country-of-Origin Labeling (COOL) law for beef and pork, reducing the competitive advantage of products born, raised, and slaughtered in the U.S.;

Whereas there is no standardized definition of the term "truth in labeling", disadvantaging American producers;

Whereas Congress supports American products, and consumers deserve the right to know where their food comes from;

Whereas the United States has the highest phytosanitary standards in the world while other countries place less emphasis on food safety;

Whereas foreign commodities, like beef and pork, are misleadingly labeled "Product of USA" if they are processed or packed in the United States;

Whereas technological advancements make it possible to accurately and efficiently identify the origin of beef and pork without costly segregation of imported and domestic commodities;

Whereas this gives producers and consumers the ability to identify true American products from foreign imported meat; and

Whereas Country-of-Origin labeling is good for farmers, ranchers, workers, and packers, because it allows them to identify their products as born and raised in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports legislation to reinstate Country-of-Origin labeling for pork and beef to allow consumers to make an informed and free choice about where their food comes from.

SENATE RESOLUTION 392—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE YOUNG SOUTHEAST ASIAN LEADERS INITIATIVE TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE MEMBER STATES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS AND TO ADVANCING THE POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. YOUNG, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 392

Whereas the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) was created in 2013 to build a cadre of emerging leaders in member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) with the goal of fostering regional cooperation and partnership with the United States;

Whereas YSEALI is composed of influential young leaders who are between 18 and 35 years of age from ASEAN countries (Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam) and Timor-Leste who are making a difference in their communities, countries, and the region;

Whereas 65 percent of the population of the ASEAN region is under 35 years of age, and these 400,000,000 youth will determine the future of the region for decades to come;

Whereas YSEALI aims to further strengthen the enduring partnership between the United States and ASEAN;

Whereas YSEALI encourages its leaders to partner with each other and the United States Government to address common challenges, including economic growth, sustainable development, education, and civic engagement;

Whereas YSEALI academic and professional exchange programs in the United States allow visiting leaders to experience the culture and values of the United States first-hand, while establishing personal and professional ties to experts, institutions, organizations, companies, and local governments in the United States;

Whereas YSEALI exchange visitors, upon returning to their countries, help promote a positive understanding of the United States;

Whereas YSEALI allows United States experts to visit ASEAN countries to share their expertise and work with YSEALI alumni on projects that advance common goals;

Whereas YSEALI programs in the Indo-Pacific region build the capacity of civil society in the fields of human rights, good governance, anti-corruption and transparency, social entrepreneurship, and media literacy, which are key to the Indo-Pacific efforts of the United States Government;

Whereas YSEALI programming increases the visibility of the United States in the Indo-Pacific region;

Whereas, in 5 years, YSEALI has grown into a thriving community of more than 5,000 alumni and more than 140,000 virtual network participants;

Whereas YSEALI alumni are already distinguishing themselves as influential government officials, entrepreneurs, human rights activists, journalists, social entrepreneurs, and educators;

Whereas outstanding YSEALI alumni include 2 Malaysian cabinet ministers and a Pulitzer Prize-winning Burmese journalist imprisoned for investigating human rights violations against the Rohingya;

Whereas YSEALI alumni are valuable partners to embassies and agencies of the United States overseas;

Whereas the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-409; 132 Stat. 5387) (referred to in this preamble as "ARIA") emphasized the importance of ASEAN to the United States and supported the elevation of the relationship between the United States and ASEAN to a strategic partnership; and

Whereas ARIA authorized \$25,000,000 to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2019 through 2023 to support Indo-Pacific young leaders initiatives, including YSEALI, the ASEAN Youth Volunteers Program, and other people-to-people exchange programs that focus on building the capacity of democracy, human rights, and good governance activists in the Indo-Pacific region: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the partnership of the United States with young leaders in Southeast Asia;

(2) recognizes the importance of the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI) in—

(A) advancing the soft power of the United States in Southeast Asia; and

(B) promoting human rights, democracy, and good governance in the Indo-Pacific region;

(3) emphasizes the key role of YSEALI in—

(A) strengthening the relationship of the United States with the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); and

(B) elevating the profile and standing of the United States as a main partner in the region;

(4) stresses the importance of YSEALI in building leadership capacity among civil society in ASEAN member states and across Southeast Asia; and

(5) encourages the Department of State to promote the YSEALI program to the maximum extent possible as a valuable tool to advance mutually beneficial cooperation with partners in the Indo-Pacific region.

SENATE RESOLUTION 393—RECOGNIZING THE HISTORICAL, CULTURAL, AND RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF THE 550TH BIRTHDAY OF GURU NANAK AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SACRIFICES MADE BY SIKHS OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. RES. 393

Whereas Sikhs have been living in the United States for more than 120 years;

Whereas, during the early 20th century, thousands of Sikhs of the United States worked on farms, in lumber mills and mines, and on the Oregon, Pacific, and Eastern Railroad;

Whereas Sikhism is a monotheistic religion and the fifth largest religion in the world, with—

(1) more than 25,000,000 Sikhs worldwide; and

(2) almost 1,000,000 Sikhs in the United States;

Whereas 2019 is the year of the 550th birthday of Guru Nanak, the first of 10 gurus and founders of Sikhism;

Whereas the Gurburab of Guru Nanak—

(1) is 1 of the most important dates on the Sikh calendar; and

(2) is celebrated across the United States and worldwide;

Whereas Vaisakhi, which is 1 of the most historically significant days of the year for Sikhs—

(1) is celebrated on April 14; and

(2) is the day on which Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the 10th Guru of Sikhism, created the Warrior Saint tradition of the volunteer soldier known as "Khalsa";

Whereas the Sikh place of worship is known as Gurdwara Sahib, and there are more than 500 Gurdwaras Sahib across the United States;

Whereas a hallmark of Sikh values and tradition is the community kitchen in every Gurdwara, known as the "Langar", where food is served, for free, to all visitors to the Gurdwara regardless of faith, religion, or background;

Whereas Sikh men and women have contributed to the society of the United States

since the initial arrival of Sikhs in the United States in the late 1800s;

Whereas Sikhs of the United States pursue diverse professions that add to the social, cultural, and economic vibrancy of the United States, including—

(1) by serving as members of the Armed Forces; and

(2) by making significant contributions to agriculture, information technology, other technology, small businesses, the hospitality industry, trucking, and medicine;

Whereas Sikhs of the United States served in the United States military during the World Wars;

Whereas Sikhs stand for—

(1) equality of gender; and

(2) equality of race; and

(3) freedom of faith;

Whereas Hoosier Sikhs are 1 of the fastest growing business communities in Indiana;

Whereas Sikhs of the United States distinguish themselves by fostering respect among all people through faith and service;

Whereas Sikhism preaches a message of devotion, truthful living, equality of mankind, and social justice;

Whereas the Senate is committed to providing education to the people of the United States about—

(1) the religions of the world;

(2) the value of religious diversity;

(3) tolerance grounded in the principles of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States;

(4) a culture of mutual understanding; and

(5) the importance of reducing violence; and

Whereas the Senate seeks to further diversity in the Senate community and afford all people of the United States the opportunity to better understand, recognize, and appreciate the rich history and shared experiences of Sikhs of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes—

(A) the historical, cultural, and religious significance of the 550th birthday of Guru Nanak;

(B) the contributions and sacrifices made by Sikhs of the United States; and

(C) the discrimination that Sikhs of the United States have faced in the United States and around the world; and

(2) expresses respect for all Sikhs who practice their faith.

SENATE RESOLUTION 394—HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY WHO CARRIED OUT THE MISSION THAT KILLED ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. COTTON (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

S. RES. 394

Whereas the world's number one wanted terrorist, Ibrahim Awad Ibrahim al-Badri, also referred to by his nom de guerre Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, was killed after years of relentless pursuit by the United States;

Whereas President Donald J. Trump stated, "Capturing or killing Baghdadi has been the top national security priority of my Administration," and "The world is now a much safer place.;"

Whereas, on October 26, 2019, members of the United States Special Operations Command flawlessly executed a daring and complex nighttime raid coordinated with numerous partners to assault the compound in

which Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was residing, ultimately leading to his demise;

Whereas Secretary of Defense Mark Esper said of the death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, “This is a devastating blow. This is not just their leader, it’s their founder. He was an inspirational leader in many ways. He formed ISIS in 2014, he led to establishing the physical caliphate throughout the region, so this is a major blow to them.”; and

Whereas, although all members of the raid force were able to return to a safe location following the operation, two service members suffered minor injuries and one military working dog was also injured: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) declares that the death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi represents a measure of justice and relief for the innumerable victims of ISIS;

(2) commends the men and women and military working dogs of the United States Armed Forces and the United States intelligence community for their flawless plan and execution to capture or kill the ISIS leader;

(3) commends the President for ordering the successful operation to locate and eliminate Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi;

(4) recognizes the support from our allies and partners, including the Syrian Kurds, for assisting with executing this daring raid; and

(5) reaffirms its commitment to disrupting, dismantling, and defeating ISIS and affiliated radical Islamic terrorist organizations around the world that threaten United States national security, eliminating safe havens for terrorists, and bringing terrorists to justice.

SENATE RESOLUTION 395—RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IRAN HOSTAGE CRISIS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 395

Whereas, on November 4, 1979, 66 United States diplomats, military personnel, and civilians were taken hostage from the United States Embassy in Tehran by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in what became known as the Iran Hostage Crisis;

Whereas 13 of the 66 American hostages were released by November 20, 1979;

Whereas 8 members of the United States Armed Forces died in an attempt to rescue the hostages on April 25, 1980;

Whereas another American hostage was released on July 11, 1980, after 250 days in captivity;

Whereas, after 444 days in captivity, the remaining 52 hostages were released on January 20, 1981, with the signing of the Algiers Accords;

Whereas the Iran Hostages were subjected to mock executions and other forms of physical and emotional torture at the hands of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran;

Whereas the Iran Hostages and their families still suffer from the events of the Iran Hostage Crisis;

Whereas the Algiers Accords prevented the Iran Hostages from taking legal action to pursue compensation from the Islamic Republic of Iran for their time in captivity;

Whereas many of the Iran Hostages and their families finally became eligible to receive compensation through the enactment in 2015 of the Justice for United States Vic-

tims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act (34 U.S.C. 20144) and the creation of the United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund; and

Whereas, 40 years after its founding, the Islamic Republic of Iran continues to promulgate a culture of fear, oppression, and violence as one of the leading state sponsors of terrorism: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 40th anniversary of the Iran Hostage Crisis;

(2) honors the suffering of the Iran Hostages and their families during the Iran Hostage Crisis, as well as the sacrifices made by those who attempted to rescue the hostages; and

(3) supports the designation of a national day of remembrance on November 4, 2019, for the Iran Hostage Crisis.

SENATE RESOLUTION 396—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL HEALTH LITERACY MONTH”

Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. RES. 396

Whereas health literacy is the degree to which individuals can obtain and understand basic health information in order to make informed health decisions;

Whereas, according to the latest national assessment of health literacy, a majority of adults have intermediate health literacy, while more than 75,000,000 adults have basic or below basic health literacy;

Whereas language and cultural differences can affect health literacy and thereby lower effective health communication between providers and patients;

Whereas, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, low health literacy is associated with higher rates of emergency care use, increased hospitalizations, and, among seniors, higher mortality;

Whereas the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality also found that low health literacy can be associated with a lack of medication adherence;

Whereas experts estimate that the annual cost of low health literacy to the United States economy is between \$106,000,000,000 and \$238,000,000,000;

Whereas mental health literacy may lead to better outcomes for individuals with mental disorders, particularly individuals with suicidal ideation, either by facilitating early help-seeking by those individuals or helping others identify early signs of mental disorders and seek help on behalf of those individuals;

Whereas health literacy can assist in preventing disease and illness, increasing life expectancy, improving patient care and outcomes, and reducing health care costs;

Whereas, in 2010, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a National Action Plan to Improve Health Literacy that establishes 7 goals; and

Whereas advocacy organizations have recognized the month of October as “National Health Literacy Month” to increase awareness about the importance of making health information easy to understand: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 2019 as “National Health Literacy Month”;

(2) encourages individuals to assess and improve their health knowledge and literacy;

(3) recommends that health care providers deliver health services in a clear and comprehensive manner; and

(4) encourages all interested parties to promote the importance of health literacy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 397—CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSAGE OF THE MIKE MANSFIELD FELLOWSHIP ACT CREATING THE MIKE MANSFIELD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. DAINES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 397

Whereas the distinguished tenure of Mike Mansfield as Majority Leader of the Senate spanned 16 years, making him the longest serving Majority Leader in the history of the Senate;

Whereas Mike Mansfield served as the United States Ambassador to Japan from 1977 to 1988, the longest tenure of any United States ambassador anywhere in the world;

Whereas, while serving as Ambassador, Mike Mansfield was fond of reminding the people of the United States and Japan that the “U.S.-Japan relationship is the most important bilateral relationship in the world, bar none”;

Whereas, in 1994, through the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Act (Public Law 103-236; 108 Stat. 428), Congress authorized the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program to build a corps of Federal Government employees (in this preamble referred to as “Mansfield Fellows”) knowledgeable about the language, culture, economy, and politics of Japan, so as to enhance mutual cooperation and understanding between the United States and Japan;

Whereas the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State provides financial support to make possible the deployment of Mansfield Fellows and their families to Japan, and the Government of Japan provides generous in-kind support, including a 2-month home-stay and language training;

Whereas the first cohort of Mansfield Fellows, recruited from across the Federal Government, began their service in Japan on September 1, 1996;

Whereas the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program has created a robust network of officials from the Governments of the United States and Japan with deep understanding of the economic, political, and strategic dimensions of the United States-Japan relationship who work together to advance the mutual interests of the United States and Japan;

Whereas Mansfield Fellows have served in 52 ministries and agencies of the Government of Japan, dozens of Diet offices, and more than a dozen private sector companies and nongovernmental organizations in Japan;

Whereas alumni of the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program are currently employed throughout the Federal Government, including the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Departments of State, Commerce, Defense, Energy, Transportation, and the Treasury, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as well as serving in the Army, Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps;

Whereas, every day, Mansfield Fellows are drawing on their experience to enhance United States-Japan bilateral relations and

to strengthen United States-Japan cooperation around the world to tackle common global challenges;

Whereas, on April 29, 2015, the Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, declared before a Joint Session of the United States Congress that the United States and Japan have forged “an alliance of hope” resting on a foundation of shared democratic values and common interests; and

Whereas the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program has been a cornerstone of United States-Japan cooperation and has made important contributions to strengthening security, economic, and cultural ties between the 2 allies; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 25th anniversary of the passage of the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Act (Public Law 103-236; 108 Stat. 428) creating the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program;

(2) remembers the contributions of Senator Mike Mansfield and his wife Maureen to the United States Senate and to the United States-Japan alliance;

(3) thanks more than 150 alumni of the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program for bringing the expertise garnered during their time in Japan back to the United States Government to advance the interests of the United States;

(4) conveys its appreciation to the people of Japan for the warm welcome they have given to each class of Mansfield Fellows;

(5) commends the Government of Japan for opening its doors to Mansfield Fellows and for providing steadfast and generous support to the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program; and

(6) encourages the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State and the Government of Japan to sustain their support for the Mike Mansfield Fellowship Program, which in turn strengthens the “alliance of hope” and the important work of the program to further peace, stability, and prosperity in the world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 398—RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL PEANUT FESTIVAL HELD ANNUALLY IN DOTHAN, ALABAMA, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PEANUT INDUSTRY IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA AND THE UNITED STATES

Mr. JONES submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

S. RES. 398

Whereas Dr. George Washington Carver, an African-American scientist, inventor, educator, and former slave—

(1) proposed the planting of peanuts and soybeans to restore nitrogen to soil left barren from cotton production;

(2) invented more than 300 products made from peanuts; and

(3) became the first guest speaker in the history of the National Peanut Festival;

Whereas the Incas of Peru began cultivating peanuts as early as 1500 B.C., and peanuts were spread from South America to Spain, Asia, and Africa;

Whereas, in the 1700s, Africans were the first to introduce peanuts to North Americans;

Whereas, beginning in the early 1800s, the steady growth of peanut production allowed peanuts to transition from being a food primarily for livestock and the poor to a high-protein and well-liked source of food for soldiers during the Civil War;

Whereas, in the early 1900s, demand for peanuts grew due to advances in harvesting and production methods that made peanuts and peanut products more easily available;

Whereas Dr. Carver recommended peanuts as a crop to rival the top commercial position of Southern cotton, following the near destruction of the cotton crop due to the boll weevil;

Whereas, in 1938, the first National Peanut Festival was held in Dothan, Alabama;

Whereas, as a result of his instrumental work in promoting the peanut in the Wiregrass area of the State of Alabama, Dr. Carver was invited to serve as the first guest speaker at the National Peanut Festival;

Whereas 2 awards were established at the first National Peanut Festival—

(1) the Miss Peanut Award, first won by Elizabeth Johnson from Headland, Alabama; and

(2) the Volunteer of the Year Award, named in honor of the first president of the National Peanut Festival, Harry P. Hall, and awarded annually since its establishment;

Whereas the National Peanut Festival has become an established event over the past 81 years and became a nonprofit organization in 1952 through a resolution passed by the local chamber of commerce;

Whereas, in 1996, the statue of Dr. Carver in Dothan, Alabama, was dedicated to honor the famed peanut pioneer and first guest speaker at the National Peanut Festival;

Whereas, in 2010, the National Peanut Festival moved to its current location at the fairgrounds on US Highway 231 South in Dothan, Alabama;

Whereas peanuts remain a significant cash crop grown in the United States that is valued at more than \$1,000,000,000 per year;

Whereas children and adults in the United States consume an average of 6 pounds of peanut products, including snack nuts and candy, per person each year;

Whereas, each year, individuals in the United States consume approximately 133,000,000 metric tons of peanut oil, a high-quality cooking oil;

Whereas approximately half of all peanuts grown in the United States originate within a 100-mile radius of Dothan, Alabama; and

Whereas, in 2018, peanut farmers in Alabama, of which there are close to 900—

(1) produced runner peanuts, the variety of peanut that makes up 80 percent of all peanut production in the United States;

(2) harvested 189,000 acres of peanuts; and

(3) produced 400,000,000 pounds of peanuts valued at approximately \$118,000,000: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the National Peanut Festival held in Dothan, Alabama, is of remarkable importance to the State of Alabama, the United States, and the peanut industry due to—

(1) the attendance of approximately 200,000 fairgoers over the course of a 10-day event;

(2) the economic impact of the National Peanut Festival to the town of Dothan, Alabama; and

(3) the celebration in the National Peanut Festival of one of the most important, useful, and well-loved cash crops in the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 399—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2, 2019, AS “NATIONAL BISON DAY”

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. ENZI, Mr. UDALL, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. BALDWIN,

Mr. THUNE, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 399

Whereas on May 9, 2016, the North American bison was adopted as the national mammal of the United States;

Whereas bison are considered a historical symbol of the United States;

Whereas bison were integrally linked with the economic and spiritual lives of many Indian Tribes through trade and sacred ceremonies;

Whereas there are more than 60 Indian Tribes participating in the InterTribal Buffalo Council, which is a Tribal organization incorporated pursuant to section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the “Indian Reorganization Act”) (25 U.S.C. 5124);

Whereas numerous members of Indian Tribes are involved in bison restoration on Tribal land;

Whereas members of Indian Tribes have a combined herd of bison on more than 1,000,000 acres of Tribal land;

Whereas bison can play an important role in improving the types of grasses found in landscapes to the benefit of grasslands;

Whereas bison hold significant economic value for private producers and rural communities;

Whereas, as of 2017, the Department of Agriculture estimates that 182,780 head of bison were under the stewardship of private producers, creating jobs and contributing to the food security of the United States by providing a sustainable and healthy meat source;

Whereas a bison has been depicted on the official seal of the Department of the Interior since 1912;

Whereas a bison is portrayed on 2 State flags;

Whereas the bison has been adopted by 3 States as the official mammal or animal of those States;

Whereas the buffalo nickel played an important role in modernizing the currency of the United States;

Whereas several sports teams have the bison as a mascot, which highlights the iconic significance of bison in the United States;

Whereas a small group of ranchers helped save bison from extinction in the late 1800s by gathering the remaining bison of the diminished herds;

Whereas on December 8, 1905, William Hornaday, Theodore Roosevelt, and others formed the American Bison Society in response to the near extinction of bison in the United States;

Whereas on October 11, 1907, the American Bison Society sent 15 captive-bred bison from the New York Zoological Park, now known as the “Bronx Zoo”, to the first big game refuge in the United States, now known as the “Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge”;

Whereas, in 2005, the American Bison Society was reestablished, bringing together bison ranchers, managers from Indian Tribes, Federal and State agencies, conservation organizations, and natural and social scientists from the United States, Canada, and Mexico to create a vision for the North American bison in the 21st century;

Whereas there are bison herds in national wildlife refuges, national parks, and national forests, and on other Federal land;

Whereas there are bison in State-managed herds across 11 States;

Whereas private, public, and Tribal bison leaders are working together to continue bison restoration throughout North America;

Whereas there is a growing effort to celebrate and officially recognize the historical, cultural, and economic significance of the North American bison to the heritage of the United States; and

Whereas members of Indian Tribes, bison producers, conservationists, sportsmen, educators, and other public and private partners have celebrated the annual National Bison Day since 2012 and are committed to continuing this tradition annually on the first Saturday of November: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 2, 2019, the first Saturday of November, as “National Bison Day”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 400—RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL WOMEN’S SMALL BUSINESS MONTH”

Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. RISCH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. ERNST, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. DAINES, Mr. WICKER, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. ENZI, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. HOEVEN, and Ms. MCSALLY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 400

Whereas the National Women’s Business Council has declared October 2019 “National Women’s Small Business Month”;

Whereas there are more than 12,900,000 women-owned small businesses in the United States;

Whereas women-owned small businesses generate \$1,900,000,000,000 in total receipts, which is a 21 percent increase since 2014;

Whereas the growth rate for women-owned employer firms is more than double the growth rate of all other small businesses;

Whereas, in comparison to 2014, there are nearly 2,250,000 additional women-owned employer firms and nearly 700,000 additional jobs;

Whereas Congress continues to support the National Women’s Business Council and its focus on alleviating obstacles women face as business owners and entrepreneurs;

Whereas the celebration of “National Women’s Small Business Month” would—

(1) honor women small business owners and women entrepreneurs; and

(2) recognize the significance of the contributions of women to the small business community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes October 2019 as “National Women’s Small Business Month”;

(2) honors the vital role of women small business owners and women entrepreneurs in the United States during “National Women’s Small Business Month”;

(3) recognizes the significant contributions of women small business owners and women

entrepreneurs to the small business community;

(4) supports and encourages young women entrepreneurs to pursue their passions and create more start-up businesses;

(5) recognizes the importance of creating policies that promote a business-friendly environment for small business owners that is free of unnecessary and burdensome regulations and red tape; and

(6) supports efforts to—

(A) encourage consumers to shop locally; and

(B) increase awareness of the value of locally-owned small businesses and the impact of women-owned small businesses on the economy of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 401—RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2019 AS FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF FILIPINO AMERICANS AND THEIR IMMENSE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED STATES

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. SANDERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 401

Whereas the earliest documented Filipino presence in the continental United States was October 18, 1587, when the first “Luzones Indios” arrived in Morro Bay, California, on board the Nuestra Señora de Esperanza, a Manila-built galleon ship;

Whereas the Filipino American National Historical Society recognizes 1763 as the year in which the first permanent Filipino settlement in the United States was established in St. Malo, Louisiana;

Whereas the recognition of the first permanent Filipino settlement in the United States adds a new perspective to the history of the United States by bringing attention to the economic, cultural, social, and other notable contributions made by Filipino Americans to the development of the United States;

Whereas the Filipino American community is the third largest Asian American and Pacific Islander group in the United States, with a population of approximately 4,000,000;

Whereas, from the Civil War to the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, Filipinos and Filipino Americans have a longstanding history of serving in the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas more than 250,000 Filipinos fought under the United States flag during World War II to protect and defend the United States in the Pacific theater;

Whereas a guarantee to pay back the service of Filipinos through veterans benefits was reversed by the First Supplemental Surplus Appropriation Rescission Act, 1946 (Public Law 79-301; 60 Stat. 6) and the Second Supplemental Surplus Appropriation Rescission Act, 1946 (Public Law 79-391; 60 Stat. 221), which provided that the wartime service of members of the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines and the new Philippine Scouts shall not be deemed to have been active service and, therefore, those members did not qualify for certain benefits;

Whereas 26,000 Filipino World War II veterans were granted United States citizenship

as a result of the Immigration Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-649; 104 Stat. 4978), which was signed into law by President George H.W. Bush on November 29, 1990;

Whereas, on February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5; 123 Stat. 115), which established the Filipino Veterans Equity Compensation Fund to compensate Filipino World War II veterans for their service to the United States;

Whereas, since June 8, 2016, the Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program has allowed Filipino World War II veterans and certain family members to be reunited more expeditiously than the immigrant visa process allowed at that time, but, on August 2, 2019, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced its intention to terminate the program;

Whereas, on December 14, 2016, President Barack Obama signed into law the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-265; 130 Stat. 1376) to award Filipino veterans who fought alongside troops of the United States in World War II the highest civilian honor bestowed by Congress;

Whereas, on October 25, 2017, the Congressional Gold Medal was presented to Filipino World War II veterans in Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Building, a recognition for which the veterans had waited for more than 70 years;

Whereas Filipino Americans have received the Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest award for valor in action against an enemy force that may be bestowed on an individual serving in the Armed Forces, and continue to demonstrate a commendable sense of patriotism and honor in the Armed Forces;

Whereas the late Thelma Garcia Buchholdt, born in Claveria, Cagayan, on the island of Luzon in the Philippines—

(1) moved with her family to Alaska in 1965;

(2) was elected to the House of Representatives of Alaska in 1974;

(3) was the first Filipino woman elected to a State legislature; and

(4) authored a comprehensive history book entitled “Filipinos in Alaska: 1788-1958”;

Whereas Filipino American farmworkers and labor leaders, such as Philip Vera Cruz and Larry Itliong, played an integral role in the multiethnic United Farm Workers movement, alongside Cesar Chávez, Dolores Huerta, and other Latino workers;

Whereas Filipino Americans play an integral role in the healthcare system of the United States as nurses, doctors, and other medical professionals;

Whereas Filipino Americans have contributed greatly to music, dance, literature, education, business, journalism, sports, fashion, politics, government, science, technology, the fine arts, and other fields that enrich the United States;

Whereas, as mandated in the mission statement of the Filipino American National Historical Society, efforts should continue to promote the study of Filipino American history and culture because the roles of Filipino Americans and other people of color have largely been overlooked in the writing, teaching, and learning of the history of the United States;

Whereas it is imperative for Filipino American youth to have positive role models to instill—

(1) the significance of education, complemented by the richness of Filipino American ethnicity; and

(2) the value of the Filipino American legacy; and

Whereas it is essential to promote the understanding, education, and appreciation of the history and culture of Filipino Americans in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the celebration of Filipino American History Month in October 2019 as—

(A) a testament to the advancement of Filipino Americans;

(B) a time to reflect on and remember the many notable contributions that Filipino Americans have made to the United States; and

(C) a time to renew efforts toward the research and examination of history and culture so as to provide an opportunity for all people of the United States to learn more about Filipino Americans and to appreciate the historic contributions of Filipino Americans to the United States; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to observe Filipino American History Month with appropriate programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 402—HONORING THE LIFE, WORK, AND LEGACY OF TONI MORRISON

Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 402

Whereas Toni Morrison, born Chloe Ardelia Wofford on February 18, 1931, in Lorain, Ohio, to George Wofford and Ramah Willis Wofford, was a pioneering novelist, writer, editor, and professor;

Whereas Toni Morrison graduated from Lorain High School in Lorain, Ohio, with honors in 1949;

Whereas, in 1953, Toni Morrison graduated from Howard University in Washington, D.C., with a bachelor of arts degree in English and a minor in Classics;

Whereas, in 1955, Toni Morrison graduated from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, with a master of arts degree in English;

Whereas, in 1955, Toni Morrison became a professor at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas;

Whereas, from 1957 to 1964, Toni Morrison taught at Howard University in Washington, D.C.;

Whereas, from 1965 to 1968, Toni Morrison was a senior editor with textbook publisher L.W. Singer in Syracuse, New York;

Whereas, from 1968 to 1983, Toni Morrison was the first African-American woman senior editor in the history of Random House, Inc., in New York City;

Whereas, in 1970, Holt, Rhinehart and Winston published “The Bluest Eye”, the first novel by Toni Morrison;

Whereas, in 1973, Knopf published the novel “Sula” by Toni Morrison;

Whereas, in 1975, Toni Morrison received the Ohioana Book Award for “Sula”, which was also nominated for the American Book Award;

Whereas, from 1975 to 1977, Toni Morrison was a visiting professor at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut;

Whereas, in 1977, Knopf published the novel “Song of Solomon” by Toni Morrison, which was chosen as a Book-of-the-Month selection the same year;

Whereas, in 1978, Toni Morrison received, for “Song of Solomon”—

(1) the National Book Critics Circle Award;

(2) the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Award;

(3) the Oscar Micheaux Award; and

(4) the Cleveland Arts Prize for Literature;

Whereas, in 1979, Toni Morrison was awarded the Barnard Medal of Distinction from Barnard College in New York City;

Whereas, from 1979 to 1980, Toni Morrison was a Distinguished Visiting Lecturer at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York;

Whereas, in 1980, Toni Morrison was appointed by President Jimmy Carter to serve on the National Council on the Arts, a position Morrison held through 1987;

Whereas, in 1981—

(1) Knopf published the novel “Tar Baby” by Toni Morrison; and

(2) Toni Morrison—

(A) was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters; and

(B) received the Langston Hughes Award from the City College of New York in New York City;

Whereas, in 1983, “Recitatif”, the only short story by Toni Morrison, was published in “Confirmations: An Anthology of African American Women Writers”;

Whereas, from 1983 to 1984, Toni Morrison was a Distinguished Visiting Professor at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey;

Whereas, from 1984 to 1989, Toni Morrison was the Schweitzer Professor of the Humanities, College of the Humanities and Fine Arts, at State University of New York in Albany, New York;

Whereas, in 1985, Toni Morrison joined the board of trustees of the New York Public Library;

Whereas, in 1986, Toni Morrison wrote “Dreaming Emmett”, an unpublished play commissioned by the New York State Writers Institute, for which Morrison received the New York State Governor’s Arts Award the same year;

Whereas, in 1987, Knopf published the novel “Beloved” by Toni Morrison, a portrait of a woman haunted by the legacy of slavery in post-Civil War Ohio, for which Morrison received the Anisfield Wolf Book Award in Race Relations in 1988;

Whereas, in 1988, Toni Morrison—

(1) won the Pulitzer Prize for “Beloved”;

(2) received, for “Beloved”—

(A) the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award;

(B) the Melcher Book Award; and

(C) the Elmer Holmes Bobst Award for Fiction;

(3) received the Ohioana Career Medal Award; and

(4) delivered the Robert C. Tanner Lecture on Human Values at the University of Michigan;

Whereas, from 1989 to 2006, Toni Morrison was the Robert F. Goheen Professor in the Council of the Humanities at Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey, where she was recognized with emeritus status in 2006;

Whereas, in 1990, Toni Morrison delivered—

(1) the Massey Lectures at Harvard University;

(2) the first Chazen Lecture at the University of Wisconsin;

(3) a Charter Lecture at the University of Georgia; and

(4) the Clark Lectures at Trinity College in Cambridge, England;

Whereas, in 1991, Toni Morrison was awarded the Rosenberger Medal at the University of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois;

Whereas, in 1992—

(1) Knopf published the novel “Jazz” by Toni Morrison;

(2) Pantheon published “Race-ing Justice, Engendering Power: Essays on Anita Hill, Clarence Thomas, and the Construction of Social Reality”, a collection edited by Toni Morrison; and

(3) Harvard University Press published “Playing in the Dark: Whiteness and the Literary Imagination” by Toni Morrison;

Whereas, in 1993, Toni Morrison—

(1) received the honor of Commandeur de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, a prestigious award for distinguished contributions to French and world culture;

(2) became the first African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature for being an author “who in novels characterized by visionary force and poetic import, gives life to an essential aspect of American reality”;

(3) wrote the lyrics for the song cycle “Honey and Rue” with composer André Previn for Kathleen Battle, a work commissioned by Carnegie Hall; and

(4) founded the Princeton Atelier, a studio arts program at Princeton University that brings together students and visiting artists to explore the collaborative creative process;

Whereas, in 1994, Toni Morrison—

(1) received—

(A) the Condorcet Medal from the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, France; and

(B) the Pearl Buck Award from the Pearl Buck Foundation;

(2) held the International Condorcet Chair at the Ecole Normale Supérieure and the College de France in Paris, France; and

(3) wrote lyrics for “Four Songs” with composer André Previn, which was performed by Sylvia McNair at Carnegie Hall;

Whereas, in 1996, Toni Morrison—

(1) was awarded the National Book Foundation Medal for Distinguished Contribution to American Letters in New York City;

(2) was named the Jefferson Lecturer in the Humanities by the National Endowment for the Humanities; and

(3) delivered the keynote address at the 250th Anniversary Convocation of Princeton University;

Whereas, in 1997, Toni Morrison—

(1) co-edited “Birth of a Nation”hood: Gaze, Script, and Spectacle in the O.J. Simpson Case”, a collection of essays on the O.J. Simpson case published by Pantheon; and

(2) wrote the lyrics for “Sweet Talk” with composer Richard Danielpour, which was performed by Jessye Norman at Carnegie Hall;

Whereas, from 1997 to 2003, Toni Morrison was the A.D. White Professor-At-Large at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York;

Whereas, in 1998—

(1) Knopf published the novel “Paradise” by Toni Morrison; and

(2) Toni Morrison wrote the lyrics for “Spirits in the Well” with composer Richard Danielpour, which was performed by Jessye Norman at Avery Fisher Hall;

Whereas, in 1998—

(1) the audio book “Beloved”, which was recorded by Toni Morrison, received a Grammy nomination for Best Spoken Word Album; and

(2) Toni Morrison delivered—

(A) the Moffitt Lecture at Princeton University; and

(B) the Berliner Lektionen at the Theater Berlin;

Whereas, in 1999, Toni Morrison—

(1) received the Ohioana Book Award for Fiction; and

(2) co-authored with her son, Slade Morrison, “The Big Box”, which was published by Hyperion;

Whereas, in 2000, Toni Morrison—

(1) wrote the lyrics for “woman.life.song” with composer Judith Weir, which was performed by Jessye Norman at Carnegie Hall; and

(2) was awarded the National Humanities Medal;

Whereas, in 2001, Toni Morrison—

(1) received—

(A) the Pell Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts; and

(B) the Cavore Prize in Turin, Italy;

(2) was honored at the Fete du Livre organized by Les Ecritures Croisées at the Cité du Livre in Aix-en-Provence, France; and

(3) delivered a lecture at a lecture series sponsored by the United Nations Secretary General;

Whereas, in 2002, Toni Morrison—

(1) delivered the Alexander Lectures at the University of Toronto; and

(2) wrote the libretto for “Margaret Garner” with composer Richard Danielpour, an opera that was co-commissioned by—

(A) the Michigan Opera Theatre;

(B) the Cincinnati Opera; and

(C) the Opera Company of Philadelphia;

Whereas, in 2003—

(1) Toni Morrison received the Docteur Honoris Causa from the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris, France; and

(2) Knopf published the novel “Love” by Toni Morrison;

Whereas, in 2004, Toni Morrison—

(1) delivered the Amnesty International Lecture in Edinburgh, Scotland;

(2) received the “Arts and Communities” award from the Academy of Culture in Paris, France; and

(3) received the Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work in Fiction from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People;

Whereas, in 2005, Toni Morrison—

(1) received—

(A) the Du Bois Medal from the W.E.B. DuBois Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts; and

(B) the Coretta Scott King Award from the American Library Association; and

(2) was awarded a doctor of letters from Oxford University in Oxford, England;

Whereas, in 2006—

(1) the New York Times rated “Beloved” by Toni Morrison as the “Best Work of American Fiction of the Last 25 Years”; and

(2) Toni Morrison—

(A) through the “Grand Invité” program of the Musée du Louvre in Paris, France, was the Guest Curator of the Musée du Louvre; and

(B) was named a Life Trustee of the New York Public Library;

Whereas, in 2007, Toni Morrison was awarded—

(1) the Docteur Honoris Causa from the Université Paris Sorbonne – Paris IV in Paris, France; and

(2) the Radcliffe Institute Medal from the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts;

Whereas, in 2008, Knopf published the novel “A Mercy” by Toni Morrison;

Whereas, in 2010, Toni Morrison received the Chevalier Ordre National de la Légion d’honneur, the highest national order of merit in France;

Whereas, in 2011, Toni Morrison wrote the play “Desdemona”, which premiered in Vienna, Austria;

Whereas, in 2012—

(1) Toni Morrison delivered the Ingersoll Lecture at the Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts;

(2) Knopf published the novel “Home” by Toni Morrison; and

(3) President Barack Obama awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honor of the United States, to Toni Morrison for her literary work and legacy as “one of our nation’s most celebrated novelists”;

Whereas, in 2014, Toni Morrison received the Ivan Sandrof Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Book Critics Circle;

Whereas, in 2015, Knopf published the novel “God Help the Child” by Toni Morrison;

Whereas, in 2016—

(1) Toni Morrison was the Charles E. Norton Professor at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts;

(2) the American Academy of Arts and Sciences awarded Toni Morrison the Emerson-Thoreau Medal for “her distinguished achievement in the field of literature”; and

(3) Toni Morrison received the PEN/Saul Bellow Award for Achievement in American Fiction;

Whereas, in 2017—

(1) Harvard University Press published “The Origin of Others” by Toni Morrison, which was based on the Charles Eliot Norton Lectures presented by Morrison at Harvard University in 2016;

(2) Toni Morrison delivered the keynote address at the Princeton Slavery Project Symposium; and

(3) Princeton University dedicated the naming of Morrison Hall in honor of Toni Morrison, who was the Robert F. Goheen Professor in the Humanities, Emeritus, at Princeton University;

Whereas, in 2019—

(1) Knopf published “The Source of Self-Regard: Selected Essays, Speeches, and Meditations” by Toni Morrison; and

(2) the American Academy of Arts and Letters awarded Toni Morrison a Gold Medal for distinguished achievement in the field of literature;

Whereas the invaluable contributions of Toni Morrison to literature in the United States during a career that spanned more than 5 decades will inform generations of authors, scholars, teachers, and students in the United States and around the world; and

Whereas, on August 5, 2019, at the age of 88, Toni Morrison died, leaving a legacy of a visionary literature that—

(1) is extraordinary for the freshness of its narrative strategies and procedures; and

(2) is dedicated to dramatizing the complex humanity and art of Black people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) extends heartfelt sympathy to the family of Toni Morrison on the occasion of her death;

(2) recognizes Toni Morrison as—

(A) one of the most formidable scholars, educators, and authors of the United States; and

(B) a writer of the stature of other great literary figures of the United States, such as—

(i) Nathaniel Hawthorne;

(ii) Ralph Waldo Emerson;

(iii) Herman Melville;

(iv) Walt Whitman;

(v) Mark Twain; and

(vi) William Faulkner;

(3) honors the life of Toni Morrison and the achievements of Toni Morrison in humanities and literature; and

(4) expresses deep appreciation for the exceptional and vital work of Toni Morrison, including—

(A) the vehemence of the work;

(B) the uncensored exploration of race in the United States that the work presented; and

(C) the enduring impact the work has had, and will continue to have, on the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 403—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2019 AS “NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH”

Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. PERDUE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 403

Whereas farm to school programs of varying scale operate in nearly 43,000 schools across the United States;

Whereas farm to school programs connect schools and local farms in order to—

(1) serve nutritious meals in school cafeterias; and

(2) support local farmers, ranchers, and fishermen;

Whereas farm to school programs include experiential education components that can lead to permanent improvements in the diets of children, both in school and at home;

Whereas farm to school programs facilitate the purchase of local food for school meals;

Whereas farm to school programs can benefit small and mid-sized agricultural producers by providing access to consistent markets;

Whereas farm to school programs can be particularly important for beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers, as schools provide a consistent and secure customer base;

Whereas farm to school programs can benefit local economies;

Whereas for every \$1 spent on local foods in schools, up to an additional \$2 circulates in the local economy;

Whereas data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that only 7 percent of children consume the recommended amount of vegetables;

Whereas communities with high levels of poverty have less access to fresh fruits and vegetables than higher income communities;

Whereas the increased consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables is 1 of 6 major strategies to prevent and control obesity, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

Whereas studies have demonstrated that children in schools with an active farm to school program increase their average consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables by 1 or more servings per day;

Whereas farm to school programs—

(1) are popular among children;

(2) can increase interest in school meal programs; and

(3) can decrease food waste; and

Whereas October 2019 would be an appropriate month to designate as “National Farm to School Month”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 2019 as “National Farm to School Month”; and

(2) recognizes support for policy improvements to farm to school programs in legislation reauthorizing child nutrition programs;

(3) encourages schools and local educational agencies to use local farm products in meals; and

(4) encourages schools, farmers and farm groups, local businesses, nonprofit institutions, churches, cities, State governments, and other local groups to raise awareness of farm to school efforts in their communities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 404—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD WORK IN COOPERATION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND CONTINUE TO EXERCISE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP TO ADDRESS THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. UDALL,

Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. COONS, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARPER, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARNER, and Ms. HASSAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 404

Whereas the consensus among climatologists and scientists studying the effects of atmospheric change, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the National Academy of Science, the United States Geological Survey, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and other agencies within the United States Global Change Research Program, have determined that the impact of climate change will include widespread effects on health and welfare, including increased outbreaks from waterborne diseases, more droughts, diminished agricultural production, severe storms and floods, heat waves, wildfires, and a substantial rise in global sea levels;

Whereas the objective of the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that will prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system;

Whereas, under the UNFCCC, the United States is obligated to report its progress on reducing emissions;

Whereas the Senate provided its advice and consent to the UNFCCC by division, with two-thirds of Senators present voting in the affirmative, on October 7, 1992;

Whereas, in 2011, at the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the UNFCCC in Durban, South Africa, parties agreed to negotiate an agreement by the end of 2015 to reduce emissions in the post-2020 period;

Whereas the UNFCCC calls on parties to submit intended nationally determined contributions outlining voluntary individual targets for emissions reductions by the time parties convened in Paris on November 30, 2015, for the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP 21) to the UNFCCC;

Whereas, prior to completing the multilateral Paris Agreement on international cooperation to address climate change, done at Paris December 12, 2015, 187 nations, representing more than 97 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions, voluntarily submitted nationally determined goals and plans to reduce their greenhouse gas pollution;

Whereas, according to research and data analysis conducted independently by NOAA, NASA, the Met Office Hadley Centre for Climate Science and Services of the United Kingdom, the Japan Meteorological Agency, and Berkeley Earth, each of the years 2014 through 2018 rank among the five warmest years on record;

Whereas, according to NASA, 18 of the 19 warmest years on record have occurred since 2000;

Whereas, according to NOAA, 2019 will likely be the second warmest year on record, making the last six years the warmest years on record;

Whereas the United States-China Joint Announcement on Climate Change of November 2014 included a United States goal to reduce its emissions by 26–28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025 and a Chinese goal to peak emis-

sions output by 2030 and increase the use of non-fossil fuels to 20 percent of its overall energy portfolio by 2030;

Whereas, under the United States-India Joint Announcement on Climate and Clean Energy of January 2015, the two countries pledged to increase cooperation on clean energy financing and development and India committed to phase out use of hydrofluorocarbons and increase promotion of energy efficiency tools and reaffirmed its commitment to add 100 gigawatts of solar capacity by 2022;

Whereas small island states, whose people are among the most vulnerable to climate change, are threatened with partial or virtually total inundation by imminent rises in sea level and increased intensity and frequency of storms;

Whereas United States international leadership on the global stage throughout the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's 21st Conference of Parties process resulted in unprecedented international cooperation and engagement on the development of the Paris Agreement;

Whereas the Paris Agreement received consensus approval from the more than 190 delegates to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's 21st Conference of Parties;

Whereas the Paris Agreement reached its thresholds for entry into force faster than any other multilateral international agreement of comparable size and scope;

Whereas, as of the date of introduction of this resolution, 187 of the 197 parties to the Paris Agreement have officially joined the agreement, demonstrating the urgency and importance the global community places on addressing climate change;

Whereas studies conducted by the NASA Earth Observatory determined that as the oceans have warmed, polar ice has melted and porous landmasses have subsided, global mean sea level has risen by 8 inches (20 centimeters) since 1870, and the rate of sea level rise is faster now than at any time in the past 2,000 years, having doubled in the past two decades, putting 55 to 60 percent of United States citizens who live in counties touching the Atlantic or Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, or the Great Lakes at risk from the effects of sea level rise;

Whereas the Department of Defense has identified climate change as a "threat multiplier" that will increase global instability and conflict, with the potential to increase terrorism;

Whereas the 2014 Quadrennial Defense Review states that "[t]he impacts of climate change may increase the frequency, scale, and complexity of future missions, including defense support to civil authorities, while at the same time undermining the capacity of our domestic installations to support training activities," and notes that—

(1) climate change may exacerbate water scarcity and lead to sharp increases in food costs;

(2) the pressures caused by climate change will influence resource competition while placing additional burdens on economies, societies, and governance institutions around the world; and

(3) these effects are threat multipliers that will aggravate stressors abroad such as poverty, environmental degradation, political instability, and social tensions—conditions that can enable terrorist activity and other forms of violence;

Whereas the Department of Defense report, "National Security Implications of Climate-Related Risks and a Changing Climate"—

(1) states that global climate change will have wide-ranging implications for United States national security interests over the foreseeable future because it will aggravate

existing problems, such as poverty, social tensions, environmental degradation, intellectual leadership, and weak political institutions, that threaten domestic stability in a number of countries; and

(2) identifies four general areas of climate-related risks: persistently recurring conditions such as flooding, drought, and higher temperatures; more frequent and more severe extreme weather events; sea level rise and temperature changes; and decreases in Arctic ice cover, type, and thickness;

Whereas the Director of National Intelligence's 2017 Global Trends Report determined that—

(1) changes in the climate will produce more extreme weather events and put greater stress on humans and critical systems, including oceans, freshwater, and biodiversity;

(2) these changes, in turn, will have direct and indirect social, economic, political, and security effects; and

(3) extreme weather can trigger crop failures, wildfires, energy blackouts, infrastructure breakdown, supply chain breakdowns, migration, and infectious disease outbreaks, and will be more pronounced as people concentrate in climate vulnerable locations, such as cities, coastal areas, and water-stressed regions;

Whereas the Department of Agriculture has determined that climate change is likely to diminish continued progress on global food security through production disruptions that lead to local availability limitations and price increases, interrupted transport conduits, and diminished food safety, among other causes;

Whereas, according to the World Bank, approximately 1,600,000,000 people currently live in countries and regions with absolute water scarcity and the number is expected to rise to 2,800,000,000 people by 2025 due to the effects of climate change;

Whereas a 2018 special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways found with "high confidence", in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty, that—

(1) human activities are estimated to have caused approximately 1.0 degree Celsius of global warming above pre-industrial levels, with a likely range of 0.8 degrees Celsius to 1.2 degrees Celsius;

(2) global warming is likely to reach 1.5 degrees Celsius between 2030 and 2052 if global warming continues to increase at the current rate; and

(3) climate-related risks for natural and human systems are higher for global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius than at present, but lower than at 2 degrees Celsius; and

Whereas the Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA4) completed in November 2018, developed by the United States Global Change Research Program, in collaboration and cooperation with 13 Federal agencies, "to advance understanding of the changing Earth system and maximize efficiencies in Federal global change research"—

(1) concludes that—

(A) the evidence of human-caused climate change is overwhelming and continues to strengthen;

(B) the impacts of climate change are intensifying across the United States;

(C) climate-related threats to the physical, social, and economic well-being of the United States are rising; and

(D) "[t]he impacts and costs of climate change are already being felt in the United States, and changes in the likelihood or severity of some recent extreme weather

events can now be attributed with increasingly higher confidence to human-caused warming"; and

(2) includes summary findings that—

(A) the quality and quantity of water available for use by people and ecosystems across the United States are being affected by climate change, increasing risks and costs to agriculture, energy production, industry, recreation, and the environment;

(B) impacts from climate change on extreme weather and climate-related events, air quality, and the transmission of disease through insects and pests, food, and water increasingly threaten the health and well-being of the people of the United States, particularly vulnerable populations;

(C) climate change increasingly threatens the livelihoods, economies, health, and cultural identities of indigenous communities by disrupting interconnected social, physical, and ecological systems;

(D) the aging and deteriorating infrastructure of the United States is further stressed by increases in heavy precipitation events, coastal flooding, heat, wildfires, and other extreme events, as well as changes to average precipitation and temperature; and

(E) without adaptation, climate change will continue to degrade infrastructure performance over the rest of the century, with the potential for cascading impacts that threaten the economy, national security, and essential services of the United States and the health and well-being of the United States people: Now, therefore, be it *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the United States should—

(1) work in cooperation with the international community and continue to exercise global leadership in our shared responsibilities, including holding parties accountable for meeting their commitments, and address the causes and effects of climate change;

(2) remain party to the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC;

(3) reassert strong leadership in implementing the Paris Agreement;

(4) as acknowledged in the Nationally Determined Contribution submitted by the United States to the UNFCCC in 2015, take action to substantially accelerate the current pace of greenhouse gas emission reductions in order to achieve, or surpass, the emissions reduction target of the United States;

(5) ensure that the development of the policies and procedures prescribed by the Paris Agreement achieve maximum benefits for the United States; and

(6) implement its commitments under the Paris Agreement and the UNFCCC.

SENATE RESOLUTION 405—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER AS ‘BRAIN HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH’

Mr. GRASSLEY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S. RES. 405

Whereas millions of individuals in the United States suffer from behavioral health conditions, such as anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder, or a traumatic brain injury or acquired brain injury that disrupts the normal function of the brain;

Whereas a serious behavioral health condition, such as schizophrenia, or a traumatic brain injury or acquired brain injury, such as

a stroke, that disrupts the normal function of the brain often is linked to a lifetime of cognitive and behavioral challenges;

Whereas millions of individuals in the United States struggle with challenges caused by a traumatic brain injury, stroke, or mental health conditions;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of members and veterans of the Armed Forces have been diagnosed with traumatic brain injury and millions more have been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of their service, which can lead to persistent challenges for those members and veterans and their families;

Whereas approximately 1 in 5 people in the United States struggle with behavioral health disorders each year, but a majority of those people do not seek treatment for their condition, often due to the stigma associated with doing so;

Whereas early and adequate access to care, such as imaging technology that can identify areas of the brain that have been compromised, promotes health and can greatly increase the overall quality of life of many individuals in the United States;

Whereas grassroots organizations such as Brain Health Now of Iowa and Mental Health Connecticut, which are dedicated to ending the stigma of mental illness, have called for every individual in the United States to treat health conditions affecting the brain with the same regard and care as physical illnesses, such as heart disease; and

Whereas it is important to educate the public on the incidence and prevalence of brain injury and disease and to support the needs of those who are injured: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of October as ‘Brain Health Awareness Month’; and

(2) encourages all individuals in the United States to use Brain Health Awareness Month as an opportunity to promote greater acceptance of and support for individuals living with diseases or injuries affecting the brain.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 5 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, October 31, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Aneliz N. Castille, of New York, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, Alma L. Golden, of Texas, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Peter M. Haymond, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Alina L. Romanowski, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, and Leslie Meredith Tsou, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, all of the Department of State.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 31, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 31, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 31, 2019, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing following nominations: Halil Suleyman Ozerden, of Mississippi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, Steven J. Menashi, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Jodi W. Dishman, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, Richard Earnest Myers II, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Sarah E. Pitlyk, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, Daniel Mack Traynor, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota, Barbara Lagoa and Robert J. Luck, both of Florida, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, Sylvia Carreno-Coll, to be United States District Judge for the District of Puerto Rico, John M. Gallagher, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and Sherri A. Lydon, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, October 31, 2019, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that floor privileges be granted to Tessa Silverman, a member of my staff, during today’s session of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY WHO CARRIED OUT THE MISSION THAT KILLED ABU BAKR AL-BAGHDADI

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, last weekend, elite U.S. Special Operations forces embarked on a daring and dangerous mission to locate and kill or capture the terrorist leader of ISIS, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

These soldiers knew that Baghdadi’s compound was well guarded by radical Islamic terrorists who placed little

value on their own lives. They knew the compound was booby-trapped and that Baghdadi kept innocent children as human shields to protect himself against attack.

Nevertheless, these soldiers carried out their mission fearlessly and flawlessly. They breached the compound, eliminated Baghdadi's Praetorian Guard, and then cornered the terrorist leader in a dead end, underground tunnel.

Baghdadi chose the coward's way out, detonating a suicide vest, even though he was surrounded by his own children. True to form, he was as evil in the final moments of his life as he had been throughout it.

Now Baghdadi is dead, thanks to the brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces and our canines too. There is no other Nation on Earth whose military could have carried out this raid, and the American people ought to be proud of them.

To commemorate their stunning success, Senator GRAHAM and I have a resolution to honor the leaders and members of the military intelligence community who made it possible and to commend the President for his decisive leadership in ordering the raid.

Therefore, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 394 submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 394) honoring the members of the military and intelligence community who carried out the mission that killed Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to; the preamble be agreed to; and that 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. 394) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I stand here today to mourn the loss of Kay Hagan. Kay was a warm, kind person with a wonderful sense of humor, and she was an inspiring public servant. I feel fortunate to have been her friend and colleague here in the U.S. Senate.

I am deeply saddened to be among the many who will miss her profoundly.

Kay knew from a young age that her destiny was in politics, starting when she worked here as an intern. She often recalled operating the Senate elevators in the 1970s. She would watch the Nation's leaders and influencers pass by, including her maternal uncle, then-Senator Lawton Chiles from Florida. She would dream of riding those elevators herself as an elected official.

Kay worked incredibly hard to achieve that dream. She earned her BA degree from Florida State University and her JD from Wake Forest University School of Law. Before Kay began her political career, she worked in financial services and became a vice president of North Carolina National Bank, which is now part of Bank of America.

In 1998, she was elected to the North Carolina State Senate, where her talent in setting the State's budget and her devotion to her constituents earned her a spot among North Carolina's "Ten Most Effective Senators" 3 years in a row. Then, in 2008, she became a U.S. Senator in a historic election. Kay was North Carolina's second female Senator ever and its first Democratic female senator.

From the moment Kay arrived in the Senate, she concerned herself with how to use her platform to clear the way for other people, especially other women, to achieve their ambitions. The very first bill she cosponsored was the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which created a fairer system for filing claims of pay discrimination. She also worked with Senator SCHUMER to open the Senate swimming pool to female Senators for the first time.

Where Kay saw injustice and where she saw indignity, she saw opportunities to make the world a better place. She was committed to fighting for anyone who needed her help. She was a fierce advocate for servicemembers, veterans, and military families. Both her father and brother served in the U.S. Navy. She also spent much of her Senate career campaigning to improve education, financial literacy, and job training for underserved communities. She rallied people to these causes—not with strong-arming or with steam-rolling but with cleverness and compassion and coalition-building.

Kay was the type of legislator who dug into issues that made a real difference in people's lives, even if they weren't necessarily headline-grabbing. I had the honor of working alongside Kay in the Senate Small Business Committee for 4 years, and I watched her tirelessly create economic opportunity for North Carolinians and all Americans. The programs and policies we spearheaded there may not have made front page news, but Kay knew she was making a difference for entrepreneurship opportunities in our country.

The only thing to rival Kay's dedication to her constituents was her dedication to her family. Kay was endlessly

devoted to her husband Chip and their three children, Tilden, Jeanette, and Carrie, and all of her loved ones.

Her brother-in-law, Henry Hagan, is a fellow Baltimorean, and he has told me over the years how Kay truly was the Sun around which the entire family orbited. She was a source of gravity and life for them, as she was for so many people who were lucky enough to know her.

May her gravity continue to ground us, and may her light continue to warm and guide us. I wish all of Kay's family and friends comfort during this difficult time.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

HEALTHCARE

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, what we heard this week from my Democratic colleagues on healthcare is more of the same—more fearmongering and more misinformation.

The issue this week is about what is called 1332 waivers. These waivers allow States flexibility in how they implement healthcare programs. It is a simple concept. Every State is different. Every State should have the flexibility to design their healthcare programs and regulations in a way to best meet the needs of their citizens.

As a former Governor I know how important this is. Top-down, one-size-fits-all Federal healthcare programs increase costs and aren't the way to best serve the needs of the American people. Even the Democrats realized that when they passed ObamaCare. They created the 1332 waiver for State innovation.

As Governor, I used a similar waiver authority, an 1115 Medicaid waiver to reform our Medicaid system and transition it from a fee-for-service to a managed care system. This resulted in lower costs to taxpayers and better service and access for Florida families—a win-win.

These waivers work, and if you believe in States' rights, these waivers are the way to give States the opportunity to provide better healthcare to their citizens. But here is the problem: The Democrats don't believe in States' rights or allowing State taxpayers and citizens any flexibility to provide better healthcare services to their citizens. The Democrats want these top-down, one-size-fits-all Federal programs. If there is choice and flexibility, they want to restrict it. It is how Big Government works, and the Democrats love Big Government, restrictive mandates, and socialism.

When the Democrats are not attacking Republicans for trying to dismantle ObamaCare, the Democrats turn around to their supporters and talk about their efforts to replace ObamaCare.

They don't want to keep ObamaCare programs as they are. They know ObamaCare is not working. They want to replace it with Medicare for All,

which would be the biggest expansion of government healthcare in history. By some estimates, Medicare for All would cost more than \$30 trillion over 10 years. This one program would double the Federal budget and would require massive tax increases on each and every man, woman, and child in America.

Right now, we collect \$3 trillion in Federal revenue. Medicare for All would require everyone's Federal taxes to more than double. Coincidentally, the Congressional Budget Office has so far been unable to do an official score of the Medicare for All bill. I have asked the sponsor of the bill, the junior Senator from Vermont, who happens to be the ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee, to join me in requesting the CBO score for his bill. So far, crickets.

Why wouldn't the Senator want a score of his bill? It is because the Democrats don't want you to know how much it would cost. They don't want you to know how many people would lose the employer-sponsored healthcare they have and like. They don't want you to know how much taxes would have to go up.

Medicare for All is the Democrats' dream: every American on a government-run healthcare program, every American reliant on the Federal Government for their healthcare. Any effort to undermine this goal is anathema to them.

So this week they are going after 1332 waivers and claiming they somehow undermine protections for people with preexisting conditions. The Senate Democratic leader claimed yesterday that these waivers are an effort to "sabotage healthcare for millions."

I find that statement interesting. I wonder what Democratic Governor Jared Polis of Colorado thinks of the Democratic leader's claim that he is trying to sabotage healthcare. His State used these 1332 waivers to offer healthcare plans to best meet the needs of Coloradans. They have seen premiums go down by 16 percent.

I wonder what Democratic Governor John Carney of Delaware would say? His State also used this waiver and has seen premiums drop by 13 percent.

I wonder what Democratic Governor Gina Raimondo of Rhode Island would say? Premiums in her State have gone down 6 percent since they got their 1332 waiver.

Contrary to the misinformation from the Democratic leader, these waivers do not eliminate protections for people with preexisting conditions. These core protections, which I strongly support, remain unchanged.

This is personal to me. My brother grew up with a preexisting condition, and my mother had to drive 200 miles to a charity hospital just to get treatment for him. The Democrats are misrepresenting the facts about 1332 waivers because they realize they are losing the argument.

Remember the ObamaCare promise: You can keep your insurance plan,

your doctor, and every family will save \$2,500. ObamaCare only benefited hospitals, insurance companies, and the pharmaceutical industry. That is why they originally supported it. But for the average American, millions lost their insurance and their doctors, premiums skyrocketed, deductibles skyrocketed. The result is that while more people have healthcare insurance, fewer people have access to healthcare. Now they want to double down with Medicare for All.

There are three problems with our current healthcare system, all caused by government: cost, cost, and cost. None of the Democrats' proposals would do a thing to address the cost of healthcare. Their proposals only make the problem worse. Keep that in mind as you listen to the Democrats' fearmongering on healthcare. They have to misrepresent information because they can't defend their own position.

The American people don't want and can't afford Medicare for All. We need to reduce healthcare costs and provide a safety net for those who cannot afford their healthcare, not create a Federal Government-organized healthcare market, which causes healthcare costs to skyrocket.

Giving flexibility to the States is an easy way to increase access and quality of care for the American people. So, of course, Democrats oppose that—except for the Democratic Governors who are doing it every day.

If you needed any more evidence of how out of touch Washington Democrats have become, look no further than their criticism and their vote against Democratic Governors for supporting good policies that make sense.

Enough with the misrepresentations, enough with the nonsense, enough with the fearmongering. The American people deserve better.

Let's work together to lower the cost of healthcare so that all taxpayers can get the care they need at a price they can afford.

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 (Mr. BRAUN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

H.R. 2740

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I want to say a few words this afternoon about the funding of our military, the support for our troops, and what just happened on the U.S. Senate floor because it is a pretty sad exercise that, unfortunately, happens way too often in this body. I know it can be confusing to the people who are watching in the Gallery and on TV, but I want to explain what just happened because the

American people should know what is happening right now in this body.

Unfortunately, it is *deja vu* all over again on the Defense appropriations bill. Now, I enjoy my bipartisan work. Some of the best friends I have made here in the Senate have been on the other side of the aisle, but there are also principled disagreements on key issues between some of the parties here. One of them is whether we fully support our military and national defense and if we make that support a priority, not a political football, which is what we just witnessed on the Senate floor.

Now, I know all of my colleagues are patriotic. I have no doubt about that—all 100. We all love our country. Yet, in our looking at history over the decades and also just in the past few years, it certainly leaves one with the impression and the strong conclusion that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle support our military when it is convenient but have much higher priorities for which they are ready and willing to undermine military funding, readiness, and support for our troops who keep us safe.

To put this in context, we just voted to get on the Defense appropriations bill, which is the bill that funds our military. We had a budget agreement several months ago that did that. We just took up a previous appropriations bill. The plan in the Senate was to go from the bill on appropriations that we just passed to the Defense bill. That was the plan. Lo and behold, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle said: No. We are going to filibuster the funding for our military. That is what just happened.

America, media, please understand that this is what just happened.

As I mentioned with regard to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, this priority for the military isn't always there. I also mentioned decades. If you look at the national Presidential level over the past four decades during which a Democratic President has been in power—think about it: President Carter, President Clinton, President Obama—what has happened? Defense spending has been cut dramatically every time, and the readiness and morale of our military forces has plummeted. That is a fact.

I chair the Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support. From 2010 to 2015, defense spending for our military declined by 25 percent, which was President Obama's second term, and we are still digging out of the hole we dug for our military with regard to readiness. Let me give you a couple of examples.

In 2015, when I first got to the Senate, 3 out of 58 brigade combat teams in the U.S. Army were at the tier 1 level of readiness that we expect. Think about that. The men and women who joined the Army who were ready to fight were in 3 out of the 58 brigade combat teams. The brigade combat team is the 5,000-man building block of

the Army, but over half of the Marine Corps naval aviation couldn't fly in 2015. Think about that. In terms of training for all pilots in the military, the flight times plummeted to, I think it was, about 8 hours a month.

My very first challenge in 2015 was part of this Obama drawdown of the military. Right when I got here, they had announced that they were going to cut an additional 50,000 U.S. Army Active-Duty troops. This was in 2015. This was only 4 years ago. Again, national security challenges are growing in the world, and 4 years ago, the Obama administration cut the Army by an additional 50,000 Active-Duty troops. This included a very important unit for the Army that happened to be in my State, the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division—a 5,000-man Airborne brigade combat team. It was the only airborne, Arctic-trained unit in the entire Asia-Pacific, in the entire Arctic. It was on the chopping block to go.

We fought that. I fought that. It was an issue I put hundreds of hours into with my team. I put a hold on the Secretary of the Army's confirmation. I put a hold on the Chief of Staff of the Army's confirmation to finally get their attention that this was a bad idea for America's national security. We won that fight, but the other 40,000 Active-Duty troops whom the Obama administration decided to get rid of are gone, and we are still rebuilding from that.

Make no mistake, if one of my colleagues who is running for President—my colleague from Massachusetts or my colleague from Vermont—gets elected next year, defense spending is going to plummet. That is just the way it is.

Go look at some of the versions of the Green New Deal for which they are advocating. It is not just about shutting down resource development. Some of the versions of that legislation, of that idea, say we are going to cut defense spending up to 50 percent. That is in the legislation.

So that is at the national level.

What about what has been going on in the U.S. Senate?

I have been here for almost 5 years. One of the big reasons I ran for the Senate was to stop the gutting of our military and to take care of our troops. I mentioned that from 2010 to 2015, readiness plummeted and that defense spending plummeted, but we have turned that around. In this Congress, with the Republicans in control and with a Republican in the White House, we have turned that around.

Now we are rebuilding our military, and a lot of my Democratic colleagues have supported this. I want to give them credit. They realized the Obama cuts were very harmful to our readiness, to our military, and to their families. There has been bipartisan support for rebuilding our military, but—and this is a big “but”—this has been a big struggle. Why? Every time my colleagues on the other side of the aisle

have higher priorities than funding our troops and the national security of our Nation—and I am not sure there are many higher priorities than that, not in my view, anyway—they turn to holding hostage defense spending by filibustering the funding of our military.

That is just what happened a couple of hours ago—actually, an hour ago—here on the Senate floor. Their friends in the press don't report on it, but it happens all the time. This puts lives at risk, and this undermines our military. By the way, the members of the military see this. The press might not report on it, but our Nation's troops and their families watch.

I said it happens all the time. Let me give you a couple of examples.

In 2015 and in 2016, when the minority was led by Harry Reid, of Nevada, he filibustered the Defense appropriations bill seven times. Again, the media didn't report on it. I am a colonel in the Marine Corps Reserves, and I trained with the Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command. I remember being out, training with these marines, many of whom are now going off to the Middle East—to Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan. Yet what was going on in the Senate was that the minority leader, Harry Reid, was blocking the funding of the troops.

I get it, that one leader of the Democratic Party was doing that, but what really shocked me back then was why all of the colleagues on his side followed suit to do that. I still can't understand it, especially the colleagues who have a significant military presence in their States, like in my State, the great State of Alaska.

During that time, I went to the majority leader, Leader McCONNELL, and asked him to keep bringing this bill to the floor. Let's debate it. Let's talk about it. Let's see if the American people understand what is happening, which I think they did. As we kept bringing this up to the minority leader of the U.S. Senate, many of us came down here and asked the questions: Why are you doing this? Do you not think the American people understand? Do you not think the troops understand? Come down to the Senate floor and explain why you are not supporting the funding of our troops and their families and military readiness.

Unfortunately, he never did that. That was a couple of years ago, and it is *deja vu* all over again today.

We tried to bring the Defense appropriations bill to the floor in September, before the end of the fiscal year, but my colleagues on the other side filibustered. What does that mean? It means they didn't want to vote on it, and they didn't want to deal with it so they didn't let us vote and get the 60 votes to get on the bill.

Now we are a month into the new fiscal year, and as we just saw on the floor, we finished another appropriations bill that had strong bipartisan support. The plan was to then go to De-

fense appropriations, but there was another filibuster. Amazing. I still haven't heard an explanation from anybody on the other side as to why they are doing it, but I will tell you this: It is clear to me that supporting our troops and military readiness are not their priorities.

Here are just a few items in the bill that was just filibustered: a 3½-percent pay raise. For the Army, there is full support for the 58 brigade combat teams I mentioned that were in such a low state of readiness. By the way, it is increasing. I think the number is close to 25 brigade combat teams now that we have been funding the military at tier 1 levels. Included is support for the Navy's carrier strike groups, amphibious-ready groups for the Marines and Navy, and Navy and Marine aviation units. It funds the maximum amount of flying and training for our Air Force pilots, which has been such a problem in terms of readiness. There is a huge boost to missile defense, most of which is based in the great State of Alaska, and it appropriates the funding to buy 96 F-35s in fiscal year 2020. These are the most sophisticated fifth-generation fighters. Two squadrons of F-35s will be coming to my State soon—this is funding for that—to compete with China and Russia.

These are just a few of the particulars, but what do these numbers really amount to? A better paid, better equipped, and more lethal military force.

That is what the American people want from us. It doesn't matter party—Democrat, Republican—or region—South, North, Alaska, Florida—the people want this. The troops want this. Their families want this.

We have troops in harm's way right now all around the world. Yesterday, almost every one of the Members of this body—all 100 Senators—went to a top secret briefing about the raid that killed the ISIS leader, al-Baghdadi. We were able to actually see some of the video of the remarkable professionalism, courage, and dedication of our military Special Forces who went in there at great risk to their lives and took out this ruthless, brutal, dangerous terrorist.

We owe these and our other military members and their families such a huge debt of gratitude and certainly the support of the Congress of the United States.

I was honestly thinking this morning: How can any Senator who witnessed that yesterday—and I think all 100 were there—come to the floor this afternoon and filibuster the funding for our military? Well, a bunch of them just did.

I don't know why, but as far as I can tell, since I have been in the Senate—going on 5 years—that is the ninth filibuster of defense spending in the appropriations for our military and their families that my colleagues on the Democratic side of this body have done.

Let me repeat that. Nine times in the last 4½ years, there has been this exercise to hold our military hostage for some other political priority by denying them funding—nine times.

I checked, and since I have been here, there has been no bill—no bill—filibustered more by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle than the bill that would fund our military.

Think about that. Think about that for a minute. This is the bill, when they want to leverage some other issue that has nothing to do with national security, that they pick out and they filibuster—nine times in the last 4 years.

I think it is shameful. It is politics pure and simple, certainly driven by the extreme left of their party, many of whom have not focused on the national security of our country and supporting our troops. They are trying to leverage funding for our troops to gain political concessions on other issues.

Here is the bottom line: The men and women who serve in the military don't deserve this. I wish the press would write about it. Don't hold your breath on that.

For my part, I am going to continue to come down here, as I have done before on this very issue, and say: Look, if there is one thing we should be focused on, it is supporting our military and funding them and their families to make them ready, to make them lethal, to enable them to protect our country.

If there is one bill in the Congress that we shouldn't have filibustered nine times in the last 4 years, it is this one. But that is what just happened.

I hope more Americans see this. Call your Senators who voted no today and tell them you don't agree with that vote. You do not agree with that vote. I guarantee you, the men and women who serve our country don't either, and they would appreciate if you would weigh in on their behalf.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who was more than just our colleague. She was our friend, and I am missing my friend today.

When I think about Senator Kay Hagan, I remember a lot of things. First was her deep dedication to public service. From the moment she woke up until the sun set behind her beloved Blue Ridge Mountains, Kay was focused on serving the people of North Carolina and the State she loved so much.

It was such an honor working with her, especially on behalf of North Carolina's farmers, small towns, and rural communities that she loved so much. She was passionate about the health of the land and the people who live and work on it.

Second, Kay was a fighter. We all knew that. Growing up between two brothers probably contributed to that. I have two brothers myself, and I can attest to the fact that it toughens you up.

We saw that spark every day on the floor of the U.S. Senate. Kay had a deep and abiding sense of justice, and she stood up for North Carolina families every single day, even when it wasn't easy and even when she paid a political price for it.

She stood up for expanding healthcare and protecting the rights of North Carolina women and families. That same fighting spirit kept her going through her own grueling health challenges.

I had the chance to visit with her a couple of years ago when she was receiving treatment at a rehabilitation hospital in Georgia. She was working so hard to recover her ability to move and to talk, but one thing hadn't changed—that spark in her eyes.

I know I speak for all of us when I say that Kay's grace and endurance over the past 3 years were incredibly inspiring.

Finally, when I think of Kay, I think of kindness. In a city full of sharp words and even sharper elbows, Kay was unfailingly optimistic and an absolute joy to work with.

I know that even my Republican colleagues would agree with me and join in our sorrow over her loss.

Kay and I happened to have daughters who were getting married around the same time, and as many of you know, mothers of brides love to talk about wedding plans and to share photos about the big day, and we shared a lot of photos.

I will never forget the way her face would always light up whenever she talked about her family. She was so proud of each and every one of them, and they were proud of her too.

In her final floor speech, Kay shared one of her guiding principles, a paraphrase of Luke 12:48: To whom much is given, much is expected.

This Chamber and this country are better for having known Senator Kay Hagan. She lived by that principle. She gave us so much, and she gave it with her whole heart.

Knowing Kay was a gift, and I feel so fortunate to have been able to call her my friend. My deepest condolences are with her husband Chip and their children and their extended family and many, many friends and her beloved State of North Carolina.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill 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.

NOMINATION OF LAWRENCE VANDYKE

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Madam President, I rise today in opposition to the nomination of Lawrence VanDyke to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Mr. VanDyke fits neatly into this administration's pattern of picking Federal judges for our circuit courts of appeal without meaningful input from home State Senators. The President continues to select ideologically extreme nominees like Mr. VanDyke, and the White House is putting forward people without enough experience for the momentous roles they have been chosen to serve.

Mr. VanDyke has been nominated to fill a Nevada seat on the Ninth Circuit even though he is not a Nevadan. He didn't grow up in my State. He doesn't appear to own property there. He doesn't seem to have family ties. And he was an active member of the Nevada State bar for only 2 years.

Senator ROSEN and I engaged with the White House to put forward highly respected Nevadans with bipartisan support, but our suggestions were summarily ignored because the White House was laser-focused on Mr. VanDyke.

I want to be clear. The administration did not meaningfully consult about this nomination with Nevada Senators, and the result is a poor nominee.

First and foremost, I am extremely concerned about the effect that Lawrence VanDyke's lifetime appointment would have on women's reproductive rights in America. As Montana's solicitor general, Mr. VanDyke supported an Arizona abortion ban. In an amicus brief in *Horne v. Isaacson*, he contended that the constitutional right to choose should be revisited. He also defended a Montana law that made it harder for young women in that State to seek an abortion, and he advocated for letting corporations sidestep their obligations to provide insurance coverage for contraception.

Based on this record, I fear that, as a Federal judge, Mr. VanDyke would limit women's health choices in Nevada and throughout the country, including their access to birth control.

His record on LGBTQ rights is also dismal. Mr. VanDyke has ties to two ideologically extreme, anti-LGBTQ groups that the Southern Poverty Law Center has designated as hate groups. Those are the Alliance Defending Freedom and the Family Research Council. These ties are hardly surprising given that Mr. VanDyke has opposed gay rights since law school, when he wrote an article for the *Harvard Law Record*. This is that article: "One student's response to 'A Response to Glendon.'" It is dated March 11, 2004, by Lawrence VanDyke. In this article, he promotes the truth that same-sex marriage would hurt families, children, and society. This is that article, and this is his quote—clearly not only his writing but

his intent and thoughts behind what we have fought for in this country for LGBTQ rights in America for the last 10 years. What he says is, “What is quite settled, however, is that children on average fare best in stable, two parent families. This, combined with the correlative evidence of the decline in the family unit in Scandinavia, where de facto same-sex marriage has been around for about a decade, does provide ample reason for concern that same-sex marriage will hurt families and consequently children and society.” Those are his own words.

As solicitor general of Montana, he also strongly criticized LGBTQ anti-discrimination laws and worked to carve out religious exemptions to them. When signing Montana on to an amicus brief arguing that a photography company could refuse to photograph a same-sex wedding, Mr. VanDyke described the case, which is *Elaine Photography v. Willock*, as important because it would establish that “gay rights cannot always trump religious liberty.”

What you have here is an email, while he was a solicitor general in Montana, talking about why this case was important and why it was important that they sign on to the amicus brief. These are his arguments, his statements in an email. He said: “This is an important case because there is a fairly obvious collision course between religious freedom and gay rights, and this case (because it is an extreme case) could be very important in establishing that gay rights cannot always trump religious liberty.” These are his own words in an email from Montana when he was solicitor general.

Throughout his career, he has weakened environmental protections and standards, as well. Mr. VanDyke has argued in favor of fossil fuel drilling and supported reviving the Keystone Pipeline, ignoring the voices of conservationists and Native communities.

His actions do not protect our air and water, nor do they recognize the impacts of climate change or safeguard endangered species, including the iconic sage-grouse. In fact, as solicitor general of Nevada, Mr. VanDyke challenged the Republican Governor he served. He actively worked against Governor Brian Sandoval’s bipartisan agreement to protect my State’s native species. Mr. VanDyke’s opposition to land use restrictions to protect sage-grouse was so extreme that Governor Sandoval said publicly that Mr. VanDyke’s position “did not represent the State of Nevada, the governor, or any state agencies.”

With that background, clearly he should not sit on a court with jurisdiction over the West—home to nearly 75 percent of public lands in the Nation.

In the areas of reproductive rights, LGBTQ protections, and the environment, Mr. VanDyke’s nomination is so troubling because it is clear that he puts his ideology above the law. This vacancy should be filled with a judge

who will apply the law to the facts in an unbiased way—something Mr. VanDyke has proved unwilling to do.

Finally, Mr. VanDyke’s professional qualifications are simply insufficient. He has very little trial and litigation experience. When he served as Montana solicitor general, his colleagues raised serious concerns about his work ethic and legal skills. When he ran for the Montana Supreme Court, six retired judges of that court described him as “unqualified.”

As you heard at the confirmation hearings yesterday, the American Bar Association, which provides ratings for judicial nominees, gave him a rating of “not qualified.” That is worth repeating. The ABA—the American Bar Association—spoke with 60 lawyers and judges across 4 States and concluded that he wasn’t suitable for a position as a judge on the court of appeals. The people with the objections are his former colleagues.

As far as records show, not a single Federal judicial nominee has been appointed to the Federal bench who was lacking both a “qualified” or “well qualified” ABA rating and the approval of the nominee’s home state Senators. If confirmed, Mr. VanDyke would be the very first Federal judge who was judged not qualified and whose blue slips were not returned by their home State Senators. I don’t think that is a precedent this Chamber should be proud of.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals is the last stop for cases that affect Nevada before they reach the Supreme Court. It is vital that Ninth Circuit nominees know the State of Nevada and its issues.

This nominee lived in the Silver State for a total of 4 years before moving to Washington to work at the Department of Justice, where he is currently. In Nevada, we welcome newcomers, but usually they stay in our communities. Mr. VanDyke didn’t. Rather than continue to serve Nevadans, he left for a plum job in Washington and is now lobbying for a lifetime appointment on the Federal bench. This isn’t someone who serves the needs of Nevadans. This isn’t someone who knows Nevada or its issues. This is a career political operative who is looking for a guaranteed paycheck.

For all of these reasons, I do not believe Lawrence VanDyke deserves a lifetime appointment to one of the highest courts in the land, which handles 70,000 critical cases each year. He is not the right person in whose hands to leave Americans’ reproductive freedom, their fundamental civil rights, and their claim to a free and healthy environment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I rise today to join my friend and colleague Senator CORTEZ MASTO in opposing the nomination of Lawrence VanDyke to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in Nevada.

Our Federal courts make decisions every day that affect consumers, immigrants, small businesses, not to mention our right to equal treatment, education, and healthcare. As such, our Federal judges must be serious, fair-minded, and nonpartisan. We want women and men on the Federal bench who will look at the facts of a case, apply the law, and work hard to reach a just result regardless of who the parties are in front of them. The Federal bench must reflect our country in all its diversity of experience and background.

Even though the Constitution gives the President the power to nominate Federal judges, it also requires the advice and consent of the Senate, and historically the President consults with home state Senators when there is a vacancy. As the representatives to our States, we are better equipped to identify qualified lawyers and judges to serve on the Federal bench who have done good work and who have good reputations in our home communities.

We have numerous qualified, nonpartisan individuals working in the Nevada legal community who would make excellent additions to the Ninth Circuit. There are a number of amazing Nevada lawyers whom Senator CORTEZ MASTO and I would have gladly considered supporting for a seat on this prestigious court. We have litigators, magistrate judges, law professors, prosecutors, public defenders, and existing district court judges with stellar reputations from the State, lawyers and judges from Nevada. They know our State, and they have respected nonpartisan records. But the White House didn’t nominate any of these individuals for the Ninth Circuit. Instead, the President nominated Lawrence VanDyke, a Washington, DC, lawyer. He wasn’t born in Nevada. He didn’t grow up in Nevada. He didn’t go to school in Nevada. He doesn’t live in Nevada now.

Mr. VanDyke, a Montana native who ran for office there and also worked in Texas, came to Nevada for a job a few years ago, in 2015. When the person he worked for lost a political race in 2018, Mr. VanDyke quickly sold the house he briefly owned in Nevada and moved to Virginia to work in Washington, DC, and as of last week, by his own admission, he hasn’t even been back to Nevada since then.

He is a DC lawyer and a failed political candidate from Montana who shares this White House’s extreme political views. They are imposing him on Nevada despite the fact that we have so many qualified people in our own State who enjoy broad support across the political spectrum.

Nevada has a vibrant community, and we take pride in knowing each other, respecting each other, and most importantly, putting partisan politics aside when it comes to working together for the betterment of our State. So if someone is a good judge or lawyer, if they are honest and they have a good reputation professionally, if they

are civil in court and have a respectful demeanor, you will usually hear the same things about that person from everyone.

These are the types of people who should be Federal judges: people who treat everyone fairly and with respect, who are smart, who are fair, and who follow the facts to get a just result.

After reviewing Mr. VanDyke's record and meeting with him privately and watching his testimony before the Judiciary Committee yesterday, I have arrived at the determination that Mr. VanDyke does not fit that mold.

Mr. VanDyke spent a lot of time in our meeting talking about how the role of a Federal judge is simply to apply the law and not to try to change it. His record clearly shows otherwise.

How do we know this? Because before coming to Nevada, Mr. VanDyke worked for the Montana attorney general. Many of his emails from that time are public. They show he used that government office, where his job was to defend the laws of Montana—instead, what he chose to do is advance his own personal ideological agenda, even when it was against his State's interests. At least in one instance, he signed the State of Montana onto a brief without even bothering to read it.

Among the briefs Mr. VanDyke signed in his home State of Montana during his tenure as solicitor general was one asking the Supreme Court to strike down *Roe v. Wade* and all of the reproductive cases that followed *Roe*. When it comes to a woman's right to make her decisions about her own body, Mr. VanDyke's views and actions are far outside the mainstream, and they are far out of step with the views of the people of Nevada.

I am also concerned about the comments Mr. VanDyke has made about LGBTQ Americans. In 2004, Mr. VanDyke wrote that there is "ample reason for concern that same-sex marriage will hurt families, and consequentially children and society."

The LGBTQ community is at a critical point in its fight for equality. This term, the Supreme Court is considering whether employers in the United States can fire an individual merely for being gay or transgender. When the next case on LGBTQ rights comes up for judicial consideration, it could come before Lawrence VanDyke.

If that isn't enough, here is one more thing to consider. The American Bar Association has, by a substantial majority, rated Mr. VanDyke as unqualified. For a lifetime appointment, we should always strive for a candidate who is very qualified. No, they gave us Lawrence VanDyke, who was rated "not qualified."

Why did the ABA make this determination? Well, I will let the ABA's words speak for themselves. Based on interviews with 60 individuals who have worked with Mr. VanDyke over the years, including more than 40 lawyers and over a dozen judges, this is what the ABA said.

Mr. VanDyke's past work is offset by the assessments of interviewees that Mr. VanDyke is . . . lazy, an ideologue, and lacking in knowledge of the day-to-day practice including procedural rules. There was a theme that the nominee lacks humility, has an "entitlement" temperament, does not have an open mind, and does not always have a commitment to being candid and truthful.

Surely you agree, no matter who is in the White House or who controls the Senate, you would want the Federal judges in your States to come from and reflect your communities. You would want to trust these judges to be fair to your constituents and not use cases to advance their own ideological agenda, and you would want your judges to be, at a minimum, qualified to serve on the bench.

I oppose the nomination of Mr. VanDyke, and if it is withdrawn or voted down, I will be ready that day to work with this White House on finding nominees from Nevada who are qualified and fair and nonpartisan. The people of my home State of Nevada, particularly today, on Nevada Day, deserve nothing less.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

LEGISLATION

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, the end of the fiscal year for the U.S. Government came and went without a new funding bill in place. It was a big disappointment because this summer I thought we had reached an agreement on a 2-year budget package designed to make the appropriations process much simpler and eliminate the uncertainty that comes from continuing resolutions and stop-start funding for government agencies.

We agreed to topline funding for defense and nondefense spending. It was a big deal. There was also a promise not to derail the process with poison pill policy riders, and we got it done with plenty of time to spare.

I remember at the time thinking, hey, maybe we can help restore some regular order and put the function back in Congress rather than the dysfunction. But, unfortunately, politics got in the way. When the time came last month to make good on the promises that were made during that 2-year budget cap deal, Senate Democrats blocked a bill to fund our national defense. You heard me right. Senate Democrats blocked the appropriations for our national defense.

If there is one thing we should make a priority here in Washington, DC, it is protecting our country, keeping our men and women in uniform adequately trained with the equipment and the resources they need in order to fight and win the Nation's wars, and, even better, to prevent a war from being fought in the first place.

But our Democratic colleagues simply blocked it. It wasn't a disagreement over the amount. No, it was something they had already agreed to

last summer. They blocked the bill because, frankly, they don't want President Trump to have any sort of wins here, even when it undermines our national security.

It was a remarkable show of priorities. Their animosity toward the President exceeded their desire to see funding flow to the men and women in uniform and to defend the Nation. We could have provided our troops with the largest pay raise in a decade. We could have sent vital funding to our military as they battle looming threats around the world. We could have put the appropriations process back on track and restored the basic functioning of Congress. But, no, our Democratic colleagues chose to put politics ahead of any of that.

With our only options being a government shutdown or a short-term funding bill, we chose the lesser of two evils. But it is still evil in the sense that it is much less than we should be doing to serve the Nation and serve our constituents. We pushed the deadline, and we kicked the can down the road to November 21. We hoped our colleagues on the other side of the aisle would have a change of heart, but now they have proved us wrong.

Democrats have blocked money for the military again and again. This is beginning to feel like "Groundhog Day." They continue choosing to put their ongoing feud with the President before our most important responsibility as a Congress: to provide for the common defense.

As if we needed to be reminded of the importance of our strong military, earlier this week, our highly skilled Special Forces troops took out the leader of ISIS, one of the most feared and dangerous terrorist leaders in the world. That terrorist is no longer a threat, thanks to the men and women of our military—Special Forces, in particular.

It was a tremendous victory for the United States and for our allies and underscored the need for us to continue to support our troops by funding the Defense bill. For our forces to continue fighting and risking death and injury itself while defeating evil in every corner of the world, they need our support, and there is no more tangible way to demonstrate that support than for Congress to pass this funding bill.

We also know, because of the need to plan, they need stability. They need a long-term funding bill and not just to stop-start, kick the can down the road a few weeks, and then come back and refight the same fights over and over and over again. That is really a pathetic response to our duty to help support our men and women in uniform. They need the unwavering support of every man and woman in this Chamber.

But, right now, our Democratic colleagues seem content just to say no, to get in the way, and to block this funding. Will they pay any price for doing that? I don't know. They don't seem to really particularly care.

I have no doubt that this obstruction is tied to the obsession that the House

of Representatives has to remove President Trump from office. We have heard over and over again from our Democratic colleagues that impeachment will not interfere with their ability to legislate and to get work done, but their actions speak louder than words.

While I think the decision to block defense funding is the most egregious example so far, it is far from the only one. The extent to which they will go to try to defeat and slow down and impede the President and anything he might be able to point to as a victory—here is another example.

It has been more than a year since the landmark trade agreement between Mexico and Canada was announced, but we are still waiting for Speaker PELOSI to show the green light and pass the USMCA and send it to the Senate, where I am sure it will pass overwhelmingly. This agreement will provide billions of dollars in economic growth, new jobs here at home, and greater stability for our economy, but we haven't been able to reap those benefits because the agreement is being stalled in the House.

Well, why is that? Well, it could be because they are obsessed with and preoccupied with impeachment, and they can't seem to get anything else done. The Speaker claims progress is being made, but it has been the same song and dance for months with nothing to show for it.

In the Senate, unfortunately, things aren't a lot different. A bill I introduced with our Democratic colleague, Senator BLUMENTHAL from Connecticut, to reduce drug prices, has gotten caught in the crosshairs of this partisan fighting too. This bill has broad bipartisan support. It would lower Federal spending by more than one-half billion dollars in over 10 years. It would also save consumers out-of-pocket costs for prescription drugs.

According to Politico, the Democratic leader is blocking the bill, despite the fact that folks in both parties in Congress, as well as the President, have said that they are eager to pass legislation to reduce drug prices. The Democratic leader will not let it come to the floor.

To me, this is the greatest example of our dysfunction here: When the President is for something, when Democrats are for something, when Republicans are for something, when the House is for something, when the Senate is for something, we still can't seem to get it done. That is a hard one to explain. Sadly, the list doesn't stop there.

Here is another example. Earlier this year, the Senate unanimously—unanimously—passed a bill I introduced to reauthorize the Debbie Smith Act. This program supplies funding to State and local crime labs to test DNA, or forensic evidence, and to reduce the rape kit backlog. It is about as nonpartisan an issue as they come. Unfortunately, that didn't make it immune from the

gamesmanship in the House. After months of refusing to act on this bill, we sent it over—I think it was in May. They did nothing for a long time, and they allowed the Debbie Smith Act to expire.

When something as noncontroversial as reducing the rape kit backlog gets politicized, you know you are in trouble. Well, I was finally glad to see last week that the House changed its tune, thanks to a lot of pressure both from within and without, because their refusal to reauthorize the Debbie Smith Act and this critical rape kit backlog funding was indefensible. So I am hopeful we can get that bill to the President's desk now after this long and unnecessary delay.

We all knew that the Democratic obsession with removing the President from office began before he was inaugurated, but no one expected it to get this far out of hand or for the dysfunction to be so pervasive. Their impeach-at-any-cost attitude has now brought the work of Congress to a screeching halt. Legislation is collecting cobwebs in the corner while our Democratic colleagues are conducting secret hearings behind closed doors in an effort to reverse the 2016 election.

While they are continuing this charade here in Washington, their constituents are likely wondering what it is their elected representatives are doing to make their lives better at home. Are they passing bills to bring down drug prices, like the bill I have with Senator BLUMENTHAL? Are they trying to strengthen the economy by improving trading relationships among Mexico, Canada and the United States? Are they passing legislation to support our men and women in the military?

I am sad to say that for our Democratic colleagues, the answer to each of those questions is no—no time for tackling the big problems but plenty of time for the politics of trying to remove the President from office, 1 year before the next general election.

Speaker PELOSI knows this is going to divide the country, and it is going to occupy everyone's attention here in Washington, DC, until it is concluded, and she also knows that the likelihood of getting 66 votes in the Senate to convict the President and to remove him is incredibly unlikely. It has never happened in our Nation's history, even though President Nixon did resign. No previous President who has been impeached has actually been convicted and removed from office.

The inability to separate their obsession with the President from their duties here in Congress should be embarrassing.

Impeachment may consume the news cycle, but it shouldn't stop all of us from working together in the best interests of our constituents and the American people. I hope our Democratic colleagues will reconsider.

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. CARPER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I am here on a sad note and then on a happier note as well. I am going to try to tie the two together.

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I have been privileged to serve, and this my 19th year here in the U.S. Senate. A long time ago, I served as a naval officer in the Vietnam war and as later State treasurer, Congressman, Governor of Delaware, and now I serve as U.S. Senator. I have had the privilege of serving with literally hundreds of people here, in the House, as Governor, and certainly in the Navy and the armed services during the Vietnam war.

Among my all-time favorite colleagues of all of those, whether it was in the military service, the State of Delaware, or here in Congress, one of my all-time favorite people to serve with was a woman from North Carolina, from a place called Shelby.

My wife is from North Carolina, from a place called Boone. Her family is from North Carolina. She has her father down there. Boone is up in the mountains. She has sisters. She has sisters in Raleigh, and some of her family has actually lived in Shelby, NC.

There was a woman born there on May 26, 1953, named Kay Hagan. I don't know that she was born Kay Hagan, but she became Kay Hagan, and maybe that was after getting married. But she was the daughter of a homemaker named Jeanette, and her dad had a tire business. Later, he worked as a real estate broker. Apparently, politics was in her blood. Her dad also served as mayor, later on, of Lakeland, FL. That was where Kay Hagan spent most of her childhood.

Lakeland, FL, is near to me because it is the spring training camp for the Detroit Tigers. I have been a Detroit Tigers fan since I was 9 years old. So it has been a while. For the people watching the World Series, three of the best pitchers in baseball used to pitch for my Tigers. They went through training camp in Lakeland and ended up with other teams that took them into the World Series.

Kay was not around to watch any of those former Tigers pitch because she passed away just about 3 days ago.

Her uncle was a former Governor of Florida, with whom I served. Lawton Chiles was one of the sweetest, best guys I have ever known. He served here in the U.S. Senate for many years—sort of a centrist Democrat. He was beloved in his State and beloved here as well.

Both Kay's dad and her brother served in the U.S. Navy. I did 23 years

in all, Active Duty and Reserve, in the Navy, and I treasure those days.

Apparently, Kay also spent summers on her grandparents' farm. They had a farm not in North Carolina but in a place called Chesterfield in South Carolina. Chesterfield used to be a tobacco brand. It was called Chesterfield. She spent summers on her grandparents' farm in Chesterfield, SC, and there she helped to string tobacco and harvest watermelons.

I grew up in Danville, VA, the world's biggest tobacco market. The kids in my classes at school—the really cool kids, apparently—strung tobacco and probably harvested watermelons, as well, as Kay did.

She graduated from Lakeland High School in 1971 and went on to Florida State University and received her JD from Wake Forest Law School in 1978.

Her husband Chip, whom she married, I think, in 1977, was a transactions lawyer. She raised her family in Greensboro, NC. If you go 30 or 40 miles north of Greensboro, you are in Virginia, and that is where I grew up, in Danville, VA.

When I first met her, we kind of talked about her background in the Navy and her father, and we talked about Lakeland, FL, and my affinity for the Detroit Tigers, who have trained there for decades. We talked about her raising her family in Greensboro. I spent a lot of my childhood in Danville, just north of Greensboro.

I told her a story about going to Greensboro with my dad, as a kid, and we got ourselves a hunting dog from Greensboro, where she raised her family.

She leaves behind three kids—Jeanette, who was named after her mother, Tilden, and Carrie. She also is a grandmother of five grandchildren whom she loved and adored.

Before she got into politics she worked in the financial industry. She became vice president of what was then North Carolina National Bank and went on to become today part of Bank of America.

She worked as a campaign manager for a guy named Jim Hunt. Jim Hunt was Governor for 8 years. In North Carolina, you can be Governor for 8 years, and you have to step down, or you can come back and be elected again. He was elected for another 8 years. She worked for Jim Hunt, a great education Governor, who always surrounded himself with just the best people in the world. I treasured serving as a Governor with him and his friendship, and the fact that she had been his campaign manager endeared her to me.

She was first elected to office, I think, when she was elected to the North Carolina General Assembly, not as a State representative but she was elected as a State senator. She served, I think, five terms, representing Guilford County down in North Carolina.

She ran for the Senate in 2008 against Elizabeth Dole, another person for whom I had great affection, as I did for

her husband, Bob. Both of them actually served here in the Senate, Bob and Elizabeth Dole. Elizabeth is from North Carolina.

We were fond of her, and when the two of them ran against each other, it was tough, but stuff like that happens. Kay won, and she came here and served for 6 years until 2015.

She left the Senate in 2014. She was defeated by THOM TILLIS, who serves here today. She lost by, I think, less than 50,000 votes, so it was a close vote. After her term ended in the Senate, she went on to work as a fellow at the Harvard Institute of Politics and a senior policy consultant at a law firm, Akin Gump.

She died October 28 of this year, 3 days ago, of encephalitis caused by a virus she contracted from a tick bite, and it is something that happened in 2016, and it was 3 years later that she finally died, which is very, very sad.

She was the second female Senator from North Carolina—first female Democrat to be elected from North Carolina to the Senate, the first female Democrat. She served, while she was here, on a number of committees. I did not have the pleasure of serving with her at the same time. She was on Armed Services. There is a lot of military in North Carolina, especially the Marines there on the East Coast.

But she was on the Banking Committee. She joined the committee after I left to be a member of the Finance Committee. She served on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pension Committee and Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

In 6 years, you vote on a lot of amendments, you vote on a lot of bills, you offer a lot of bills and amendments. She did all of that, and I just wanted to focus on one thing that she supported and worked on. She was a person who believed that we have a moral obligation to the least of these in our society. Matthew 25 speaks to a moral obligation—when people are hungry, what we should do about it, when they are naked or thirsty, what are our obligations, regardless of our faith.

Matthew 25 states: When I was hungry, did you feed me? When I was naked, did you clothe me? When I was thirsty, did you give me drink? When I was sick or in prison, did you visit me? When I was a stranger in your land, did you walk with me?

And she answered all of those questions: Yes, yes, yes.

She was somebody that thought we had moral obligations to the least of these, but since we didn't have unlimited amounts of money, we just couldn't waste our money, and we had to spend it effectively. She believed that we should not just give a person a fish and feed them for a day, but teach a person to fish and they would feed themselves for a lifetime.

She was a fitness buff. I love to work out, and my wife loves to work out, and she did too. I think that is one of the

reasons that she was able to fight this disease and fight it off as long as she did. There is a gym here that used to be little. It is a little bigger that it used to be. The one in the House is much bigger; they have a lot more people.

But they have a little swimming pool at the gym here, and I have never used it. For years, it was just men only. In fact, for years there was not even an opportunity for women in the Senate to actually have a fitness center to work out. She changed that. She led the fight to change that. I think when she lost her race in 2014 and the women in the Senate threw her a goodbye party, they did it at the pool and in the fitness center down in the basement of the Russell building.

In the 1970s, she was an intern in the Capitol—and we have some pages here. I don't think she was ever a page, but later she was an intern. She became an elevator operator. I am not sure if Harry Reid, who was our majority leader and minority leader here, he was an elevator operator, but there was sort of a pecking order, starting with pages at a very young age and interns later on, and then they become an elevator operator and have some other jobs here and then go off to do amazing things with their life.

And she certainly did that. She was operating an elevator here in the Senate that carried Senators, including her uncle Lawton Chiles, who I mentioned earlier.

Joe Biden visited Kay Hagan in North Carolina the day before her death—that would have been 4 days ago—and what Joe said of Kay is that she was a crucial partner in passing the Affordable Care Act and the stimulus package which got us off of our back when we were going through the worst recession since the Great Depression. Joe said that “She was a crucial partner” in passing the Affordable Care Act, which passed by one vote, and she was that one vote. I think she was probably prouder of that vote than anything that she did when she served here.

I want to segue from Kay, but before I do, she was always interested in figuring out the right things to do, not what was easy or expedient. She was always asking what is the right thing to do. I remember her being here and other Senators—Democrats and Republicans—and we were trying to figure out what to do on a particular issue. She would always say: What is the right thing to do?

She was one of those people who had deep faith, and she believed not only do we have a moral obligation to the least of these, but she thought that we ought to treat other people the way we wanted to be treated, and that is the Golden Rule.

As it turns out, about a week ago, I was invited to worship in a Hindu worship service in Delaware with a congregation of a thousand people, and I was reminded there that the Golden

Rule—to treat other people the way we want to be treated—is part of every major religion, the Golden Rule. I do not care if you are Catholic, I do not care if you are a Jew, I do not care if you are a Muslim, Hindu, some form of the Golden Rule is right there. She was a big proponent of the Golden Rule, and that was the work of her life.

She was also one of those people who focused on excellence in everything she did. She was committed to doing things well and wanted to be surrounded by staff that did things well. When things would go well for her and she would do a good job, she would always give credit to her team. When her team would fall short, she was not one of those people who blamed the team; she blamed herself.

Another thing I would say is she just didn't give up. She was tenacious—not very tall, not tall in stature, but, boy, was she tenacious. She showed this especially by the way she fought for her life to the very end 3 days ago.

I want to talk just a little about her vote on the Affordable Care Act and why she thought it was the right thing to do. Matthew 25 does not say anything about: I was lame and you gave me healthcare or access to healthcare. My own source of healthcare was the hospital, what did you do about it? That doesn't say that in the New Testament.

But I think the implication is clear. We have an obligation—I think a moral obligation to try to make sure everybody has access to healthcare and, hopefully, to affordable healthcare. That is what we tried to do with the Affordable Care Act, and that is why she supported it.

Sometimes people think the Affordable Care Act is just the exchanges, just the marketplaces. Every State has an exchange or marketplace that is there. It is sort of like a purchasing pool for healthcare that people can become a part of. If they don't work for an employer who provides healthcare, that is issued by the employer, and they are not old enough for Medicare or their income level is too high to allow them to participate in Medicaid and, in those cases, they have to find some way to get access to healthcare.

Back in 1993, the Republican Senator from Rhode Island, John Chafee—who is also a Navy guy, later Secretary of the Navy—he introduced legislation here in the Senate in 1993 as a Republican response to something Hillary Clinton was doing during her husband's administration that was working to find ways to make sure that everybody had access to healthcare in this country.

We worked on something called HillaryCare, and the Republicans ridiculed her efforts and those around her. She said basically in response: What is your idea? What is your idea?

The response was by Senator Chafee, joined by 22 or 23 Republican Senators, and part of what they came up with is that every State should have an ex-

change and every State should have the ability to set up the purchasing pool in their State. People who didn't have coverage could get their coverage in the exchanges.

Neither one was turned into law, but about 10, 12 years later, the new Governor of Massachusetts, MITT ROMNEY, took the idea of the exchanges and introduced the Mitt Romney Care so that the people in his State would have the opportunity to sign up for the coverage in their exchange.

We wrote the Affordable Care Act, we did it, and we took good ideas from all over the country and all over the world to provide healthcare to people that was affordable. One of the ideas that we stole to put in the Affordable Care Act was Governor Romney's idea of the exchanges.

And you know what? It was a good idea. It was a good idea. The first few years of RomneyCare in Massachusetts, they did a pretty good job of extending coverage. They did not do such a good job initially on affordability, and they kept trying, and they finally figured it out—competition in the marketplace, in the exchange, and more insurance companies providing, participating, and this worked well. We found in the first 2 years that the Affordable Care Act was standing up the exchanges 7, 8, or 9 years ago that it was a challenge. It was difficult.

What has happened now is the insurers are starting to figure it out. They priced too high. The States have come up with ways to buy down the risks for the insurers and to make a number of States' health insurance in the exchanges more affordable, so that more people can actually afford that help.

I would just close this here. The majority leader is standing here waiting to speak, so I will just close if I can by saying after a number of years seeing the cost of healthcare coverages in exchanges across the country go up, up, up—sometimes by double-digit rates—the insurance companies were trying to figure out how to price health insurance for people who have not had health insurance for years. It took them several years to figure it out, but they finally, for the most part, have. The cost of healthcare in exchanges doesn't go up by double-digit rates anymore.

In fact, we have 20 or more States now where the cost of healthcare coverage in the exchange is only going up a couple of percentage points, maybe less. In a half-dozen States, the cost of healthcare in the exchanges is actually going down. In the State of Delaware, when the exchanges open up tomorrow, the people will sign up for the healthcare exchange in Delaware, the price will not be going up next year. It will be going down by 19 percent. There are six other States where the consumer experience is similar, and that is encouraging.

A lot more insurance companies are offering coverage in the States, 23 last year and 45 this year—and that is going

to introduce competition and, we hope, a cycle that will allow more people to get better coverage for a lower price.

So, Kay Hagan, we miss you, and we considered it a privilege to have served with you here. Something good has come out of something very difficult. The passage of the Affordable Care Act was hard. It has been hard finding a way forward since then, but I think better days lie ahead, and market forces are starting to work, and that is a good thing.

And with that, I will yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for consideration of Calendar Nos. 468 through 477 and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed; that 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 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. Andrew C. Hilmes

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. James B. Hecker

IN THE NAVY

the following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Gregory C. Huffman

The following named officer for appointment in the grade indicated while serving as Surgeon General of the Navy under title 10, U.S.C., section 8077:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. Bruce L. Gillingham

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

Maj. Gen Mark C. Schwartz

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 brigadier general

Col. Karl Konzelman

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. Randy A. George

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. Edwin J. Deedrick, Jr.

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

Gen. James E. Rainey

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 admiral

Vice Adm. Charles A. Richard

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN1112 AIR FORCE nomination of David B. Martin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1113 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning MATTHEW W. STYLES, and ending LINDSEY P. DAVIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1114 AIR FORCE nomination of Shayla A. Canty-Smith, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1116 AIR FORCE nominations (15) beginning TRAVIS M. ALLEN, and ending CHRISTOPHER D. UNDERWOOD, II, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1118 AIR FORCE nomination of Brandon R. Burden, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1184 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning STEVEN D. GRESSWELL, and ending TESSA L. WINTERTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1185 AIR FORCE nomination of Jason M. Zhao, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1186 AIR FORCE nomination of Samuel H. Bridges, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1187 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning TIMOTHY J. CURRY, and ending RYAN J. GARLOW, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1188 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning BRIAN P. BERLAKOVICH, and ending

SCOTT J. RUMISEK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

IN THE ARMY

PN1119 ARMY nomination of Timothy M. Donelson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1120 ARMY nomination of Cesar A. Patino, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1121 ARMY nomination of John J. Vogel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1122 ARMY nomination of Lance A. Brown, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1123 ARMY nomination of Gregory J. Hirschey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

PN1124 ARMY nomination of Michael C. Haith, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1125 ARMY nomination of Christopher O. Dorsey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1126 ARMY nomination of Galen Cipperly, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1127 ARMY nomination of Wayne J. Harsha, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1128 ARMY nominations (12) beginning PAULA A. BOICE, and ending CHUNAE ZOH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1189 ARMY nomination of Brian E. Burk, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1190 ARMY nomination of Rhianna K. Riggs, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1191 ARMY nomination of Fatima H. Khan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1192 ARMY nomination of Demetrius E. Walton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1193 ARMY nominations (12) beginning GREGORY B. BATDORFF, and ending ERIC W. WIDMAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1194 ARMY nominations (3) beginning JOSEPH A. BURTON, and ending RONALD C. VICARS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1195 ARMY nomination of Eric L. Rahman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1196 ARMY nomination of Guadalupe Resendez, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1197 ARMY nomination of Katrina A. Parlow, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1198 ARMY nominations (44) beginning LESLIE E. AKINS, and ending D014484,

which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1199 ARMY nominations (8) beginning MATTHEW W. CASPARI, and ending GLEN E. TEMPLETON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1200 ARMY nomination of Kenneth J. Biskner, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1201 ARMY nominations (7) beginning NAVARI N. CAMERON, and ending JUAN A. VILLATORO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1202 ARMY nomination of Deleno M. Harper, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1203 ARMY nomination of James M. McCandless, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1204 ARMY nomination of Jens K. Pederson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1207 ARMY nominations (2) beginning GRECO E. CARRERAS, and ending PAUL E. GEBHARDT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1208 ARMY nomination of James H. Feaster, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1209 ARMY nomination of Christa M. Chewar, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1210 ARMY nomination of Erik A. Ernest, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1211 ARMY nomination of Joshua D. Helsel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1212 ARMY nomination of Scott T. McCartney, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1213 ARMY nomination of Broderick L. Gardner, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1214 ARMY nomination of Kara S. Krulewicz, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1215 ARMY nomination of Tatchie O. Manso, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1216 ARMY nomination of Eduardo Olvera, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1217 ARMY nomination of Francisco Rincon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1218 ARMY nomination of Wallace W. Rollins, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1219 ARMY nomination of Taylor S. Schenck, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1220 ARMY nomination of William D. Swenson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN1147 MARINE CORPS nomination of James M. Stephens, which was received by

the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1148 MARINE CORPS nomination of Carlos T. Jackson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

IN THE NAVY

PN1129 NAVY nomination of Michael J. Tagaloa, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1130 NAVY nomination of Patcho N. Santiago, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1131 NAVY nomination of Bryan A. Boldon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1132 NAVY nomination of Michael D. Cribbs, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1133 NAVY nomination of Brackery L. Battle, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1134 NAVY nomination of Joel D. Myers, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1135 NAVY nominations (108) beginning BRYAN M. ALLRED, and ending KENDRA M. YATES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1136 NAVY nominations (138) beginning MARIO D. ADAME, and ending ANTHONY M. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1137 NAVY nominations (1117) beginning WILLIAM H. ABBITT, and ending RUBEN B. ZWEIBAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1138 NAVY nominations (30) beginning KELLY W. AGHA, and ending AMY L. YOUNGER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1139 NAVY nominations (39) beginning KWADWO S. AGYEPONG, and ending SHAUN E. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1140 NAVY nominations (6) beginning BRADLEY E. CHERRY, and ending NEIL W. WHITESELL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1141 NAVY nominations (15) beginning HERNAN R. BORJA, and ending BRIAN E. YEE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1142 NAVY nominations (15) beginning BENJAMIN T. ANDERSON, and ending MATTHEW A. STROUP, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1143 NAVY nominations (16) beginning NICK AVILA, and ending ATHANASIOS R. VARVOUTIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1144 NAVY nominations (17) beginning MICHAEL ADAMSKI, JR., and ending AUSTIN C. WEST, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1145 NAVY nominations (60) beginning JASON C. ABELL, and ending JAMES M. ZWEIFEL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1146 NAVY nominations (49) beginning GARRETT L. ADAMS, and ending IRIS P. WOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1222 NAVY nomination of Joseph L. Coffey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

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. 399, S. Res. 400, and S. Res. 401.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, 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 resolutions (S. Res. 399, S. Res. 400, S. Res. 401) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to. (The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

HONORING THE LIFE, WORK, AND LEGACY OF TONI MORRISON

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 402, which was submitted earlier today.

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. 402) honoring the life, work, and legacy of Toni Morrison.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 402) was agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that 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 preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 403, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 403) designating October 2019 as "National Farm to School Month".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I am proud to honor the contributions of farm to school programs around the country by introducing a resolution that designates October as "National Farm to School Month." I am glad Senators COLLINS, BROWN, and PERDUE joined me in introducing this resolution.

Under a provision I authored in the 2010 Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act, farm to school programs across the country have thrived. Grants have been awarded in all 50 States and the District of Columbia to support programs in more than 43,000 schools. We have learned that one of the best ways to help students make healthy choices is to teach them about their food and how it is grown. Making that connection makes a difference.

We all know that hungry children cannot learn. Studies have shown that healthy nutrition in a young person's diet is crucial to cognitive ability and better health in the long run. Food insecurity and obesity rates are still too high in this country, resulting in poor health and learning and behavioral difficulties at school. The school meal program has made tremendous strides in recent years to ensure not only that children have access to meals throughout the school day but that those meals are nutritious. The Farm to School Program has given children and schools across the country the tools to craft farm-fresh, healthy, and delicious meals that students enjoy.

In Vermont, I have seen firsthand how farm to school efforts have better connected children with the food in their cafeteria. Students participate in school gardens, sustainability projects, and taste tests for new school menu items. Earlier this month, I was glad to visit St. Albans, VT, to announce grants that will enhance classroom curriculum to help children become familiar with local food and how to eat healthfully.

Ensuring children have enough food to eat is an issue that unites us all. There is simply no excuse that in the wealthiest, most powerful Nation on Earth, people go hungry. Small changes in eating habits by children

will result in lifelong health benefits for generations to come. The Farm to School Program empowers children and their families to make healthy choices now and in the future. I am glad all Senators joined us in recognizing the importance of this program and recognizing October 2019 as National Farm to School Month.

Mr. McCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 403) was agreed to.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that 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 preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2423, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2423) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2423) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL CYBERSE- CURITY AWARENESS MONTH TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT, AND ENHANCE THE STATE OF, CY- BERSECURITY IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 345.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 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.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. I 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.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 345) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2019, AND TUESDAY, NOVEM- BER 5, 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 session only, with no business being conducted, on Monday November 4, at 1 p.m. I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Monday, November 4, it next convene at 10 a.m., Tuesday, November 5, and that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be 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 Tapp nomination; further, notwithstanding the provisions of rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during today's session ripen at 2:15 p.m. Tuesday, November 5; finally, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator MURKOWSKI.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I know that several of my colleagues have had an opportunity to take to the floor this week and today to speak to the memory of a woman, a Senator, and a friend—certainly a friend of mine—former Senator Kay Hagan from the State of North Carolina.

Kay was one of those women whom you naturally gravitated to. She was kind. She was generous in her southern manner and in her charm.

I rarely use the word "delightful" to describe people, but Kay was a delightful woman. She was a friend to so many of us, and she was a good colleague in the Senate.

We had an opportunity to work together on different legislative matters, whether it was initiatives I was leading on mineral security or initiatives she was working on with regard to small business and HUBZones, but the one area we really did connect on for a couple years was what we were trying to do with our sportsmen's bill.

We were successful in passing that through the Senate a couple years ago, but we worked on this back in 2014, and it gave us an opportunity, as two women from States where hunting and fishing and being engaged with the outdoors is something that Alaskans and North Carolinians do and enjoy. We shared stories. We shared just discussion about how we were able to reach common ground. We figured if these two women from these two parts of the country could figure this out and make it happen, that would really be a good day, a positive day.

Well, it didn't happen at that particular time, but I am pleased to say we were successful some years later, and I think much of that was due, in part, to the good work of Kay Hagan.

I know there have been references to her legislative work, to her quality as a woman and a leader. My heart is really with the Hagan family, with her husband, Chip, and her extended family who truly loved her and were very protective of her in so many ways. I know their loss is a significant one.

I want them all to know that this Senator from Alaska shares that love, shares that loss for a woman who served us all well. I wanted to make sure that my comments were included among the many who have spoken on Kay's life.

SAVANNA'S ACT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I want to speak to another matter this afternoon, a matter that as I think about my tenure in the Senate and those initiatives I have been engaged with that have really touched me in a way that make me want to work all that much harder because it is so challenging, it is so difficult, and in many, many ways, it is so dark that anything I can do to shine a light on it, I will do so.

I came to the Senate floor 2 years ago, joined by my former colleague from North Dakota, Senator Heidi Heitkamp. Heidi was on the floor speaking about a bill she had introduced, Savanna's Act, but together we were really working to speak to the urgency of addressing this epidemic, if you will, this growing number of missing and murdered Native women across America.

The awful truth in this country is that Native women are victims of violence in unprecedented proportions.

When I say unprecedented, I will give you some of Alaska's numbers just to kind of put it into perspective.

This month, October, is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and so in many of the communities in States across the country, we have been focused on these issues of domestic violence and what more we can do to address these issues of concern and safety.

Well, on October 1, the first day of this month where we are raising this awareness, the headlines in the State's largest newspaper stated that the rate of rape in the State of Alaska was up 11 percent between 2017 and 2018—an 11-percent increase in 1 year.

We are a State where, unfortunately, Alaska Native women are 2½ times more likely to be a victim of domestic violence. In Tribal villages and Native communities, domestic violence rates are up to 10 times higher than the rest of the Nation—10 times higher.

So think about as bad as it is in areas that you are in, in our Tribal villages and some of the Native communities, these rates are staggering.

In 2015, it was estimated that 40 percent of sex trafficking victims were Native Americans. Now, I know 2015 was a few years ago, but 40 percent of the victims who have been sex trafficked were Native Americans.

The rate of sexual violence victimization among Alaska Native women is at least seven times greater than non-Native females in the State. So think about that. There is an unprecedented level of victimization, of assault, of violence, of murder that is experienced by Alaska Native women.

These are statistics that really should shock the conscience. I know they shock mine. I have been exposed to them for so many years, but it continues to shock.

We all know these are not just statistics. These are mothers, these are sisters, these are aunts, these are cousins, these are friends, and these are women who are being violated at rates that are unacceptable anywhere in any State.

Now, I mentioned that some of the statistics are old, and that is part of the problem, trying to understand what it is that we don't know, so we need to get updated data, but what isn't old—and, unfortunately, seemingly, every day we get new statistics that are added to what we have already known.

It was just last week family and friends packed an Anchorage courtroom for the arraignment of a man who had been charged with murdering 52-year-old Veronica Abouchuk. She was a Native woman originally from the village of St. Michael. She had been in Anchorage for a period of time. She had been reported missing earlier this year, and then she was found dead near the Old Glenn Highway in April.

It was just a few weeks ago now—maybe about 3 weeks ago—the Alaska community was just horrified as we

learned through the news of a video cartridge that had been found on a street, and what was revealed was a tape of torture and abuse of a Native woman.

That tape ultimately led to the arrest of this same man who is accused of killing Veronica. That video showed the torture and the murder of 30-year-old Kathleen Jo Henry. She was originally from a very small village, the village of Eek.

These are stories of women. We read about what they have experienced, what they have endured, and we think about their families who no longer have these women in their lives. You just can't view them in the abstract as statistics. What are we doing to respond to them as women, women who are vulnerable and are being preyed upon? What are we doing to act, to help?

I mentioned this is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In Alaska, we have started calling it Domestic Violence Action Month. Going from awareness to action is really the key because I am here to tell you, in Alaska, we are very aware of how severe the problem of violence against Native women is—whether it is domestic violence, an assault, to them being trafficked and murdered. We know the statistics.

When I am talking with Alaskans about what we are seeing with missing and murdered indigenous women, the subject of trafficking keeps coming into every conversation because that is, seemingly, what is happening to so many who unfortunately go missing.

There are far, far, far too many stories that we then hear they were trafficked and then ultimately murdered. This nexus is what is really frightening.

I mentioned the data and understanding what it is that we know and what we don't know—how big is the problem, what is happening with our Native women that they are being victimized to the extent and to the level we see. We are beginning to make some progress. We are beginning to gather more data and understanding.

There is a lot we know we have to learn, but one thing that has become clear is that these crimes are permeating cities across America. They are in the cities, but they are also in our small, remote, and rural communities.

There is really no geographic boundary that we are talking about here. Initially, we had thought the problem of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls was primarily a problem on the remote Indian reservations, but we had some good, strong reporting from the Seattle-based Urban Indian Health Institute. We learned a lot there about the gaps in the data. We learned that the number of Native women who go missing in urban centers is as significant as those who go missing on reservations or in rural areas.

In fact, last year there were 507 cases of Native women killed in urban areas.

Of those, 282 were confirmed murdered, 127 were confirmed missing, and 98 cases are still listed in an unknown status. These cases exist across 71 urban areas selected for the study—from Baltimore to Orlando in the east coast and all the way up to the North Slope in the community of Utqiagvik.

According to the report, Anchorage was among the top 10 cities identified in this study, coming in at No. 3, with 21 cases of missing and murdered indigenous girls. Overall, Alaska was the fourth highest State in the Nation with 52 cases. Keep in mind that these are just the cases that have actually been reported.

Making sure that we are understanding the extent of the problem and the issues we are dealing with, the spotlight we are shining on the issue of murdered indigenous women is growing, but we need to answer those questions so we can move from awareness to action.

What are we doing? How are we doing? We are keenly focused—I am, certainly, keenly focused—on what we can do to improve public safety in Alaska. As shocking as many of these statistics are that I have shared with you, what we know is that in far too many communities in our State we lack law enforcement presence. These are remote communities. These are small communities, maybe 300 people. When you don't have law enforcement, when there is nobody there who can administer justice, who can be the law, it is a safe place for bad people to go and do bad things.

What we do to address this is on all of us. So as we are looking at public safety in rural Alaska, I reminded Attorney General Barr when he participated in a video conference at the Alaska Federation of Natives convention a couple of weeks ago—he made the comment that we want to make sure we have public safety throughout Alaska and that a woman shouldn't have to move to the city to feel safe, and I had to remind him—that in the cities, unfortunately, we are not seeing the level of safety that we would seek.

But we are making some headway, and I want to share with colleagues what we have just done in this Interior appropriations bill that we moved through in the full Senate just this afternoon, and I thank colleagues for that support.

For the first time, we are directing real dollars to prioritize the crisis of missing and murdered indigenous women. We have included a specific focus there within the Interior appropriations bill for FY 2020. We provide funding to address the crisis with support for cold case investigations, equipment, training, and background checks. This will be an effort where we will work with the Department of Justice, with the BIA, with the administration, with the State, and with the Tribes.

We also encourage the Indian Health Service to look at programs that can help educate community health aides

on trauma informed care, which also includes collecting medical evidence. Through the CJS approps bill that we passed, we build upon efforts to address the high rates of violence that are experienced in far too many Alaskan communities.

We have been advocating for the largest possible Victims of Crime Act fund set aside for Native communities that disproportionately face violence and have oftentimes extremely limited access to service.

We also secured significant funding for the Violence Against Women Prevention and Prosecution Programs, and for State and local law enforcement and Tribal assistance, we provide additional resources, as well as resourcing for the COPS, or the Community Oriented Policing Services Program, which is an initiative to increase the number of police officers and ensure they are properly trained.

So I think we are making some headway on the appropriations side, but I think we know there is more that we can do. We know there is more that we must do.

I thank Attorney General Barr, who came up to the State of Alaska in May at the invitation of Senator SULLIVAN and myself and many of our leaders around the State, including our Tribal leaders, and he was able to sit down at roundtables in Anchorage and was able to get up to Fort Yukon, on the Yukon River, and come down to Bethel and to go out to the small village of Napakiak, a community of about 350 people.

Following his visit, he was so struck by what he had heard and what he had seen, and truly what he felt in his heart, that he moved forward with a designation of a public safety emergency in the State of Alaska. He has been working with us to help specifically address how we can make these rural communities safer and what we can be doing with everything from training to basic infrastructure. It is something we are working collaboratively on.

We are also seeing so many individuals, organizations, and communities really speaking up about this issue. Again, it is like the data. If you don't know it, you can't respond to it. If the stories aren't shared, as hard and awful as they are, it is difficult to know how we respond. There are so many who are speaking up in different ways to bring light to the fact that so many Native women have not received justice.

There is a woman by the name of Amber Webb that I met when I was in Fairbanks for the AFN conference. She has created this really powerful visual symbol to honor missing and murdered women. She sketched the faces of more than 200 missing and murdered indigenous women from across North America. She sketched them on a giant white qaspeq. Qaspeq is the traditional garb of a woman. She chose the qaspeq because it symbolizes the adaptability and the strength of Native women. It is

pretty impressive. It is about 15 feet high. But, again, it is a white qaspeq, with the portraits, the sketches, of these women.

In the center is the face of not a woman but a young girl, Ashley Johnson Barr. She was a 10-year-old girl who was kidnapped and killed in Kotzebue last year.

Being at Ashley's memorial services with the entire community of Kotzebue—it probably felt like the whole region—grieving the loss of that child in that brutal and awful murder in her home was something that never leaves you.

On one sleeve of the qaspeq is sketched the face of Sophie Sergei. Sophie was killed in 1993. She was at the University of Alaska Fairbanks in one of the dorms. Her case was cold for 25 years. For 25 years, her family had no idea who brutally killed her and left her in a bathtub of blood in a campus dorm room. That case broke loose with some DNA testing not too many months ago. Her family is hoping that one day there will be justice for their daughter, but the faces on that qaspeq represent way too many lives lost.

Some of what we are facing in Alaska, when it comes to public safety, is the lack of public safety in rural areas and an inability to ensure that people are safe in their homes. When you look at the statistics that we have, when you look at the issues you face, sometimes you have to say: Maybe the way we have been doing things for this long just isn't working out in these areas. Maybe there needs to be a different dynamic.

I recently introduced what we are calling the Alaska Tribal Public Safety Empowerment Act. It builds on a legislative provision that Congressman YOUNG has introduced. It is a pilot for Alaska Tribes to address violence against Native women. In that bill, we empower Tribes to exercise domestic violence criminal jurisdiction on a pilot basis, similar to what we did in VAWA 2013 for those in Indian Country. We allow Tribes to assume local control over local public safety matters. We cannot deny safety or justice to an individual based on jurisdictional issues. This addresses one critical piece, and that is the Tribal empowerment.

There is another very important element, and that is coordination among law enforcement agencies. I hear way too often from Alaskans who tell me that they don't actually count a missing Native woman as missing because the last time anybody saw her, she met somebody, she left a village, she went to Anchorage, and nobody really heard of her again. But what we know is that one of the most vulnerable times for these young women is the transition from a village to a hub community or to a city. We have heard from law enforcement that Native people, especially these young Native girls, are targeted by traffickers when they first arrive in Anchorage or Fairbanks or a

hub community. It is important that we both understand the scope of the problem and address coordination between our State, our Federal, and our Tribal governments. That is what Savanna's Act and this counterpart legislation, the Not Invisible Act, do together.

I reintroduced Savanna's Act with Senator CORTEZ MASTO earlier this year. This was an effort where I was proud to carry the torch for Senator Heitkamp, who has truly been a leader on this issue. Our bill combats the epidemic of murdered and missing Native women and girls by improving the Federal Government's response to addressing the crisis. Savanna's Act increases coordination among all levels of law enforcement, increases data collection in information sharing, and empowers Tribal governments with the resources they need in cases involving missing and murdered indigenous women and girls wherever they occurred.

This second bill that I mentioned, with Senator CORTEZ MASTO, is the Not Invisible Act. What we have seen for far too long is that Native families and communities mourn the loss of family members, sometimes with the resolution of their cases of a murdered sister or a missing loved one, but often the cases remain unsolved.

As I mentioned earlier, we were shocked in Alaska by the case of Kathleen Jo Henry and the related case of Veronica Abouchuk. But what is just as shocking is that the Abouchuk family has already—already—experienced the loss of one of their sisters, Martha Toms, who was killed in 2005 and whose case is still unsolved. So they have had tragedy compounded upon tragedy.

These bills, Savanna's Act and the Not Invisible Act, attempt to bring the issue of violence against Native women and the ongoing epidemic of missing and murdered Indians to the attention of the Nation. These families have faced unspeakable loss and, until recently, have felt almost invisible, frustrated, and really just let down by this system—the complex system that was supposed to protect them.

But to truly honor the memory of Savanna LaFontaine-Greywind and acknowledge her family's loss, we have to close the jurisdictional loopholes that criminals exploit. We have to improve the coordination among law enforcement at all levels of government, and we have to provide the necessary resources.

The Not Invisible Act designates an official in BIA to coordinate violent crime prevention efforts across Federal agencies. It also establishes a commission of local, Tribal, and Federal stakeholders to make recommendations to the Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice on how to combat this epidemic of disappearances, homicides, violent crimes, and trafficking of Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

We know we have a trust responsibility to our Native people, but also we

have a duty of moral trust when we talk about keeping all Americans safe. We all have to be part of the solution. By passing these bills, we are saying that we are not going to accept what we have dealt with and what we have faced for far too long.

I think we have to have a sense of urgency to keep Native women and girls safe. It shouldn't be anything that is partisan. There is nothing partisan about trying to protect women. There is nothing partisan about trying to protect Native women. There is nothing Republican or Democratic about the reality that we all deserve to have the same level of protection and justice as every other woman in this country.

So I am back here on the Senate floor with the same message I had a couple of years ago with Senator Heitkamp, and that is to urge colleagues to move beyond awareness to action. Let's take up Savanna's Act. Let's take up the Not Invisible Act. Let's act. Let's provide for the safety that all these women should expect.

With that, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
NOVEMBER 4, 2019, AT 1 P.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 1 p.m. on Monday.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 5:48 p.m., adjourned until Monday, November 4, 2019, at 1 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

STEPHEN E. BIEGUN, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, VICE JOHN J. SULLIVAN.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate October 31, 2019:

IN THE ARMY

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. ANDREW C. HILMES

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. JAMES B. HECKER

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. GREGORY C. HUFFMAN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE SERVING AS SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY UNDER TITLE 10 U.S.C., SECTION 8077:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. BRUCE L. GILLINGHAM

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

MAJ. GEN. MARK C. SCHWARTZ

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 brigadier general

COL. KARL KONZELMAN

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. RANDY A. GEORGE

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. EDWIN J. DEEDRICK, JR.

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 E. RAINY

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 admiral

VICE ADM. CHARLES A. RICHARD

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF DAVID B. MARTIN, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MATTHEW W. STYLES AND ENDING WITH LINDSEY P. DAVIS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF SHAYLA A. CANTY-SMITH, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TRAVIS M. ALLEN AND ENDING WITH CHRISTOPHER D. UNDERWOOD II, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF BRANDON R. BURDEN, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEVEN D. GRESSWELL AND ENDING WITH TESSA L. WINTERTON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF JASON M. ZHAO, TO BE MAJOR.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF SAMUEL H. BRIDGES, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH TIMOTHY J. CURRY AND ENDING WITH RYAN J. GARLOW, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN P. BERLAKOVICH AND ENDING WITH SCOTT J. RUMISEK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF TIMOTHY M. DONELSON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CESAR A. PATINO, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOHN J. VOGEL, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF LANCE A. BROWN, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF GREGORY J. HIRSCHHEY, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL C. HAITH, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER O. DORSEY, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF GALEN CIPPERLY, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF WAYNE J. HARSHA, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH PAULA A. BOICE AND ENDING WITH CHUNAE ZOH, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRIAN E. BURK, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF RHIANNA K. RIGGS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF FATIMA H. KHAN, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DEMETRIUS E. WALTON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GREGORY B. BATDORFF AND ENDING WITH ERIC W. WIDMAR, WHICH

NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOSEPH A. BURTON AND ENDING WITH RONALD C. VICARS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ERIC L. RAHMAN, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF GUADALUPE RESENDEZ, JR., TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KATRINA A. PARLOW, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH LESLIE E. AKINS AND ENDING WITH D014484, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MATTHEW W. CASPARI AND ENDING WITH GLEN E. TEMPLETON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KENNETH J. BISKNER, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NAYARI N. CAMERON AND ENDING WITH JUAN A. VILLATORO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DELENO M. HARPER, JR., TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAMES M. MCCANDLESS, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JENS K. PEDERSON, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GRECO E. CARRERAS AND ENDING WITH PAUL E. GEBHARDT, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 15, 2019.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JAMES H. FEASTER, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF CHRISTA M. CHEWAR, TO BE COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF ERIK A. ERNEST, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF JOSHUA D. HELSEL, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF SCOTT T. MCCARTNEY, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF BRODERICK L. GARDNER, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF KARA S. KRULEWICZ, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF TATCHIE O. MANSO, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF EDUARDO OLVERA, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF FRANCISCO RINCON, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF WALLACE W. ROLLINS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF TAYLOR S. SCHENCK, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF WILLIAM D. SWENSON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF JAMES M. STEPHENS, TO BE MAJOR.

MARINE CORPS NOMINATION OF CARLOS T. JACKSON, TO BE COLONEL.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL J. TAGALOA, TO BE COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF PATCHO N. SANTIAGO, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATION OF BRYAN A. BOLDON, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF MICHAEL D. CRIBBS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF BRACKERY L. BATTLE, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOEL D. MYERS, TO BE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRYAN M. ALLRED AND ENDING WITH KENDRA M. YATES, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MARIO D. ADAME AND ENDING WITH ANTHONY M. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH WILLIAM H. ABBITT AND ENDING WITH RUBEN B. ZWEIBAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KELLY W. AGHA AND ENDING WITH AMY L. YOUNGER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KWADWO S. AGYEPPONG AND ENDING WITH SHAUN E. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRADLEY E. CHERRY AND ENDING WITH NEIL W. WHITESSELL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH HERNAN R. BORJA AND ENDING WITH BRIAN E. YEE, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BENJAMIN T. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH MATTHEW A. STROUP, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH NICK AVILA AND ENDING WITH ATHANASIOS R. VARVOUTIS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL ADAMSKI, JR. AND ENDING WITH AUSTIN C. WEST, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JASON C. ABELL AND ENDING WITH JAMES M. ZWEIFEL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH GARRETT L. ADAMS AND ENDING WITH IRIS P. WOOD, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2019.

NAVY NOMINATION OF JOSEPH L. COFFEY, TO BE CAPTAIN.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JAMES I. MOORMAN,
OHIO VETERANS HALL OF FAME
INDUCTEE

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame will hold a ceremony in Dublin on November 7 to mark the induction of its 2019 class. I am honored to commend to the House one of these inductees: James I. Moorman of Sidney.

Mr. Moorman's life and career are a model for all who would commit themselves to public service. After his time in the Air Force, he joined the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, where as Jail Administrator he spearheaded the planning and design of a new 172-bed facility. He was recognized by the Law Enforcement Association of Shelby County as the 1978 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Mr. Moorman is a life member of the American Legion, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans, Catholic War Veterans, and Vietnam Veterans of America. For six years, he was a member of the Shelby County Veterans Service Commission.

He played a key role in helping neighboring Logan County establish its own Vets to DC Program, coordinating veterans' trips to Washington to visit their memorials on the National Mall at no cost to them.

Madam Speaker, selection for the Hall of Fame is a high honor accorded to no more than twenty Ohioans each year. To be considered, individuals must not only serve our nation honorably in the military but also reflect the high value of service to others in their post-military careers.

I am pleased to join in the accolades for James Moorman and his outstanding record of service as he is inducted into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, October 31, I was unable to vote on the day's legislation due to a family emergency. Because of this unplanned absence, I missed seven Roll Call votes. Importantly, I was not present to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 604 on the passage of House Resolution 660 (H. Res. 660).

Had I been present to vote on H. Res. 660, I would have voted "No."

I find it incredibly disappointing that the House of Representatives took up H. Res.

660, which moves us away from historic precedent and, instead, enacts unique constraints on Members of Congress who are in the Minority during this impeachment inquiry. In the resolution for the President Clinton impeachment inquiry, the House Majority provided strong, bipartisan checks and balances regarding subpoena authority. These were the same checks and balances afforded to Congress during the President Nixon impeachment inquiry.

However, H. Res. 660 removes Ranking Members' traditional co-equal subpoena power. Members of the Minority also lose the traditional right to refer to the committee questions on whether subpoenas can be exercised unilaterally by the Chairman.

For a process as important and consequential as an impeachment inquiry, my constituents in the Sixth District of Tennessee, and the American people, deserve better. They deserve fairness. They deserve transparency. H. Res. 660 gives our constituents neither.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM
STILLERMAN

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize William Stillerman of Winston-Salem, North Carolina for his outstanding tenure as President and CEO of Baptist Retirement Homes. Throughout his 34 years of exceptional leadership, Baptist Retirement Homes has been a pillar of effective care and compassion for the elderly in North Carolina communities.

The foundation he started now totals forty million dollars, helping to serve the Homes' over 500 residents and expand the reach of its services for homebound seniors.

Seeing such a successful local initiative to provide seniors access affordable prescriptions, comfortable housing, meals, companionship and many other needs is truly inspiring, and I'm proud to represent the person who embodies its powerful driving force.

Now that Mr. Stillerman himself is retiring, I wish him the very best and thank him for his incredible work and dedication in serving retirees in our state.

BRANDON BORTLES AND NOAH
HEANEY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brandon

Bortles and Noah Heaney for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

Brandon Bortles & Noah Heaney both Golden residents, own competing restaurants: Brandon owns Abejas, and Noah co-owns Miners Saloon. Instead of focusing on competing for customers, Brandon and Noah decided to work together to bring more diverse dining options to downtown Golden. This collaboration has already brought us Sur Mesa Taqueria, which opened inside Tributary Food Hall in September, and will soon bring us Nosu Ramen across the street. Together, Brandon and Noah are making an enormous contribution to Golden's economy, our culinary options, our social gathering places, and our sense of community.

I congratulate Brandon and Noah for receiving this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan. I thank them for their contributions to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I regret that due to a crisis of ongoing power outages and wildfires in California's 2nd District, I was unable to cast the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call 585, YEA on Roll Call 586, YEA on Roll Call 587, YEA on Roll Call 588, YEA on Roll Call 589, YEA on Roll Call 590, YEA on Roll Call 591, and YEA on Roll Call 592.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 440.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, on June 18, 2019, I was unable to attend the vote on the Lesko Amendment to the House Appropriations Package. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted NO on this vote (Roll Call No. 324).

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING SERGEANT DAVID
CHAMBERS AS SOLDIER OF THE
YEAR

HON. ROGER WILLIAMS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. WILLIAMS. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to congratulate Sergeant David Chambers from Troop C, 1st Squadron, 3rd Calvary Regiment on being named 2019 Soldier of the Year in the Army's Best Warrior Competition.

The annual competition tests soldiers physically and mentally, as they compete in urban warfare simulations, fitness challenges, warrior tasks, written exams and formal board interviews.

Sergeant Chambers represented the Brave Rifles, Fort Hood, III Corps and United States Army Forces Command with the highest honor and integrity.

He also represents the very best of America, and we should all look to his example of patriotism, selflessness and dedication.

Fort Hood, or 'The Great Place,' is one of the largest military installations in the world, where soldiers like Sergeant Chambers represent the gold standard for the United States Army.

The men and women who are stationed there truly remind us of what it means to be an American.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the 25th District of Texas, I want to thank Sergeant Chambers for his service, and congratulate him on receiving this prestigious award.

May God bless the United States of America, and those who fight for our freedom.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JANE
DUNDAS SMITH

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of my constituent, Jane Dundas Smith—a dedicated educator who uplifted and inspired her students. Jane was an extraordinary leader both inside and outside the classroom who sought to better the lives of students in our communities and across the country.

After graduating from the University of California Davis, Jane began her career as a ninth-grade English teacher at Vallejo Unified School District. From there, she launched a more than 30-year career in education—eventually supporting educational programs for the largest county in the nation in the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools office.

Jane's passion for improving the lives of others through education extended beyond the classroom. As a consultant and education specialist, she worked with school districts across the country, designing programs to support underserved schools and communities.

Even after her retirement, Jane continued to shape the lives of students in our communities, serving on the Board of Education in

the Yucaipa-Calimesa School District and on the Nominating Committee for the California School Boards Education Association.

Jane's devotion to her students and education was unshakable. On behalf of California's 36th Congressional District, we join together with her loved ones to grieve her loss. Jane's valuable contributions will be felt for generations to come, and her memory will live on in the hearts of the countless lives she touched.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ALTAMED HEALTH
SERVICES CORPORATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate AltaMed Health Services Corporation on its 50th anniversary. Over the past half-century, AltaMed has become a leader in delivering quality health care and empowering communities, and stands today as one of America's largest independent federally qualified health centers.

When AltaMed was founded in 1969 as the East LA Barrio Free Clinic, it relied entirely on grants and donations. The clinic provided critically needed care to predominantly Latino and underserved individuals and families who had little to no access to medical services.

Today, AltaMed is California's premier community health network, encompassing more than 50 service delivery sites throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties, and staffed by a culturally and linguistically competent workforce of more than 3,000 employees. It provides care to more than 300,000 individuals and families in one million annual patient encounters. In addition, AltaMed has expanded beyond primary care to deliver a full continuum of care that includes pediatrics, dental care, women's health, senior services, youth services, and HIV/AIDS services. To this day, AltaMed is committed to providing quality care without exception and working to address health disparities in our communities.

In 1982, AltaMed began offering senior services by opening its first Adult Day Health Care Center in East Los Angeles, providing medical and rehabilitative care to older adults. In 1996, AltaMed made the transition to PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly), a world-class managed-care program that uses a unique team-based approach to provide frail older adults with medical, social, nutritional, and rehabilitation services. This program makes it possible for those who meet nursing home eligibility requirements to remain at home, enjoying the comfort and reassurance of familiar surroundings while receiving the care they need. AltaMed currently serves nearly 2,700 older adults at eight PACE locations in Los Angeles County.

With the passing of the Affordable Care Act in 2010, more than 20 million uninsured Americans gained access to comprehensive health coverage. AltaMed led widespread efforts through its service delivery sites to enroll and provide resources to newly eligible individuals, becoming Covered California's top certified enrollment entity for several years in a row, and earning a grant through the state's Navigator Program.

In addition to its role as a leading health care provider, AltaMed leads advocacy efforts to protect critical safety net programs and expand access to services in order to grow healthier communities. This is made possible through strong partnerships with elected officials and community organizations. AltaMed's advocacy includes championing California's historic Health for All Kids Act (SB 4) which granted an estimated 170,000 undocumented children access to health care coverage under Medi-Cal. AltaMed has also advocated to protect vital federal funding for community health centers.

With a commitment to social justice and the understanding that health centers play a significant role in helping to achieve health equity, AltaMed launched the AltaMed Institute for Health Equity in 2017. Through innovation, education, research, and community engagement, the institute works to inform and support the elimination of health disparities that disproportionately affect racial and ethnic minorities.

In 2018, AltaMed launched a first-of-its-kind effort to mobilize low-propensity voters to make their voices heard at the ballot box in the brand-new "My Vote, My Health" campaign. Drawing on best practices from Get Out The Vote research, and leveraging organization and community assets, AltaMed worked to inform, motivate, and mobilize patients and employees to protect access to their healthcare services through the power of their vote. AltaMed's effort resulted in increases in voter participation of as much as 432 percent in some of the hardest-to-reach voter precincts.

On November 8, 2019, AltaMed will commemorate its 50th anniversary. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating AltaMed on achieving this historic milestone as an exceptional health care leader, advancing quality care for Latino, multi-ethnic, and underserved communities in Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present during roll call vote number 596 due to a meeting with constituents. I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted: on roll call vote number 596, I would have voted NO.

CONGRATULATING HENRY
DESROSIERS ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DANIEL MEUSER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and honor that I rise today to recognize the retirement of Henry Desrosiers after many years of service to our nation and community.

Mr. Desrosiers has been a leader in the Jim Thorpe community and has a long history of

service to our Commonwealth and nation. Mr. Desrosiers was born in Naugatuck, Connecticut and enlisted in the U.S. Air Force shortly after graduating from high school. During his four years of service, Mr. Desrosiers served as a law enforcement specialist in countries around the world, including in Japan and the Philippines, earning both the Good Conduct Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

After serving our country, Mr. Desrosiers returned home to serve and protect his community as a police officer for over 25 years, being promoted to sergeant before his retirement in 2003. Furthering his dedication to serve, Mr. Desrosiers joined Carbon County as the Director of Veterans' Affairs in 2008. Following a decade of dutiful service to Carbon County's veterans, Mr. Desrosiers will retire later this year.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Desrosiers on his retirement and thank him for his many years of brave and honorable service.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF DRUG DISCOUNTS AND REAL-TIME BENEFICIARY DRUG COST ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2115, the "Public Disclosure of Drug Discounts Act."

H.R. 2115 requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to publish certain payment information regarding pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) and prescription drugs.

Specifically, the CMS must publish certain information, as reported by PBMs, relating to generic dispensing rates, drug discounts and rebates, and payments between PBMs, health plans, and pharmacies, in accordance with specified confidentiality requirements.

Commercially available drug pricing comparison platforms can, at no cost, help patients find the lowest price for their medications at their local pharmacy.

Such platforms should be integrated, to the maximum extent possible, in the health care delivery ecosystem, while also protecting patient privacy.

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 provides data privacy and security provisions for safeguarding sensitive health care information.

H.R. 2115 will provide patients with access to drug prices information while also protecting patient health privacy.

Pharmacy benefit managers should work to disclose generic and brand name drug prices to such platforms to ensure that patients can benefit from the lowest possible price available to them; and overall drug prices can be reduced as more educated purchasing decisions are made based on price transparency.

Diabetes is a life-threatening disease that disproportionately affects communities of color.

Diabetes is associated with serious health problems, including heart disease and stroke, kidney failure, and blindness.

In 2017, diabetes contributed to the death of 277,000 Americans—and was the primary death for 85,000 of those individuals.

That same year diagnosed diabetes cost the United States an estimated \$327 billion—including \$237 billion in direct medical costs and \$90 billion in productivity losses.

Diabetes drugs, including insulin and oral medications that regulate blood sugar levels, play a critical role in helping people with diabetes manage their condition and reduce the risk of diabetes-related health complications.

After the Democrats took control of the House in January we got to work on a report on the high cost of insulin and we determined that the Americans' with diabetes are in crisis.

Even though analog insulin has been on the market for nearly 30 years, it has no meaningful generic competition.

Over the past two decades, manufacturers have systematically and dramatically raised the prices of their insulin products by more than tenfold—often in lockstep.

These prices dwarf manufacturing costs.

One study found manufacturers could charge as little as \$7 to \$11 per month for insulin and still make a profit.

In recent years, the high prices of diabetes drugs have placed a tremendous strain on diabetes patients as well as the federal government, which provides diabetes medications to more than 43 million Medicare beneficiaries.

These high prices lead many people to ration or stop taking their medications, which can result in serious health complications and even death, as the Energy and Commerce Committee heard in direct testimony earlier this year.

The prices of diabetes medications—and insulin in particular—are far higher in the United States than they are overseas, in part because certain federal programs lack the authority to negotiate directly with drug manufacturers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2115 to require the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to publish necessary payment information regarding pharmacy benefit managers and prescription drugs.

FIGHTING HUNGER AT MINES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Fighting Hunger at Mines for receiving the Golden Mayor's Gold Mine Award for Excellence.

Fighting Hunger at Mines is a unique campus group that is dedicated to improving the physical and mental health of students at Mines and the Golden community. Their programming addresses food insecurity that's pervasive on college campuses, while raising awareness to local food resources and educating students on healthy eating habits. By working with the Golden Backpack Program, GoFarm and other partners, Fighting Hunger at Mines distributes healthy food to nearly 150 students each week and has made a substantial difference on campus and in Golden.

I congratulate Fighting Hunger at Mines for receiving this well-deserved honor by Mayor

Marjorie Sloan. I thank them for their contributions to our community.

IN HONOR OF FRANCIS W. O'BRIEN, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Norfolk County Commissioner Francis W. O'Brien, in recognition of his over sixty-five years of dedicated public service, on behalf of the Town of Dedham and Norfolk County.

The son of Annie and John O'Brien, Fran is the youngest of seven children. A true son of East Dedham, Fran was born in 1929 and spent his entire childhood and young adult life at 236 Bussey Street in East Dedham. Fran attended the Avery Elementary School and graduated from Dedham High School in 1949. While in high school, Fran excelled in football, baseball and was the captain of the hockey team. He went on to play semi-pro football for the Canton Town Club and St. Mary's of Brookline. In 1951, Fran enlisted in the United States Navy during the Korean War era and served honorably until he was discharged in 1953.

On January 20, 1951, Fran had the tremendous good fortune to marry his longtime high school sweetheart and classmate, Nancy Kennedy, at St. Mary's Church in Dedham. They were blessed with four children, Francis M., Marlene, Jacqueline, and Cynthia as well as seven grandchildren: David, William, Jeffrey, Gregory, Amanda, and twins Patrick and Sean. He is also the proud greatgrandfather to Annabelle, Sophia, Evan and Aiden.

Fran began his career in public service at the Norfolk County Registry of Deeds in Dedham as a photostat operator, soon after being discharged from the Navy. From 1953 to 1958, he was employed by Whiting's Milk Company as a milkman. Fran served his community as a Dedham firefighter, joining the department in 1958. During this time, Fran also owned and operated O'Bie's Variety store in East Dedham. Always one to help those in need, there were countless times Fran allowed customers to purchase necessary items such as bread or milk on credit, knowing full well they would be unable to pay him back.

Madam Speaker, Fran ran for public office becoming the first firefighter in the Town of Dedham to serve on its Board of Selectman. Fran proudly served as a Selectman from 1962 to 1976; he also served the Town of Dedham as a Town Meeting member, a member of the Board of Recreation and a member of the Board of Assessors. He instantly connected with the citizens of Dedham and continued to serve as Selectman for more than twelve years. Subsequently, he was hired at the M.B.T.A. as Liaison of Governmental Affairs. His compassion and understanding have earned him the deep and abiding respect of the residents in the cities and towns all over the state.

Fran continued with the M.B.T.A. until his retirement in 1993. In 2002, he was appointed, then elected, as a Norfolk County Commissioner, serving on a threeperson board. In

subsequent years, he has been elected to serve as Chairman by his fellow commissioners. Through his friendship and professional relationships with judges, clerk magistrates and clerks of court throughout Norfolk County, Fran helped institute physical changes and improvements to Norfolk County court houses.

On February 16, 2017, Fran lost the love of his life, Nancy, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease and the onset of Alzheimer's. Tragically, 19 months later, he lost his beloved daughter, Marlene, suddenly on September 15, 2018, after her longtime fight with multiple infectious diseases.

As Fran reaches the proud age of 90 years old, he remains living independently in Dedham, with his son, daughters and grandchildren close by his side for support. Not surprisingly, you'll find him still helping people, still caring for the town he loves, and still devoted and loyal to his family and friends.

Madam Speaker, Francis W. O'Brien epitomizes the definition of a truly dedicated public servant. His life-long vocation of service to his community is on constant display as he continues to honorably serve the Town of Dedham. I urge my colleagues, and all who know Fran, to wish him the best on his 90th birthday.

EDUCATING MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AND OPTIMIZING WORKFORCE EFFICIENCY AND READINESS FOR HEALTH ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I am grateful to Representatives GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN, STEVE STIVERS, KENNY MARCHANT, WILLIAM KEATING, ZOE LOFGREN, and LAUREN UNDERWOOD for their support of H.R. 2781, the Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency and Readiness (EMPOWER) for Health Act. They wanted to cosponsor this bill but were unable to be added in time.

When H.R. 2781 passes the Senate and is signed into law, we will increase the diversity of our health care workforce, improve geriatrics education and training to address gaps in caregiving and health care for older adults, and grow the critical pediatric health care workforce. I look forward to working with my colleagues as we continue our efforts to make sure health care is more equitable and accessible for our constituents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 due to a business call I was unable to vote on H.R. 2181,

the Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 597.

RECOGNIZING THE STRONG HISTORY OF COLLEGE FOOTBALL IN AMERICA

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the first ever college football game played between Rutgers and Princeton in 1869. Just twenty-one years later, the Big Ten university in my district, the University of Illinois, would field its first football game in 1890.

Since those days, college football has become one of our nation's most beloved pastimes. Today, it's enjoyed by millions of Americans and the sport has grown immensely with nearly 80,000 student-athletes taking to the field every fall.

In many ways, it is a game that embodies the spirit of what makes us great as a country. As Americans, we have a determination to succeed; we believe in teamwork; we embrace our individual roles as we work together toward a common goal bigger than ourselves. Over the last 150 years, we've seen college football players become U.S. Presidents, Rhodes Scholars, actors, activists, CEOs, successful entrepreneurs, academics, and yes—even elected officials.

So today we recognize the strong history of college football in our nation: the games, the teams, the rivalries, and the memories. My family and I are longtime fans of college football, and I am proud to celebrate 150 years of its history today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote series.

Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 593; yea on Roll Call No. 594; yea on Roll Call No. 595; yea on Roll Call No. 596; nay on Roll Call No. 597; yea on Roll Call No. 598; yea on Roll Call No. 599; yea on Roll Call No. 600; yea on Roll Call No. 601; and nay on Roll Call No. 602.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF DR. VIVIANNE CISNEROS WERSEL

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Dr. Vivianne Cisneros Wersel.

Dr. Wersel has a long and storied career caring for our nation's veterans, and she knows what it means to pay the ultimate sacrifice. She is the widow of Lieutenant Colonel Richard Wersel, Jr. of the United States Marine Corps. Lieutenant Colonel Wersel served two tours of duty in Operation Iraqi Freedom and unfortunately died just one week after returning home from Iraq. Dr. Wersel grew from this tragedy and not only continued to help veterans through her role at Walter Reed Medical Center, but also as an advocate for Gold Star Families.

Dr. Wersel holds a Doctorate of Audiology from the School of Audiology-Salus University. She is also a graduate of the Defense Language Institute (DLI), Monterey, CA and holds a language certificate in Spanish. She earned a Masters and a Bachelor's Degree in Communicative Disorders (Audiology) from San Diego State University.

Dr. Wersel currently works full time as an audiologist at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and is designated as a prestigious Master Clinician. In addition to caring for the active-duty military, retirees, and their families, she provides hearing health care for members of Congress, including myself.

Over the past 30 years as an audiologist she provided hearing care support to service members, retirees and their families at Camp Pendleton, CA; Twentynine Palms, CA, Nellis Air Force Base, Fort Bragg NC, Camp Lejeune NC, Fort Dietrick MD, Fort Belvoir VA, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center Bethesda. But her service to our nation's veterans goes beyond her role as an audiologist.

Shortly after her husband's passing in 2005, Dr. Wersel discovered she was not eligible for the newly enhanced survivor benefits. She subsequently became instrumental in changing the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Death Gratuity so that all active duty widows are now eligible for enhanced benefits. Today, she is considered a subject matter expert on Military Survivor Benefits and has testified before this body twenty times on the subject.

In addition to her work on survivor benefits, she is a member of the Gold Star Wives of America (GSW) Public Relations; past chair of the GSW Government Relations Committee, President and founder of Arlington Gold Star Wives; military survivor advisor for the "Got Your Back Network"; is an active participant in the VA/DoD Survivor Forum, and founder of, and advisor to the Surviving Spouses Support Group II MEF, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. She was a local representative for the National Military Family Association and was a volunteer for the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) and Military Officers Association of America.

Dr. Wersel has devoted her career and her life to caring for our nation's veterans and advocating for Gold Star Families. In recognition of her work and her much-deserved retirement, I will be flying a flag over the United States Capitol in her honor. Madam Speaker, I ask that you and the rest of this chamber join me in congratulating Dr. Wersel on a job well done.

CONGRATULATING SERGEANT
CARL COATS ON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM THE POLICE DE-
PARTMENT OF GRAPEVINE,
TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sergeant Carl Coats on his well-earned retirement from the Grapevine Police Department. After twenty-five years of dedicated service, Carl has distinguished himself as a respected member of the Grapevine police force.

Beginning his career with the United States Marine Corps, Carl attained the rank of Sergeant and served as a Marine Security Guard at the American Embassies in Prague, Czechoslovakia and Quito, Ecuador. Transitioning to law enforcement in 1990, Carl served four years as a correctional officer with the Cooke County Sheriffs Department in Gainesville, Texas. In addition to that experience, he graduated from the police academy and subsequently became Deputy Sheriff.

In 1994, Carl joined the Grapevine Police Department where he has devotedly served as Patrol Officer, Detective, CID Sergeant and Patrol Sergeant. As evidence of his dedication to professional development, Carl is a graduate of the School of Police Supervision through the Institute for Law Enforcement. Through rigorous instruction, Carl has also obtained his Master Peace Officer's License—the highest level of its kind.

Carl's colleagues, supervisors and community members have expressed their deepest appreciation for his accomplished service. Specializing in child protection and physical abuse investigation, Carl has earned twenty-four commendations to date. In 1999, Carl received the Life Saving Award for his rescue of a five-year-old autistic child from a swimming pool. The following year, he developed a multidisciplinary team approach to investigate shaken baby syndrome. Carl also received the 2002 Advocate of the Year Award from the Tarrant County Crime Prevention Resource Center, honoring his efforts in promoting safety for women and children in the community.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the excellence of Carl's work which has repeatedly been commended as an invaluable asset to both the City and the Grapevine Police Department. His legacy will leave a lasting mark. I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Carl Coats for his numerous years of service.

THE GOLDEN LIONS CLUB

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Golden Lions Club for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

The Golden Lions Club has been serving the Golden community since 1942. Standing behind the International Lions Club motto of

"We Serve", the Lions Club offers their services to anyone that needs help with a project. With over 8,000 hours of volunteer service in 2019, the Golden Lions continue to make a positive impact within the community. From constructing public bathrooms and pavilions to providing eyeglasses and scholarships to school children; where there's a need, there's a Lion. Through funding efforts, engaging volunteers in community projects, and supporting local schools and students, the Lions Club has committed to making the City of Golden a better place to live, work, and play.

I congratulate the Golden Lions Club for receiving this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan. I thank them for their contributions to our community.

COMMENDING PRIME MINISTER
NARENDRA MODI AND THE IN-
DIAN PARLIAMENT FOR PRO-
MOTING STABILITY IN JAMMU
AND KASHMIR

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

As we all have seen, the Indian parliament passed legislation last month changing the status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. They modified provisions that were an obstacle to economic development and promoted a sense of separatism.

Up until recently, Kashmir had been governed by Article 370, which was an outdated provision of law that the Indian constitution recognized as "temporary."

Article 370 might have worked well for those with political connections, but it denied economic opportunities for the people.

I also created a polarizing environment that was exploited politically. During the past decades, thousands of people lost their lives due to terrorist attacks. Several groups based in Pakistan were able to conduct cross-border terrorism that wreaked havoc on individuals and families, and led to a morbid economy.

The Modi government had to make a decision on whether to continue with the old policy or to pursue progress by changing the region's legal status.

Madam Speaker, the people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve better and Prime Minister Modi was right to take bold steps to address this situation. Changes to the status of Jammu and Kashmir passed Parliament by a two-thirds majority, which highlights the consensus on the need for this reform.

Even with these changes, those seeking to cause disruption have continued to promote violence.

Pakistan-based terror groups have recently floated posters warning common citizens against venturing out, going to work, and visiting public places. The groups have continued to engage in cross-border terrorism and have attacked civilians and children. These militant groups have also attacked migrant workers and those who are involved in the apple business, which is the chief crop of Kashmir.

Madam Speaker, in order for Jammu and Kashmir to flourish, there must be peace and

stability. Individuals and families need to feel safe when they leave their homes and go to work.

The steps that Prime Minister Modi and the Parliament have taken are needed, they're good for the long-term stability of the region, and they should be applauded.

FULL UTILIZATION OF THE HARBOR
MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2440 the "The Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act."

In 1986, Congress enacted the Harbor Maintenance Tax to recover the operation and maintenance dredging costs for federally-authorized ports from maritime shippers.

This is a direct levy on importers and domestic shippers using coastal or inland ports and is typically passed along to U.S. taxpayers on the purchase of imported goods.

These revenues are deposited in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund within the Treasury Department, from which Congress appropriates funds to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for harbor maintenance dredging.

According to the Army Corps of Engineers, navigation channels at our nation's 59 busiest ports are available less than 35 percent of the time.

The American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that our nation's ports and harbors will need additional investment of \$15.8 billion between now and 2020 just to meet the demands of larger and heavier ships that will use the Panama Canal.

H.R. 2440 ensures that the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund is used for its intended purpose—the maintenance of federally-authorized harbors.

This will enable the Army Corps of Engineers to dredge all federal harbors to ensure that they are to their constructed widths and depths.

The act also provides critical federal funding—\$34 billion—for infrastructure investment for our coastal and inland harbors over the next decade.

The bill achieves this task without raising taxes.

This bill also authorizes the expenditure of the expected \$25.5 billion in new revenue over the next decade, for our critical port harbor needs.

And, the bill authorizes the appropriation of additional funds for harbor maintenance needs.

As is clear, the need to ensure that this port, and similar such ports, stay open and operating as much as practical is vital.

The failure to do so can impact employment, the economy, and the livelihoods of countless individuals and businesses.

Ports are uniquely vulnerable to any number of disturbances, including those produced by weather, abuses by those who utilize the ports, and naturally-occurring wear-and-tear to the ports.

One such example of this naturally-occurring phenomena which requires remedial efforts is dredging.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, dredging is the act of removing silt and other material from the bottom of bodies of water.

NOAA goes further to explain that dredging is a routine necessity in waterways around the world because sedimentation gradually fills channels and harbors.

In the aggregate, this filling of channels and harbors can prevent the movement of vessels.

Dredging increases the depth of navigation channels, and thus plays a vital role in the nation's economy.

The Port of Houston is one of the largest in the world.

The Houston region is the country's top area for exports and the area surrounding the Port of Houston is home to the largest petrochemical manufacturing complex in the Western Hemisphere.

Due to its strategically advantageous location, the ingenuity of the 200 private companies that constitute the Greater Port of Houston, the Port of Houston is the number one port in foreignwaterborne tonnage.

And the most recent available statistics support the primacy of the Port of Houston.

The Greater Port of Houston complex is ranked sixth among U.S. container ports by size, and is the largest gulf coast container port—handling 69 percent of U.S. Gulf Coast container traffic—and is the largest Texas port, with 45 percent market share by tonnage, and 96 percent market share in containers.

To wit, more than 200 million short tons of international cargo were handled in 2018 alone.

As such, this redounds to the benefit of the economy.

Nationally, the greater port supports 3.2 million jobs, boasts more than \$801.9 billion in economic value and produces \$38.1 billion in tax revenue.

As a Senior Member of the House Homeland Security Committee, with a significant global port near my congressional district, I will work tirelessly towards enactment of this legislation.

That is why I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 2440.

RECOGNIZING PHYLLIS GREEN
FOR HER RETIREMENT AS SUPERINTENDENT OF ISLE ROYALE
NATIONAL PARK

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Phyllis Green for her retirement as Superintendent of Isle Royale National Park. Through her decades of leadership and commitment to our natural heritage, Phyllis has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

A U.P. native, Phyllis grew up surrounded by some of the most pristine natural landscapes our country has to offer. It should therefore not be surprising that she found her calling for conservation work at a young age. In high school, she led multiple clubs dedicated to environmental conservation before attending Michigan Technological University and

earning an undergraduate degree in forestry. Her 41-year professional career saw her serve in a variety of conservation and land management roles, including as supervisor of Ottawa National Forest.

As Superintendent of Isle Royale, Phyllis oversaw significant improvements to the operations and management of the park, including the implementation of a solar power system, invasive species control, and most recently, the reintroduction of the Gray Wolf to the island. This endeavor has required intensive ecological work and cooperation between the National Parks Service, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, USDA, and the State University of New York. Thanks in part to her leadership, the species introduction is well on its way to long-term success, with 17 wolves currently calling the island home.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate Phyllis Green for her decades of service and her retirement as Superintendent of Isle Royale National Park. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated individual. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Phyllis all the best in her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF HERBIE
FLORES

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Heriberto "Herbie" Flores, my constituent from western Massachusetts, who recently received the prestigious Pynchon Award. The Pynchon Award, which is named after the founder of Springfield, Massachusetts is given to those individuals who have made exceptional contributions to their community. This award is a testament to Herbie's hard work, dedication, and exemplary character.

Originally from Puerto Rico, Herbie grew up harvesting tobacco for a \$1.25 an hour. After leaving the island, Herbie proudly served our country with distinction in the United States Army during the war in Vietnam. Through this experience he learned firsthand of the plight and hardship of poverty and decided to dedicate his life to helping those less fortunate in our community.

Herbie is very well known for his many leadership roles and non-profit work in Springfield and throughout New England. He is the founder of the New England Farm Worker's Council, a nonprofit human services agency dedicated to improving the quality of life for low-income workers through education, job training, and living assistance. In addition, Herbie also served as the President of Brightwood Development Corporation which provides housing and development opportunities to Springfield's North End. Also, Herbie has served as the Chairman of Partners for Community, which works around New England to provide employment and other social services to populations with special needs.

Once again, Madam Speaker, I am proud of Herbie for receiving the Pynchon Award and for being an exemplary pillar of our community. I have had the pleasure of knowing and working alongside Herbie as Mayor and as a

Member of Congress and I am proud to call him a friend. I cannot think of anyone that brings a stronger personal commitment to those in our society that have been overlooked. To Herbie and his wife Grace Taylor, I want to wish them all the best in their future endeavors and say thank you on behalf of the United States of America.

GOLDEN UNITED

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Golden United for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

Golden United is a non-partisan, resident-driven effort to engage Golden area community members across all walks of life to find common ground and act with respect and dignity in strengthening the community. Golden United launched in 2017, gathering residents of different backgrounds and asking them to identify shared values and initial actions. Their mission continued through community forums, rallies, annual events, task forces, supporting other community events, and most recently, hosting a Candidate Forum for the upcoming election. This organization is an example of democracy in action "of the people, and for the people."

I congratulate Golden United for receiving this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan. I thank them for their contributions to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following votes due to the passing of my father.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 585; YEA on Roll Call No. 586; NAY on Roll Call No. 587; NAY on Roll Call No. 588; NAY on Roll Call No. 589; NAY on Roll Call No. 590; YEA on Roll Call No. 591; YEA on Roll Call No. 592; YEA on Roll Call No. 593; YEA on Roll Call No. 594; YEA on Roll Call No. 595; YEA on Roll Call No. 596; NAY on Roll Call No. 597; YEA on Roll Call No. 598; YEA on Roll Call No. 599; YEA on Roll Call No. 600; YEA on Roll Call No. 601; and NAY on Roll Call No. 602.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMANDER
JUSTIN GOSS

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Commander Justin D. Goss, United States Navy. After 20 years of dedicated service to our great nation, today marks his retirement from active duty.

Commander Goss grew up in Fairfax, VA, and graduated from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA. He earned his commission from Officer Candidate School in 2000. As a Surface Warfare Officer, he served on USS *The Sullivans* (DDG-68), USS *Zephyr* (PC-8), USS *Stout* (DDG-55), and in Riverine Squadron ONE. He was also assigned as an exchange officer with the Royal Navy where he served aboard HMS *Marlborough* (F233) and HMS *York* (D98).

Following his lateral transfer into the Foreign Area Officer community, Goss was assigned as the Chief, Office of Security Cooperation, at the United States Embassy in Dakar, Senegal. Additionally, he served on staff positions at U.S. Africa Command and the Navy's Military Personnel, Plans, and Policy Directorate.

Commander Goss' final tour of duty was serving as the Deputy Director of the Navy's House of Representatives Liaison Office (LA-4) where he was instrumental in developing and fostering key relationships between Department of the Navy officials, members of Congress and their personal and professional staffs.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in thanking Commander Goss, his wife Suzanne and his children Thomas, Orla, Arthur, Wilfred, and Agnes for their incredible sacrifices, devotion, and service to our nation; words cannot express our gratitude. We wish them well as they embark on a new adventure together.

HONORING VIETNAM VETERANS

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave Americans who served our country during the Vietnam Era. The courage, patriotism, and heroism that our servicemembers displayed when faced with the danger of serving in the Vietnam War speaks to the character and strength of these individuals and our nation.

I am honored to be a part of the Vietnam War Commemorative Committee. The brave men and women who served our nation during the Vietnam War set aside their ambitions, left their families, and risked their lives for our country. This project is a token of our gratitude for their selfless service and steadfast, unwavering devotion to our nation and the American people. The legacy of all those who served during the conflict remains an inspiration to our nation. To the families of our servicemembers who stood by faithfully as your loved ones departed to defend our freedoms overseas, I offer my sincere gratitude for your shared commitment to duty and service.

I will continue to work each day to serve all those who have served us so valiantly. Our veterans have made incredible sacrifices in honor of our nation. It is a debt we can never repay, and one we can never forget. It is essential that we provide all our veterans with the care and support they so richly deserve.

As the Representative for New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I will continue

to work on behalf of our courageous Vietnam veterans, servicemembers, and military families who have given so much for our country. May we honor and celebrate all our soldiers, and may God bless the United States of America.

MARJORIE SLOAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mayor Marjorie Sloan for her many years of service to the City of Golden.

Marjorie Sloan has dutifully served as the 37th Mayor for the City of Golden for eight years, and as the first female mayor elected by the citizens since Golden became a Home Rule City.

Before she was elected as mayor, Marjorie represented Golden's District One as a city councilor for four years. Marjorie, her husband Dendy, and their children have lived in Golden for decades. In addition to her roles on City Council, Marjorie also served as Planning Commission chair, Foothills Art Center board president, Golden Urban Renewal Authority board member, volunteer, parent, neighbor, and all-around general Golden Ambassador.

Mayor Marjorie Sloan's legacy of leadership, vision, and trailblazing on behalf of the city will not soon be forgotten. I extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to Mayor Sloan for her service and commitment to our community and her service to the people of Golden, Colorado.

RECOGNIZING THE 18TH PRESIDENT OF SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE, FATHER PAUL TAYLOR

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, it is a great honor to congratulate Father Paul Taylor upon his inauguration as the 18th President of St. Vincent College in Latrobe, Pennsylvania.

Father Taylor graduated from St. Vincent College in 1987 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics. He went on to earn a Master of Divinity degree from Saint Vincent Seminary in 1993 and a Master of Arts degree in Mathematics from Duke University in 1993. Father Taylor attended Boston College for his Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration, graduating in 1998 after presenting his dissertation "Boniface Wimmer and the Beginning of American Benedictine Education."

Father Taylor returned to St. Vincent College in 1987 in order to dedicate his life to Benedictine education. He made his simple profession of monastic vows in 1988 and his solemn profession of vows in 1991. Father Taylor was ordained as a priest on June 6, 1992 in Saint Vincent's Archabbey Basilica.

In 1996, Father Paul entered the Office of Admission and Financial Aid, eventually rising to the position of dean. It was in this role that he developed a strong commitment to helping students obtain financial aid. Under Father Taylor's leadership as Executive Vice President, St. Vincent College launched the Forward, Always Forward campaign. This \$100 million-dollar campaign seeks to strengthen the endowment, as well as expand financial aid opportunities and enrich academic programs. On July 1, 2019, Father Taylor became President of St. Vincent, and I know that under his leadership, the college will continue to excel in providing American students with an education that sets them up for future success.

Madam Speaker, throughout his career, Father Taylor has demonstrated a remarkable commitment to education, his Catholic faith, and St. Vincent College. Please join me in recognizing and congratulating the 18th President of Saint Vincent College, Father Paul Taylor.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEELANAU CONSERVATION DISTRICT

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the Leelanau Conservation District as they celebrate their 75th Anniversary. Through its dedication to responsible natural resources management, land conservation, and a healthy environment, the Leelanau Conservation District has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

As an avid outdoorsman, I recognize the importance protecting our wildlife and natural resources through effective conservation. In that endeavor, the Leelanau Conservation District has been invaluable to Northern Michigan. First organized in 1943, the District works to promote the wise use of our natural resources through information and technical assistance to those throughout Leelanau County. From promoting healthy forests and responsible hunting, to fighting invasive species and preventing soil erosion, their work has been critical for the people of Michigan's First District. Our region is home to some of the most pristine natural landscapes in the country. I'm grateful for the Leelanau Conservation District's efforts to ensure that future generations can enjoy the same natural beauty we so deeply treasure.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate the Leelanau Conservation District for 75 years of service. Michiganders can take immense pride in knowing that the First District is home to such a trusted organization working to promote environmental and ecological health. On behalf of my constituents, I wish the Leelanau Conservation District all the best in its future endeavors.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN CONYERS, TIRELESS FIGHTER FOR JUSTICE AND EQUALITY, CHAIRMAN OF HOUSE COMMITTEES ON OVERSIGHT AND ON THE JUDICIARY, FOUNDING MEMBER OF CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM MICHIGAN FOR 53 YEARS, MENTOR, BELOVED COLLEAGUE, AND DEAR FRIEND

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in remembrance of Chairman John Conyers, Jr., the tireless fighter for justice and equality, Chairman of House Committees on Oversight and on the Judiciary, Founding Member of Congressional Black Caucus, Member of Congress From Michigan For 53 years, my mentor, a beloved colleague, and dear friend who died on Sunday, October 27, 2019, at his home in Detroit, Michigan at the age of 90.

Madam Speaker, John Conyers, Jr. was a statesman and strong supporter of equality, economic and social justice, civil rights, and human dignity for all.

John Conyers, Jr. was born May 16, 1929 in Highland Park, Michigan to Lucille Janice and John Conyers, Sr., a union organizer in the automotive industry and an international representative with the United Auto Workers.

After graduation from Northwestern High School, John Conyers dutifully served his country in the Michigan National Guard from 1948 to 1950, the U.S. Army from 1950 to 1954, and the U.S. Army Reserves from 1954 to 1957, serving during the Korean War and as an officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers where he was awarded combat and merit citations.

Following his military service, John Conyers earned his Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctor from Wayne State University and was admitted to the Michigan State Bar.

Chairman Conyers began his legislative career on the staff of the late Congressman John Dingell and during this time he also served as counsel to several Detroit-area labor unions and was referee for Michigan's workmen's compensation department.

In 1964, John Conyers was first elected to represent the First Congressional District of Michigan and was reelected to the succeeding 90th Congress and the following 15 Congresses until he retired on December 5, 2017.

On the retirement of Congressman John Dingell at the end of the 113th Congress in December 2015, John Conyers became the longest-serving member of the United States Congress, serving as Dean of the House from January 3, 2015 until December 2017.

Madam Speaker, John Conyers was also the third longest-serving member of the House in history and the sixth longest-serving member of Congress in history; the second-longest serving member of either the House or Senate in Michigan history, trailing only his former boss, Congressman Dingell; and was the last member of the large Democratic freshman class of 1964 to serve in the House of Representatives.

In the more than half century he served in Congress, John Conyers was at the forefront

of most of the seminal moments in American political history, such as working to enact into law this partial list of landmark legislation:

Voting Rights of 1965
 Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (Medicare)
 Fair Housing Act of 1968
 Clean Air Act
 Clean Water Act
 Help America Vote Act
 Affordable Care Act
 Dodd-Frank Act
 American Act With Disabilities Act
 Assault Weapons Ban
 Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1982
 Drug Kingpins Act
 Fair Chance Act
 Elementary and Secondary Education Act
 Social Security Amendments of 1965 (including Medicaid and Medicare)
 Voting Rights Act of 1965
 Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965
 National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act
 Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965
 Heart Disease, Cancer, and Stroke Amendments
 Freedom of Information Act
 Child Nutrition Act
 National Historic Preservation Act
 National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act
 Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act
 Cuban Adjustment Act
 Public Broadcasting Act of 1967
 Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967
 Bilingual Education Act
 Civil Rights Act of 1968
 Consumer Credit Protection Act
 National Trails System Act
 Gun Control Act of 1968
 National Environmental Policy Act
 Organized Crime Control Act, including the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act ("RICO")
 Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1970
 National Cancer Act
 Federal Election Campaign Act
 Equal Employment Opportunity Act
 War Powers Resolution
 Emergency Petroleum Allocation Act
 District of Columbia Home Rule Act
 Endangered Species Act
 Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974
 Legal Services Corporation Act
 Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA)
 Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974
 Energy Reorganization Act of 1974
 National Mass Transportation Assistance Act
 Safe Drinking Water Act
 Privacy Act of 1974
 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
 Copyright Act of 1976
 Federal Land Policy and Management Act
 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
 Water Resources Development Act of 1976
 National Forest Management Act

The proposal to expand Medicare to all, a political idea gaining increasing popularity daily, was first introduced by John Conyers in 2003 as the United States National Health Insurance Act.

John Conyers served on the Judiciary Committee that investigated Watergate and voted articles of impeachment against President Richard Nixon in August 1974.

John Conyers marched in the historic March from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and later employed civil rights legend Rosa Parks in his congressional office until her retirement in 1988.

John Conyers was loved by his constituents, regularly winning reelection with 80 percent of the vote or more.

John Conyers is one of the 13 founding members of the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971, which has worked diligently to strengthen African-American lawmakers' ability to address the legislative concerns of African American and minority citizens and has now increased to 55 members in the House and Senate, including myself.

While in Congress, John Conyers chaired the prestigious House Judiciary Committee from 1989 to 1995 and Oversight from 2007 to 2011, the first African American to hold these coveted positions.

Throughout his career, John Conyers used his influence to push civil rights; in 1968, only days after the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Chairman Conyers began a long and ultimately successful effort to make Dr. King's birthday a national holiday, which was enacted in 1983.

John Conyers also cosponsored and worked tirelessly to pass the Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986, which help topple South Africa's system of apartheid and free Nelson Mandela from prison.

In the 101st Congress, John Conyers introduced legislation to study the issue of reparations for slavery and was the original sponsor of H.R. 40, the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act.

I am proud to have assumed principal sponsorship of this piece of landmark legislative proposal and continuing the fight for justice.

John Conyers was dedicated to justice for all, he supported legislation to generate the Justice Department's national study on police brutality.

John Conyers was opposed to the imposition of the death penalty and began a series of hearings on police brutality.

As Judiciary Committee Chairman, John Conyers also worked to create and enlarge federal death benefits for police officers and firefighters who died in the line of duty.

Madam Speaker, John Conyers dedicated his life to serving his constituents and the citizens of the United States; his persistence for justice and his fight for equal rights is a testament to his character.

Chairman John Conyers will live forever in the hearts of the people of Detroit, his state of Michigan, and the United States.

John Conyers was a legislative lion whose presence will forever be missed, and we all mourn his loss and extend our deepest sympathies to his wife Monica, his children, and family and friends who loved him so dearly, my deepest sympathies go out to and I hope you find consolation in the certain knowledge that John is now resting peacefully.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF MS.
BRENDA JONES

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. LEWIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Brenda Jones, who served as my communications director for over 15 years.

Ms. Jones came with a strong recommendation from my special assistant and had a resume and perspective that was unique to the United States House of Representatives. From the very first moment we met, I realized how fortunate I was to find Brenda.

Brenda Jones is a proud, native Washingtonian with a passion for social justice, history, and the arts. She studied the Civil Rights Movement, understood the challenges we faced, and dedicated her life to the work that remains. This vantage point provided a unique perspective and comprehension of the complicated matters facing my congressional district in Metro Atlanta and my work here in the United States Congress.

Before coming to Capitol Hill, Ms. Jones worked in media as a researcher for ABC News' Washington, D.C. Bureau, a writer and assistant editor at WTOP-AM News Radio, and a radio specialist of international activities for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. She later transitioned to public relations where she honed her skills in developing media strategies, coordinating national book tours for civil and women rights luminaries, and launching public education campaigns.

One of the things that I most appreciate about Brenda is her constant commitment to education—whether in life or academia. I believe that her centenarian father, Mr. Robert L. Davis and her late mother, Mrs. Myrtle Mac (Bowers) Davis, planted these seeds of excellence, and in Brenda they bloomed. As a graduate of National Cathedral School, Indiana University Bloomington, and Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism, Brenda returned to Harvard University to earn another master's degree in Public Administration, where she received the Gertrude Manley Fellowship in recognition of her outstanding leadership skills.

Ms. Jones invested her astute expertise and intellectualism in the United States House of Representatives. She brought life to her vision and took the role of communications director to new heights as she funneled depth and dignity into her work. Those, who know me, understand that I have a clear style—make it simple, make it plain. When Brenda joined my office, she made my words sing—in press releases, interviews, on the House Floor, in book forwards, in op-eds, and in speeches across the country and around the world.

Madam Speaker, Brenda quickly became the conscience of my office. For 15 years, she humbly and selflessly worked day in and day out to channel every ounce of her knowledge and experience into creating new methods of communicating and mastering uncharted territory. Ms. Jones created a national and international strategy to tell the story of my work in the Civil Rights Movement, as a Member of Congress, as a representative of Georgia's Fifth Congressional District, and as a legislator, who found a way to get in the way—and get things done.

Since she consistently refuses to step into the limelight, I was particularly proud when the public, her peers, and colleagues began to pay tribute to this dynamic woman. In 2010, Brenda earned the prestigious Theodore C. Sorenson Speechwriting Award. In 2012, we worked together on a book, *Across that Bridge: Life Lessons and a Vision for Change*, and we won the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work/Biography for her work in translating the philosophy and doctrines that inspired the foot soldiers of the Civil Rights Movement into advice for a new generation. A few years later, the National Journal honored Ms. Jones as one of the 20 Most Powerful Women on Capitol Hill in 2015, and the Stennis Center for Public Leadership selected her as a senior fellow in the 114th Congress.

Somehow Brenda always found time to mentor aspiring professionals and build networks of kindred souls. In 2013, she founded the Capitol Hill Writers Workshop to develop the skills and art of professionals in a communal space. Brenda also served her communities—whether as a commissioner on the Humanities Council of Washington, D.C., in advisory capacities for the Sustained Dialogue, Inc. and the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service, or on the Committee of Visitors for Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. She also shared her expertise with the Democratic National Committee for national conventions and our former colleague's, Rep. John Barrow, inaugural campaign. For years, this steady stream of colleagues, mentees, and people with whom she connected across the country and around the world became a permanent part of Brenda's extended circle.

In this day and time when Congress can feel more transactional than communal, Brenda was the nucleus of the Team Lewis family. Shortly before joining my office, Brenda lost her beloved husband Dr. Martin Wilson Jones, M.D., and I often felt that she took care of us with the selfless passion and dedication that he showed her. If you were feeling down and out, we could always trust that Brenda has natural teas, organic tips, and an astrological analysis to soothe your mind, body, and soul. She was often a comfort and confidante during our darkest days and hours.

For 15 years, Ms. Jones fiercely and unequivocally advocated for me, my constituents, and my work in Congress. It was an honor to know that I had this trusted senior advisor and seasoned communications professional in my corner. Although I will miss having Ms. Brenda Jones by my side, I wish her happiness as she transitions to exciting new opportunities and inevitable success.

IN HONOR OF MATTHEW
BRADFORD

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a unique and special man, Corporal (Ret.) Matthew Bradford. Matthew is stepping down as Veterans Outreach Coordinator in my District office.

Matthew enlisted in the United States Marine Corps when he graduated from high

school and was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, Echo Company, 2nd Platoon. He was deployed to Iraq in 2006, and on January 18, 2007 he was injured by an Improvised Explosive Device. His severe injuries left him a blind double amputee. Matthew persevered and learned to overcome and adapt from his injuries. Matthew became the first blind amputee in history to re-enlist in the Marine Corps in 2010. On behalf of a grateful nation, I thank him for his service, his sacrifice, and his patriotism.

Matthew Bradford is a very determined individual. After his service with the Marine Corps ended, he married his "Warrior Princess" Amanda. Together they have three children. Through hard work and determination, Matthew graduated from the University of Kentucky. Matthew has found his purpose in motivating and encouraging others to overcome difficult obstacles. He spends a great deal of time speaking to groups and individuals and participating in challenging athletic events such as marathons, skydiving, surfing, hunting, and climbing 7000 feet up Mt. Rainier.

Matthew came to work in the Sixth Congressional District office in the spring of 2017, serving first as a college intern, then as a National Security Fellow, and lastly as the Veterans Outreach Coordinator. In his work in the district office, Matthew has been a strong advocate for veterans. He worked with our Veterans Coalition and it has grown tremendously under his leadership. Matthew has worked on many outreach initiatives, including a Facebook page, and has worked diligently to improve the lives of America's veterans. His work with veterans has made quite a difference. His passion, his humor, and his determination will be greatly missed.

Matthew has earned many honors, including the Purple Heart Medal, the George Van Cleve Military Leadership Award, the Gary Sinise Hope for the Warriors Award, and induction into the Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame. He was also invited by President Trump to attend the 2018 State of the Union Address. In his position in the Sixth District office, he has earned the respect of all his co-workers and of all the constituents with whom he interacted. He leaves a lasting legacy as a servant leader.

I am honored to call Matthew a loyal and trusted friend. I wish him all the best as he moves on to other interests. I thank Corporal Bradford for his friendship, his tireless work on behalf of the people of the Sixth District, and his outstanding service to our country.

CHAD WACHS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Chad Wachs for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

Chad Wachs launched AU Wireless in 2015 with a handful of neighbors to see if he could create a low-cost community broadband system. Their proof-of-concept has since grown into a full-fledged co-op with more than 300 members using the service all over town. AU Wireless works with community partners like

the American Mountaineering Center and they are helping to bring broadband into lower-income households in Golden. Because there are no shareholders, subscriber fees go back into the network. Chad, along with the board of directors, one employee, and three contrac-

tors, has accomplished all of this while serving as a full-time firefighter in another jurisdiction and as a volunteer with the Golden Fire Department.

I congratulate Chad Wachs for receiving this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan.

I thank him for his contributions to our community. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Fighting Hunger at Mines for receiving the Golden Mayor's Gold Mine Award for Excellence.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 3055, Commerce, Justice, Science, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, Interior, Environment, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, as amended.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6309–S6362

Measures Introduced: Fourteen bills and fifteen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2756–2769, and S. Res. 391–405. **Pages S6333–34**

Measures Passed:

Commerce, Justice, Science, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, Interior, Environment, Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act: By 84 yeas to 9 nays (Vote No. 341), Senate passed H.R. 3055, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, by the order of the Senate of Wednesday, October 30, 2019, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S6311–22**

Adopted:

McConnell (for Tester) Amendment No. 953 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide for the availability of funds for Agricultural Research Service research facilities to provide public access. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Smith) Amendment No. 1023 (to Amendment No. 948), to amend provisions relating to the rental assistance program of the Rural Housing Service. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Hirono) Amendment No. 1037 (to Amendment No. 948), to require a study on the economic and environmental impacts of importing orchids in growing media. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Brown/Jones) Modified Amendment No. 1088 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide appropriations for centers of excellence at 1890 Institutions, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Baldwin) Amendment No. 1099 (to Amendment No. 948), to increase the appropria-

tion for the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Whitehouse) Amendment No. 1121 (to Amendment No. 948), to set aside funding for the ocean agriculture working group. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Thune/Hoeven) Amendment No. 1133 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide funding for the new beginning for Tribal students program, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Jones) Amendment No. 1143 (to Amendment No. 948), to increase the appropriation for rural decentralized water systems. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Smith) Amendment No. 1149 (to Amendment No. 948), to require the Secretary of Agriculture to prioritize maintenance and staff needs relating to assistance provided by the Rural Housing Service. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Rosen/Fischer) Amendment No. 1161 (to Amendment No. 948), to increase the appropriation for the distance learning and telemedicine program, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for McSally/Gillibrand) Amendment No. 1163 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide funding for the emergency and transitional pet shelter and housing assistance grant program, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Reed) Amendment No. 1217 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide funding for States impacted by Eastern equine encephalitis, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Stabenow) Amendment No. 1223 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide funding for the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Cornyn/Booker) Amendment No. 1224 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide funding

for pilot projects to address food insecurity, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Warner) Amendment No. 951 (to Amendment No. 948), to require the Attorney General to report to Congress on, and establish a deadline for, the implementation of the Ashanti Alert Act of 2018. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Capito/Schatz) Amendment No. 1077 (to Amendment No. 948), to make \$10,000,000 available for the SelectUSA program. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Cantwell) Amendment No. 1094 (to Amendment No. 948), to require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration submit to Congress a report on existing supercomputing capacity and needs of the Administration. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Toomey) Amendment No. 1129 (to Amendment No. 948), to require that the Secretary of Commerce use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the Bureau of Industry and Security for operations and administration to publish and submit to Congress a report on the findings of the investigation into the effect on national security of imports of automobiles and automotive parts. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Durbin/Kennedy) Amendment No. 1146 (to Amendment No. 948), to require the Drug Enforcement Administration to continue to establish and utilize data collection and sharing agreements in order to properly estimate rates of overdose deaths and overall public health impact related to certain controlled substances, for the purpose of determining diversion and establishing annual opioid production quotas. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Gardner) Amendment No. 1150 (to Amendment No. 948), to increase funding for the COPS Office Anti-Methamphetamine Task Forces grant program. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for McSally) Amendment No. 1234 (to Amendment No. 948), to require the Attorney General to submit a report on the enforcement of animal welfare laws. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Sinema) Amendment No. 1025 (to Amendment No. 948), to require a Bureau of Indian Affairs report analyzing the facilities investments required to improve direct service and tribally operated detention and public safety facilities in Indian Country. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Ernst) Amendment No. 1079 (to Amendment No. 948), to prohibit bogus payments to contractors. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Ernst) Amendment No. 1081 (to Amendment No. 948), to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to submit to

Congress a report on projects that are over budget and behind schedule. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Cornyn/Sinema) Amendment No. 1151 (to Amendment No. 948), to increase funding for the construction of high priority water and wastewater facilities on the United States-Mexico Border, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Cardin) Amendment No. 1159 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide for a report on certain programs of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Rosen) Amendment No. 1160 (to Amendment No. 948), to set aside funds for certain Lake Tahoe restoration activities. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Thune/Udall) Amendment No. 1162 (to Amendment No. 948), to require a study of law enforcement staffing needs of Indian Tribes. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Peters/Portman) Amendment No. 1182 (to Amendment No. 948), to increase money appropriated for Geographic Programs, with an offset. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Cornyn) Amendment No. 1193 (to Amendment No. 948), to make available funds for the Smithsonian Latino Center. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Menendez) Amendment No. 1199 (to Amendment No. 948), to set aside funds for the Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Blunt/Kaine) Amendment No. 1211 (to Amendment No. 948), to set aside funds for the 400 Years of African-American History Commission. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for McSally/Sinema) Amendment No. 1215 (to Amendment No. 948), to require a report on the status of the Four Forest Restoration Initiative. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Collins/Feinstein) Amendment No. 1220 (to Amendment No. 948), to make available funds for the Women's History Initiative. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Schumer/Bennet) Amendment No. 1227 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide for a Government Accountability Office study on outdoor recreation. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Hassan/Van Hollen) Amendment No. 956 (to Amendment No. 948), to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide Congress with recommendations and associated costs for future research on rental payment insurance. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Collins/Reed) Amendment No. 1002 (to Amendment No. 948), to make a technical correction. **Pages S6311–15**

McConnell (for Shaheen) Amendment No. 1005 (to Amendment No. 948), to express the sense of

Congress relating to the Federal Aviation Administration and regulations regarding the emergency medical equipment carried by passenger airlines.

Pages S6311–15

McConnell (for Kaine) Amendment No. 1010 (to Amendment No. 948), to ensure funding for the FAA remote tower pilot program.

Pages S6311–15

McConnell (for Cortez Masto) Amendment No. 1061 (to Amendment No. 948), to require a report on engagement with local interests relating to intelligent transportation systems technologies and smart cities solutions.

Pages S6311–15

McConnell (for Cortez Masto) Amendment No. 1062 (to Amendment No. 948), to prohibit the use of funds to terminate the ITS program advisory committee.

Pages S6311–15

McConnell (for Heinrich) Amendment No. 1114 (to Amendment No. 948), relating to funding for the Tribal HUD–VASH program.

Pages S6311–15

McConnell (for Shaheen) Amendment No. 1130 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide a sense of Congress relating to preserving manufactured home communities.

Pages S6311–15

McConnell (for Hoeven/Baldwin) Amendment No. 1214 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide for a veterans pilot training competitive grant program.

Pages S6311–15

McConnell (for Portman) Amendment No. 1235 (to Amendment No. 948), to provide additional funding for the family unification program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Pages S6311–15

By 82 yeas to 11 nays (Vote No. 340), Jones/McSally Modified Amendment No. 1141 (to Amendment No. 948), to prohibit the implementation of the “Rostenkowski Test” with respect to the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund.

Pages S6316, S6321

Shelby Amendment No. 948, in the nature of a substitute.

Pages S6311–22

Rejected:

By 29 yeas to 64 nays (Vote No. 339), Lee Amendment No. 1209 (to Amendment No. 948), to prohibit the expenditure of certain amounts from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for land acquisition.

Page S6321

Withdrawn:

McConnell (for Shelby) Amendment No. 950, to make a technical correction.

Pages S6311, S6322

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

Pursuant to the order of Wednesday, October 30, 2019, the motion to invoke cloture on the bill was withdrawn.

Page S6322

Honoring the Members of the Military and Intelligence Community: Senate agreed to S. Res. 394,

honoring the members of the military and intelligence community who carried out the mission that killed Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

Pages S6346–47

National Bison Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 399, designating November 2, 2019, as “National Bison Day”.

Page S6357

National Women’s Small Business Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 400, recognizing October 2019 as “National Women’s Small Business Month”.

Page S6357

Filipino American History Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 401, recognizing the month of October 2019 as Filipino American History Month and celebrating the history and culture of Filipino Americans and their immense contributions to the United States.

Page S6357

Honoring the Life of Toni Morrison: Senate agreed to S. Res. 402, honoring the life, work, and legacy of Toni Morrison.

Page S6357

National Farm to School Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 403, designating October 2019 as “National Farm to School Month”.

Pages S6357–58

Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commemorative Coin Act: Senate passed H.R. 2423, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, giving women in the United States the right to vote.

Page S6358

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 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, and the resolution was then agreed to.

Page S6358

Measures Considered:

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Defense, State, Foreign Operations, and Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act: Senate resumed consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 2740, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020.

Pages S6323–26

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 51 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 342), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected the motion

to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S6326**

Subsequently, Senator McConnell entered a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S6326**

Messages from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Sudan as declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM-34) **Pages S6331-32**

Transmitting, pursuant to law, notification of the President's intent to terminate the designation of the Republic of Cameroon as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA); which was referred to the Committee on Finance. (PM-35) **Page S6332**

Tapp Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of David Austin Tapp, of Kentucky, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims. **Page S6326**

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, October 31, 2019, a vote on cloture will occur at 2:15 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. **Page S6326**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6326**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate resume consideration of the nomination at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, November 5, 2019; and that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the cloture motions filed during the session of Thursday, October 31, 2019 ripen at 2:15 p.m., on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. **Page S6358**

Hunsaker Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Danielle J. Hunsaker, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Page S6326**

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 Austin Tapp, of Kentucky, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims. **Pages S6326-27**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6326**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6326**

Nardini Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of William Joseph Nardini, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit. **Page S6327**

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 Danielle J. Hunsaker, of Oregon, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. **Page S6327**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6327**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6327**

Rudofsky Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Lee Philip Rudofsky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas. **Page S6327**

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 William Joseph Nardini, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit. **Page S6237**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6327**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6327**

Wilson Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Jennifer Philpott Wilson, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. **Page S6327**

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 Lee Philip Rudofsky, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas. **Page S6327**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6327**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6327**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

- 1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.
- 6 Army nominations in the rank of general.
- 3 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy. **Pages S6355–57, S6361–62**

Nomination Received: Senate received the following nomination:

Stephen E. Biegun, of Michigan, to be Deputy Secretary of State. **Page S6361**

Messages from the House: **Page S6332**

Measures Referred: **Page S6332**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S6332**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6332–33**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S6333**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6334–36**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S6336–46**

Additional Statements: **Pages S6330–31**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6346**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S6346**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—342) **Pages S6321, S6326**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 5:48 p.m., until 1 p.m. on Monday, November 4, 2019. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S6358.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

OUTDOOR RECREATION LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 1665, to modify the procedures for issuing special recreation permits for certain public land units, S. 1723, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide for the establishment of a Ski Area Fee Retention Account, and S. 1967, to promote innovative approaches to outdoor recreation on Federal land and to increase opportunities for collaboration with non-Federal partners, after receiving testimony from Chris French, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Nikki Haskett, Acting Assistant Director for National Conservation Lands and Community

Partnerships, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; Aaron Bannon, National Outdoor Leadership School, Lander, Wyoming; Lee Davis, Oregon State University, Portland, on behalf of the Outdoor Recreation Economy Initiative; and Brendan McGuire, Vail Resorts, Broomfield, Colorado, on behalf of the National Ski Areas Association.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Andeliz N. Castillo, of New York, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, Alma L. Golden, of Texas, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Peter M. Haymond, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Alina L. Romanowski, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, and Leslie Meredith Tsou, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, all of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

5G

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine supply chain security, global competitiveness, and 5G, after receiving testimony from Christopher Krebs, Director, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Diane Rinaldo, Acting Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, National Telecommunications and Information Administration, Department of Commerce; Robert L. Strayer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Cyber and International Communications and Information Policy; and Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 1657, to provide assistance to combat the escalating burden of Lyme disease and other tick and vector-borne diseases and disorders, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2619, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Healthy Start program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1399, to amend title VIII of the Public Health Services Act to revise and extend nursing workforce development programs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 995, to amend title XXIX of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the program under such title relating to lifespan respite care, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1130, to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health of children and help better understand and enhance awareness about unexpected sudden death in early life, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 1608, to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 2629, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to the Public Health Service Corps, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

S. 2740, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the regulatory framework with respect to certain nonprescription drugs that are marketed without an approved new drug application.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 2511, to amend title 40, United States Code, to provide the Marshal of the Supreme Court of the United States and Supreme Court Police with the authority to protect the Chief Justice of the United States, any Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, and other individuals in any location, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and

The nominations of Jodi W. Dishman, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, Richard Earnest Myers II, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Sarah E. Pitlyk, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, and Daniel Mack Traynor, to be United States District Judge for the District of North Dakota.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 36 public bills, H.R. 4936–4971; 1 private bill, H.R. 4972; and 10 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 70–71; and H. Res. 668–675, were introduced. **Pages H8717–19**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H8720–21**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H.R. 35, to amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a hate crime act (H. Rept. 116–267). **Page H8717**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Tonko to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H8681**

Directing certain committees to continue their ongoing investigations as part of the existing House of Representatives inquiry into whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its Constitutional power to impeach Donald John Trump, President of the United States of America: The House agreed to H. Res. 660, directing certain committees to continue their ongoing investigations as part of the existing House of Representatives inquiry into whether sufficient grounds exist for the House of Representatives to exercise its Constitutional power to impeach Donald John Trump, President of the United States

of America, by a yea-and-nay vote of 232 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 604, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 231 yeas to 196 nays, Roll No. 603. **Pages H8683–98**

Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act: The House passed H.R. 823, to provide for the designation of certain wilderness areas, recreation management areas, and conservation areas in the State of Colorado, by a recorded vote of 227 yeas to 182 noes, Roll No. 609. Consideration began yesterday, October 30th. **Pages H8698–H8704**

Rejected the Tipton motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Natural Resources with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 199 yeas to 210 noes, Roll No. 608. **Pages H8701–03**

Agreed to:

Crow amendment (No. 6 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–264) that was debated on October 30th that reaffirms the critical importance of Federal public lands to the Colorado High-Altitude Army National Guard Aviation Training Site (“HAATS”) (by a recorded vote of 410 yeas to 6 noes, Roll No. 607). **Page H8700**

Rejected:

Curtis amendment (No. 1 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–264) that was debated on October 30th that sought to state that this bill shall not apply to any lands or waters within the Third Congressional District of Colorado (by a recorded vote of 180 ayes to 240 noes, Roll No. 605); and **Pages H8698–99**

Tipton amendment (No. 5 printed in part B of H. Rept. 116–264) that was debated on October 30th that sought to limit lands being transferred from Forest Service to National Park Service based on management under a current memorandum of understanding (by a recorded vote of 185 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 606). **Pages H8699–H8700**

H. Res. 656, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 823), (H.R. 1373), and (H.R. 2181) was agreed to Tuesday, October 29th.

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 1 p.m. tomorrow, November 1st.

Presidential Messages: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress of the termination of the designation of the Republic of Cameroon as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under the African Growth and Opportunity Act—referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 116–77). **Pages H8708–09**

Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared with respect to Sudan is to continue in effect beyond November 3, 2019—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 116–78). **Page H8709**

Senate Referral: S. 1678 was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Ways and Means. **Pages H8715–16**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H8704.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Two yea-and-nay votes and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H8697, H8697–98, H8698–99, H8699–H8700, H8700, H8702–03, and H8703. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Education and Labor: Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 4674, the “College Af-

fordability Act”. H.R. 4674 was ordered reported, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 4458, the “Cybersecurity and Financial System Resilience Act”; H.R. 4634, the “Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2019”; H.R. 4841, the “Prudential Regulator Oversight Act”; H.R. 4863, the “United States Export Finance Agency Act of 2019”; a resolution electing minority members to the taskforces on the Committee on Financial Services; and a resolution electing minority members to the subcommittees of the Committee on Financial Services. Resolutions electing minority members to the taskforces and subcommittees were agreed to. H.R. 4458, H.R. 4634, H.R. 4841, and H.R. 4863 were ordered reported, as amended.

MEMBERS’ DAY

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Members’ Day”.

CONGRESS AND THE FRANK: BRINGING CONGRESSIONAL MAILING STANDARDS INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Congress and the Frank: Bringing Congressional Mailing Standards into the 21st Century”. Testimony was heard from Representatives Davis of California and Rodney Davis of Illinois; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

TURKEY’S POLICY AT HOME AND ABROAD

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine the human toll of Turkey’s policy at home and abroad, after receiving testimony from Henri J. Barkey, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania; Eric Schwartz, Refugees International, Merve Tahiroglu, Project on Middle East Democracy, and Gonul Tol, Middle East Institute, all of Washington, D.C.; and Talip Kucukcan, Marmara University, Istanbul, Turkey

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2019

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

1 p.m., Monday, November 4

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1 p.m., Friday, November 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 1 p.m.

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