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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable KELLY LOEFFLER, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Holy God, continue to be our strength and shield. Extend Your powerful hands to aid and deliver us.

Lord, inspire our Senators to believe that You continue to work for the good of those who love You. Let Your favor shine upon our lawmakers and sustain them with Your unfailing love.

Lord, release to them the blessings You have stored for those who honor You. You are our God, and our future is in Your hands.

Remind us all to seek first to understand before we strive to be understood.

We pray in Your Sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 18, 2020.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable KELLY LOEFFLER, a

Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
President pro tempore.

Mrs. LOEFFLER thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stephen A. Vaden, of Tennessee, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, yesterday something extremely rare happened here in this Chamber, something so unusual that only a few of us current Senators had ever seen it before—a rollcall vote that did not include the name of our President pro tempore and distinguished colleague from Iowa, Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY.

Before yesterday, the senior Senator from Iowa had not missed a single vote

in this body since 1993, when he was in Iowa helping with historic flooding.

Since then, across 27 years and 8,927 votes, Senator GRASSLEY had shown up for every single one. It is by far the longest such streak in Senate history.

Senator GRASSLEY broke the previous record back in January of 2016 and obviously continued to extend it for almost 5 years.

This show of diligence and dedication is remarkable by any measure. But because of who Senator GRASSLEY is, it hasn't seemed remarkable at all. That incredible commitment to serving Iowans and working around the clock is just who our colleague is. That devotion is just his daily routine.

This is the Senator who manages to visit all 99 counties in Iowa every single year. We call it the "full GRASSLEY." Nearly 9,000 consecutive Senate votes must have seemed like a cakewalk by comparison.

But yesterday, our colleague's streak had to be temporarily placed on hold. On the advice of doctors, after close contact with someone who had later tested positive for the coronavirus, Senator GRASSLEY began self-quarantining yesterday morning.

Later in the day, our colleague let us know he had tested positive himself, underscoring why his good judgment to follow doctor's orders while awaiting his test result was the right decision.

So our colleague's historic run has been put on pause for the same reason that it was compiled in the first place—leadership, service to others, and a determination to set the right example.

On Monday, in his floor remarks, our colleague reminded all Americans of our duties in this moment:

Although promising vaccines for the coronavirus are on the horizon, it is more important than ever to stop the surge. . . . Wash your hands; limit your activity outside your household; social distance; wear a mask. We are going to get through this together, but we need everyone to do their part.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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All of the Senate's thoughts and prayers are with our distinguished colleague, who reported yesterday evening that he still feels fine. We hope that will remain the case. Certainly, if any Member of this body has the good health and stamina to kick the virus to the curb, it is Senator GRASSLEY.

So we will look forward to seeing him soon.

CORONAVIRUS

Madam President, now on an entirely different matter, Senate Republicans have spent months—months—trying to get another bipartisan rescue package passed and signed into law for the American people.

For months, our position has been entirely consistent. We want to reach agreement on all the areas where compromise is well within reach, send hundreds of billions of dollars to urgent and uncontroversial programs, and let Washington argue over the rest later.

There is no reason why doing right by struggling families should wait until we resolve every difference on every issue. But, unfortunately, both Speaker PELOSI and the Democratic leader have been equally consistent, and they don't think Congress should do anything at all—anything, unless they get to cash out a far-left ideological wish list, including things with zero relationship to the present crisis.

They have continued to insist that Congress must pass their so-called Heroes Act or do nothing at all.

The problem is that their proposal is a multitrillion-dollar laughingstock that never had a chance of becoming law.

Let's recall what Speaker PELOSI's own Members said when she first released this proposal:

I think the Heroes Act went too far. It got loaded up with a bunch of political wish list things.

This is Washington politics at its worst . . . a partisan wish list.

It's a middle finger to the American people.

These are all reactions of House Democrats. And no wonder, because here are just some of the demands the Speaker will not drop: a massive tax cut specifically for wealthy people in blue States; a colossal slush fund for consistently mismanaged State and city governments, with no linkage to actual pandemic needs.

These things are included, but they managed to completely leave out—listen to this—leave out entirely any new funding for a second round of the job-saving Paycheck Protection Program—something we made sure to include in every Republican offering. They want to spend \$3 trillion but couldn't find one cent—one cent—of new money for the job-saving program that has kept small businesses afloat from coast to coast.

Oh, and by the way, because the far-left decided in the summertime they didn't much like the men and women of law enforcement anymore, between the first and second version of this pro-

posal, the Speaker literally took out—listen to this—took out hundreds of millions of dollars for hiring, equipping, and training local law enforcement. I guess by their account, the police don't count as "Heroes" any longer.

By playing all-or-nothing hardball with a proposal this radical, our colleagues have thus far guaranteed that American workers and families get nothing at all.

The pace of our economic recovery and the promise of vaccines on the horizon give us reasons for major hope, but we are nowhere near—nowhere near—out of the woods yet. Vaccines will need to be distributed nationwide and quickly. Republicans' targeted proposal provided billions of dollars to make that happen, but Democrats blocked it.

The PPP has helped millions of American workers and small businesses hang on thus far, but now, in the home stretch, they need more help. Republicans' targeted proposal would have renewed that lifeline for the hardest hit small businesses, but again, Democrats blocked it.

So think about it. We moved Heaven and Earth and spent mountains of money to help workers keep their jobs and help small businesses keep the lights on from the springtime all the way up to now, but now, after all that, with the end seemingly in sight, we might lose the hardest hit small businesses in the home stretch because Democrats have refused—refused—to let us continue helping. We kept family businesses alive for months and months, only to see some of them fail now, with vaccines on the horizon, because Democrats have blocked another round of PPP.

Well, it is not too late to make a difference. Republicans stand ready to deliver this urgent aid. Let's fund all the programs where there is not even real disagreement—just the ones where there is no disagreement—and let's do it now. We just need Democrats to finally get serious about this.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

2020 ELECTIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, first, let me join all of my colleagues in wishing the Senate pro tempore, the senior Senator from Iowa, Senator GRASSLEY, a speedy and quick recovery. We know he is a strong man, and we have every confidence he will beat this back, as he has beaten many other adversities back in the past.

Now, it has been nearly 2 weeks since every major news network called the Presidential election for Joe Biden. Preparations for the incoming Biden administration are well under way, and still—still—President Trump refuses to accept reality.

This morning brought a fresh series of Presidential delusions on Twitter. President Trump declared—sometimes in capital letters—that the election was a fraud, a joke, and even unconstitutional. Imagine that, an unconstitutional election. That is because Trump's ego is such, when he doesn't win, everything is wrong, false, et cetera.

President Trump, get out of your bubble. You lost. Joe Biden will be sworn in as the next President of the United States on January 20. There is nothing you can do to stop it. Get out of the bubble and work on a transition.

Last night, continuing President Trump's outrageous and dishonest behavior, President Trump fired our country's chief election security officer, Chris Krebs, an honorable public servant, because he confirmed that our elections were secure. This reinforced the No. 1 rule of working for Donald Trump: You can never tell the truth.

But no matter whom he fires or how many times he tweets, President Trump cannot change reality. He lost the Presidential election. Joe Biden will be the next President of the United States, and it is time for President Trump to quit the nonsense, admit the truth, and move on. Anytime my Republican colleagues want to tell him that would be fine by me.

CORONAVIRUS

Madam President, now, on another matter entirely, the country is facing the worst phase of the pandemic. As the number of new infections and hospitalizations threaten, once again, to overwhelm the capacity of our healthcare system, we have to make sure that our nurses and doctors and all of our healthcare professionals have the PPE they need to protect themselves and their patients safely.

We all remember the early days of the crisis, when healthcare professionals in some parts of the country were forced to jury-rig masks and gloves from spare clothing and bits of string. In my home State of New York, nursing homes alone were burning through 12 million pieces of PPE a week during the height of the pandemic in April. The recent surge in cases might bring us all back to or beyond the peak levels we saw earlier this year. We must do everything—everything—in our power to avoid a repeat of the widespread PPE shortages.

So I am joining Senators MURRAY, PETERS, BALDWIN, and MURPHY to introduce new legislation that authorizes \$10 billion for the Strategic National Stockpile to purchase large quantities of PPE, including N95 respirators, gloves, gowns, face masks, face shields, and surgical masks.

The N95 masks don't need to be worn by every American on a daily basis, but

they provide a much higher degree of protection to our healthcare professionals and frontline workers who are exposed to the virus more regularly. That is why we need the Defense Production Act and get those N95 masks in the hands of any healthcare professional who needs it.

We are calling, once again, for the Defense Production Act, grossly underutilized by the current administration, to be invoked in order to expand industrial capacity to meet surging demand. Our bill will create a \$1 billion grant program for small business to retrofit their facilities to assist in the production of PPE.

For months, our communities have been held together by the quiet heroism of nurses, doctors, caregivers, and essential workers. We call them frontline workers because they are like our soldiers, putting their own lives at risk to protect the lives of others. And just as we would never send our troops into battle without helmets or bulletproof vests, we must never leave our frontline workers to battle diseases without the N95 masks they need, as well as other PPE like gloves and gowns that serve as their armor.

So, our bill, the Protect our Heroes Act of 2020, should be part of the bipartisan discussion on the next COVID relief bill. Our bill will allow frontline workers to get the N95 masks they need and deserve. We urge bipartisan support for this proposal. The truth is, there should be a great urgency to get something done here in Congress to defeat the virus, save American lives, and forestall even greater pain for our workers and businesses.

Speaker PELOSI and I had negotiated for months, in good faith, with the Trump administration to find an agreement on a COVID relief bill. Democrats lowered our proposal by \$1.2 trillion to move closer to our Republican counterparts. Meanwhile, Leader MCCONNELL and Senate Republicans refuse to take part in those negotiations. Instead, the Republican leader has asked the Senate to accept several inadequate partisan proposals. In every version of the COVID relief legislation that the Republican majority has put on the floor, there have been poison pills included to ensure the bill will fail.

Many Members of the Republican Senate caucus want to spend no dollars, so Leader MCCONNELL has to twist himself in pretzels to put any bill on the floor, and the only way he can get support of his caucus is to put poison pills in so he can wink at them and say: Hey, this won't pass.

So Senate Republicans are seeing this pandemic as an opportunity to try and make it harder to hold corporations accountable when they put their workers at risk. I heard the Republican leader this morning give the same long, tired speech that pretends as if Democrats haven't been trying to negotiate with our colleagues and that we haven't been trying over and over again to get our Republican colleagues to talk with us.

The leader's position hasn't changed over the past few months. He said it again this morning. It is the Republican proposal or nothing at all. I would remind the Republican leader that the House has passed a bill. The Senate has not, and the only Senate bill that the leader brings to the floor gets zero Democratic support. And yet the Republican leader's position is, if you don't take my bill, get nothing, when he knows his bill can't pass the Senate and can't pass the House. It is a feeble position, as the pandemic rages, and it just doesn't fly.

We Democrats lowered our proposal by over \$1 trillion to move closer in negotiations, and what did Senate Republicans do? They didn't move in our direction. They moved further away by cutting their already inadequate proposal in half, making compromise even more difficult.

So, look, we need to reset the conversation here. The country is in desperate straits, maybe more desperate than it has ever been in this crisis. The consensus view of economists and experts is that the country requires a substantial injection of aid: meaningful relief to our schools, small businesses, the unemployed, State and local governments, our healthcare system, among other things. These are not frivolous. These are not someone's whim. These are the desperate needs of people crying out for help. Almost none of them were covered adequately in the Republican leader's bill.

This morning, New York's MTA announced a cut to subways and buses—a flashing warning sign about how desperately we need transit relief. We are going to fight hard for transit relief. None of it is in Leader MCCONNELL's bill.

The two vaccines in development must be produced and distributed on a massive scale, and they must reach underserved and minority communities. The House Heroes bill goes much further in getting that done than the McConnell bill. It is time for our two parties to sit down together and hash out a compromise on a bill that meets the needs of the American people. We have been going around in circles—the Republican leader, in particular—for far too long with nothing new added to the conversation.

So Speaker PELOSI and I have formally invited the Republican leader and our Senate Republican colleagues to join us in bipartisan talks. Our colleagues face a simple choice: They can put the election behind them and work across the aisle to get something done or they can remain in their partisan corner defending the poisonous lies of a flailing President refusing to do the people's desperately needed business.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority whip is recognized.

Mr. THUNE, Madam President, I think it is important to point out that as we discuss the issue of coronavirus relief, that Senate Republicans have

now not once but twice brought a bill to the floor of the U.S. Senate that enjoyed the support of a majority of U.S. Senators. There were 52 Senators who voted for coronavirus relief not once but twice—once in September and once in October. Not a single Democrat voted for it.

The Democratic leader was just talking about the House of Representatives, where they passed a bill. Yes, they passed a bill. It didn't have a single Republican on it. It was a massive multitrillion-dollar bill, liberal wish list, that included all kinds of things like bailouts for blue States the taxpayers would have to finance, including tax cuts for millionaires in places like New York and California, and left a lot of the American people who are really suffering from the coronavirus holding the bag.

We believe that there are things that need to be done, and just because we can't do everything that the Democrats want to do on their liberal wish list, that we should do something, and Republicans came together behind a bill. They increased the support above and beyond what unemployed workers would normally get through unemployment insurance—increased that benefit by \$300 a week. It also provided a significant amount of funding for schools as they continue to deal with the cost of trying to stay open safely. It put significant investments into vaccines, testings, therapeutics, support for providers, and all the things that will help on the healthcare front to defeat this virus. And, of course, it provided infusion of additional dollars for the Paycheck Protection Program, which has been so successful in assisting our small businesses as they weather and survive this crisis to try and keep their workers employed and keep their businesses up and operating and keep our economy operating in this country.

Those are all things—all things—for which there is bipartisan support and on which there should be votes, not just among Republicans in the Senate but among Democrats as well, but unfortunately the Democrats have opted not to sit down in a reasonable way and come up with a reasonable proposal.

The bill that came over from the House of Representatives that they continue to tout is something that would never pass in the Senate, and it would never get signed into law.

The bill that Senate Republicans passed—I shouldn't say passed but got majority support for here in the Senate not once but twice—would, in fact, get signed into law and is something that could pass here in the Senate and I believe in the House of Representatives, too, because they are all things that enjoy broad bipartisan support.

The difference is that our bill was targeted to those areas which need the support the most. It was fiscally responsible, recognizing that we have a \$26 trillion debt growing by the day and that every dollar we spend is a borrowed dollar from our children and grandchildren.

It is so important that when we do this, we do this in a way that is thoughtful, deliberative, reasonable, and with an eye toward making sure we are getting a good return for the American taxpayer and delivering assistance in a targeted way to those folks who need it the most—unemployed workers; those who are employed; the small businesses that employ them; the healthcare frontline workers who are out there every day fighting this fight against this virus, making sure they have the PPE to protect them—and then, of course, the important investments we are making in vaccines and therapeutics and testing and all the things that will help defeat this; money for schools, colleges, universities, elementary and high school students and faculty and administration—those who are trying to keep our kids in school, keep them educated by dealing with a lot of additional costs related to providing that education in a safe way.

Those are all things on which there is broad bipartisan agreement. We could pass it today. We could pass it today in the Senate, but the Democrats insist on a liberal wish list, which includes a multitrillion-dollar proposal—multitrillion-dollar proposal—with a liberal wish list, an agenda that in many cases has nothing to do with combating or fighting the coronavirus but simply is an attempt to deliver on a liberal agenda for their political base. So let's just make that point very clearly here when we talk about what we should be doing.

I believe what we should be doing is sitting down and working on a reasonable bill, a targeted bill, a fiscally responsible bill. Republicans have been more than willing to do that and more than willing to compromise, but the Democrats both in the House and the Senate continue to insist upon a multitrillion-dollar bill that consists, again, of a bunch of liberal wish list items—taxpayer bailouts for blue States, tax cuts for millionaires across this country, putting money into diversity studies on cannabis—instead of the targeted things, the things that are really going to be necessary to help the American people and our economy recover from the coronavirus.

SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY

Madam President, as I begin today, I just want to say that our thoughts are with Senator CHUCK GRASSLEY after his coronavirus diagnosis. It was a strange day in the Senate yesterday with CHUCK GRASSLEY not voting, because he broke a 27-year-long streak of showing up for every single vote. We are praying for his swift recovery and his speedy return to the Senate.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Madam President, a couple of weeks ago, we confirmed one of the most qualified Supreme Court Justices in living memory. This week, we are confirming more district court judges, bringing the total number of judges we have confirmed over the last 4 years to nearly 230.

Confirming good judges is one of the most important responsibilities that we have as Senators, and it is a responsibility that I take very seriously. In fact, one of the main reasons I was first elected to the Senate was to make sure that outstanding judicial nominees were confirmed to the Federal bench.

It is hard to imagine now, but confirming judges used to be a pretty bipartisan affair. Presidents of both parties generally got the majority of their judicial nominees confirmed to the bench. But all of that changed back in the early 2000s.

After President George W. Bush's election, Democrats decided that the President's judicial nominees might not deliver the results that Democrats wanted, and so they decided to adopt a new strategy: blocking judicial nominees on a regular basis. That became the routine here in the Senate.

I was one of the many Americans who were upset by the blockade of impressive, well-qualified nominees, and it was one of the main reasons that I ran for the Senate in 2004. I promised South Dakotans that if they elected me, I would help put outstanding, impartial judges on the bench. I am proud to have delivered on that promise.

The list of outstanding judicial nominees we have confirmed over the past 4 years is long. We have confirmed brilliant, accomplished men and women with superb qualifications, but most importantly, we have confirmed men and women who understand the proper role of a judge, who know that the job of a judge is to interpret the law, not make the law, to call balls and strikes, not to rewrite rules of the game.

It is here that Republican judicial philosophy diverges from the judicial philosophy of a lot of Democrats. Republicans believe that the job of a judge is to look at the law and the Constitution and then rule based on how those things apply to the facts in a particular case. Judges, we believe, should leave their politics and their personal opinions at the courtroom door and base their opinions solely on what the law and the Constitution say.

For Democrats, on the other hand, what matters most is not how judges reach their conclusion, not whether they apply the law, but what outcomes they deliver. If a judge can deliver the right outcome by following the plain meaning of the law, then great, but if she can't, then Democrats want a judge to reach beyond the plain meaning of the statute to deliver what Democrats see as an appropriate result.

Then-Presidential candidate Barack Obama back in 2007 said:

[W]hat you've got to look at is, what is in the justice's heart? What's their broader vision of what America should be?

Well, that is a very dangerous standard. It is not the job of a judge to impose his or her "broader vision of what America should be"; it is the job of a judge to determine what the law says and then apply the law to the particular case before him.

President Obama famously said that he wanted judges with empathy. Well, that is all very well until you are a party in a case, and you have the law on your side, but the judge empathizes with the opposing party. What happens then?

The only way to preserve the rule of law in this country is to confirm judges who understand that their allegiance must be to the law and to the Constitution, not to their personal feelings, their personal beliefs, their political beliefs, or their "broader vision of what America should be." Otherwise, you replace the rule of law with the rule of a bunch of individual judges.

So I am very thankful that we have confirmed so many judges who understand that the job of a judge is to apply the law, not make it, and who won't try to usurp the role of Congress by legislating from the Federal bench. I thank the majority leader for making judicial confirmations such a priority. I look forward to confirming more outstanding judicial nominees this week.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Vaden nomination be waived.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 nomination of Stephen A. Vaden, of Tennessee, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade.

Mitch McConnell, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Thom Tillis, John Thune, Mike Crapo, Mike Rounds, Steve Daines, Kevin Cramer, Richard Burr, John Cornyn, Shelley Moore Capito, Todd Young, John Boozman, David Perdue, James E. Risch, Lindsey Graham, Roger F. Wicker.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Stephen A. Vaden, of Tennessee, to be a Judge of the United States Court of International Trade, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea," the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) would have voted "yea," and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SASSE). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote or change their vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 49, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 236 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Barrasso	Fischer	Portman
Blackburn	Graham	Risch
Blunt	Hawley	Roberts
Boozman	Hoeben	Romney
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Burr	Inhofe	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Sasse
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Collins	Lankford	Shelby
Cornyn	Lee	Sullivan
Cotton	Loeffler	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	McSally	Toomey
Cruz	Moran	Wicker
Daines	Murkowski	Young
Enzi	Paul	
Ernst	Perdue	

NAYS—44

Baldwin	Heinrich	Rosen
Bennet	Hirono	Schatz
Blumenthal	Jones	Schumer
Booker	Kaine	Shaheen
Brown	King	Sinema
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Smith
Cardin	Leahy	Stabenow
Carper	Manchin	Tester
Casey	Markey	Udall
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warren
Durbin	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Grassley	Scott (FL)
Feinstein	Harris	
Gardner	Sanders	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 44.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Wyoming.

2020 ELECTIONS

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor to talk about what the voters of America told the elected representatives in Washington about the election earlier this month. There has been a lot of analysis about what happened this year in the elections—who got what right, who got what wrong. The pollsters, the prognos-

ticators, and the pundits—well, they are already taking a beating for their many wrong predictions.

The American people in States all across this country and, certainly, in Wyoming, rejected this far-left agenda. They saw what the Democrats were offering, and they said: No, thank you. Voters looked at the violent leftwing protests that have wrecked large cities and small cities across the country. People saw the death, injuries, and destruction of property, and Americans went to the polls and said: No, thank you. They rejected the Democrats' calls to defund the police; rebuffed the Democrats' threats to pack the Supreme Court; and said no to one-size-fits-all, government-run healthcare. They snubbed the Democrats' embrace of the Green New Deal and rejected this far-left plan to end American energy production. Basically, Americans said no.

Many Democrats ran on this far-left agenda. They lost despite spending hundreds of millions of dollars trying to convince Americans otherwise. The Democrats must be asking themselves: What did we get wrong?

No matter how much the Democrat Party pushes and their candidates push, America is not a far-left country. Americans don't want to blow up the Senate or the Supreme Court. They don't want to add more States to the Union or more Justices to the Court. They don't want to kill our energy economy and the good jobs it provides. People do not want to pay \$10 a gallon for gasoline when they fill up under the Green New Deal. They don't want more government meddling in their personal healthcare decisions.

I know what the people of Wyoming want, and Members ought to know this. Americans want jobs and security. They want to get back to work in a free enterprise economy, not a socialist one. They want their kids back in school safely to make sure they don't fall further behind. People are smart enough to know that the free stuff for everyone means the American taxpayer will be left footing the bill.

Between now and the end of the year, we have very important things to do for the Nation in this body, the U.S. Senate. We need to fund the government. We need to pass the National Defense Authorization Act. We need to confirm well-qualified nominees to the Federal judiciary. Senate Republicans are ready to get that work done. There is also work to be done in our fight against the coronavirus.

The Democrat House has played politics with American lives and livelihoods for months now. With the election behind us, I hope it will take a more sensible approach to this Nation's most pressing problem right now. For months, Senate Republicans put forward targeted proposals—first in September, again in October—that provided comprehensive coronavirus relief, that focused on the coronavirus. There were 52 Republicans who came to

the floor of this Senate and voted in favor of the proposal. Not a single Democrat voted for it. It is our plan to get people back to work, to get kids back to school safely, and to put the disease behind us.

Just last week, Pfizer announced a vaccine that could be 90 percent effective in the fight against the coronavirus. This morning, it found out, with more testing and more time, that it will be, actually, 94½ percent effective. Now Moderna and the National Institutes of Health have developed a vaccine that is almost 95 percent effective. There are four other vaccines in the trials, and one of the Members of this body, the Senator from Ohio, is part of the trial of one of those. I believe additional vaccines will be coming down the pipeline as well.

It was a front-page story yesterday in every major paper in America—the good news about vaccines and that the light at the end of the tunnel of the coronavirus is upon us.

Today there was an announcement of an at-home test for coronavirus—very, very promising.

But when we think about the vaccine and why this all happened, Congress wisely invested \$18 billion for vaccine treatment and for research, and it is paying off.

The Governor of New York, astonishingly, called this bad news. He said this is bad news. It had to do with the fact that this is coming out now, and he wanted it to wait for a couple of months, after a Presidential inauguration.

Why is it bad news that, through innovation and the work of the Cures Act, which came out of this body under the Republican majority and was then accepted by unanimous consent in the House—why is it bad news that we may be able to save millions, if not tens of millions, of lives all around the world? Why is it bad news, as the Governor of New York calls it? Why is it bad news that American invention and innovation and an investment by this body has brought about such a tremendous—what I would call as a doctor—modern medical miracle?

Now, we still need to provide additional funding for vaccine distribution, and there is going to be a briefing tomorrow for all the Senators on both sides of the aisle with Operation Warp Speed to talk with the heads of research and distribution about how to make sure we can continue on this path to success—a path that the New York Times yesterday described as one that could lead to 20 million people being vaccinated before the end of this year. Bad news, says the Governor of New York, because it came this year rather than after January 20.

It is distressing that an elected official would behave that way, in such a callous manner toward the lives, as well as the livelihood, of so many Americans.

We still have work to do. At every turn, Democrats have blocked our

path. They are keeping us stuck and America stuck in this coronavirus crisis by demanding funding for things unrelated to coronavirus, per the Speaker of the House. You say: Oh, no, she wanted this \$3 trillion for all sorts of things unrelated to coronavirus. She has more money in that bill to send direct paychecks to illegal immigrants—people in this country illegally—than she does for coronavirus vaccines.

That is the kind of opposition and leftist thinking that we have been running into here in this body and that the American people rejected on election day and said: No, we want a path forward. We want to continue the great American comeback. We want our jobs. We want our kids. We want that path forward.

There is still more work to be done, and we are ready to do it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LANKFORD). The Senator from Oregon.

REMEMBERING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DELBERT LITRELL

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to recognize the distinguished service of one of Medford, Oregon's own and to ask my Senate colleagues to join me in support of the U.S. Marine Corps PFC Delbert Littrell's honorary promotion to corporal.

It is an honorary promotion because it was 75 years ago, in World War II, that Mr. Littrell served in the 14th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division.

His service was marked by a combat history of notable intensity and duration. He fought in five pivotal battles that together changed the tide of the war in the Pacific Theater: the Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaign, between November 1943 and February 1944; the Battle of Saipan, between June 15, 1944, and July 9, 1944; the Battle of Tinian, between July 24, 1944, and August 1, 1944; the Battle of Iwo Jima, between February 19, 1945, and March 26, 1945; and, fifth, the Battle of Okinawa, between April 1, 1945, and June 22, 1945. What an outstanding contribution to make to the fight for freedom, and what a remarkable bit of history to be part of.

As administrative officers noted while evaluating him, Private First Class Littrell performed excellently time and again. He should have received this promotion a long time ago.

The units he served in, however, were under constant enemy bombardment, and the kinds of performance reports and administrative submissions that would have given him that promotion were often misplaced or incomplete in the midst of the rigorous amphibious assaults pivotal to the Allied victory.

It wasn't until earlier this year, three-quarters of a century later, that the Marine Corps Advisory Panel reviewed the comprehensive record of Mr. Littrell's service to the Marine Corps and to the national security of the United States of America, and after reviewing the record, the Commandant

of the Marine Corps recommended Delbert Littrell's honorary promotion to the rank of corporal, which was endorsed soon after by the Secretary of the Navy.

Both of these leaders recognized Mr. Littrell's unique contributions, with the Secretary of the Navy noting the indelible mark that Mr. Littrell has left on the proud history of the U.S. Marine Corps and the U.S. Navy.

The State of Oregon and our entire Nation are proud of Delbert Littrell's meritorious service throughout World War II. Mr. Littrell's remarkable combat history and his actions in support of freedom mean that this recognition is long overdue.

I am proud that this son of Oregon, who I hope is watching right now, is finally receiving this special honor.

Colleagues, I know that you join me in honoring, respecting, and appreciating Delbert Littrell and his commitment to the fight for freedom and his legacy of service to our Nation with the distinction of corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps.

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. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, the American people sent a clear message in this election. They want us to get to work to empower people with a plan to fight this virus and to get people back to work, back to school, and back to their lives. They gave President-Elect Biden a commanding 5-million vote victory to do that. It is time for us to get to work.

We have had more than 1 million new cases just in the past week. Yet what does Leader MITCH MCCONNELL—what does he keep the Senate in session to do? He keeps the Senate in session and he puts essential workers at risk all to try to ram through an unqualified nominee who pretty much everybody in this body knows has no business serving on the Federal Reserve.

Let's be clear on what this is about. It is about our outgoing President—again, who lost the popular vote by 5 million people and lost an electoral college by a landslide—trying to sabotage our economic recovery on his way out the door. Yesterday, luckily, Senators of both parties rejected that effort. There were 80 million Americans—most ever by a lot—who voted for stability in this election. Judy Shelton, the Trump nominee, promises more Trump chaos.

You can't say you support working people while putting someone in charge who has no problem whatsoever threatening their jobs and their savings to push a bizarre intellectual agenda. She has no idea how to handle an economic

crisis like the one we are in. Her positions aren't conservative. They are not traditionally conservative, which we could debate. I would be willing to vote for conservatives, as I have before, if I thought they were qualified and their thinking was not so far, far right out of the mainstream. But her positions aren't conservative; they are disqualifying.

For three decades, she has advocated returning to the gold standard. No serious person—progressive, moderate, conservative—no serious person, left or right, still believes in the gold standard. She opposes FDIC, Federal deposit insurance—the insurance that protects your money when you put it in the bank. She has flip-flopped on these issues several times during her nomination. The only thing consistent she stands for is that she—no surprise—wants to do what Trump wants to do. But Americans have moved on from Donald Trump, 80 million strong. It is time for the Senate to move on from this failed nomination and this failed Presidency.

This nomination was a waste of time. Look what we should have been doing instead. You all know that. Every moment we spend on unnecessary, unqualified nominees like this is time the Senate isn't spending saving lives. It is time to get to work delivering results for the people whom we serve.

We are watching hospitals fill up again from Oklahoma to Ohio. Our healthcare system is getting overwhelmed. Gig workers and self-employed workers will lose their unemployment insurance at the end of the year. Small businesses and local governments are running out of money. It doesn't have to be this bad.

I have had enough and I think my colleagues in both parties have had enough of this false choice between saving the economy and combating the virus. We have to do both, and we can do both. It is not an unsolvable problem. We need the resources, and we have the resources. We are the greatest, wealthiest country on Earth. We have some of the hardest workers, the best scientists, and the smartest doctors. We have manufacturing expertise. We have natural resources. We have the world's reserve currency. We have all those things.

But President Trump and Senator MCCONNELL want you to believe we can't solve big problems; we can't use our resources to help ordinary families; we can't use our talents to produce tests and PPE; we can't use our ingenuity to figure out how to open businesses and schools safely. They have essentially thrown up their hands and said: Sorry, America, you are on your own. They want you to believe this is the best America can do. In this election, Americans made it clear they don't buy that. They have had enough of aiming low and being told: We can't do that. We can't solve this problem; it is too big. We can't govern. We can't afford it.

We can do big things. We did big things in World War II. We did big things combating communism. We did big things combating the Great Depression. We can do big things, and we can solve the problems for the people we serve.

We did it this past spring. When we passed the CARES Act unanimously, one study said that 12 million people were kept out of poverty because of the \$600 unemployment insurance, because of the help to small businesses, because we helped local governments, and because we helped people stay in their homes. There were 12 million people kept out of poverty.

And the individual checks that were sent out, essentially, that expired in July and August. Since then, we have seen literally thousands of Americans a week falling into poverty. We kept millions of Americans from falling into poverty. We can do it again. We can keep Americans from losing their homes. We put in place an eviction moratorium. We gave people stimulus checks. We helped support the small businesses. Why are we not doing that again? Why does Senator McCONNELL not want to do that again?

We can rise to meet this moment. We can restore people's faith in their government. We can't allow President Trump—with his out-the-door appointees of people out of the mainstream—we can't allow him to sabotage this economy and sabotage this government from within, creating chaos wherever he can, after voters decisively, decisively, decisively rejected him with an electoral college landslide and rejected him by more than 5 million votes. The voters have sent a clear message to all of us to get to work.

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.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

THANKSGIVING

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, I am here today to join some of my fellow Senators here to talk about giving thanks to our military servicemembers and our veterans. Certainly, this is the thankful and grateful season that we are heading into. I think November has a lot of celebratory times both for our families and also for our veterans and military families.

There is no question that this year has been most different and has looked very different than most. We have faced so many challenges and adjusted to a new norm of teleworking, telehealth, telecommuting, all kinds of different ways to communicate on our devices, FaceTiming—I do a lot of FaceTiming with my family—and other socially distanced activities, and I don't see that coming to an end in the near future. But in the midst of all of

this, we certainly do have so much to be grateful for and thankful for.

A little fun fact is, I was actually born on Thanksgiving Day, and my parents always joked that they were going to name me "Thankful Ever Moore" because my last name was Moore at the time. And while my parents, thankfully, decided to go a different route with my name, the meaning still holds true today.

It is true because I am thankful evermore for many things, especially, as I said, as we approach this Thanksgiving holiday, which is just around the corner. And it is going to look a little bit different for a lot of people, but that doesn't mean it can't be just as special.

I am thankful evermore for my own personal good health and that of my family's. I am very, very grateful and thankful for the first responders and the essential workers and now those workers in the hospitals who are really seeing a lot more patients coming in with COVID. I think about the grocery store workers, the truckers, and others who have really kept life moving during those first months when we weren't sure how to cope.

I am very grateful for my wonderful community of Charleston, WV, where I have lived for over 40 years. And I am very grateful for the opportunity and the honor of a lifetime to represent the people of West Virginia in the U.S. Senate. I am grateful for our country and all of the great American thoughts and prayers that have carried many of us through these last few months.

But I am especially thankful and grateful for the brave servicemembers who have put their lives on the line for our country year after year. I am grateful for the many veterans who have come before them and for the military families from all over the country who support the men and women who serve.

Just last week, we celebrated Veterans Day. It is always a very special, kind of solemn day in our State, and it is very well attended. This year we couldn't have the parades. We did a lot of virtual celebrations, but it was no less special. This is a day to honor the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces, both past and present, who have stood up to protect the freedoms that we hold dear.

Our military is undoubtedly the very greatest in the world. From the "greatest generation" to our younger soldiers who have fought in Iraq and Afghanistan, all of our soldiers have served admirably, and I am pleased to be serving with some who have not just served several years ago but in recent times.

My home State of West Virginia has a long and proud history of answering the call of duty. I think we have the highest percentage per capita of military veterans.

I am the proud daughter of a World War II veteran and Purple Heart recipient. I grew up hearing stories about heroism displayed on and off the battlefield and have always been in awe of those who have served this country.

Interestingly, too, in hearing my father's generation talk about their service to the country, it was always framed in terms of duty and love of country and never in terms of "I had to do this" or "my parents thought it was a good idea." These were things deeply held inside of those veterans who wanted to be a part of something that they held dear—their love of country, their love of freedom, their love of liberty.

Woody Williams is one of those individuals who lives in my State. Many of you have seen them. He did the coin flip at the Super Bowl last year, I think. I continue to be inspired by him every day. I have mentioned him more than a few times on the Senate floor, as have all of our proud West Virginians. He is a proud West Virginian himself and is one of the last remaining Medal of Honor recipients from World War II. He turned 97 last month.

He valiantly fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima and rightfully earned the military's most prestigious medal for his actions during the war. We are so proud of him and all he does with our Gold Star families. We have memorials all throughout our State and across the country, where Woody inspires not just those who have served but those who support and the families who support those who serve. So we are very proud to call him our West Virginia own. We did rename the VA center, hospital, in Huntington after Woody. We had a grand opening. It was really fun.

Whether it be the Korean war, the Vietnam war, the first Gulf war, the ongoing fight against terrorism in the Middle East, and all the conflicts that America has fought, our country's servicemembers have made the ultimate sacrifices to keep our liberties intact.

Sometimes I think people get kind of down about where are we going, and it seems like we don't have the optimism as a country. Do you know what? I am very optimistic because of what I am talking about today.

Without the sacrifices of men and women, we would not be able to have these many freedoms, and it is important to remember those men and women who have supportive family members.

It is fitting also that this month is Military Family Appreciation Month. I think about the different moves or the nights of sleeplessness where you are unsure where your loved one is or how they are serving. This is a month to honor and recognize the sacrifices and challenges that military families face while supporting these brave men and women.

Our military families do face unique challenges, and I think here in this body we take that into consideration quite a bit when we are looking at appropriations and ways to help our families. We are forever indebted to the sacrifices they make as their loved ones are fighting for our freedoms. They are often the ones behind the scenes, faced with difficult decisions every single day, and it is not easy.

I have had the chance to meet many military families and hear about their experiences firsthand, and I have also heard from many of our own here, particularly Senator JONI ERNST, who served as well and is a veteran. Senator MARTHA MCSALLY is also one of those whom I have been fascinated to hear her path and her service.

Whether it is our current servicemembers, veterans, or military families, we are so grateful for their service. It is because of their sacrifice and courage that we are able to enjoy these freedoms and liberties that we all cherish.

This Thanksgiving, take a moment to thank a veteran, a servicemember, and in this environment, a frontline worker, an essential worker—someone who is giving of themselves, sacrificing time with their family and, in some way, putting themselves in precarious situations with meeting the health challenges of COVID.

At the same time, this should not be limited to just Thanksgiving or to Veterans Day or Military Family Appreciation Month. We should be doing this every day, and we should be making sure that those who serve know our appreciation, that those who serve know—like the Senator from North Dakota, who is going to be after me—that their long history of service in our States—and, certainly, the Presiding Officer's State as well—all across this country are not going without recognition.

Without this great sacrifice and dedication to defending the flag, this country would not be what it is today. I mentioned how optimistic and grateful and thankful I am to be an American.

While this year has thrown a lot our way, and it may be difficult to see some of the positives, we must always remember that we have much to be thankful for.

Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. HOEVEN. Mr. President, I want to acknowledge and express my appreciation for the comments of the Senator from West Virginia, her father's service, and the service of so many veterans, as well as our colleagues here in the Senate who are here today saying thank you as we enter this time of Thanksgiving for our veterans and all those who serve today. We appreciate them so much.

Of course, that is what this colloquy is all about, for us to come down today and to say thank you to our veterans, thank you to those who serve. I know the Presiding Officer's State has a number of military bases and a large contingent of servicemembers, and they are truly fantastic. They are just amazing. We have two large Air Force bases in my State, and, of course, our Guard and others who serve in our military. I am impressed every day when I see what they do and how they serve. We are so deeply appreciative.

That is what today is all about. It is thanking our veterans and making the

point, I think, that we need to be there for our veterans and our servicemembers every day, not just on Veterans Day, but that we need to be out there every day saying thank you for all that they do for us—and to their families—and to always keep in our hearts and our prayers all of those who are deployed around the world today keeping us safe.

In my State of North Dakota, we have a rich tradition of service. I am so proud of all of our North Dakotans who have served in the military and serve today.

Since I was Governor of North Dakota, from 2000 through 2010, and even since I have been here in the Senate, I don't think I have ever missed participating at home on Veterans Day in ceremonies for our servicemembers. Really, because we were in session last week, this was the first time in, I think, more than 20 years that I wasn't able to attend services at home for our veterans on Veterans Day. So what I did is I went over to Arlington Cemetery and spent some time there.

I also went to the U.S. Marine Corps Memorial, and I particularly wanted to go over to the Marine Corps Memorial because my father was a marine. Of course, for his life—he died when he was 87 years old, but throughout his life, you could never say he was a marine because once a marine, always a marine. So even when he was in his eighties, he would say he still is a marine. If you said “was a marine,” then he would get mad at you, but now that he has passed, I can say he was a marine. But he was awfully proud of his service.

As I looked at that Marine Corps Memorial, it made me think of him. It just is, again, a recognition for all of us of how much we owe our veterans.

So it is about thanking them and acknowledging them, but it is also very important that we show our gratitude in other ways, by making sure that our Armed Service forces, members, as well as all of our veterans receive the care, the benefits, the recognition, the things that our Nation has promised them for their service.

We need to follow through on those things. In this Congress we have worked to do that, and we need to continue to work to do that.

Some of the things we have been able to do are work to strengthen the VA's ability to provide veterans with a continuum of care so that not only do they have access to the medical care they need, but they also have that continuum of care as they get older.

We talk about our World War II generation, America's “greatest generation,” as laid out in Tom Brokaw's book and that famous acknowledgment of all that they did in World War II. So many of them, of course, we are losing now, and it highlights the need to make sure that we have the continuum of care there for them, both care in terms of nursing home care and also home-based care as well. We need

to make sure that those options are available to them.

We also need to recognize that members of our military suffer injuries both seen and unseen. There are the wounds that you can see, but then there are also the wounds, the battle scars of war, that you can't see.

In terms of what the VA does for our veterans, we need to make sure that the mental healthcare and the suicide prevention programs are in place there as well. Last month the Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act was signed into law, and I was pleased to be able to cosponsor that legislation, and that legislation will help advance a more comprehensive approach to address the tragedy of veteran suicide.

It also expands access to alternative treatment options like hyperbaric oxygen therapy, or HBOT, for veterans who have not been able to benefit or recover using traditional therapies for post-traumatic stress.

Last year, working with others, I was able to secure for the Fargo VA designation as the fifth location in the Nation for an HBOT pilot program, and we recently extended that program for a longer period of time and added additional service area in Jamestown, ND, as well.

I have to say, our VA veterans healthcare facility in Fargo is second to none. They do a tremendous job. I talk to veterans who go there not only from North Dakota but from much of Minnesota, and they really appreciate it. The care there is high level.

Sometimes we hear these stories and have great concern about veterans' care facilities where they are not doing a good job, and we need to address that, but I can say that our Fargo, ND, VA healthcare facility is tops. And the veterans I talk to on a regular basis tell me that, so we are very appreciative of all the healthcare providers who work there and do that very good job for our wonderful veterans. So we need to continue to provide that type of care as well.

Also, I joined with Senator SINEMA and Senator SULLIVAN in introducing the Reduce Unemployment for Veterans of All Ages Act, which enables veterans, regardless of when they served, to access VA's vocational rehabilitation and employment benefits. That just makes sense, particularly during this pandemic. We are seeing the challenges with unemployment for everybody, and making sure that our great veterans have access to work and employment when they come back or leave the service is always a priority. It is obviously very much a priority as we work our way through this pandemic.

So passing this legislation would help provide veterans with greater self-sufficiency, better financial security, and, of course, a higher quality of life.

Also, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, I have worked with our committee to ensure that our

Nation fulfills its promise to our Native American veterans. Native Americans serve in our military in a higher percentage than any other ethnic group, which is truly remarkable and a tremendous thing.

So, as I say, for all of our veterans, we have to be there, but we certainly have to make sure, then, that we are providing help and support for our Native American veterans who have served as well.

Clearly, Native American veterans face some unique challenges related to homelessness and housing, and that is a function of being on the reservation. They have some unique challenges, and we have to work to address those challenges.

So I have worked with Senator UDALL, the vice chairman of the Indian Affairs Committee, along with Senator TESTER, whom I think is ranking member on the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and we introduced the Tribal HUD-VASH Act, which would provide rental housing assistance as well as housing for eligible Native American veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Our legislation has passed the Senate, and we are certainly hoping that it receives action in the House very soon.

As we continue to support our servicemembers, I also am a member of the Senate Defense Appropriations Committee, and we need to continue to work to invest in our military and ensure that our servicemembers have the tools they need to complete their missions.

In North Dakota we have many Active-Duty servicemembers at our Air Force bases, as well as others in the State. They perform incredibly important missions, and we need to make sure that we are supporting them and our servicemembers across the country and deployed around the globe and that they have what they need to do their missions.

That applies equally for our members of the National Guard and the reserves. As a former Governor—and I know the Presiding Officer was a former Governor himself—the amount that we rely on the National Guard is unbelievable. Their level of service is unbelievable. Whether it is fire or flood or hurricane or tornadoes or any kind of natural disaster here at home or whether it is deploying to the global war on terror in Afghanistan, Iraq, or anywhere else around the world, our National Guard is there. They do an incredible, incredible job, so we need to make sure we are supporting our Guard and reserves just as we support our Active-Duty forces. As a matter of fact, one of our Guard units is actually deployed for a 9-month assignment defending the Nation's Capital. They are here defending Washington, DC.

Again, talk to anybody who is a Governor or a former Governor, and they will tell you just how incredible the National Guard is. And those deployments are not easy. Whether they are

deployed overseas, whether they are deployed somewhere in the United States, whether down on the border or wherever it may be, they serve. And we can't forget that their families serve too. When they are gone, the families have to pick up the slack at home, and they do.

That is one reason that each year since coming to the Senate, I have introduced in the past the Senate resolution proclaiming a national Day of the Deployed to recognize and thank our deployed servicemembers and their family members: Active Duty, Guard, and Reserves.

With Thanksgiving approaching, we are reminded of the many freedoms and blessings that we enjoy as a nation, all of which have been secured by the men and the women who have served and do serve in our Armed Forces.

Today and every day—not just on Veterans Day but today and every day—we say thank you and God bless you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ROMNEY). The Senator from Nebraska.

THANKSGIVING

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, next Thursday is Thanksgiving, and we are here today because, even during a tough year like this one, we have so many things to be thankful for.

In that spirit, I would like to tell a short story about a Nebraskan whose contribution to the history of our country is pretty extraordinary.

In 1886, Andrew Jackson Higgins was born in the small town of Columbus, NE. He spent most of his childhood in Omaha, and he served in the Nebraska Army National Guard after the turn of the 20th century before moving to Alabama at the age of 20 to work in the lumber industry.

He worked a wide variety of jobs, hoping to learn enough to eventually start his own business. He succeeded in his dream in 1922 when he founded Higgins Lumber and Export Company, which quickly grew to become one of the largest lumber companies in North America.

Four years later, his company designed the Eureka boat, a 36-foot-long boat that was able to sail in just a few feet of water. At the time, lumber could only be loaded onto ships at port, but a craft that could operate in such shallow water could run on and off of riverbanks, enabling Higgins Lumber and Export Company to load and unload its lumber just about anywhere.

In short, Andrew Higgins built the Eureka boat simply to make his employees' lives easier, and that was an honorable goal. But throughout the next decade, as it became clear that Hitler decided to plunge the world back into war, the U.S. military began to search for a way to land soldiers directly onto beaches. They turned to the Eureka boat, which beat the Navy's design in a head-to-head test in 1939.

There was just one problem: The only way to get on or off the boat was by

jumping over the sides, and this would leave soldiers exposed to enemy fire in combat. To get around this, the Navy asked Higgins to add a ramp door to the boat's bow. He returned with the final design just a month later, and the Higgins boat was born.

Andrew Higgins' company went on to produce over 23,000 of these boats, and his design worked so well that the Allies trusted them to carry our soldiers across the English Channel on D-Day. Without the Higgins boat, we may not have turned the tide of World War II at Normandy. We may never have liberated Europe from Hitler's grasp.

In fact, President Dwight Eisenhower, who was the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe on D-Day, went as far as to say that Andrew Higgins was "the man who won the war for us."

It was an honor to attend the 75th anniversary of D-Day last year at Omaha Beach, to see firsthand the beach where the "greatest generation" jumped out of those boats that Andrew Higgins built to save the world from Naziism.

I am thankful for them, and I am thankful for the sacrifices that all of our veterans and Active-Duty servicemembers make each and every day.

We all know that Thanksgiving is going to be a little different this year. As important as it is to spend time with our extended family, many of whom we only see once a year, it is just as important to do what we can to protect those we love from this virus.

I won't pretend that it is easy to spend Thanksgiving apart from these large gatherings of loved ones, but I hope the far greater sacrifices our soldiers and veterans have made will help us to keep this hardship in perspective.

This Thanksgiving, let's give thanks for our military; let's give thanks for Andrew Higgins and the Higgins boat, which saved the lives of so many of our soldiers on D-Day; and let's give thanks for our veterans and those currently serving this country in the Armed Forces. Without the sacrifices that they have made and continue to make every day, our country wouldn't be as great as it is today. Their service makes Thanksgiving possible, this year and every year.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ROBERTS. 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. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I am rising today, along with others, giving thanks to our military and servicemembers and our veterans. In our family, this comes naturally. I am the son of Wes Roberts, a World War II Marine veteran who fought at Okinawa and Iwo Jima, and as a Marine veteran myself, I say with certainty and pride that there is no greater duty than to stand

with those who have put country before self.

I might add that my dad was age 41; he lied about his age and said he was 39. There was a niche in the Marine Corps at that time to be an air ground officer. That quickly turned into a combat situation, both in Okinawa and Iwo Jima. I am very thankful that he was spared. I would also like to add that I thank former President Truman for making a decision that allowed him and 800,000 other Americans to come home.

It is of the utmost importance, especially today, to pause and to recognize and thank veterans everywhere for their service in defending our Nation from threats, both overseas and here at home.

Another point of privilege I would like to point out is that before the pandemic, we were set to dedicate the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial on May 8. That was the 75th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day—an anniversary with worldwide significance.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we dedicated the memorial in September, and now, after decades of work, the memorial dedicated to our President and the Supreme Allied Commander and Kansas's favorite son, Dwight D. Eisenhower, is attracting generations of visitors to the National Mall. I drive by it on Independence Avenue when I am going home. I am always amazed that there are 25 or 30 people taking pictures of Ike, both as President and also the Supreme Allied Commander.

I am delighted that we are relearning the contributions of this great President and a man who basically saved Western democracy and gave us 8 years of peace and prosperity as President.

The memorial encourages all visitors to learn more about the critical role Ike played in not only shaping our Nation and defining the United States of America on the world stage but leading our country through 8 years of peace and prosperity. He recognized the promise of America and the reciprocal responsibility of his people to serve the Nation that serves them. As he said in his first inaugural address, "It is the firm duty of each of our free citizens . . . to place the cause of this country before the comfort, the convenience of himself." It was Eisenhower's decision to launch the D-day invasion that helped turn the tide of war in Europe and save Western democracy.

While the memorial pays tribute to his valiant leadership, it also pays tribute to the "greatest generation." Without their bravery and sacrifice during World War II, the world, no doubt, would be a very different place.

Now, we have another favorite son in Kansas. My dear friend and mentor, Senator Bob Dole, is another one of these heroes of the "greatest generation," and he made a tremendous effort in making the World War II Memorial a reality. In talking with Bob about his effort and then his key role in making the Eisenhower Memorial an actuality

and being successful, now anybody who is a World War II veteran—and those numbers are decreasing dramatically every year—however, they can get some transportation up here on Independence Avenue and pay homage to their Commander in Chief and salute him as they would have liked to have done years back.

I would point out that through my 40 years of service in both the House and Senate, I have said many times that the No. 1 priority of our Federal Government is to provide for the safety and security of our great Nation and to encourage those who protect us and to give them due. It has also been an honor to serve as a marine and to serve the great State of Kansas in Washington.

Our Nation is forever indebted to the acts of bravery and sacrifice of the service men and women who repeatedly answer the call of duty and step forward to defend the freedoms we all hold dear. Each and every one of us—more especially in this body—give the thanks of a grateful Nation to our Nation's veterans.

I would be remiss if I did not close by stating "Semper Fi."

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the confirmation vote on the Vaden nomination occur at 2:15 p.m. today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I am joined on the floor by the Senator from North Carolina, and I think a few additional Members will be coming to talk about Thanksgiving Day and about one of the things that we are most thankful for in this Nation, which is the service of our veterans who have stepped forward in uniform to give us the free country that we enjoy today and the freedoms that we enjoy today—veterans like my 96-year-old father, who was in World War II, who was recognized at the Ole Miss-South Carolina game just Saturday night as one of the surviving World War II veterans.

So I want to take a personal moment to recognize my dad and people like him who served so many, many decades ago. They kept us safe and defended our most important freedoms, including the freedom that Americans exercised just this month—the freedom to cast a ballot.

I am a veteran myself, and I am a proud veteran. Of course, my accomplishments do not compare with those of my World War II veteran dad's. I am

also the proud father of an Air Force major today, Maj. McDaniel Wicker. So being a veteran is a proud tradition in our family. Also, it is a proud recognition that we make as Members of Congress and to take care that the promises we have made are kept to the armed services members who have stepped forward and donned a uniform.

That means making sure, during this COVID-19 pandemic, that federally run retirement homes, like the Armed Services Retirement Home in Gulfport, MS, have the resources they need. It means acting boldly to reform the VA, which we have done, actually, on a bipartisan basis, in recent years, with legislation like the VA MISSION Act and the VA Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act. These laws have reduced wait times, expanded access to telemedicine and private care, and allowed the Department of Veterans Affairs to fire employees who have engaged in poor performance. As I say that, I might add, when I talk to veterans who have used the services of the VA, so many times, they are complimentary and profusely generous in their praise of the employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs. For those who don't get the job done and perform poorly, we now have the ability, under this important legislation, to get rid of them and replace them with those who will join the majority of the VA employees in getting the job done.

I have also introduced legislation with Senator Kaine to designate September 30 as National Veterans Suicide Prevention Day. It is something on which, again, we have worked in a bipartisan manner down through the Congresses.

This month is not only Thanksgiving month and election month, but it is Military Family Appreciation Month. Showing our thankfulness to veterans also includes showing our thankfulness to the families of our military members. So I am pleased to join my colleagues and yield the floor, in just a few moments, to my colleague from North Carolina.

Just today, Members of the House and Senate are working on the final paragraphs and the final provisions that remain undecided within the National Defense Authorization Act. This year, it will be named after a retiring colleague of ours, Representative Mac Thornberry, of Texas, who did not seek reelection this year. I can tell you that Members of the Senate and Members of this Republican conference are working hard today to make our National Defense Authorization Act a reality again for the 60th straight year and to serve those veterans and future veterans who have done so much to make our country free.

At this point, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. Tillis. Madam President, before the senior Senator from Mississippi leaves, I would like to thank him for

his comments and for his service to the Nation. He actually spent some quality time in my great State of North Carolina when he was in the Air Force.

Senator WICKER, thank you for your service and for your father's as well.

I rise for the same purpose—to thank our men and women in uniform, our veterans, and those actively serving.

In North Carolina, we have a proud tradition of military service. We have one of the fastest growing populations of veterans in the Nation. We will have surpassed a million over the next couple of years. We also have over 100,000 Active-Duty servicemembers who serve bravely from Fort Bragg, Camp Lejeune, Cherry Point, New River, and Seymour Johnson, which is where my colleague from Mississippi served. We also have a fantastic, well-decorated National Guard and the largest air station for the Coast Guard right up in the northeast part of our State. We have a proud tradition of military service, and I am proud to serve them as their U.S. Senator.

I also have the privilege of serving as the chairman of the Personnel Subcommittee on the Senate Armed Services Committee and on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, where we work every day to try to make life better for our men and women who serve today and for our veterans who have served in the past.

I have to say, with regard to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, it is one of my favorite committees because—and the American people need to recognize this—we almost always come together, Republicans and Democrats, to continue to make installments on a debt we can never fully repay. Senator WICKER talked about some of the progress we have made with the VA MISSION Act, which makes sure that we provide to the veterans who need care the best possible care they can get.

I also thank for his leadership the Secretary of the VA, Robert Wilkie, who is also a native North Carolinian. Out of 17 Federal agencies, he has taken the Department of Veterans Affairs organization, which was ranked 17th as the preferred place to work, to the top 5, and its satisfaction rating among veterans today is over 90 percent. I would put what they are doing up against any of the best healthcare systems in the private sector.

We have a lot of work to do, and I want all of the veterans to know that we are going to honor their service by doing our work here in the Senate of continuing to do better by them.

I also want to talk about the fact that it is Military Family Appreciation Month. I think the real silent heroes out there are the spouses and the family members who are left behind when you are deployed or are in training. We have to continue to make progress for military families. Many people may not appreciate what it is like if you are in a career as a spouse and are being moved from station to station every

couple of years or how difficult it is to get a job. For many certified positions, it can take a year or more for you to get a job in another State, and by that time, you are already planning for another deployment. We have made a lot of progress in this area, but we have much more to do.

On a special note, I want to talk to the military families who are in military housing on our installations across the world, particularly to the folks down at Fort Bragg and Camp Lejeune.

We are not done with making sure that you have the best, safest, cleanest housing that you can possibly have. We have made a lot of progress in this Congress, but we have a lot of work to do.

So I make a commitment to every servicemember and every veteran: As long as I am in the U.S. Senate, we are going to work to continue to repay that debt. We are looking for your feedback, and we are looking for your input so that we can do right by you.

To all of the veterans and all of the military families, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for all that you have done and for all that you continue to do.

On a final note, to those of the veterans service organizations, with whom I work closely on the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, thank you for your continued service. You have served our Nation in the armed services, and you continue to serve by helping veterans and helping to be a voice up here in Congress.

To the veterans and military families, God bless you, and thank you for your service.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). The Senator from Iowa.

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, I thank my colleague from North Carolina for joining us to talk about our veterans and about how important they are.

North Carolina, of course, is home to many of our Active-Duty installations, which house many of our brave, young men and women from across the United States. Many Iowans will travel to the great Fort Bragg or other installations and call North Carolina home at least for a short while. So thanks to my colleague for joining us today.

Thanksgiving dinner has become the single most celebrated meal of the year, with tens of millions of Americans gathering with family and friends to give thanks for their blessings and, of course, for one another. And, folks, I know that this year, it is a lot different.

While we still have so much to be thankful for, the COVID-19 pandemic means folks will be traveling less and might not be celebrating in larger groups. As a result, many will be separated from their loved ones on this very special day.

But, folks, this is a very familiar feeling for anyone who has ever served in our Nation's Armed Forces. There is

no vacation from protecting our Nation. At any given moment, thousands of men and women, moms and dads, brothers and sisters, are stationed around the world, standing vigilant in the defense of freedom.

Those wearing the uniform aren't the only ones making a sacrifice, either. Back home, there is an empty seat at the family table. There are kids missing their mom or dad, as my daughter missed me while I was deployed. Parents are missing a child, and husbands and wives are missing a spouse.

Due to COVID, many who are stationed in the United States can't even travel home to be with their families. My own daughter will not be able to travel over Thanksgiving. Restrictions have been put in place prohibiting non-essential travel to or from many military installations, including Camp Dodge in my home State of Iowa. But every day, not just Thanksgiving, can be a sacrifice when serving in the Armed Forces. Those who enlist are well aware of this. Yet it is no deterrent.

As a combat veteran with over 23 years of service between the Army Reserves and the Iowa Army National Guard, I understand what many families are going through, and I have a deep sense of gratitude for the sacrifice our men and women in uniform make for the good of their neighbors.

Just last year, I visited our Iowa troops for Thanksgiving in Afghanistan. It was good to see them, and I know how much they were missing their families. They also want to make sure that the people back home remember them—remember that they are far from home, remember that they are working hard to protect our freedoms.

Our courageous servicemembers know the real cost of freedom. They have seen and felt it firsthand. Many of them live with that price the rest of their lives. Far too many who survive combat continue fighting an internal battle when they return home.

That is why I have made it a top priority to work across the aisle to combat suicide and mental health struggles among our veterans. My most recent effort would designate a Buddy Check Week to educate veterans on how to conduct peer wellness checks. It is a really simple measure that could go a long way to support the health and safety of those who have bravely served our Nation.

During this Thanksgiving season, we also must continue to show our gratitude for those who are putting their own health and lives at risk by serving on the frontlines in our fight against COVID-19.

Throughout this pandemic, there have been over 850 Iowa National Guardsmen working to deliver personal protective equipment, food, and medical supplies all across the State of Iowa. Having served in the Iowa Army National Guard for many, many years, I could not be more proud of their tireless and selfless efforts. That is why I

have introduced legislation to provide tax-free hazardous duty pay for our National Guard men and women to recognize the work they are doing during this pandemic and provide them the pay they deserve.

I know I speak on behalf of all Iowans when I say I am truly thankful for all of those who have ever served our Nation in uniform, and also to their families. This month we honor and appreciate all the sacrifices our military families make to support loved ones who are serving our Nation in uniform.

While this Thanksgiving might look a little different, let's not forget to be grateful for the freedoms and the blessings we have in this truly great country.

May God bless all Iowans, including those serving overseas and those caring for strangers during this pandemic. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve you.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, first, let me thank Senator ERNST for organizing this opportunity to talk about our veterans, to talk about those who serve and the obligations we have to them, to talk about their challenges. Last week, certainly Veterans Day was very much on our minds, but also we ought to be sure that our veterans are on our minds all the time.

We have appropriations bills we need to pass that will make a big difference in how veterans' issues are dealt with. Obviously we need to pass the appropriations bill for the Department of Veterans Affairs, and every veteran would want us to pass the appropriations bill for the Department of Defense. But there are also provisions in other bills that help veterans get back into society more effectively when they leave the military.

The Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education bill that I talked about on the floor last week increases assistance for veterans' employment programs and veterans' training programs. It supports veterans when they move from the military workforce to the civilian workforce. It works to give homeless veterans a chance to have a home, have a job, have an opportunity—break through whatever barrier is a barrier for them. Opioid dependence—we all know those numbers are back up. Those opioid death numbers are back up. Veteran suicide—none is acceptable. Funding the veterans hotline, funding behavioral health programs, being sure that telehealth can be available to veterans who may not be able to drive all the way to a provider but would be able to quickly contact the person who helps them.

We need to understand the challenges for homeless veterans particularly and post-traumatic stress in other veterans who sometimes don't develop post-traumatic stress until decades after they serve. Often our veterans, not just

in leaving the military but in retirement from whatever they did next, don't realize until that moment how much their service has impacted the way they see things and do things and think about things and are concerned about things.

We need to be sure that veterans who have experiences and skills that they take out of the military are able to quickly connect with employers as they transition to civilian life.

Every employer—in fact, at least I have never talked to an employer who doesn't say: We really hire vets. It is a priority where we are to hire vets.

But we passed some legislation a few years ago, the HIRE Vets Act, which gave the Department of Labor the authority to recognize employers that actually do that—that hire vets, that promote vets, that retain vets. Secretary Alex Acosta was Secretary of Labor at the time, and they took a program that—everybody who advised him on this said it would take about 3 years to set this up. They set it up in about 6 months, and we began to recognize employers around the country who truly do meet the standard that all employers say they meet, and some do. Everybody wants to, but it is easier to say you do it than it is to do it.

Seven Missouri businesses just received earlier this month the 2020 HIRE Vets Medallion Program Award. They are C2C in Chesterfield; Connectria in St. Louis; Arnold Defense & Electronics in Arnold, MO; AME Construction in Cottleville; Veterans of Foreign Wars in Kansas City, an employer that at one time was the World War I Memorial—the only memorial; On Target Solutions in Belton; and Pod-Grown in Wentzville. They all received the recognition that they really do hire vets and they really do promote vets and they really do meet extraordinary standards that are part of that program. The program aims to highlight companies that do just that.

Third, we have worked to make it easier for military spouses to transfer their licenses and skills from one State to another. We included that in the Defense Authorization Act passed in July. That Defense Authorization Act hasn't passed the Congress yet. It has passed the Senate; it hasn't passed the House yet. I know we have every intention of getting that done this year. But when we do, we put provisions in there that really do allow much easier transfer from one State to another, whether you are a teacher or a nurse or a beautician or a barber or an engineer, architect—whatever you might be transferring and want to transfer as your spouse moves from one assignment to another, it shouldn't take most of the time you are there to finally get qualified to do what you were qualified to do before you got there.

Lowering these license barriers for spouses—I think we ought to also do all we can to lower those barriers for veterans themselves. If you have been a medical technician in the Air Force, it

shouldn't be very hard to become a medical technician wherever you decide to move to after the military. If you have been a truckdriver in the Army, it shouldn't be very hard to get a truckdriver's license pretty quickly once you decide this is where you want to go. If you have been an electrician in the Navy, you ought to be able to get your license to be an electrician pretty quickly when you go to where you go after you leave the military.

So these are the kinds of things we can do. Certainly, our deep appreciation for veterans, our deep appreciation for their families, our honoring the flag that they have done so much for—all of that is important. It is an integral part of what we are as a country. But there are things we also do that show veterans that what they did, what they learned counts, it matters, and we are going to recognize that as employers, as coworkers, as Members of Congress.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to complete my remarks before the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. YOUNG. Madam President, in the Marine Corps, we have a motto: Semper Fidelis. It means "always faithful"—always faithful to our Nation and to the brave patriots who have honorably served it.

Just last week, we recognized a day that is very special to me and I think to all Americans—Veterans Day. On this important occasion, we say thank you to our veterans, to those who have worn the uniform for their courage and for their commitment to protecting our freedoms and preserving our very way of life.

Their service, of course, should be an example to all of us. I try to instill this in my children. It is something I discuss at school groups oftentimes, encouraging people to think about maybe spending some time in military service or finding other ways to serve their fellow Americans.

Our veterans help keep us safe during times of great uncertainty and unease—something all of us, I think, appreciate a little bit more during this trying year.

The month of November also marks Military Family Appreciation Month. Our military families don't always get the credit they deserve, but they bear a very special and unique burden on behalf of our country that, frankly, most of us cannot fully understand. They sacrifice their peace of mind and their well-being on behalf of their neighbors, their communities, and their fellow Americans, people they have never met—What could be more beautiful than that?—because they believe in this Nation and they believe in this country and the values that undergird it.

Even though we can't begin to repay the sacrifices they make on our behalf,

we can honor them, and we can express our gratitude. So this Thanksgiving season, this time for counting our blessings and celebrating how many of them we enjoy even amidst this global pandemic, may we remember all that we are thankful for—every bit of it—and who we are thankful for, as well—yes, our family members, our neighbors, and our close friends, but I personally am thankful for our Active-Duty servicemembers. I am thankful for Indiana’s more than 400,000 veterans. I am thankful for their selfless families.

I hope all Americans will join me today, this month, this Thanksgiving, and every day thereafter and reflect on these men and women, the fellow Americans who sacrifice so much on behalf of all of us. Our country simply would not be the same without them; it arguably wouldn’t exist without the families who are prepared to sacrifice so much.

So God bless our Active-Duty servicemembers, God bless our veterans, and God bless our military families, and may God continue to bless this great country, the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture time has expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Vaden nomination?

Mr. ENZI. 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 Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted “yea,” the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) would have voted “yea,” and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted “yea.”

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 237 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Barrasso	Cassidy	Daines
Blackburn	Collins	Enzi
Blunt	Cornyn	Ernst
Boozman	Cotton	Fischer
Braun	Cramer	Graham
Burr	Crapo	Hawley
Capito	Cruz	Hoeven

Hyde-Smith
Inhofe
Johnson
Kennedy
Lankford
Lee
Loeffler
McConnell
McSally
Moran

Murkowski
Paul
Perdue
Portman
Risch
Roberts
Romney
Rounds
Rubio
Sasse

Scott (SC)
Shelby
Sullivan
Thune
Tillis
Toomey
Wicker
Young

NAYS—43

Baldwin
Bennet
Blumenthal
Booker
Brown
Cantwell
Cardin
Carper
Casey
Coons
Cortez Masto
Duckworth
Durbin
Gillibrand
Hassan

Heinrich
Hirono
Jones
Kaine
King
Klobuchar
Leahy
Manchin
Markey
Menendez
Merkley
Murphy
Murray
Peters
Reed

Rosen
Schatz
Schumer
Shaheen
Sinema
Smith
Stabenow
Tester
Udall
Van Hollen
Warner
Warren
Wyden

NOT VOTING—8

Alexander
Feinstein
Gardner

Grassley
Harris
Sanders

Scott (FL)
Whitehouse

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call with respect to the Mizelle nomination be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

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 Kathryn Kimball Mizelle, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley, Mike Crapo, Shelley Moore Capito, John Cornyn, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Steve Daines, Mike Lee, Ron Johnson, Thom Tillis, Richard Burr, Pat Roberts, Cory Gardner, Tom Cotton, John Boozman, John Hoeven, Lindsey Graham.

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 nomination of Kathryn Kimball Mizelle, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted “yea,” the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) would have voted “yea,” and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted “yea.”

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 49, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 238 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Barrasso	Fischer	Portman
Blackburn	Graham	Risch
Blunt	Hawley	Roberts
Boozman	Hoeven	Romney
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Burr	Inhofe	Rubio
Capito	Johnson	Sasse
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Collins	Lankford	Shelby
Cornyn	Lee	Sullivan
Cotton	Loeffler	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	McSally	Toomey
Cruz	Moran	Wicker
Daines	Murkowski	Young
Enzi	Paul	
Ernst	Perdue	

NAYS—43

Baldwin	Heinrich	Schatz
Bennet	Hirono	Schumer
Blumenthal	Jones	Shaheen
Booker	Kaine	Sinema
Brown	King	Smith
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Manchin	Udall
Casey	Markey	Van Hollen
Coons	Menendez	Warner
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warren
Duckworth	Murphy	Whitehouse
Durbin	Peters	Wyden
Gillibrand	Reed	
Hassan	Rosen	

NOT VOTING—8

Alexander	Grassley	Sanders
Feinstein	Harris	Scott (FL)
Gardner	Murray	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 49, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Kathryn Kimball Mizelle, of Florida, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Ms. MCSALLY. Mr. President, I rise to give my final speech on the Senate floor, with a heart of gratitude. Serving and fighting for Arizona as a U.S. Senator has been the opportunity of a lifetime.

Many times in the last 2 years, I had to pinch myself that this middle-class veteran became one of only 1,984 Americans to serve in the U.S. Senate and only 677 to serve in both Chambers of Congress since our Nation was formed.

Like most Americans, on my life's journey, I have overcome adversity which could have crushed me but, by the grace of God, gave me a purpose to fight for others. When I was just 12 years old, my dad died unexpectedly of a heart attack. I learned at that early age to treat each day of this life as a gift. I was reminded of that lesson again this year when my 58-year-old brother Martin passed away. Though it wasn't from COVID, this type of deep grief—unexpectedly losing a family member—is one too many of us have faced in 2020. We have been reminded once again that every moment, every day, every chapter of our lives is truly a gift.

As it has been for most chapters of my life, I didn't come here in a traditional or easy way.

I want to first thank Governor Doug Ducey for the blessing to serve the great State of Arizona, especially during these times of unprecedented challenges.

Accepting the Governor's appointment to be a Member of the world's most prestigious and powerful governing body was, like most missions in my life, a high-risk, high-purpose endeavor. Becoming a U.S. Senator was the ultimate expression of one of my life's principles: Do things afraid. I took on the mission with my eyes wide open. I gave it my all, and I left it all on the field in my fight for the Grand Canyon State.

When I gave my maiden speech on this floor, I shared my approach to service, which was forged through 26 years in uniform: Honor your oath. Live up to your calling. Don't walk by a problem. To paraphrase renowned fighter pilot John Boyd, choose to "do something" instead of trying to "be somebody."

As I make the trip back home from DC to Arizona for the last time and close out this 9-year chapter of my life, I do so with gratitude, with joy, with no regrets, and with the pride of having represented the most optimistic, resilient, and gritty people on the face of the Earth.

While my name is on the door of our office here, this has always been a team effort. None of what we have achieved would have been possible without an exceptionally talented, selfless, and committed staff, many of whom are here today. I am so thankful for my team of professionals in DC and Arizona, who truly embody our core values of integrity, service, excellence,

teamwork, and a "make it happen" mindset.

I especially want to thank those who have been with me for all 6 years of my time in the House and Senate: my chief of staff, Justin Roth, whom I trust completely as my closest wingman to lead our amazing team through thick and thin; my legislative director, Pace McMullan, who drives our legislative success and embodies the young, brilliant talent making a difference on the Hill; my deputy State director, C.J. Karamargin, who took a risk to join our team first in the House and built strong relationships across southern Arizona; and Rosa Ruiz, who has been a tireless case worker to help so many Arizonans left behind by Federal agencies. They welcomed our larger team in the Senate to serve the whole State.

Of that incredible group, I want to recognize my deputy chief of staff and State director, Tanya Wheelless, who brought a wealth of experience, maturity, and relationships to lead and mentor our Arizona team, and Alana Wilson, my director of scheduling—really, my director of everything—who has extraordinary capacity and maturity beyond her years, and I absolutely could not function without her on so many levels.

This institution could not operate and the people of all 50 States would not be served without the intelligent, hard-charging, often young men and women who choose to work on the Hill in staff positions. They don't do it for the pay, and they could make much more and work fewer hours in other fields, but they choose these behind-the-scenes, unglamorous jobs to be a part of keeping our constitutional Republic strong. I am so proud and thankful for Team McSally and the profound and lasting impact they have made for others.

Together as a team, we intervened on behalf of over 7,800 Arizonans who were getting the runaround from Federal bureaucracies in the last 2 years alone. We secured nearly \$7 million of benefits they deserved.

To my fellow Arizonans, it was an honor to be your voice and fighter on your behalf.

We crafted a legislative agenda that fought for freedom, opportunity, and security for Americans and Arizonans—the very principles for which I and my fellow veterans put our lives on the line. We played a key role in creating a strong economy so everyone has the opportunity to realize the American dream; rebuilding our military; standing up to China; securing our border; and transforming the judiciary back to its constitutional role for generations to come. This includes the historic opportunity to confirm a pioneering Justice, Amy Coney Barrett, to the Supreme Court.

We worked together in this Chamber to quickly deliver relief during this first-in-a-century pandemic, saving lives, jobs, and small businesses. My thanks to President Trump, Vice Presi-

dent PENCE, Majority Leader MITCH MCCONNELL, and all of my colleagues who demonstrated leadership and commitment to these important missions.

We saved the mighty A-10 Warthog from being mothballed—again. I stood in the gap to ensure due process for a brilliant senior military leader to continue to serve our Nation, and I told the whole world in a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing that, as a fighter pilot, retired colonel, and U.S. Senator, I, too, am a survivor of sexual assault. My path of healing, of finding my voice and strength to not be held down or held back, was not easy, but I can truly say, like Joseph in the Old Testament: What others intended for evil, God used for good. I am grateful to God for giving me the courage to tell my story, and I am blessed to be a Senator, not only to lead on reforms that were signed into law but also to use my platform to be an example of hope and healing for others.

During my time serving in the Air Force, I developed a commonsense approach to solving problems that I took with me when I deployed here to DC. This approach, despite the division, obstruction, and dysfunction here in Congress, drove me to tirelessly seek common ground, to find pragmatic solutions that have made a real, tangible difference in people's lives. We know where we disagree—the lines are very bright—but I am proud to say my team always looked for where the Venn diagram overlapped to solve problems and get something accomplished, and it worked. We tied for the most bills signed into law in my first year in the Senate, and I am proud to say I will leave this body ranked as the sixth most bipartisan Senator—because I joined with many in this Chamber, on both sides of the aisle, to find common ground for the common good.

As one of the few combat veterans in the Senate, I was uniquely honored to fight for our military heroes, their families, and veterans. Too often, our men and women in uniform come home with the invisible wounds of war. The legislation that my team and I crafted and successfully got across the finish line gives them the lifesaving treatment they earned and deserve, allowing them to heal and reach their full, God-given potential. Those who sacrifice life and limb for this country—who bear the scars of battle, both seen and unseen, who ran toward the sound of the guns in godforsaken lands—are the heroes we can never forget and to whom we owe a profound debt. My deepest hope is that the work we did to fight for our veterans is a cornerstone of the legacy we leave here in the Senate.

Over these last few years, I have met so many inspiring Arizonans as I have traveled through all 15 counties and engaged with people from myriad backgrounds and experiences. It was an honor of a lifetime to meet four Navajo Code Talkers when attending National Navajo Code Talkers Day on the Navajo Nation; to visit with World War II

vets like George Cross while participating in the 75th anniversary of D-Day in Normandy; to connect with and encourage Arizona sailors patrolling the Straits of Hormuz during heightened tensions with Iran; to secure, then pin an overdue Purple Heart on Iraq war veteran Michael Letcher; and to tour the border with the Ladd family and other ranchers—hard-working, patriotic people whom I never would have met had I not served in Congress.

Over the last several, challenging months, I have been so inspired and proud to witness Arizonans stepping up to help each other get through this pandemic. Our small business owners and universities found innovative ways to make PPE for our frontline healthcare heroes. We delivered meals to doctors and nurses with church congregations and packed up food boxes with the National Guard at local food banks.

Even in the midst of such unprecedented challenges, I, like many other Arizonans, took in the beauty of our great landscapes by hiking sections of the Arizona trail. On a day-long trek to the bottom of the Grand Canyon and back with a dear friend, we were joined for part of the hike by the park's new superintendent. We saw firsthand the benefits the Great American Outdoors Act would bring to this national treasure and crowning jewel of our State—legislation we championed in this very room.

I also went on ride-alongs with Border Patrol and local law enforcement to experience the challenges they face in keeping our communities safe and learn how to best support these heroes.

I will miss these life-changing opportunities, but I will always carry with me the time I had and lessons I learned from Arizona's amazing unsung heroes.

As we approach the end of a year that has tested our country, I look forward to spending time, as I do every year, in prayer, thought, and writing for the year ahead. Sometimes I feel the Lord presses a few words on my heart—words that are important to keep strong and guide my spirit for the next year. At the end of last year, three words stuck out during my time of reflection for 2020. I put these words on sticky notes on my bathroom mirror to serve as daily reminders: peace, joy, and gratitude.

In the most difficult year in modern history, I have known a peace that surpasses all understanding, a joy that can only come from a loving Creator, and a gratitude that even on the most difficult days, an almighty God put me on this Earth and in this Chamber to stand in the breach during this moment in our Nation's history.

Standing up for what is right during challenging times is the founding ethos of our great country.

Early in my time in the military, a mentor pointed me to the Book of Esther for guidance as I navigated whether to risk my career to stand up for what was right. I have carried the les-

son of Esther 4:14 as my life's scripture ever since: Can it be that you were put in this position for such a time as this?

I was honored to serve with each of you in this Chamber for such a time as this. We experience this gift of life in seasons, and while this season is one filled with tumult and challenges, I know we will get through it as Americans always do—together.

When I was appointed to the Senate, I thought of this season in my life and decided, if this is the last 2 years of my life, I want to make it count for others. Today represents a change in seasons for me. I don't yet have clarity on what my next mission will be, but I do know who is the author and finisher of my faith and that He created each of us with a purpose. We live up to that purpose when we live, as John McCain exhorted to us, for causes greater than oneself.

This mentality was encapsulated by Teddy Roosevelt in a famous speech more than 100 years ago, one I trust we all know well. I came across his "man in the arena" passage when I was just a teenage cadet in the Air Force Academy, and it spoke to my purpose-driven spirit, so I cut it out and put it on my bulletin board. The same yellowed, torn paper is on my refrigerator today, more than 30 years later.

We can truly say in this short season that we were daring in all we did to advance worthy causes, and our place shall never be with those timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat.

It has been a true honor, Arizona. We are an extraordinary State with extraordinary people. I know our future is blessed and bright just like our State motto: "God enriches." I have been enriched by the privilege to fight for you and serve you these past 6 years—2 here in the Senate.

I wish my successor, Mark Kelly, all the best as he represents our incredible State in this hallowed Chamber.

Let me close with the words of Apostle Paul, which I hope and pray will be said about my life in my final days whenever they come. He wrote: "I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith."

May God continue to bless America and Arizona. May we all finish the race and keep the faith.

I yield the floor for the final time.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BLACKBURN). The majority leader.

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motion with respect to the McNeel nomination ripen at 5:30 p.m. Monday, November 30. I further ask that at 4:30 p.m. today the postcloture time with respect to the Mizelle nomination expire and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination. Finally, if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from New Hampshire.

CORONAVIRUS

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I come to the floor today to raise the concern about the need to pass another package of assistance to address the coronavirus.

I had a chance over the weeks that we were in our home States in October and after the election to travel around New Hampshire and to talk with a number of our small businesses, representatives from nursing homes, from our hospitals, from so many of the people who are affected by what is happening with COVID-19.

And what I heard was that too many people are struggling; too many people are hurting, and they need help.

New Hampshire has a small business economy. It is an economy where over 50 percent of our workers are employed by small businesses, where about 98 percent of the businesses in New Hampshire are considered to be small businesses.

And I was very proud of being able to work with Senators CARDIN and RUBIO and COLLINS to design the Paycheck Protection Program as part of the CARES Act that has helped over 24,000 small businesses during the time after it was passed—small businesses and nonprofits.

That also was instrumental in bringing \$2.5 billion into New Hampshire and keeping 200,000 people employed.

Many of those small businesses have bounced back to where they were before COVID-19, but too many of them still need help, and they are worried about whether they are going to be able to get through the winter.

Of special concern are businesses in the hospitality industry—our hotels and restaurants. Tourism is our second largest industry in New Hampshire.

Recently, I had a conference call with a number of folks from the Hotel and Lodging Association. One of the things that they told me is that they are not sure how they are going to get through the winter.

For many of our restaurants, about a third of their business has come over the summer from outdoor eating, and that, of course, is ending in New Hampshire as the weather gets cold. How they are going to make that up is a real question.

Restaurants were the first businesses to be shut down in New Hampshire; they were the last businesses to open up; and now we have a huge industry that is not sure how it is going to get through the year.

The second highest number of workers in this country are in the restaurant industry. We have got to provide some help for them, and it needs to be significant. We also have to look at the hotels. Again, a big piece of what we have got to address.

There was a recent report from the American Hotel and Lodging Association that showed that business travel over the holidays is going to be down significantly. That is a big source of

revenue for many of those businesses, and we have got to provide some help and some additional help for those businesses as we look at trying to get a package of assistance.

Another round of the PPP program is probably important. We know we had about \$125 billion left in that program, but we need to think about how we can target it best to those industries that are most affected, also to minority businesses that may not have a relationship with a financial institution.

So as we think about what we have got to do, that is one of the big pieces.

I had a chance to visit a restaurant over in the western part of our State. It was a business that I visited 6 years ago, right after it had opened—a restaurant and pub.

When I went there, they had five employees. It is a young man and his mother who run the business. I asked him if he was able to get a PPP loan. He said, yes, but he said: My mother and I haven't taken a salary since March because it didn't seem right to lay off one of my five employees who have families just so that I could take a salary. He said: So we are doing everything we can to get by. We hope we will be able to make it, but it is not at all clear that we will be able to do that.

I looked around the restaurant, and in the middle of the restaurant was a big barrel, and it was filled with canned goods and dried goods—food. On it was a sign that said, "Take what you need," because we have so many people who are desperate—desperate for food, desperate for housing.

As I talked to the mayors in New Hampshire, particularly in our two largest cities, Manchester and Nashua, housing and homelessness is a huge issue. Homelessness has increased exponentially. In Manchester, our biggest city, we have 35 encampments of the homeless. The biggest one is on the grounds of the State superior court.

What does it say when, in the richest country in the world, we have so many people who are homeless? And the problem is getting worse. I talked to the community action agencies in New Hampshire, which are providing help for people with housing. They told me they are seeing people they have never seen before—people who need help because of COVID.

Then there are the childcare centers and camps. In New Hampshire, our camps have been a special part of our summer experience. We have people from all over the country who come to camps in New Hampshire. Only six of our overnight camps were able to operate through the summer, and they operate on a margin that says if they don't make it in the summer, they are not going to get any revenue for another year until next summer. They are worried about whether they are going to go under between now and next summer.

Our childcare centers—I heard from Jackie Cowell, who runs an organiza-

tion called Early Learning New Hampshire, which is an umbrella organization for childcare in New Hampshire. What she told me is that if they get no help, by next year 50 percent of the childcare centers in New Hampshire will be out of business.

As I talked to employers at some of those small businesses, they tell me one of the challenges they have is being able to bring workers back when they are able to operate because they don't have any childcare for their kids. And, of course, with schools going so remote, there is a real concern about parents and how they are dealing with their kids. Most parents and most schools want to bring the kids back, but in order to do that, they have to make sure that it is safe, and they need help in order to make sure it is safe. They need help with HVAC systems and with the cleaning supplies and the PPE that are necessary in order to make sure the schools are safe for the students. We have to provide help for those schools. We have to provide help for the childcare centers and help for our small businesses.

Then, of course, I met with nursing homes in New Hampshire. Long-term care facilities have had about 40 percent of the deaths as a result of COVID-19 in this country, and yet they have only gotten about 4 percent of the funding. In New Hampshire, where we have the highest percentage of deaths in our long-term care facilities of any State in the country, 82 percent of our deaths have been in nursing homes.

Right now they have a workforce shortage that averages about 25 percent. It is so bad that our Governor this week reinstated a stipend for long-term care workers. It is something that he started back in April. It ran through July. As things got better, they needed less help. But now they are back in a situation where they can't get the help they need.

I visited a nursing home in the northern part of New Hampshire, Coos County, our northern most county that borders the Canadian border. What they told me is that while they have some personal protective equipment, they don't have enough to guarantee what they need long term. So here we are, 9 months into this pandemic, and we still have nursing homes that can't get the help they need, can't get the personal protective equipment that they need. They are struggling to get by, struggling to get the workers they need.

Then there are the hospitals. In New Hampshire we have a lot of rural hospitals. One of them has gone bankrupt in the last couple of weeks because of COVID. The hospitals in our two biggest cities have had the majority of the hospitalizations that we have seen in New Hampshire. We have four hospitals, two in Manchester and two in New Hampshire, that have dealt with the most COVID patients in the State. Just when they were beginning to see their patients come back in September

and early October, we are now seeing the cases rise again, and hospitalizations are up. So they are looking at financial shortfalls at the end of this year. If we can't provide help for those hospitals, if we can't provide help for some of our rural hospitals, we are going to see more bankruptcies. That means not just an impact on the healthcare that they provide, but for many of those institutions, they are the biggest employer in their community, so more people are going to be out of work.

So we are looking at this downward spiral that is going to get ever worse if we do nothing to address the needs of our businesses, of the people who are unemployed, of hospitals, childcare centers, and our schools. It is critical that we come to some agreement. We ought to be able to reach a bipartisan agreement. It is one of the things I heard as I was campaigning around New Hampshire. People need help. They need help now. Why can't we work together to get that done?

I think we need to all double down and try to come to some sort of compromise that allows us to provide help to people who need it immediately because if we don't, it is only going to get worse. The number of coronavirus cases are only going to continue to increase, and we need to work to address that.

We need to have a transition that allows the next administration to work with the current administration to make sure that the efforts to get this new vaccine out—the two vaccines that look like they are promising—are going to be effective and we are actually going to be able to get people immunized and have the funding to do that. In order for that to happen, we have to see a change in the transition, and we have to work together to make that happen to provide the help that the States need.

So I am going to be continuing to do everything I can here in this body to see if we can't come to some agreement around a package that would provide help to those who need it, and I hope that all of my colleagues will do the same, that we will all double down on the efforts. I am not saying we should help people who don't need it. That is obvious. But we should help the people who need help because they are struggling, and it is not going to get any better unless we provide some assistance.

I hope we are going to see some action in the next couple of weeks between now and the end of the year.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to complete my remarks before the scheduled 4:30 vote if my remarks run beyond 4:30.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE "MAYFLOWER"

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, a great American anniversary is upon us:

400 years ago this Saturday, a battered old ship called the *Mayflower* arrived in the waters off Cape Cod. The passengers aboard the *Mayflower* are, in many ways, our first founders. Daniel Webster called them “Our Pilgrim Fathers” on the 200th anniversary of this occasion. Regrettably, we haven’t heard much about this anniversary of the *Mayflower*. I suppose the Pilgrims have fallen out of favor in fashionable circles these days. I therefore would like to take a few minutes to reflect on the Pilgrim story and its living legacy for our Nation.

By 1620, the Pilgrims were already practiced at living in a strange land. They had fled England for Holland 12 years earlier, seeking freedom to practice their faith. But life was hard in Holland, and the Stuart monarchy, intolerant of dissent from the Church of England, gradually extended its oppressive reach across the Channel. So the Pilgrims fled the Old World for the New.

In seeking safe harbor for their religion, the Pilgrims differed from those settlers who preceded them in the previous century, up to and including the Jamestown settlement just 13 years earlier. As John Quincy Adams put it in a speech celebrating the Pilgrims’ anniversary, those earlier settlers “were all instigated by personal interests” motivated by “avarice and ambition” and “selfish passions.” The Pilgrims, by contrast, braved the seas “under the single inspiration of conscience” and out of a “sense of religious obligation.”

Not to say all aboard the *Mayflower* felt the same. About half of the 102 passengers were known as “Strangers” to the Pilgrims. The Strangers were craftsmen, traders, indentured servants, and others added to the manifest by the ship’s financial backers for business reasons. The Strangers did not share the Pilgrims’ faith, suffice it to say. Winston Churchill, in his “History of the English-Speaking Peoples,” wryly observed that the Strangers were “no picked band of saints.”

So these were the settlers who boarded the *Mayflower*, which Dwight Eisenhower once characterized as “a ship that today no one in his senses would think of attempting to use.” One can only imagine the hardships, the dangers, the doubts that they faced while crossing the north Atlantic. The ship leaked chronically. A main beam bowed and cracked. The passage took longer than expected—more than 2 months. Food and water—or beer, often the beverage of choice—ran dangerously low.

But somehow, through the grace of God and the skill of the crew, the *Mayflower* finally sighted land. Yet the dangers only multiplied. William Bradford, a Pilgrim leader whose “Of Plymouth Plantation” is our chief source for the Pilgrim story, recorded those dangers:

They had now no friends to welcome them, nor inns to entertain or refresh their weath-

erbeaten bodies; no houses or much less town to repair to, to seek for succor. . . . And for the season it was winter, and they that know the winters of that country know them to be sharp and violent, and subject to cruel and fierce storms, dangerous to travel to known places, much more to search an unknown coast. Besides, what could they see but a hideous and desolate wilderness.

And to those physical dangers, you can add legal and political danger. While the *Mayflower* had found land, it was the wrong land. For, you see, the Pilgrims’ patent extended to Virginia, but Cape Cod was hundreds of miles to the north. According to Bradford, “some of the Strangers,” perhaps hoping to strike out on their own in search of riches, began to make “discontented and mutinous speeches.” These Strangers asserted that “when they came ashore, they would use their own liberty; for none had the power to command them” in New England.

Maybe they had a point. But Stranger and Pilgrim alike also had a problem: They couldn’t survive the “desolate wilderness” alone. Before landfall, then, they mutually worked out their differences and formed what Bradford modestly called “a combination.”

This “combination” is known to us and history, of course, as the *Mayflower Compact*. But this little Compact—fewer than 200 words—was no mere “combination.” It was America’s very first constitution; indeed, in Calvin Coolidge’s words, “the first constitution of modern times.”

Likewise, Churchill called the *Mayflower Compact* “one of the more remarkable documents in history, a spontaneous covenant for political organization.” High praise coming from him, so it is worth reflecting a little more on a few points about the Compact.

First, while the Pilgrims affirmed their allegiance to England and the monarchy, they left little doubt about their priorities. The Compact begins with their traditional religious invocation: “In the name of God, Amen.” They expressed as the ends of their arduous voyage, in order, “the Glory of God,” the “advancement of the Christian faith,” and only then the “honor of our King and Country.” And much like the Founding Fathers’ famous pledge to each other before “divine Providence” 156 years later, the Pilgrims covenanted with each other “solemnly and mutually in the presence of God.”

Second, they respected each other as free and equal citizens. Whether Pilgrim or Stranger, the signatories covenanted together to form a government, irrespective of faith or station.

Third and related, that government would be self-government based on the consent of the governed. The Pilgrims did not appoint a patriarch; they formed a “civil body politic” based on “just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices.” And immediately after signing the Compact, they conducted a democratic election to choose their first Governor.

Fourth, again prefiguring the Declaration, the Pilgrims did not surrender all rights to that government. They promised “all due submission and obedience” to the new government—not “total” or “unquestioning” or “permanent” submission and obedience. That obedience would presumably be “due” as long as the laws remained “just and equal,” and the officers appointed performed their duties in a “just and equal” manner.

Finally, even in that moment of great privation and peril, the Pilgrims turned their eyes upward to the higher, nobler ends of political society. They listed their “preservation” as an objective of the new government, but even before that came “our better ordering.” The Pilgrims understood that liberty, prosperity, faith, and flourishing are only possible with order, and that while safety may be the first responsibility of government, it is not the highest or ultimate purpose of government. This new government would do more than merely protect the settlers or resolve their disputes; it would aim for “the general good of the Colony.”

There, aboard that rickety old ship, tossed about in the cold New England waters, the Pilgrims foreshadowed in fewer than 200 words so many cherished concepts of our Nation: faith in God and his providential protection; the natural equality of mankind; from many, one; government by consent; the rule of law; equality before the law; and the impartial administration of the law.

Little wonder, therefore, that Adams referred to the *Mayflower Compact* and the Pilgrims’ arrival as the “birth-day of your nation” or that Webster, despite all the settlements preceding Plymouth, said that “the first scene of our history was laid” there.

But that history was only just beginning. The Pilgrims still had to conquer the “desolate wilderness” and establish their settlement. Considering the challenges, it is a wonder that they did. As Coolidge observed, though, the Compact “was not the most wonderful thing about the *Mayflower*. The most wonderful of all was that those who drew it up had the power, the determination, and the strength of character to live up to it from that day.”

They would need all that and more to survive what has been called “the starving time.” Upon landfall, the Pilgrims “fell upon their knees and blessed the God of Heaven who had brought them over the vast and furious ocean.” But it would be a “sad and lamentable” winter of disease, starvation, and death, as half the settlers died and seldom more than half a dozen had the strength to care for the ill, provide food and shelter, and protect the camp.

As anyone who has endured a New England winter knows, at that rate, there might not have been any camp left to protect by spring. But what can only be seen as a providential moment came in March, when a lone Indian

walked boldly into their camp and greeted them in English. His name was Samoset. He had learned some broken English by working with English fishermen in the waters off what is now Maine. Samoset and the Pilgrims exchanged gifts, and he promised to return with another Indian, Squanto, who spoke fluent English.

Squanto's Tribe had been wiped out a few years earlier by an epidemic plague. He now lived among the Wampanoag Tribe in what is today Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The plague had also weakened the Wampanoags, though not neighboring rival Tribes. The Wampanoag chief, Massasoit, thus had good reason to form an alliance with the Pilgrims. Squanto introduced him to the settlers and facilitated their peace and mutual aid treaty, which lasted more than 50 years.

Squanto remained with the Pilgrims, acting, in Bradford's words, as "their interpreter" and "a special instrument sent of God for their good beyond their expectations." He instructed them on the cultivation of native crops like corn, squash, and beans. He showed them where to fish and to hunt. He guided them on land and sea to new destinations.

And you probably remember what happened next. As the Pilgrims recovered and prospered throughout 1621, they received the blessings of a bountiful fall harvest. The Pilgrims entertained Massasoit and the Wampanoags and feasted with them to express their gratitude to their allies and to give thanks to God for His abundant gifts. This meal, of course, was the First Thanksgiving.

Now, the Thanksgiving season is upon us, and, once again, we have much to give thanks for. But this year we ought to be especially thankful for our ancestors, the Pilgrims, on their 400th anniversary. Their faith, their bravery, their wisdom places them in the American pantheon. Alongside the Patriots of 1776, the Pilgrims of 1620 deserve the honor of American Founders.

Sadly, however, there appear to be few commemorations, parades, or festivals to celebrate the Pilgrims this year, perhaps in part because revisionist charlatans of the radical left have lately claimed the previous year as America's true founding. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Pilgrims and their Compact, like the Founders and their Declaration, form the true foundation of America.

So count me in Coolidge's camp. On this anniversary a century ago, he proclaimed that "it is our duty and the duty of every true American to reassemble in spirit in the cabin of the *Mayflower*, rededicate ourselves to the Pilgrims' great work by re-signing and reaffirming the document that has made mankind of all the earth more glorious."

Some—too many—may have lost the civilizational self-confidence needed to celebrate the Pilgrims. Just today, for

instance, the New York Times called this story a "myth" and a "caricature" in the food section, no less. Maybe the politically correct editors of the debunked 1619 Project are now responsible for pumpkin pie recipes at the Times as well.

But I, for one, still have the pride and confidence of our forebears. So here, today, I speak in the spirit of that cabin, and I reaffirm that old Compact. As we head into the week of Thanksgiving, I will be giving thanks this year in particular to "our Pilgrim Fathers" and the timeless lessons they bequeathed to our great Nation. For as Coolidge observed, "Plymouth Rock does not mark a beginning or an end. It marks a revelation of that which is without beginning and without end."

May God continue to bless this land and may He bless the memory of the Pilgrims of 1620. I extend my best wishes to you and to your family for a Thanksgiving as happy and peaceful as the First Thanksgiving.

I yield the floor.

VOICE ON MIZELLE NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Mizelle nomination?

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea," the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) would have voted "yea," and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) would have voted "yea."

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAMER). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 239 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Barrasso	Braun	Collins
Blackburn	Burr	Cornyn
Blunt	Capito	Cotton
Boozman	Cassidy	Cramer

Crapo	Lankford	Rounds
D Cruz	Lee	Rubio
Daines	Loeffler	Sasse
Enzi	McConnell	Scott (SC)
Ernst	McCally	Shelby
Fischer	Moran	Sullivan
Graham	Murkowski	Thune
Hawley	Paul	Tillis
Hoeven	Perdue	Toomey
Hyde-Smith	Portman	Wicker
Inhofe	Risch	Young
Johnson	Roberts	
Kennedy	Romney	

NAYS—41

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Bennet	Heinrich	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Schatz
Booker	Jones	Schumer
Brown	Kaine	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Sinema
Cardin	Klobuchar	Smith
Carper	Leahy	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Warner
Duckworth	Merkley	Warren
Durbin	Murphy	Wyden
Gillibrand	Peters	

NOT VOTING—10

Alexander	Harris	Udall
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Gardner	Sanders	
Grassley	Scott (FL)	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The Senator from Maryland.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CARDIN. 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.

MAGNITSKY ACT

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, earlier today, Senator WICKER and I participated in a call with our colleagues from Europe in regard to their efforts to pass a Global Magnitsky statute. I mention that because this month represents the 11th year anniversary of the tragic death of Sergei Magnitsky.

Sergei Magnitsky was a lawyer in Russia, representing a client when he discovered the largest tax fraud in modern Russian history—\$230 million. Many of the individuals who were involved in this corruption had ties with Russia's President, Vladimir Putin.

Mr. Magnitsky did what any lawyer is required to do, he reported the fraud that he discovered to the local authorities and asked for them to investigate the issue. Instead, Sergei Magnitsky was arrested. He was imprisoned without parole; he was beaten; he was tortured; and he died in jail without medical help in November of 2009.

There was no accountability for the perpetrators of this atrocity. In fact,

many of the perpetrators actually were promoted. We did something about it. As members of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, we recognized, in 1975, the countries that comprise the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including Russia, committed to basic human rights for their people, that their government would be honest, and that they would protect the rights of their citizens. The Helsinki Final Act gave every member state the right to question what other States were doing in compliance with the Helsinki Final Act ideals.

It is legitimate for us to question what Russia is doing in carrying out its commitment, so we did something about it. I introduced legislation known as the Magnitsky Act. I want you to know this was a bipartisan effort. My partner in the passage of the Magnitsky Act was the late Senator John McCain. My partner in passing the Global Magnitsky Act and the Magnitsky Act is my good friend ROGER WICKER, who is the chair of the Senate U.S. Helsinki Commission. We worked together to make sure that we passed these Magnitsky Acts.

What does it do? What it does is the country does not hold accountable those who violate basic global human rights of its citizens; we impose sanctions. Those sanctions prevent that individual who perpetrated these acts from visiting the United States through the issuance of a visa or participating in our banking system.

Why do we do this? Today, we heard from Mr. Kara-Murza, who is one of the activists on human rights in Russia who has been poisoned twice by the Russian Government. What he said about the mantra of the Kremlin is: They steal at home and spend abroad. They don't want their money in rubles; they want their money in dollars. So if we can prevent them from using our banking system, we can really make it hurt.

Let me tell you how important this is. It is not limited to Russia. We passed the Global Magnitsky law so it applies to all of the countries where they have violations of human rights.

If you want to know how important this statute is, it has been reported that when Mr. Putin and Mr. Trump met in their first summit, the first order of business that Mr. Putin raised with President Trump was: Can't we get rid of these Magnitsky sanctions? Believe me, they work. They deter bad actors around the world. It is a legislative initiative.

We talked today about the fact that there is one common ingredient in every country that has considered the Global Magnitsky laws; that is, the initiative that comes from the legislators. There is a natural reluctance among the bureaucrats not to burden themselves with additional problems in their bilateral relations with other countries, but we recognize that it is important for America, the leader of the democratic world, to speak up for

democratic principles. We passed the legislation. We didn't have the enthusiastic support of the administration, but we did it. We did it. And we wanted it to be a global standard that was clear to human rights violators, but we needed other countries to act.

I am pleased that other countries have followed the U.S. leadership. The UK, Canada, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania all have enacted similar Global Magnitsky bills. Currently, Japan and Australia are considering similar bills and legislation.

Today, we had a very positive conversation with the European Union, and they are considering the passage of a Global Magnitsky bill. This would add 27 countries to be covered under the Sergei Magnitsky law.

This is one of the, I think, leading moments for the U.S. Senate and Congress, where we showed leadership on behalf of speaking out for those otherwise who would not be heard. As a result of our action, I am convinced we saved many lives, and we made it clear that in our foreign policy, we will embed that in the principles that have made this Nation the great democratic Nation it is, the respect for universal human rights.

With that, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO ASYA BRANCH

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure to rise this afternoon, as I do, to commend an outstanding young American. In this case, a young Mississippian; namely, Miss Asya Branch, from Booneville, MS, who was recently crowned as Miss USA 2020.

For those of you from Michigan, take some pride. She was born in Michigan but moved to Mississippi at an early age and spent her childhood in Booneville, as I said. She graduated this year from my alma mater, the University of Mississippi, having studied broadcast journalism.

Miss Asya Branch has experienced dizzying success during the past 2 years. In 2018, Asya Branch won the title of Miss Mississippi under the Miss America Organization. The following year, she became the first African-American woman to win the other State title, Miss Mississippi USA. She is only the seventh person in history to hold both State titles: Miss Mississippi and Miss Mississippi USA. And now she is the first-ever Miss Mississippi USA to win the Miss USA crown.

Asya Branch has been competing in pageants since 2016, when she won her first preliminary title in the Miss Mis-

issippi competition. She went on to win Ole Miss's Parade of Beauties competition and numerous local titles. She has gained wide recognition because she is beautiful, well-spoken, and she is a gifted vocalist. But, also, there is a serious part of her platform and serious personal story of Asya's in overcoming adversity, and I admire that so much in Asya Branch. She speaks openly about her father's 10 years in the State prison, resulting in his absence for much of her upbringing. That difficult period shaped who Asya Branch is and gave her strength and a unique perspective on incarceration.

During the Mississippi pageant, Asya's platform was empowering children of incarcerated parents. Can you imagine the courage of a young woman taking that on as her platform? It enabled her to reach out to other children, encourage them that their lives do not have to be defined by their circumstances.

During her year as Miss Mississippi, she was part of a White House roundtable, where she discussed criminal justice and prison reform, much as we did here on the floor of the U.S. Senate. And the First Step Act—she discussed this act with President Trump and Vice President PENCE, Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant, and lawmakers, including Senator HYDE-SMITH and me.

She also started the Love Letters Program in which she donated stationery and stamps to inmates, allowing them to write to their loved ones. In her new role as Miss USA, she plans to expand Love Letters to a national level and continue advocating for criminal justice and prison reform.

You can see why I am so proud of Asya Branch and so impressed with her accomplishments. She has the honor of holding two State titles and now a national title. This speaks to her unique gifts, accomplishments, courage, and passion for bringing about constructive change to the world.

I commend Asya for her example of perseverance. She has made Mississippi proud, and I think she is going to make the United States proud as she moves forward next year to the Miss Universe pageant, where I am sure she will do well. I encourage all Americans to root for her next year, as we will certainly be doing at my house.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, here it is November 18. It seems like the election was a few years ago. Time is flying

by, but there is still a lot of work to be done here in the 116th Congress.

I hope that our friends across the aisle will reconsider their objections to working with us on another COVID-19 relief bill. I know back home in Texas, many small businesses that received PPE loans are uncertain, for example, what the tax consequences are going to be associated with that. Many of them, for whom that was a lifeline, are running out of that lifeline due to the passage of time.

We also know we need to pass an appropriations bill before the December 11 deadline to both avoid a government shutdown and give our government agencies the ability to plan and operate with certainty.

Of course, perhaps most significantly, we need to pass a final version of the National Defense Authorization Act. The foremost obligation of the Federal Government is the peace and security for the American people. We do that by passing the defense authorization act and funding our military each year on an annual basis. This bill determines how we maintain our military bases, modernize our aircraft, and invest in the next generation of aircraft and weaponry.

Of course, we know that our adversaries—most notably, countries like China and Russia—are moving very quickly to modernize their military and their weaponry in a way that could jeopardize the balance or the deterrence of our current systems. It is very, very important.

This is also how we supply our servicemembers and their families with the money they need to provide for their families. It is how we take stock of the evolving threat landscape—things like hypersonic glide vehicles—and ensure our country is taking active steps to counter threats on the horizon.

The most important thing, I think, Ronald Reagan taught us or reminded us of is “peace through strength,” that weakness is actually a provocation to the bullies, tyrants, and dictators who will take advantage of any opportunity. It causes instability and perhaps even miscalculation and people taking risks that, ultimately, will lead to armed conflict. The best thing we can do to maintain the peace is make sure the United States of America remains the preeminent military force on the planet.

Of course, it is no secret that, in recent years, China has emerged as one of the greatest threats to world order. It is increasingly belligerent and well resourced and continues to demonstrate a lack of respect for basic human rights and dignities.

The challenge of China is they don't play by the rules. I know back when China became part of the World Trade Organization, there was a hope expressed that maybe by becoming part of the World Trade Organization, they could join the other rules-based economies and countries, but they have not. They continue to steal intellectual

property, and they continue to want to dominate the United States, both economically and militarily, in the long run.

The Chinese Communist Party has made no secret of its desire to flex its economic and political power throughout the world as evidenced by their Made in China 2025 Initiative. It seeks to advance Chinese dominance in high-tech manufacturing for everything from electric cars to advanced robotics to artificial intelligence to seemingly innocuous devices like jetways at airports.

One major component of this plan is semiconductor manufacturing, and China is making serious headway. Since 2000, China has gone from manufacturing zero chips to 16 percent of the global supply, and it plans to invest another \$1.4 trillion in the semiconductor technology.

Why is this important? Well, because these microcircuits that have gotten smaller and smaller and smaller and make up the working components in everything from iPhones to our weapons systems—these have become harder and harder to manufacture.

In fact, one of the things this COVID virus has taught is the vulnerability of our supply chains. Right now, one of the sole sources of the most sophisticated semiconductor that goes into everything from our iPhones to our national defense systems is manufactured overseas, primarily in Taiwan.

While China has upped its production of semiconductors dramatically and its investment, the U.S. has dropped to producing roughly a quarter of the world's semiconductors to only 12 percent. That is a big problem.

First is the obvious economic implications. Giving up a significant global share of manufacturing means missing out on thousands—indeed tens of thousands—of high-paying jobs that could be stationed right here at home.

It also ignores the benefits of a strong U.S. manufacturing supply chain to support products made by the United States and our trading partners. Our growing dependence on others, including China, for semiconductors also poses a serious national security risk.

As I said, these chips are everywhere. They are also critical components to our infrastructure, things like cell towers, hospital equipment, missile defense systems. Our most critical technologies rely on a product we are looking for a country overseas to supply, whether it is Taiwan or China or some other country.

Earlier this year, we, of course, experienced how dangerous that is. It is as simple as things like personal protective equipment. China has long been a major supplier of masks, gloves, and gowns, and other PPE used by our healthcare workers. That didn't seem to be a problem because they could always make it cheaper, but when the virus hit, we found out it was a serious problem.

By the time the virus began spreading to the U.S., China had been battling it for a number of weeks, maybe even months. So when it came time for American hospitals, clinics, and healthcare providers to beef up their supply of personal protective equipment, the supplies were already depleted or we were dependent on China to produce them.

Healthcare workers did what they could by reusing masks throughout an entire shift in order to conserve supplies. Hospitals were pleading with the general public to donate any unused personal protective equipment so their workforce could remain safe. We didn't reach that point because of lack of preparation, but because of our reliance on other countries, namely China, to produce that medical gear.

This has been a wake-up call, I think, for me and, I think, certainly many others about our supply chain vulnerabilities. It is a clear signal that we need to take action to secure other critical supply chains.

When it comes to semiconductor manufacturing, that is easier said than done. Building a new semiconductor foundry is a very, very expensive undertaking. It simply will not happen without a robust private-public partnership. We know our adversaries are making a big down payment on their own semiconductor manufacturing.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development estimates that 21 major semiconductor firms across a number of countries received more than \$50 billion in government support between 2014 and 2018. This is not exactly a market that is going to depend purely on the private sector. It is going to require the Federal Government to step up if we are going to bring that manufacturing onshore and if we are going to reduce our vulnerabilities, both from an economic and national security perspective.

Some of the countries investing, though, in manufacturing these technologies are South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Ireland, Germany, and—yes, you guessed it—China. We have lost ground to our global competitors, and unless we take action, it is estimated that, by 2030, 83 percent of global semiconductor manufacturing will be in Asia—83 percent. We simply can't allow that to happen. The U.S. needs to make a strategic investment in semiconductor manufacturing to regain lost ground, and this year's National Defense Authorization Act includes the critical first step.

I introduced a bill, along with our colleague, our friend from Virginia, Senator WARNER, called the CHIPS for America Act, and a version of this bill was adopted as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act. It had bipartisan support—a vote of 96 to 4. It will help restore American leadership in semiconductor manufacturing by creating a Federal incentive program through the Department of Commerce in order to encourage chip manufacturing here in the United States.

In short, this will help stimulate domestic advanced semiconductor manufacturing and boost both our national security and global competitiveness. It will enable us to bring the manufacturing of these critical devices back home and strengthen the supply chains for our military systems, our critical infrastructure, telecommunications, healthcare, agriculture, manufacturing, and virtually every other industry you could name.

Senator WARNER and I have worked closely with Senator COTTON, of Arkansas, and with Senator SCHUMER, of New York, in drafting this bipartisan amendment. I am glad our colleagues in the House have approved a similar amendment to their legislation, and I am eager to see the final version in the conference report. When the NDAA makes its way to the President's desk, it will mark the 60th consecutive year in which Congress has passed such bipartisan legislation to fund, supply, and equip our Nation's military.

I appreciate the strong bipartisan support of Chairman INHOFE, of the Committee on Armed Services, and Ranking Member REED, and I am eager for this legislation to come to the floor for a final vote, but the next step is to secure funding for the programs to incentivize domestic semiconductor manufacturing. We have been working with the administration, particularly with Secretary Mnuchin, Secretary Ross, and Secretary Pompeo, who have identified this as a major vulnerability and have worked with us to try to close that gap. I have enjoyed working with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure that we provide full funding for this legislation, but we are not there yet.

This is the key to our long-term national security and economic competitiveness, and it is my top priority in the coming weeks as the Senate prepares to consider appropriations bills. A secure semiconductor supply chain will strengthen our national security, and our economy will reap countless benefits by bringing these manufacturing jobs back to the United States.

As we work to counter increasingly sophisticated adversaries around the world, passing the National Defense Authorization Act and funding these new programs could not be more important.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 864.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of J. Philip Calabrese, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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 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 J. Philip Calabrese, of Ohio, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

Mitch McConnell, James E. Risch, Joni Ernst, Marsha Blackburn, Mike Crapo, James Lankford, Thom Tillis, Roy Blunt, Roger F. Wicker, Pat Roberts, Mike Rounds, John Cornyn, John Hoeven, Jerry Moran, Lamar Alexander, Mike Braun, David Perdue.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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. 835.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Kyle Hauptman, of Maine, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board for a term expiring August 2, 2025.

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 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 Kyle Hauptman, of Maine, to be a Member of the National Credit Union Administration Board for a term expiring August 2, 2025.

Mitch McConnell, Shelley Moore Capito, Roger F. Wicker, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Joni Ernst, Roy Blunt, Mike Rounds, Mike Crapo, James Lankford, John Hoeven, Thom Tillis, John Cornyn, Michael B. Enzi, Todd Young, Lindsey Graham, Tim Scott, James E. Risch.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 650.

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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Kathryn C. Davis, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

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 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 Kathryn C. Davis, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Mitch McConnell, Roy Blunt, Mike Rounds, Todd Young, Pat Roberts, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Thune, Kevin Cramer, Thom Tillis, Michael B. Enzi, James Lankford, John Barrasso, Joni Ernst, Lamar Alexander, Rob Portman, Tim Scott, Steve Daines.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations, Executive Calendar Nos. 856 and 369.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that if confirmed, the motions to reconsider be

considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Robert E. Primus, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for a term expiring December 31, 2022, and Michelle A. Schultz, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board for the term of five years (New Position), en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed, en bloc.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of Executive Calendar No. 908 and all nominations on the Secretary's Desk in the Coast Guard; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE COAST GUARD

The following named officers for appointment in the United States Coast Guard to the grade indicated under title 14 U.S.C., section 2121(d):

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Brendan C. McPherson
Rear Adm. (lh) Douglas M. Schofield
Rear Adm. (lh) Andrew M. Sugimoto
Rear Adm. (lh) Richard V. Timme
Rear Adm. (lh) Todd C. Wiemers

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE COAST GUARD

*PN2233 COAST GUARD nominations (89) beginning STEVEN C. ACOSTA, and ending JESSICA S. WORST, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 10, 2020.

*PN2272 COAST GUARD nominations (2) beginning CORINNA M. FLEISCHMANN, and ending KIMBERLY C. YOUNG-MCLEAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 30, 2020.

*PN2292 COAST GUARD nominations (204) beginning MICHAEL S. ADAMS, Jr., and ending ANDREW H. ZUCKERMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 20, 2020.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Foreign Relations Committee be discharged and the Senate proceed to the consideration of PN2074, PN2174, PN2075, and PN1704-2 en bloc; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; 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; and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

PN2074

The following named Career Member of the Foreign Service of the United States Agency for Global Media, Broadcasting Board of Governors, for promotion into the Senior Foreign Service to the class indicated:

Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, and a Consular Officer and a Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:
Gunter E. Schwabe, of North Carolina.

PN2174

The following-named Members of the Foreign Service of the Department of State to be a Foreign Service Officer, a Consular Officer, and a Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:
Bergen Nichole Bassett, of Virginia;
Dillon M. Clancy, of Florida;
David J. McCrane, of Florida.

The following-named Career Members of the Foreign Service for promotion into the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor:
Matthew Victor Cassetta, of Virginia;
David C. McFarland, of the District of Columbia;
James Patrick Merz, of Virginia;
Timothy L. Smith, of Texas.

The following-named Career Member of the Foreign Service for promotion into the Senior Foreign Service, as a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, and a Consular Officer and a Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:
Mark A. Sullo, of Virginia.

PN2075

The following-named Members of the Foreign Service of the Departments of Commerce to be a Consular Officer and a Secretary in the Diplomatic Service of the United States of America:

Scott L. Anderson, of Texas;
Careylou S. Arun, of Maryland;
Randall E. Bussman, of Virginia;
John W. Cabeca, of California;
Ann E. Chaitovitz, of New York;
Santiago Davila, of California;
Jeffrey D. Dutton, of the District of Columbia;

Bruce J. Ellsworth, of Virginia;
Robert D. Gaines, of Arizona;
Robyn E. Garfield, of Maryland;
Bryan J. Goldfinger, of California;
John G. Haberstock, of New Jersey;
Frederick J. Helfrich, of Pennsylvania;
Cynthia C. Henderson, of Virginia;
Melissa A. Hill, of California;
Michael Imbrogna, of Massachusetts;
Christine M. Kelley, of Virginia;
Antonios Louloudakis, of Virginia;
Michael A. Marangell, of California;
Dorian S. Mazurkevich, of Pennsylvania;
Heather S. McLeod, of the District of Columbia;

Kolbjorn T. Nelson, of Minnesota;
Seth Oppenheim, of the District of Columbia;
Richard A. Pearson, of Massachusetts;
Craig R. Phildius, of Florida;
Daniel T. Pint, of New York;
Irwin H. Roberts, of North Carolina;
Adam S. Roth, of New Jersey;
Jennifer A. Shore, of Florida;

William J. Toerpe, of Alabama;
Christopher W. Wilken, of West Virginia;
Duncan F. Willson, of the District of Columbia;
Susan F. Wilson, of Pennsylvania;
Christopher JB. Wong, of the District of Columbia;
Conrad WP. Wong, of Virginia.

PN1704-2

Ordered, That the following nomination be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

The following-named Career Members of the Senior Foreign Service of the Department of State for promotion within the Senior Foreign Service of the United States of America, Class of Minister-Counselor:
Aziz Y. Younes, of Texas.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following nominations: Executive Calendar Nos. 801, 877, 879, 880, 882, and 884.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the nominations en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc with no intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Lisa S. Kenna, of Vermont, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Peru; Thomas Laszlo Vajda, of Arizona, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Union of Burma; Melanie Harris Higgins, of Georgia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Burundi; Jeanne Marie Maloney, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Eswatini; James Broward Story, of South Carolina, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela; and Michael A. McCarthy, of Virginia, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of

America to the Republic of Liberia, en bloc?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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.

TRIBUTE TO MIRA BALL

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, for six decades, my dear friend Mira Ball has been helping Kentucky families realize one of the cornerstones of the American dream: owning their own home. Earlier this year, Mira was honored for a lifetime of achievement in our Commonwealth with Leadership Kentucky's Flame of Excellence Award. Today, I would like to congratulate Mira for this latest recognition of her contributions to our home State.

With her late husband, Don, Mira built Ball Homes into a respected business helping improve the lives of Kentuckians for generations. Don led the sales, and Mira kept the books. Together, they made a premier team helping make home ownership a reality for families across the region. The organization was made better still as their children, Ray, Mike, and Lisa, took their own leadership roles. Today, the company builds over 1,000 high-quality homes each year.

Mira's contributions to Kentucky extend far beyond her entrepreneurial achievement. She is a trailblazing leader and philanthropist with special emphases on the health and education of our next generation. Saying she would only get involved in organizations where she could really make a difference, this former schoolteacher has helped steer the future of some of Kentucky's prominent institutions. In fact, Mira was the first woman to chair the boards of trustees for the University of Kentucky, Midway College, and the Lexington Chamber of Commerce.

In 2018, Mira made the single largest scholarship gift in UK's history of \$10 million to help Kentucky students access higher education and the opportunity for a better future. The scholarships focus on students from Nelson and Henderson Counties, Mira and Don's native homes, respectively. The gift is only one snapshot of years of philanthropy that will benefit the school and all who rely on it.

Across our Commonwealth, families and communities can see the results of Mira's work. Families living in homes built by the Ball have adapted this year, turning kitchen tables into of-

fices and classrooms. Students supported by Mira's philanthropy were given an extra leg up. Anyone who turns on Kentucky Educational Television, KET, or receives help from the United Way has benefited from her vision and immense generosity.

So, it is my privilege to join the chorus praising Mira's leadership in Kentucky. She has not only paved a remarkable path, but she is also helping new leaders find their own. On behalf of my Senate colleagues, I would like to congratulate Mira Ball for this award and wish her years of continued success in Kentucky.

The Kentucky Builders Journal recently published a profile on Mira Ball's career. I ask unanimous consent the article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Kentucky Builders Journal, Summer 2020]

MIRA BALL HONORED FOR HER LIFE'S WORK

Earlier this year, the statewide leadership development program Leadership Kentucky awarded its annual Flame of Excellence Award to Lexington businesswoman Mira Ball. The award is given to an outstanding Kentuckian who "bravely goes before and lights the way for others." Ball has certainly led a life that fits that description. As a member of the home building community, she is a role model to future generations in areas of leadership, business management and community involvement and service.

While the Ball name is well known in the Lexington area, Ball and her late husband, Don, have both had impact across the state. The couple incorporated Ball Homes in 1959 and immediately focused on the first-time home buyer market with their first model home in the Cardinal Valley neighborhood off Versailles Road. Their goal was to build homes in a price range that Lexington city police and firefighters could afford. At the time, police and firefighters were required to live within city limits.

More than 60 years later, the company remains family owned and still prides itself on making home ownership a reality for those who never thought it possible.

"If you've got a heart for people, you want them to be able to have an affordable home that they can live in and enjoy," said Mira Ball. "You see what's happening with zoning and the availability of land, and you get very concerned about the fact that the people who are the ordinary workers can't afford to live there."

Ball Homes has built more homes all over Lexington as well as in the Louisville and Knoxville markets. Don was passionate about affordable housing throughout his career, and the Balls' daughter Lisa Ball Sharp shares her father's interest and has served on Lexington's Affordable Housing Task Force.

Ball is still involved in the business although the Balls' three children, Ray, Mike and Lisa, have been leading the company since the 1980s. Ray took over acquisition and development, Mike oversees construction management, and Lisa is in charge of property management and sale. Ball said that even as her husband let go of the day-to-day decision-making long ago, she stayed active in the business long after because "nobody wanted to do what I did." What Ball did was make sure the bottom line always added up.

ACCOUNTING FOR SUCCESS

Ball first took an interest in accounting and business while attending the University

of Kentucky, where she met her future husband and worked in the Placement Service office. Although she graduated with a teaching certificate and taught junior high school students for one year, Ball left teaching to stay home when her children were born. As the family and the building business grew, she became the bookkeeper and behind-the-scenes partner while her husband became the business's public face.

"Don was a good salesperson," said Ball. "He had the ideas. And I was the one who kept things straight."

She said that while it's important to be ready for new opportunities and challenges, good timing had a lot to do with their success. Ball Homes has also benefited from new ideas as her children began to lead. They expanded into new markets, developed new neighborhoods and formed a property management business within the company.

"There's a lot of interaction between Ray, Mike and Lisa. But they work well together," said Ball. "The building business is something that you can be very proud of; you're furnishing homes for people."

When asked how she had managed to raise children who wanted to follow into the family business and shared their parents' commitment to the community, Ball mentioned the example set by her and Don's parents.

"Our parents were really good examples for my children. Hard work was expected and something you should enjoy and helping other people was important. Some of that empathy came naturally to Don," said Ball. "I think you have to be sincere and live your life like you should and be a good example, but I also thank the Lord every day for my parents and what they gave me. It wasn't wealth but they had good values and that's what was more important."

"I'm sure too that having us both work in the business and talking about things in front of [our children] made them familiar with what went on in the building business, both the ups and downs. There have been times when we thought we'd never sell another house with interest rates at 18% and 19%. They were aware of that growing up and understood it. Don always understood the impact of high interest rates on affordability, and Ray really gets that too."

FOCUSED ON EDUCATION

Her husband is remembered for his efforts to aid the homeless and addicted across the state through his roles as state representative and service on the Kentucky Housing Corporation. Ball's own civic contributions have focused on health and education. She has served with a wide variety of organizations including the PTA, the American Cancer Society, the United Way, Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, the St. Joseph Hospital Foundation, the Kentucky Historical Society, the Governor's Mansion Preservation Foundation, and the Kentucky Horse Park. In 1991, she became the first woman to serve as chairman of the Lexington Chamber of Commerce. She was also the first woman elected to the Kentucky Utilities board of directors, the first woman chairman of the Midway College board of trustees, and the first woman to serve as chair of the University of Kentucky board of trustees. She was appointed to the State Economic Development Task Force and the Governor's Commission on Tax Policy. She continues to serve on the Endowment Board of Kentucky Educational Television.

"I think I came along at a time when a lot of organizations thought it's time for a woman. I wasn't going to get involved with any organization if I wasn't going to actually work on it," said Ball. "There are so many things in this world that you feel like you can't make a difference. But education

is the No. 1 thing that will change Kentuckians for the better. It's where you can really do more to help."

One of the problems Ball has tried to address has been lowering the attrition rate of returning students who can't keep up with tuition costs. In 2018, she gave the University of Kentucky \$10 million to establish a scholarship fund that will focus on students from Nelson County, where she grew up and Henderson County, where Don was raised. It will fund dozens of undergraduate and graduate scholarships in the two counties and surrounding areas, focused specifically on addressing unmet financial need.

IMPACT ON HBA MEMBERSHIP

While her efforts have been highly publicized in the world of higher learning, Ball recognizes the benefits of work experience and involvement in organizations to promote lifelong learning.

"My work experience at UK was as valuable as any classroom experiences I had," said Ball. "I think experience is a big educator, and sometimes you have to make your own. I enjoy learning about new things all the time. That's the reason I like KET so much."

The Balls were active members of the home builders association and were jointly named Builders of the Year by the Lexington HBA in 1992. Attending meetings like the International Builders Show was a source of ongoing learning for her.

"I used to go to those meetings, and there wasn't a time that I didn't come back with something valuable. I went to all the financial seminars, and I can still remember some of the speakers and what they said," she laughed.

Ball points to her upbringing and her Christian faith for prompting her to serve her community through the years. She talked about a young minister who influenced her to see all people as deserving of love and respect. As she describes how she felt when she visited the Hope Center and other drug and alcohol addiction recovery programs, Ball's compassion for those who struggle in her community is evident.

"You never visit those places without thinking how blessed you are," she said. "If you just go in and really talk to people, you get the idea that you've just got to help."

GEORGETOWN LAW'S "LAWYERS AS LEADERS" COURSE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, there is no question that 2020 has been a year of challenges, difficulty, and concern. It is in these more challenging times that it is especially important to shine a light on those individuals and institutions that are doing good work, work that inspires the next generation of leaders to think bigger and create a brighter future. It is no surprise that Georgetown Law, where I earned my law degree, is doing precisely that, living up to its timeless motto: "Law is but the means, justice is the end."

This fall, Georgetown Law has offered a unique course entitled "Lawyers as Leaders" for the first time. Far from a staid black letter law class, this course is styled as a series of candid, introspective conversations between Georgetown Law Dean William M. Treanor and faculty members who have been prominent leaders in the law and public service. These conversations seek to confront law students with the

pressing issues of the day—the COVID-19 pandemic, racial injustices, the fragility of our democracy's norms, to name a few—and give them a sense for what, as future attorneys, they can do to address them.

In a time of unprecedented uncertainty, the course is a reminder, as one enrolled student put it, "that there is hope." Lawyers as Leaders centers students in the values that inspired them to study the law and reminds them of their own agency to make measurable change. It is no wonder that over 300 students have enrolled in this course, the largest class enrollment in Georgetown Law's 150-year history. I hope this course is offered for many semesters to come.

I have often highlighted the achievements of Georgetown Law both on and off the Senate floor. The education I received there was central to my decision to dedicate my career to public service. It is exactly courses like Lawyers as Leaders that will help encourage this and future classes of Georgetown Law students to pursue their passions as attorneys. Georgetown Law should be commended for offering this course and reminding students that the law is most exciting and transformative when it is viewed not just as a career, but as a calling.

I ask unanimous consent that an article from the Washington Post, published on November 6, 2020, titled "Most popular course ever at Georgetown Law? How to fight for justice," be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Nov. 6, 2020]

MOST POPULAR COURSE EVER AT GEORGETOWN LAW? HOW TO FIGHT FOR JUSTICE

(By Susan Svrluga)

In her third year of law school, Maxine Walters expected to have everything in place: Her job locked in, her career path mapped out.

Then the pandemic hit, and economic uncertainty, and protests erupted over racial justice and tensions flared over the presidential election and transition. Her summer job with a firm evaporated, and with it the hoped-for offer of a permanent position by the time classes resumed for the fall.

But her school year began with an unusual class—one created to mark Georgetown University Law Center's 150th anniversary and shaped by the realities of 2020—that has, for many students, upended their ideas about rigid timelines for success, their expectations and even their aspirations.

Instead of a traditional course focused on an area of law such as contracts or torts, the school's leaders crafted a more personal, broad-ranging look at leadership. It was a recognition that the tumultuous times are forcing a reckoning, and leaving many students yearning to have an impact.

Clearly, they touched a nerve: More than 300 upper-level students signed up for "Lawyers as Leaders," the largest enrollment for a course in the history of Georgetown Law.

"This is definitely a time where the ground is moving," said Max Lesser, a 28-year-old student from New Jersey. "Everyone realizes that the old paradigms of politics and justice are kind of breaking. . . . Lawyers have a real role to play in what path we take."

For the online course, students submit questions about assigned readings and then listen to a conversation between Georgetown Law Dean William M. Treanor and a faculty member. He asks them to talk about how to move forward to confront "the great issues of this terrible time."

"This is a time when we're all grappling with so many crises" and profound challenges and losses, he said.

The conversations held each Sunday—now available to all on the school's anniversary website—have been topical, even urgent. Students have heard from Lawrence Gostin about health-care policy during the pandemic, such as vaccine distribution and whether the government should mandate mask-wearing and social distancing.

Neal Katyal, who has argued more than 40 cases before the Supreme Court, spoke about the contested 2000 election, in which he was co-counsel to Democratic candidate Al Gore, and about electoral integrity this year. Randy Barnett, a libertarian and self-described contrarian, talked about the constitutionality of health policy, recent Supreme Court nominees and the importance of seeking out opposing viewpoints. And Rosa Brooks talked about her work examining whether norms will hold fast in the aftermath of this contentious election, or whether the country could face a constitutional crisis.

The conversations have been challenging, insightful, sometimes funny and surprisingly vulnerable. Gostin spoke of his difficult childhood, and how that had helped shape the optimistic outlook he's known for. He shared his tips for the best way to make popcorn.

Katyal told students to do something that was uncomfortable for them, especially early in their careers. He said he had recently taken rap improv classes to improve his ability to think on his feet, and found it terrifying.

Katyal also shared how his father faced discrimination and was unfairly fired, but had his dignity restored by a civil case, inspiring Katyal to go to law school. He told how he always asked his children's advice the night before a Supreme Court case, and shared some of their tips on how to stay calm when facing the justices. (Once: "Think of a cute pig.")

This is a time when shared challenges make people more comfortable talking about vulnerabilities, Treanor said. "I don't think we would have these same conversations if we had this class two years ago."

Hillary Sale, an associate dean and professor who helped design the class, agreed. The stress of the times is making people introspective and reflective, she said, "in ways that are probably really good, and probably wouldn't happen without that outside pressure."

Paul Butler, a former federal prosecutor, challenged students to rethink the justice system, which he argues is not weakened by a few racist bad-apple police officers, but is "broke on purpose" and working the way it was designed to work.

Butler told of his searing experience decades ago when he was arrested while he was a prosecutor on a case accusing a U.S. senator of corruption. As he wrote in his book "Let's Get Free," Butler was charged with simple assault after a neighbor falsely accused him of pushing her after a dispute over a parking space. Police officers cursed at him. At the courthouse, he was led, handcuffed, through the inmates' entrance—when, as a prosecutor, he normally could breeze through the main entrance without needing to go through a metal detector.

At his trial, he said, he listened to a police officer lie on the stand. After he was acquitted, he felt the weight of how easily the false

accusation could have destroyed him, if not for the skill of his attorney.

A Yale- and Harvard-educated prosecutor, Butler had once felt different from the Black men he prosecuted, he told *The Washington Post*. But, he said, “I certainly wasn’t different in the way police responded to me.”

He wanted students to think about the inevitable setbacks and traumatic experiences they would face, and how they would confront those with integrity. “The main thing I wanted students to think about,” Butler said, “is justice.”

For Walters, a 23-year-old Black student from Mobile, Ala., the leadership class initially sounded like a welcome break from typical law classes—in which professors grill students with tough questions—during a busy fall when she is also applying for jobs. But Walters, who is president of the Georgetown Law Black Law Students Association, has been struck by a number of the conversations, including Butler’s.

“It has been inspiring to have this class,” Walters said.

As faculty reflect in the class on their own life choices, the odd zigs and zags of their careers, the abject failures that turned out to be gifts and the pinnacles that unexpectedly fell flat, the stories resonated with other students confronting their own imminent decisions.

People are definitely more stressed about careers this fall, said Luke Bunting, a student from Indiana who has worked for Republican members of Congress and is now in his second year at Georgetown Law. He hopes to work for a firm and make an impact, and hearing from people with such different backgrounds and approaches made him more confident that was possible, he said.

Kristin Ewing, a student from Nebraska by way of a musical-theater career in New York, gained an interest in health-care policy when she saw how performers were affected by their lack of insurance. She said it was reassuring to hear professors talk about career pivots.

Rujuta Nandgaonkar, also interested in health policy—an inclination cemented by the pandemic, she said—was struck by Barnett’s advice to surround yourself with people who disagree with you, and an idea several people shared about getting past the inevitable bumps in the road. “Those are important lessons for these times,” she said.

“This is not the greatest time—but there is hope,” Nandgaonkar said. “That’s the string that runs through it.”

Lesser, a high school teacher for four years before law school, isn’t sure what he wants to do after he graduates. But he is considering options that tie into his interests in democracy and criminal justice reform, such as working in a prosecutor’s office, judiciary committees in Congress or for the military.

After hearing Brooks talk, Lesser said, “her lecture reinforced that having a functional modern democracy is a precious thing, and it can get lost easily if people aren’t willing to perfect it.”

The class has been grounding, Lesser said. “It reminds you of why you’re doing this. That’s important, especially when our country is being tested, our field is being tested. You have to reconnect to the values” that brought people to study the law, he said.

Walters had gravitated during law school to apply to firms because she was worried about paying off student loans. But after a summer of protests following George Floyd’s killing in police custody, she witnessed people paint messages about defunding the police near the White House, and was struck by the role public defenders were playing in the community.

The new economic uncertainty and the idealism reinforced by the class reaffirmed

her original commitment to go back to the South—where she grew up not seeing Black lawyers, she said—and work as a public defender.

“I’m kind of grateful to be able to do what I’m passionate about,” Walters said. “I think it would be great to go back there and try to make it the best place it could be.”

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 225, motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of James Ray Knepp II, to be a United States District Court Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

It was necessarily absent but had I been present would have voted yes on rollcall vote 226, on the nomination of James Ray Knepp II, to be a United States District Court Judge for the Northern District of Ohio.

ETHIOPIA

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today to call upon the administration to take urgent diplomatic action to address the escalating conflict in Ethiopia, a country in the midst of what many in the international community, including myself, had hoped would be a historic political transition to democracy. Instead the country is sliding into civil war. Unless the international community acts quickly to forestall further violence, I fear that bloody and protracted conflict is unavoidable.

Ethiopians have long aspired to participate in a democratic system of government. For years, their leaders let them down, but in 2018, things appeared to change when in response to peaceful popular protests centered in Ethiopia’s Oromo and Amhara regions, Ethiopia’s ruling party elevated Abiy Ahmed to Prime Minister. Prime Minister Abiy undertook dramatic political reform in the first year of his administration, releasing thousands of political prisoners, inviting exiled opposition groups back home, and allowing the press to freely operate. Repressive laws like the Charities and Societies and Anti-Terrorism proclamations, which had long been used to stifle political dissent, were revised and replaced. The new government committed itself to free and fair elections and, for the first time in Ethiopia’s history, introduced a gender-balanced Cabinet. Many Ethiopians and much of the international community rightly celebrated these achievements and looked to further democratic progress. Abiy himself was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019.

Yet transitions from autocratic rule to democracy are rarely seamless, and Ethiopia’s transition is no exception. The journey to democracy has been beset by the proliferation of ethnically motivated violence across the country. In 2018, IOM reported that Ethiopia re-

corded the third highest number of new ID P’s anywhere in the world, fueled by ethnic violence and displacement in Gedeo and West Guji zones, and violence has continued. In June 2019, rogue regional security forces assassinated the president of Amhara region and the head of the Ethiopian National Defense Forces, and in June 2020, the murder of popular Oromo singer Hachalu Hundessa triggered violence that killed at least 239 people. Sadly, Ethiopians of all ethnic and religious backgrounds have been victims of this endless cycle of senseless violence.

To be clear, there are some who have taken advantage of new-found freedoms to threaten or use violence to achieve political ends, engage in hate speech, and incite broader conflict. Such behavior is inconsistent with democratic practice and has further exacerbated the country’s ethnic and political divisions in a profoundly damaging way. Ethiopian authorities have a responsibility to protect their citizens by holding the perpetrators and purveyors of such actions accountable through a transparent, credible legal process.

Yet the government’s response to these challenges has only complicated matters. In May 2020, a report from Amnesty International chronicled a long list of abuses committed by Ethiopia’s security forces since the transition began, including extrajudicial killings, torture, and arbitrary arrest. The government has engaged in a troubling crackdown on political opposition, media organizations, and civil society, particularly in the wake of Hachalu Hundessa’s death. There are growing fears that state institutions are being leveraged by the ruling party to unfairly consolidate the current government’s power, including through weaponizing law enforcement and the judicial process to attack government critics. Under these conditions, it is unlikely that Ethiopia’s next general elections can be anything approaching credible, exacerbating an already volatile political situation.

Against the backdrop of a transition in jeopardy, violence between the federal government and political leaders of the Tigray region is escalating. Reports suggest that hundreds have already died in clashes between government and regional forces. I am particularly horrified by evidence of a civilian massacre in Mai-Kadra. I condemn this act and all attacks on civilians in the strongest term, and call for a thorough and transparent investigation by a credible, neutral, independent body. Those who attack civilians must be held accountable in accordance with the rule of law. I am also concerned by reports of civilian deaths as a result of federal government airstrikes, mass displacement, and discrimination and arrests based on ethnic profiling. Authorities in Tigray have confirmed that their forces fired rockets into the capital of a neighboring country, Eritrea.

These rocket attacks constitute a significant escalation, are counter-productive, and should cease. They further underscore fears that the conflict will expand beyond Ethiopia's borders. If left to continue, the conflict in Tigray will not only lead to a catastrophic loss of life and worsening humanitarian conditions, but will breed further enmity that will derail Ethiopia's democratic progress and destabilize the entire subregion.

We cannot afford to let that happen. Ethiopia is the second most populous African country, home to the African Union, and one of the world's top contributors to UN peacekeeping missions a tradition that dates back to the Korean war. It has been a pillar of U.S. engagement in the Horn of Africa for decades, partnering with the U.S. on counterterrorism and with the U.S. and international community to stabilize protracted conflicts in neighboring Somalia and South Sudan.

The Ethiopian people need peace, not war; and the world needs a stable, democratic and prosperous Ethiopia.

I urge the federal government and the leaders of Tigray region to choose the path of peace. While it is tempting to assign blame for the outbreak of hostilities, our collective focus must be on how to restore order. Make no mistake, a full accounting must take place. Right now, however, both sides must agree to an immediate ceasefire and begin a sustained dialogue to settle political differences.

I also call on Prime Minister Abiy to take a series of actions to facilitate a successful democratic transition. First, barring immediate and incontrovertible evidence of serious crimes, he should release all members of the political opposition. Their continued detention is unacceptable, and I am troubled by reports that their judicial proceedings are being politicized. Second, media and digital rights must be respected. Arresting journalists and imposing internet blackouts harkens back to the dark days of the previous regime. Mr. Prime Minister, such practices must end. You and your colleagues have taken bold action to chart a new course for the country, and I urge you to continue along the difficult path of reform.

Third, the Prime Minister should empower an independent and impartial body to investigate and ascertain responsibility for past acts of violence beyond those related to current hostilities in Tigray. Finally, I call on the Prime Minister to engage in an inclusive dialogue with relevant stakeholders in advance of elections to ensure there is a level playing field and buy-in to the electoral process from all stakeholders.

Although resolving the current crisis requires Ethiopian commitment and action, the United States, along with others in the international community, have a critical role to play. I therefore urge the administration to do the following:

Lead international diplomatic efforts—the administration must reach out to multilateral institutions, allies and partners in the region, the Gulf, and elsewhere to ensure unity around a single message to the federal government and officials in Tigray, there is no military solution to the conflict between the federal government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front. Dialogue is the only path forward. A joint delegation should demarche the Prime Minister with this message and reach out to leaders in Tigray with the same.

Increase support for Ethiopia's democratic transition—the administration should redouble its efforts to support the transition by providing the Embassy and USAID mission with more staff to provide increased monitoring in the areas of democracy and human rights and increased technical assistance in the area of election administration. Funding for grassroots conflict mitigation and reconciliation is critical given ongoing tensions. The United States must also engage all Ethiopian stakeholders, including traditionally marginalized populations, without favor or bias, with the goal of encouraging dialogue between the country's rival political forces. Political disagreements must be settled through peaceful means.

Take an informed, organized, and holistic approach. Civil war in Ethiopia will destabilize the Horn of Africa and has implications for U.S. geostrategic interests in the Horn of Africa and Red Sea corridor writ large. It is critical that the U.S. approach diplomatic engagement in a holistic manner, recognizing the potential ripple effects of prolonged conflict. Negotiations between Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt relative to the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam—GERD—are only one example of how the conflict could impact stability in the subregion. Progress on the GERD talks is highly unlikely in the face of civil war, since Ethiopia is likely to remain focused on its domestic problems.

Unfortunately, the U.S. approach is currently fractured. The administration has engaged in GERD negotiations as though they are unfolding in a vacuum, divorced from our interests in a strong bilateral partnership with Ethiopia and absent a broader strategy for the Horn of Africa and Red Sea corridor. Even in the parochial context in which we have engaged in GERD negotiations, the administration's actions have, quite frankly, been unhelpful. Having Treasury Department lead the talks was never wise. Treasury lacks the deep regional knowledge and expertise to lead such sensitive negotiations, and there is no evidence that its actions were developed as part of an interagency strategy or policy approach informed by such expertise. It is imperative that a sound strategy be developed and that the State Department take the lead on an integrated diplomatic approach to both the country and the subregion.

Ethiopia faces historic challenges. These challenges can only be met through diplomacy, dialogue, and compromise. The country has a once in a generation opportunity that we must not let slip away. I urge the administration to act while there is still time.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR CATHERINE "CATIE" SHUTTERS SUNDIN

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, today, I rise to pay tribute to MAJ Catherine "Catie" Shutters Sundin and her service as an officer in the U.S. Army. I am especially grateful for her support to my office as an Army congressional fellow from January to December 2017 and, later, as the Army congressional budget liaison, where she supported my responsibilities as the ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs. Major Shutters Sundin will complete her military service in November after more than 12 years of honorable service.

A native of Muskegon, MI, Major Shutters Sundin entered the military as a paralegal in the Indiana Army National Guard. After completing her initial military training, she attended Wentworth Military Academy and Junior College in Lexington, MO, where she commissioned as a second lieutenant. She completed her undergraduate degree in sociology at the University of Central Missouri and accessed into Active-Duty status as an aviation officer. She attended flight school at Fort Rucker, AL, in 2008, graduating as a UH-60 Blackhawk pilot. She also has a master's degree in legislative affairs from the George Washington University.

Major Shutters Sundin has served in a number of assignments during her Army career. Her first assignment as an aviation officer was with the 5th Battalion, 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, KY. As a small unit leader in Alpha Company, she deployed her platoon to multiple joint training exercises and ultimately to Khost Province in eastern Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom 12-13. While in combat, she served as task force intelligence officer, where she was charged with leading an intelligence unit that provided threat analysis, briefings to aircrews and leadership, and assisted military decision making.

Upon redeployment, Major Shutters Sundin attended the Maneuver Captains Career Course at Fort Benning, GA, in preparation for her company command at Hunter Army Airfield, GA. There, she commanded Bravo Company, 4th Battalion, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade from January 2014 to February 2016. Major Shutters Sundin's team of 42 personnel and 10 UH-60M assault helicopters supported a number of training exercises to include a 9-month deployment in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. Bravo Company was the first aviation unit to be a

persistent presence in Eastern Europe, where they flew across the Baltic States and Poland to strengthen NATO relationships while deterring against the threat of Russian aggression.

In 2017, as an Army congressional fellow, I had the privilege of working with Major Shutters Sundin in my office for a year and during her subsequent assignment as the Army congressional budget liaison. She worked tirelessly with Members of Congress and their staff to accurately represent the Army's budget positions to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees. Her professionalism, diligence, and commitment to the mission are unmatched, and her work as a fellow and as a liaison well represented the U.S. Army and the Department of Defense to the U.S. Congress.

The foundation of Major Shutter Sundin's military success is her family. Raised in the Midwest as one of five children, her family established particular values early on: service, sacrifice, and compassion. She is a devoted wife to her husband Carl, who also serves as an officer in the U.S. Army. Their commitment to service and care for others infuses every organization to which they belong. Together, they are examples of servant leaders in the U.S. Army and to their communities.

Throughout her career, Major Shutter Sundin has positively impacted soldiers, peers, and superiors. Our country has benefited tremendously from her extraordinary leadership, judgment, and passion. I join my colleagues today in honoring her dedication to our Nation and invaluable service to the U.S. Congress as an Army congressional liaison.

Mr. President, it has been a pleasure to have worked with a talented officer. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending MAJ Catherine "Catie" Shutter Sundin for her service to our country and wish her all the best as she explores new ways to continue her service.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING BOYD INDUSTRIES, INC.

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize a small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit at the heart of our country. It is my privilege to recognize a veteran-owned small business known for excellence and outstanding craftsmanship. This week, it is my pleasure to recognize Boyd Industries, Inc., of Clearwater, FL, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 2012, Adrian LaTrace purchased Boyd Industries, a dental and medical equipment manufacturing company that was established in 1957 as a custom residential furniture manufac-

turer. Founder William Boyd pioneered the lounge-style dentistry chair, now a standard feature in dental offices nationwide. As "sit-down" dentistry became more common, Boyd Industries reinvented itself as a cabinet, medical chair, and exam equipment manufacturer.

More than 60 years later, owner and CEO Adrian LaTrace has continued Boyd Industries' tradition of innovation and growth. A native of the Fort Walton Beach-Destin area, Adrian graduated from The Citadel before serving 8 years in the U.S. Air Force. Under his leadership, Boyd has remained committed to its core values of integrity, respect, innovation, loyalty, and dependability. Veterans are the heart of Boyd Industries' workforce, with servicemembers from four branches of the military currently represented at the company.

Attention to detail and high-quality craftsmanship have earned Boyd Industries a reputation for excellence. They are widely regarded as the top oral and implant surgery equipment provider in the nation. Notably, Boyd Industries manufactures the majority of its product components at its Clearwater facility. Additional components are sourced from U.S.-based companies, and Boyd assembles all products in-house.

Under Adrian's leadership, Boyd Industries has earned industry awards and invested in its community. High-quality products have earned Boyd Industries the Townie Choice Award for 8 consecutive years. Laird Plastics recognized Boyd Industries with the Environmental Excellence Award from 2015–2018, citing its increased recycling and sustainability. Collaborating with the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and the American Association of Orthodontists, Boyd Industries has contributed to developing orthodontist training and best practices, and furnished dental residency training facilities. Additionally, Boyd Industries regularly donates surplus cabinetry to Habitat for Humanity and has supported the Clearwater Free Clinic for decades.

As an essential business, Boyd Industries managed to stay open, keep their employees safe, and adapt to the challenges caused by the coronavirus pandemic. In April 2020, the SBA launched the Paycheck Protection Program, a small business relief program I was proud to author. The PPP provides forgivable loans to impacted small businesses and nonprofits who maintain their payroll during the coronavirus pandemic. Despite experiencing a drop in revenue, a PPP loan enabled Boyd Industries to retain 77 jobs.

Boyd Industries exemplifies the critical importance of small businesses in the medical manufacturing industrial base. Their outstanding craftsmanship and continual innovation are commendable. Congratulations to Adrian and the entire team at Boyd Industries, Inc. I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:51 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 1869. An act to require the disclosure of ownership of high-security space leased to accommodate a Federal agency, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2117. An act to improve the health and safety of Americans living with food allergies and related disorders, including potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis, food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, and eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2281. An act to direct the Attorney General to amend certain regulations so that practitioners may administer not more than 3 days' medication to a person at one time when administering narcotic drugs for the purpose of relieving acute withdrawal symptoms.

H.R. 2466. An act to extend the State Opioid Response Grants program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2610. An act to establish an office within the Federal Trade Commission and an outside advisory group to prevent fraud targeting seniors and to direct the Commission to study and submit a report to Congress on scams targeting seniors and Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2914. An act to make available necessary disaster assistance for families affected by major disasters, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3878. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify the process for registrants to exercise due diligence upon discovering a suspicious order, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4358. An act to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit to Congress a report on preliminary damage assessment and to establish damage assessment teams in the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4499. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that the authority of the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and former centers of excellence, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4611. An act to modify permitting requirements with respect to the discharge of any pollutant from the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant in certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4712. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of orphan drugs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4806. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to authorize the debarment of certain registrants, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4812. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for the modification, transfer, and termination of a registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5668. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to modernize the labeling of certain generic drugs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5855. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program supporting trauma center violence intervention and violence prevention programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5919. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to require the Administrator of General Services to enter into a cooperative agreement with the National Children's Museum to provide the National Children's Museum rental space without charge in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5953. An act to amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to waive certain debts owed to the United States related to covered assistance provided to an individual or household, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6096. An act to improve oversight by the Federal Communications Commission of the wireless and broadcast emergency alert systems.

H.R. 6435. An act to direct the Federal Trade Commission to develop and disseminate information to the public about scams related to COVID-19, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6624. An act to support supply chain innovation and multilateral security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7310. An act to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the modernization of the information technology systems of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8121. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on injuries and deaths associated with consumer products and to direct the Secretary of Commerce to study and report on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the travel and tourism industry in the United States.

H.R. 8266. An act to modify the Federal cost share of certain emergency assistance provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, to modify the activities eligible for assistance under the emergency declaration issued by the President on March 13, 2020, relating to COVID-19, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8326. An act to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to require eligible recipients of certain grants to develop a comprehensive economic development strategy that directly or indirectly increases the accessibility of affordable, quality child care, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8408. An act to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to require certain safety standards relating to aircraft, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2117. An act to improve the health and safety of Americans living with food allergies and related disorders, including potentially life-threatening anaphylaxis, food protein-induced enterocolitis syndrome, and eosinophilic gastrointestinal diseases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2281. An act to direct the Attorney General to amend certain regulations so that practitioners may administer not more than 3 days' medication to a person at one time when administering narcotic drugs for the purpose of relieving acute withdrawal symptoms; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2466. An act to extend the State Opioid Response Grants program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 2610. An act to establish an office within the Federal Trade Commission and an outside advisory group to prevent fraud targeting seniors and to direct the Commission to study and submit a report to Congress on scams targeting seniors and Indian tribes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 2914. An act to make available necessary disaster assistance for families affected by major disasters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3878. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify the process for registrants to exercise due diligence upon discovering a suspicious order, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 4358. An act to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit to Congress a report on preliminary damage assessment and to establish damage assessment teams in the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4611. An act to modify permitting requirements with respect to the discharge of any pollutant from the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant in certain circumstances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 4712. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of orphan drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 4806. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to authorize the debarment of certain registrants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 4812. An act to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for the modification, transfer, and termination of a registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 5668. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to modernize the labeling of certain generic drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 5855. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program supporting trauma center violence intervention and violence prevention programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 5919. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to require the Administrator of General Services to enter into a cooperative agreement with the National Children's Museum to provide the National Children's Museum rental space without charge in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 5953. An act to amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to waive certain debts owed to the United States related to covered assistance provided to an individual or household, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 6435. An act to direct the Federal Trade Commission to develop and disseminate information to the public about scams related to COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 6624. An act to support supply chain innovation and multilateral security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 7310. An act to require the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a plan for the modernization of the information technology systems of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 8121. An act to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on injuries and deaths associated with consumer products and to direct the Secretary of Commerce to study and report on the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the travel and tourism industry in the United States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 8266. An act to modify the Federal cost share of certain emergency assistance provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, to modify the activities eligible for assistance under the emergency declaration issued by the President on March 13, 2020, relating to COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 8326. An act to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to require eligible recipients of certain grants to develop a comprehensive economic development strategy that directly or indirectly increases the accessibility of affordable, quality child care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 8408. An act to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to require certain safety standards relating to aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 4499. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide that the authority of the Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities to make certain research endowments applies with respect to both current and

former centers of excellence, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6096. An act to improve oversight by the Federal Communications Commission of the wireless and broadcast emergency alert systems.

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-5904. A communication from the Deputy Administrator for Policy Support, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) Integrity" (RIN0584-AE80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5905. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tolerance Crop Grouping Program V" (FRL No. 10015-10-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5906. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 12170 of November 14, 1979, with respect to Iran; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5907. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13712 of November 22, 2015, with respect to Burundi; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5908. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5909. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report to the Congress on the Profitability of Credit Card Operations of Depository Institutions"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5910. A communication from the Regulatory Specialist, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders" (RIN1557-AE97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5911. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule - Certain Emergency Facilities in the Regulatory Capital Rule and the Liquidity Coverage Ratio Rule" (RIN3064-AF41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5912. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementing Executive Order 13891; Promoting the Rule of Law through Improved Agency Guidance" (RIN2501-AD93) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5913. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Regulations and Legislation, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Manufactured Housing Program: Minimum Payments to the Senate" (RIN2502-AJ37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5914. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Central African Republic that was declared in Executive Order 13667 of May 12, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5915. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5916. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Yemen that was declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5917. A communication from the Division Chief of Regulatory Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Non-Energy Solid Leasable Minerals Royalty Rate Reduction Process" (RIN1004-AE58) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2020; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-5918. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Quality Implementation Plan; California; Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District; Stationary Source Permits" (FRL No. 10016-28-Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5919. A communication from the Biologist, 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 Gray Wolf (Canis Lupus) From the List of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife" (RIN1018-BD60) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5920. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants: City of Philadelphia and District of Columbia" (FRL No. 10016-45-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5921. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; North Carolina; Blue Ridge Paper SO2 Emission Limits" (FRL No. 10016-41-Region 4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5922. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Idaho, Incorporation by Reference Updates and Rule Revisions" (FRL No. 10016-18-Region 10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 10, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5923. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department of Defense Agency Financial Report (AFR) for fiscal year 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5924. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's fiscal year 2020 Annual Financial Report (AFR); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5925. A communication from the Treasurer of the National Gallery of Art, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Gallery's Inspector General Report for fiscal year 2020; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5926. A communication from the Section Chief of the Diversion Control Division, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedules of Controlled Substances: Placement of Crotonyl Fentanyl in Schedule I" ((21 CFR Part 1308) (Docket No. DEA-633)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 9, 2020; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5927. A communication from the Program Analyst of the Policy Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Expanding Consumers' Video Navigation Choices; Commercial Availability of Navigation Devices" ((MB Docket No. 16-42) (FCC 20-124)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5928. A communication from the Program Analyst, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of State and Local Governments' Obligation to Approve Certain Wireless Facility Modification Requests Under Section 6409(a) of the Spectrum Act of 2012" ((WT Docket No. 19-250) (FCC 20-153)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5929. A communication from the Program Analyst, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "All-Digital AM Broadcasting; Revitalization of the AM Radio Service" ((MB Docket No. 19-311) (FCC 20-154)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF
COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Capt. Michael H. Day and ending with Capt. Edward M. St. Pierre, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 10, 2020.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Rear Adm. (1h) Brendan C. McPherson and ending with Rear Adm. (1h) Todd C. Wiemers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 30, 2020.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Steven C. Acosta and ending with Jessica S. Worst, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 10, 2020.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Corinna M. Fleischmann and ending with Kimberly C. Young-McClear, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 30, 2020.

*Coast Guard nominations beginning with Michael S. Adams, Jr. and ending with Andrew H. Zuckerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on October 20, 2020.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

*Mark C. Christie, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2025.

*Allison Clements, of Ohio, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a term expiring June 30, 2024.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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. MORAN:

S. 4905. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Chisholm National Historic Trail and the Western National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 4906. A bill to establish a portal and database to receive and maintain information regarding blocked railroad-highway

grade crossings and to require the Secretary of Transportation to evaluate the requirements of the railway-highway crossings program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. COONS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. REED, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARPER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. JONES, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. UDALL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. TESTER, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KING, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 4907. A bill to nullify Executive Order 13957, entitled "Creating Schedule F In The Excepted Service"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BOOKER, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 4908. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for taxpayers who remove lead-based hazards; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 4909. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the collection of a health care copayment by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from a veteran who is a member of an Indian Tribe; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 4910. A bill to adjust the regulation of certain grants awarded by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs during a covered public health emergency to serve homeless veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 4911. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion for compensation for injuries or sickness to encompass posttraumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 4912. A bill to amend the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015 to require Federal agencies to obtain exemptions from certain cybersecurity requirements in order to avoid compliance with those requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 4913. A bill to require the Federal Railroad Administration and the Federal Highway Administration to provide recommendations for reducing the number of very rural highway-rail grade crossing collisions, to authorize a public outreach and educational program to reduce such collisions, and to authorize grants to improve grade crossing safety; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4914. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a grant program for transportation projects to improve Tribal health, well-being, and youth safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4915. A bill to establish the Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative within the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 4916. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to divert certain parents of minor children, expectant parents, and other caregivers from incarceration and into comprehensive programs providing resources, services, and training to those individuals and their families; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 4917. A bill to amend the CARES Act to support States and local educational agencies in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic so that all students, especially historically underserved students, are provided with a safe, healthy, equitable, and excellent education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 4918. A bill to transfer antitrust enforcement functions from the Federal Trade Commission to the Department of Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BROWN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 4919. A bill to provide for a study by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine on the potential benefits on population health outcomes of incorporating into the Federal legislative process tools that measure the impacts of proposed legislation (including in areas outside of health care) on health and health disparities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 4920. A bill to improve the cybersecurity of small organizations with respect to teleworking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 4921. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for traveling expenses for Federal disaster relief workers away from home for more than 1 year; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 4922. A bill to expand and enhance programs and activities of the Department of Defense for prevention of and response to domestic violence and child abuse and neglect among military families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. MURPHY):

S.J. Res. 77. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. MURPHY):

S.J. Res. 78. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. MURPHY):

S.J. Res. 79. A joint resolution providing congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and

services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. MURPHY):

S.J. Res. 80. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the United Arab Emirates of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. PERDUE (for himself and Mrs. LOEFFLER):

S. Res. 777. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the need for common sense solutions to improve health care delivery and affordability for all people of the United States; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. Res. 778. A resolution recognizing Inter-scholastic Athletic Administrators' Day on December 15, 2020; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. UDALL, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. WICKER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. TESTER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. SMITH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KAINÉ, Mr. WARNER, Mr. KING, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. THUNE):

S. Res. 779. A resolution recognizing National Native American Heritage Month and celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 327

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 327, a bill to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to provide for a lifetime National Recreational Pass for any veteran with a service-connected disability.

S. 362

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 362, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 514

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 514, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 633

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 633, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Women's Army Corps who were assigned to the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the "Six Triple Eight".

S. 910

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 910, a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1069

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1069, a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish a constituent-driven program to provide a digital information platform capable of efficiently integrating coastal data with decision-support tools, training, and best practices and to support collection of priority coastal geospatial data to inform and improve local, State, regional, and Federal capacities to manage the coastal region, and for other purposes.

S. 1153

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1153, a bill to explicitly make unauthorized access to Department of Education information technology systems and the misuse of identification devices issued by the Department of Education a criminal act.

S. 1311

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1311, a bill to provide lasting protection for inventoried roadless areas within the National Forest System.

S. 2315

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2315, a bill to amend section 4712 of title 41, United States Code, to clarify the inclusion of subcontractors and subgrantees for whistleblower protection.

S. 2353

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2353, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to develop guidance for firefighters and other emergency response personnel on best practices to protect them from exposure to PFAS and to limit and prevent the release of PFAS into the environment, and for other purposes.

S. 2741

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2741, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 2975

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms.

CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2975, a bill to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species in western waters, and for other purposes.

S. 3089

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3089, a bill to improve the construction and leasing of medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 3587

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3587, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on the accessibility of websites of the Department of Veterans Affairs to individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 3612

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3612, a bill to clarify for purposes of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that receipt of coronavirus assistance does not affect the tax treatment of ordinary business expenses.

S. 3761

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3761, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide veterans service organizations and recognized agents and attorneys opportunities to review Department of Veterans Affairs disability rating determinations before they are finalized, and for other purposes.

S. 3986

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3986, a bill to approve certain advanced biofuel registrations, to require the consideration of certain advanced biofuel pathways, and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and for other purposes.

S. 4110

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4110, a bill to designate residents of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region as Priority 2 refugees of special humanitarian concern, and for other purposes.

S. 4157

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 4157, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to expand the authority of the National Infrastructure Simulation and Analysis Center, and for other purposes.

S. 4347

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from

Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4347, a bill to establish a Coronavirus Rapid Response Federal Labor-Management Task Force, and for other purposes.

S. 4375

At the request of Mr. THUNE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 4375, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make permanent certain telehealth flexibilities under the Medicare program related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

S. 4380

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4380, a bill to provide redress to the employees of Air America.

S. 4426

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4426, a bill to establish an Office of Subnational Diplomacy within the Department of State, and for other purposes.

S. 4572

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4572, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a presumption of service connection for certain diseases associated with exposure to toxins, and for other purposes.

S. 4574

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 4574, a bill to establish a demonstration program to provide integrated care for Medicare beneficiaries with end-stage renal disease, and for other purposes.

S. 4860

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4860, a bill to exempt payments made from the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Account from sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

S. 4874

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4874, a bill to improve the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Homeland Security Investigations' Visa Security Program, and for other purposes.

S. 4898

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 4898, a bill to amend title VI of the Social Security Act to extend the period during which States, Indian Tribes, and local governments may use Coronavirus Relief Fund payments.

S. RES. 760

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 760, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the atrocities perpetrated by the Government of the People's Republic of China against Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and members of other Muslim minority groups in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region constitutes genocide.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. HEINRICH, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4914. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a grant program for transportation projects to improve Tribal health, well-being, and youth safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I today I am introducing legislation that aims to reduce traffic-related pedestrian fatalities in Native American communities while also improving public health and quality of life.

First, let's be clear. Everyone in this country deserves reliable options to travel safely from one place to another. Everyone deserves roads that connect us to each other and expand our horizons. But the sad truth is that not everyone in this country has safe, reliable roads that foster connections and expand horizons. That is especially true in Native American communities.

The adverse statistics surrounding the safety and health of Indigenous peoples are staggering. Vehicle-related unintentional injury is the No. 1 cause of death among American Indians and Alaska Natives aged 1 through 44. It is also the third overall cause of death for all American Indians and Alaska Natives, of any age or gender.

While unsafe roadways put lives at risk, inadequate or unreliable transportation options create obstacles for everyday life, making it more difficult to simply access healthy groceries, schools, quality health care, emergency services and economic opportunities. Immobility for individuals within Indian Country reinforces barriers to education, quality healthcare, and economic opportunity.

Meanwhile, Native American communities face disproportionately higher prevalence of diabetes and other heart disease. In fact, American Indian and Alaska Natives are more than twice more likely than non-Hispanic White Americans to die from diabetes. Cardiovascular disease is the primary cause of mortalities for Native Americans under the age of 65. While exercise can help to lower the risks associated with chronic heart disease, throughout Indian Country, there are few safe options for walking, running and bicycling.

The sad truth is that decades of Federal underinvestment in transportation infrastructure has contributed to disproportionately higher rates of road traffic fatalities and poor public health outcomes in Indian Country. Unsafe, unreliable and inadequate transportation infrastructure is exacerbating a public safety crisis, worsening public health, and degrading quality of life.

Investments in infrastructure that improve safety and expand opportunity for nonmotorized forms of transportation—such as sidewalks, bicycle infrastructure, and pedestrian and bicycle signals—can help to prevent more road traffic fatalities and also combat the prevalence of chronic health disparities that exist throughout Native American communities. To that end, the Promoting Access to Tribal Health, Wellbeing and Youth Safety Act would create a new grant program at the U.S. Department of Transportation to dedicate new resources for pedestrian-related infrastructure and improve pedestrian infrastructure throughout Indian Country. The legislation will also authorize \$25 million annually for these critical projects.

By improving pedestrian infrastructure across Tribal communities, we can save lives while improving health outcomes and quality of life in Tribal communities.

I would like to thank my colleagues, Senator FEINSTEIN, Senator TESTER, Senator HEINRICH, and Senator WARREN, for joining me to introduce this legislation. As we celebrate National Native American Heritage Month, I look forward to working with my colleagues on this issue. Together we can improve the safety and health of Indigenous peoples across the Nation.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4915. A bill to establish the Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative within the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative Act. This legislation would formally establish the Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative—or SVI—within the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, DOJ. While the SVI was created in 2015 as an initiative within the DOJ, this legislation is needed to give the initiative authorization to protect the legal interests of servicemembers, veterans, and their families. I thank Representative ESCOBAR and Representative TAYLOR for introducing this important legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Our Nation owes a tremendous debt to our servicemembers, veterans, and military families for the sacrifices they make to protect our freedoms. Deployment can seriously compromise a servicemember's ability to meet obligations back home and protect their legal interests. Servicemembers and

their families have been charged unlawful lease termination fees when they receive permanent change of station or deployment orders. While deployed overseas, some have been denied voting rights, while others have had their property unlawfully sold. Members of the Reserve forces and the National Guard have been unjustly discriminated against and denied employment because of their military service. Servicemembers, veterans, and their families continue to be targeted by financial scams and fraud schemes. They deserve better than this, and we must ensure that our government protects their civil rights during deployment, transition back home, and as they settle into their civilian lives.

The DOJ recognized that, while there are laws on the books to protect servicemembers, veterans, and their families, more is needed to be done by the Federal Government to improve education about what those laws are and what rights they protect and to increase Federal enforcement actions to ensure those rights are protected. To that end, the DOJ announced the creation of the SVI to further its efforts to enforce statutes that protect the civil rights of servicemembers, veterans, and their families. The SVI works closely with the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Judge Advocate General offices at military installations to educate servicemembers, veterans, and military families about their rights and how to report abuse. It also serves as a resource for anyone looking to obtain legal assistance and legal practitioners seeking information.

Through the work of the SVI, the Department of Justice has brought a number of successful claims, including one against the city and county of Honolulu in February 2018 for illegally auctioning cars belonging to servicemembers. DOJ launched an investigation into the city's actions after receiving information from a military legal assistance officer and two Navy legal assistance attorneys that Honolulu had on at least three occasions failed to obtain court orders before auctioning cars belonging to servicemembers while those servicemembers were deployed aboard U.S. Navy ships. The city had violated the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, SCRA, by denying these servicemembers their right to obtain a court's review of whether the auction of their vehicles should be delayed or adjusted to account for their military service. The settlement that DOJ reached with Honolulu mandated that the city ensure servicemembers receive notice that their car has been taken into custody and that the city obtain a court order or SCRA waiver prior to auctioning a car owned by an Active Duty servicemember.

The Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative Act recognizes the work this initiative has carried out on behalf of servicemembers, veterans, and mili-

tary families in Hawaii and across the Nation by making it permanent within the DOJ. This bill also tasks the initiative with serving as legal and policy advisor to the Attorney General, and liaison between the DOJ and military departments. The SVI is further tasked with coordinating prosecution of fraud that targets servicemembers and their families and enforcing Federal laws to protect servicemembers and veterans.

I call on my colleagues in the Senate to support the DOJ's efforts to defend the rights of those who protect our country by swiftly passing the Servicemembers and Veterans Initiative Act during the 116th Congress.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 777—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON THE NEED FOR COMMON SENSE SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE HEALTH CARE DELIVERY AND AFFORDABILITY FOR ALL PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PERDUE (for himself and Mrs. LOEFFLER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 777

Whereas the public health emergency that the United States is currently facing has highlighted the need for common sense solutions to improve health care delivery and affordability;

Whereas Congress has acted quickly to protect health care for the people of the United States in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, including expanding access to telehealth, providing coverage for COVID-19 tests and vaccines, and supporting health care providers;

Whereas health insurance premiums increased by nearly 105 percent between 2013 and 2017, thereby making health care coverage both unaffordable and inaccessible for many people of the United States; and

Whereas nearly 134 rural hospitals have closed their doors since 2010 and the public health emergency has exacerbated the rural health crisis: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that all people of the United States should have access to health care coverage with—

(1) protections if they have pre-existing medical conditions, including—

(A) guarantees that no citizen of the United States can be denied health insurance coverage as a result of a previous illness or health status;

(B) guarantees that no citizen of the United States can be charged a higher premium or cost sharing as a result of a previous illness or health status; and

(C) access to health care to ensure that the people of the United States with pre-existing medical conditions can afford to receive their care;

(2) lower costs of prescription drugs and devices, which can be accomplished by—

(A) cutting red tape in the regulatory process to bring new drugs and devices to market more rapidly;

(B) lowering prices through enhanced competition by reforming outdated and archaic patent and trademark laws;

(C) ensuring transparency in the drug supply chain;

(D) incentivizing domestic manufacturing and ending drug shortages; and

(E) promoting policies that ensure the people of the United States are not solely responsible for financing the biopharmaceutical innovation that the world depends on;

(3) lower insurance premiums through increased choice and competition, including through—

(A) the availability of transparent information related to the price of health insurance premiums and health care procedures so patients can make informed decisions about their care;

(B) access to association health plans, which have led to average premium decreases of up to 29 percent for small business owners;

(C) State flexibility to do what is best for communities in that State, which in some cases has lowered health insurance premiums up to 43 percent;

(D) the establishment of tax-free personal health management accounts to empower patients to afford and personalize their own health care arrangements; and

(E) expanded access to more doctors and specialists for veterans, those struggling with mental illness, and those who live in rural areas;

(4) protections from surprise medical bills, including holding a patient harmless from surprise medical bills and making sure patients receive bills in a timely way; and

(5) safeguards from costly defensive medicine in the health care system, that reflect medical malpractice reform that addresses the additional costs in the medical system that do not improve quality of care.

SENATE RESOLUTION 778—RECOGNIZING INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS' DAY ON DECEMBER 15, 2020

Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 778

Whereas school athletic programs develop young people physically, mentally, socially, and emotionally through the life lessons learned through participation and competition;

Whereas interscholastic athletic participation is an integral part of a student's educational experience and enhances the learning process;

Whereas athletic administrators are committed to developing and maintaining comprehensive education-based athletic programs which seek the highest development of all student athletes;

Whereas athletic administrators fulfill professional responsibilities with honesty, integrity, commitment to equity, and fairness;

Whereas athletic administrators preserve, enhance, and promote the educational values of athletics in our schools through professional growth in the areas of education, leadership, and service;

Whereas athletic administrators embody high standards of ethics, sportsmanship, and personal conduct and encourage coaching staffs, student-athletes, and community members to commit to these high standards as well;

Whereas during the COVID-19 pandemic, now more than ever, we need school leaders, including athletic administrators, who prepare, plan, and endeavor to secure student safety and well-being;

Whereas during the COVID-19 pandemic, athletic administrators have been at the forefront of overseeing their secondary school educational programs, as re-opening requires wisdom in preparation, adaptation, change, and relearning to be shared with other school officials; and

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has shown the importance of athletic administrators and interscholastic athletics during a critical moment in our Nation's history: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the recognition of Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Day on December 15, 2020;

(2) commends athletic administrators for their commitment and leadership provided to student-athletes at the secondary school level, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

(3) commends the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association as the leading organization that prepares those who lead secondary school athletics throughout the country, providing education, compassion, and preparation within the profession.

SENATE RESOLUTION 779—RECOGNIZING NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGES AND CULTURES OF NATIVE AMERICANS AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF NATIVE AMERICANS TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. UDALL, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. WICKER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. TESTER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. SMITH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. KING, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. THUNE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 779

Whereas, from November 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020, the United States celebrates National Native American Heritage Month;

Whereas National Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity to consider and recognize the contributions of Native Americans to the history of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans are descendants of the original, indigenous inhabitants of what is now the United States;

Whereas the Bureau of the Census estimates that, in 2019, there were 6,945,552 individuals of American Indian and Alaska Native descent in the United States;

Whereas Native Americans maintain vibrant cultures and traditions and hold a deeply rooted sense of community;

Whereas Native Americans have moving stories of tragedy, triumph, and perseverance that need to be shared with future generations;

Whereas Native Americans speak and preserve indigenous languages, which have contributed to the English language by being used as names of individuals and locations throughout the United States;

Whereas Congress has consistently reaffirmed the support of the United States of Tribal self-governance and self-determination and the commitment of the United States to improving the lives of all Native Americans by—

(1) enhancing health care and law enforcement resources; and

(2) improving the housing and socioeconomic status of Native Americans;

Whereas the United States is committed to strengthening the government-to-government relationship that the United States has maintained with the various Indian Tribes;

Whereas Congress has recognized the contributions of the Iroquois Confederacy and the influence of the Iroquois Confederacy on the Founding Fathers in the drafting of the Constitution of the United States with the concepts of—

(1) freedom of speech;

(2) the separation of governmental powers; and

(3) the system of checks and balances between the branches of government;

Whereas, with the enactment of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1922), Congress—

(1) reaffirmed the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native American governments; and

(2) recognized the important contributions of Native Americans to the culture of the United States;

Whereas Native Americans have made distinct and important contributions to the United States and the rest of the world in many fields, including the fields of agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art;

Whereas Native Americans have distinguished themselves as inventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and scholars;

Whereas Native Americans have served with honor and distinction in the Armed Forces and continue to serve in the Armed Forces in greater numbers per capita than any other group in the United States;

Whereas the United States has recognized the contribution of the Native American code talkers in World War I and World War II, who used indigenous languages as an unbreakable military code, saving countless lives in the United States; and

Whereas the people of the United States have reason to honor the great achievements and contributions of Native Americans and their ancestors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the month of November 2020 as "National Native American Heritage Month";

(2) recognizes the Friday after Thanksgiving as "Native American Heritage Day" in accordance with section 2(10) of the Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-33; 123 Stat. 1923); and

(3) urges the people of the United States to observe National Native American Heritage Month and Native American Heritage Day with appropriate programs and activities.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I have 8 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 COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to hold a meeting during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., in room

G50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. The committee will hold an executive session.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, beginning at 10 a.m. in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC. The purpose of the business meeting is to consider pending nominations.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 18, 2020, at 10 a.m., in room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Nominations."

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 18 at 10 a.m., in room 301, Russell Senate Office Building, in order to conduct a hearing to consider the following nominations: Shana M. Broussard, of Louisiana, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission; Sean J. Cooksey, of Missouri, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission; and Allen Dickerson, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., in room SVC-217 in the U.S. Capitol Building to hold a briefing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC LANDS, FORESTS, AND MINING

The Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources' Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at 2:30 p.m. in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC. The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on pending legislation.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND FEDERAL MANAGEMENT

The Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at 3 p.m. in order to conduct a hearing entitled "Modernizing Federal Telework: Moving Forward Using the Lessons Learned During the COVID-19 Pandemic."

THE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of the following calendar bills en bloc: Calendar Nos. 441, 443, 445 through 451, 494 through 497, 532, and 534.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills en bloc.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bills be considered read a third time and passed 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.

SPECIALIST MATTHEW R. TURCOTTE POST OFFICE

A bill (S. 2847) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 42 Main Street in Slatersville, Rhode Island, as the "Specialist Matthew R. Turcotte Post Office," was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 2847

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

SECTION 1. SPECIALIST MATTHEW R. TURCOTTE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 42 Main Street in Slatersville, Rhode Island, shall be known and designated as the "Specialist Matthew R. Turcotte Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Specialist Matthew R. Turcotte Post Office".

EINAR 'SARGE' H. INGMAN, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

A bill (S. 3257) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 311 West Wisconsin Avenue in Tomahawk, Wisconsin, as the "Einar 'Sarge' H. Ingman, Jr. Post Office Building," was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 3257

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

SECTION 1. EINAR "SARGE" H. INGMAN, JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 311 West Wisconsin Avenue in Tomahawk, Wisconsin, shall be known and designated as the "Einar 'Sarge' H. Ingman, Jr. Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Einar 'Sarge' H. Ingman, Jr. Post Office Building".

LIEUTENANT MICHAEL R. DAVIDSON POST OFFICE BUILDING

A bill (H.R. 1833) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 35 Tulip Avenue in Floral Park, New York, as the "Lieutenant Michael R. Davidson Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

STAFF SERGEANT DYLAN ELCHIN POST OFFICE BUILDING

A bill (H.R. 3207) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 114 Mill Street in Hookstown, Pennsylvania, as the "Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

PERMITTING THE SCIPIO A. JONES POST OFFICE IN LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS, TO ACCEPT AND DISPLAY A PORTRAIT OF SCIPIO A. JONES

A bill (H.R. 3317) to permit the Scipio A. Jones Post Office in Little Rock, Arkansas, to accept and display a portrait of Scipio A. Jones, and for other purposes, was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

PAUL EATON POST OFFICE BUILDING

A bill (H.R. 3329) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5186 Benito Street in Montclair, California, as the "Paul Eaton Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

MOTHER FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI POST OFFICE BUILDING

A bill (H.R. 4794) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 8320 13th Avenue in Brooklyn, New York, as the "Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

JULIUS L. CHAMBERS CIVIL RIGHTS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

A bill (H.R. 4981) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2505 Derita Avenue in Charlotte, North Carolina, as the "Julius L. Chambers Civil Rights Memorial Post Office," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

WALTER B. JONES, JR. POST OFFICE

A bill (H.R. 5037) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Serv-

ice located at 3703 North Main Street in Farmville, North Carolina, as the "Walter B. Jones, Jr. Post Office," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

AUDIE MURPHY POST OFFICE BUILDING

A bill (S. 3461) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2600 Wesley Street in Greenville, Texas, as the "Audie Murphy Post Office Building," was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 3461

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

SECTION 1. AUDIE MURPHY POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2600 Wesley Street in Greenville, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Audie Murphy Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Audie Murphy Post Office Building".

RALPH HALL POST OFFICE

A bill (S. 3462) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 909 West Holiday Drive in Fate, Texas, as the "Ralph Hall Post Office," was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 3462

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

SECTION 1. RALPH HALL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 909 West Holiday Drive in Fate, Texas, shall be known and designated as the "Ralph Hall Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Ralph Hall Post Office".

OPHA MAY JOHNSON POST OFFICE

A bill (S. 3839) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2719 South Webster Street in Kokomo, Indiana, as the "Opha May Johnson Post Office," was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 3839

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

SECTION 1. OPHA MAY JOHNSON POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2719 South Webster Street in Kokomo, Indiana, shall be known and designated as the "Opha May Johnson Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Opha May Johnson Post Office”.

JOSEPH G. DEMLER POST OFFICE

A bill (S. 4126) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 104 East Main Street in Port Washington, Wisconsin, as the “Joseph G. Demler Post Office,” was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 4126

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

SECTION 1. JOSEPH G. DEMLER POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 104 East Main Street in Port Washington, Wisconsin, shall be known and designated as the “Joseph G. Demler Post Office”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Joseph G. Demler Post Office”.

ERNEST ‘ERDIE’ T. PYLE POST OFFICE

A bill (H.R. 4734) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 171 South Maple Street in Dana, Indiana, as the “Ernest ‘Ernie’ T. Pyle Post Office,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

DR. C.O. SIMPKINS, SR., POST OFFICE

A bill (H.R. 5384) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Crosby Street in Mansfield, Louisiana, as the “Dr. C.O. Simpkins, Sr., Post Office,” was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SENIORS FRAUD PREVENTION ACT OF 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 418, S. 512.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 512) to establish an advisory office within the Bureau of Consumer Protection of the Federal Trade Commission to prevent fraud targeting seniors, and for other purposes.

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 was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 512

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 “Seniors Fraud Prevention Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. OFFICE FOR THE PREVENTION OF FRAUD TARGETING SENIORS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY OFFICE.—The Federal Trade Commission shall establish an office within the Bureau of Consumer Protection for the purpose of advising the Commission on the prevention of fraud targeting seniors and to assist the Commission with the following:

(1) OVERSIGHT.—The advisory office shall monitor the market for mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and recorded message telephone call (hereinafter referred to as “robocall”) fraud targeting seniors and shall coordinate with other relevant agencies regarding the requirements of this section.

(2) CONSUMER EDUCATION.—The Commission through the advisory office shall, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Postmaster General, the Chief Postal Inspector for the United States Postal Inspection Service, and other relevant agencies—

(A) disseminate to seniors and families and caregivers of seniors general information on mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud targeting seniors, including descriptions of the most common fraud schemes;

(B) disseminate to seniors and families and caregivers of seniors information on reporting complaints of fraud targeting seniors either to the national toll-free telephone number established by the Commission for reporting such complaints, or to the Consumer Sentinel Network, operated by the Commission, where such complaints will become immediately available to appropriate law enforcement agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the attorneys general of the States;

(C) in response to a specific request about a particular entity or individual, provide publically available information of enforcement action taken by the Commission for mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud against such entity; and

(D) maintain a website to serve as a resource for information for seniors and families and caregivers of seniors regarding mail, television, internet, telemarketing, robocall, and other identified fraud targeting seniors.

(3) COMPLAINTS.—The Commission through the advisory office shall, in consultation with the Attorney General, establish procedures to—

(A) log and acknowledge the receipt of complaints by individuals who believe they have been a victim of mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud in the Consumer Sentinel Network, and shall make those complaints immediately available to Federal, State, and local law enforcement authorities; and

(B) provide to individuals described in subparagraph (A), and to any other persons, specific and general information on mail, television, internet, telemarketing, and robocall fraud, including descriptions of the most common schemes using such methods of communication.

(b) COMMENCEMENT.—The Commission shall commence carrying out the requirements of this section not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

IDENTIFYING OUTPUTS OF GENERATIVE ADVERSARIAL NETWORKS ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to immediate consideration of Calendar No. 580, S. 2904.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2904) to direct the Director of the National Science Foundation to support research on the outputs that may be generated by generative adversarial networks, otherwise known as deepfakes, and other comparable techniques that may be developed in the future, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Identifying Outputs of Generative Adversarial Networks Act” or the “IOGAN Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Gaps currently exist on the underlying research needed to develop tools that detect videos, audio files, or photos that have manipulated or synthesized content, including those generated by generative adversarial networks. Research on digital forensics is also needed to identify, preserve, recover, and analyze the provenance of digital artifacts.

(2) The National Science Foundation’s focus to support research in artificial intelligence through computer and information science and engineering, cognitive science and psychology, economics and game theory, control theory, linguistics, mathematics, and philosophy, is building a better understanding of how new technologies are shaping the society and economy of the United States.

(3) The National Science Foundation has identified the “10 Big Ideas for NSF Future Investment” including “Harnessing the Data Revolution” and the “Future of Work at the Human-Technology Frontier”, with artificial intelligence is a critical component.

(4) The outputs generated by generative adversarial networks should be included under the umbrella of research described in paragraph (3) given the grave national security and societal impact potential of such networks.

(5) Generative adversarial networks are not likely to be utilized as the sole technique of artificial intelligence or machine learning capable of creating credible deepfakes. Other techniques may be developed in the future to produce similar outputs.

SEC. 3. NSF SUPPORT OF RESEARCH ON MANIPULATED OR SYNTHESIZED CONTENT AND INFORMATION SECURITY.

The Director of the National Science Foundation, in consultation with other relevant Federal agencies, shall support merit-reviewed and competitively awarded research on manipulated or synthesized content and information authenticity, which may include—

(1) fundamental research on digital forensic tools or other technologies for verifying the authenticity of information and detection of manipulated or synthesized content, including content generated by generative adversarial networks;

(2) fundamental research on technical tools for identifying manipulated or synthesized content, such as watermarking systems for generated media;

(3) social and behavioral research related to manipulated or synthesized content, including human engagement with the content;

(4) research on public understanding and awareness of manipulated and synthesized content, including research on best practices for educating the public to discern authenticity of digital content; and

(5) research awards coordinated with other federal agencies and programs, including the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Agency, with coordination enabled by the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program.

SEC. 4. NIST SUPPORT FOR RESEARCH AND STANDARDS ON GENERATIVE ADVERSARIAL NETWORKS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall support research for the development of measurements and standards necessary to accelerate the development of the technological tools to examine the function and outputs of generative adversarial networks or other technologies that synthesize or manipulate content.

(b) *OUTREACH.*—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall conduct outreach—

(1) to receive input from private, public, and academic stakeholders on fundamental measurements and standards research necessary to examine the function and outputs of generative adversarial networks; and

(2) to consider the feasibility of an ongoing public and private sector engagement to develop voluntary standards for the function and outputs of generative adversarial networks or other technologies that synthesize or manipulate content.

SEC. 5. REPORT ON FEASIBILITY OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP TO DETECT MANIPULATED OR SYNTHESIZED CONTENT.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Science Foundation and the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall jointly submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate a report containing—

(1) the Directors' findings with respect to the feasibility for research opportunities with the private sector, including digital media companies to detect the function and outputs of generative adversarial networks or other technologies that synthesize or manipulate content; and

(2) any policy recommendations of the Directors that could facilitate and improve communication and coordination between the private sector, the National Science Foundation, and relevant Federal agencies through the implementation of innovative approaches to detect digital content produced by generative adversarial networks or other technologies that synthesize or manipulate content.

SEC. 6. GENERATIVE ADVERSARIAL NETWORK DEFINED.

In this Act, the term "generative adversarial network" means, with respect to artificial intelligence, the machine learning process of attempting to cause a generator artificial neural network (referred to in this paragraph as the "generator") and a discriminator artificial neural network (referred to in this paragraph as a "discriminator") to compete against each other to become more accurate in their function and outputs, through which the generator and discriminator create a feedback loop, causing the generator to produce increasingly higher-quality artificial outputs and the discriminator to increasingly improve in detecting such artificial outputs.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, 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 committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 2904), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 779, 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. 779) recognizing National Native American Heritage Month and celebrating the heritages and cultures of Native Americans and the contributions of Native Americans to the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to; 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 resolution (S. Res. 779) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2020, THROUGH MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2020

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn to then convene for pro forma sessions only, with no business being conducted, on the following dates and times, and that following each pro forma session, the Senate adjourn until the next pro forma session: Friday, November 20, at 8:15 a.m.; Tuesday, November 24, at 12:15 p.m.; Friday, November 27, at 3:15 p.m. I further ask that when the Senate adjourns on Friday, November 27, it next convene at 3 p.m., Monday, November 30; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; further, that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of

morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each; further, that at 5 p.m. the Senate proceed to executive session to resume the McNeel nomination under the previous order. Finally, I ask that the cloture motions filed during today's session of the Senate ripen following disposition of the McNeel nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2020, AT 8:15 A.M.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:34 p.m., adjourned until Friday, November 20, 2020, at 8:15 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. PATRICK J. COBB
BRIG. GEN. NICHOLAS A. GENTILE, JR.
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL T. GEROCK
BRIG. GEN. DUKE A. PIRAK
BRIG. GEN. DARRIN E. SLATEN

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MATTHEW D. DINMORE
BRIG. GEN. GENE W. HUGHES, JR.
BRIG. GEN. TONI M. LORD
BRIG. GEN. PETER NEZAMIS
BRIG. GEN. GREGG A. PEREZ
BRIG. GEN. THOMAS M. SUELZER
BRIG. GEN. MARK A. WEBBER

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. SANDRA L. BEST
BRIG. GEN. CHARLES G. JEFFRIES
BRIG. GEN. JAMES C. MCEACHEN
BRIG. GEN. SHANNA M. WOYAK
BRIG. GEN. BRETT A. WYRICK

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. JAMES R. CAMP
BRIG. GEN. THOMAS F. GRABOWSKI
BRIG. GEN. PAUL E. KNAPP
BRIG. GEN. RICHARD R. NEELY
BRIG. GEN. TORRENCE W. SAXE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. BARRY A. BLANCHARD

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. TARA D. MCKENNIE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL MATTHEW A. BARKER

COLONEL MATTHEW A. BOURASSA
 COLONEL MICHAEL J. BRUNO
 COLONEL MICHAEL O. CADLE
 COLONEL JOHN J. CAMPO
 COLONEL DAVID J. CIESIELSKI
 COLONEL ALICE A. CLARK
 COLONEL DAVID V. COCHRAN
 COLONEL LYNN E. COLE
 COLONEL JOHN M. COSGROVE
 COLONEL KURT R. DAVIS
 COLONEL JASON D. DICKINSON
 COLONEL LEON J. DODROE
 COLONEL DANIEL M. FESLER
 COLONEL EMIL J. FILKORN
 COLONEL ROBERT T. GREGORY
 COLONEL DAVID B. JOHNSON
 COLONEL MICHELE L. KILGORE
 COLONEL BRADFORD U. LARSON
 COLONEL VICTOR R. MACIAS
 COLONEL DEAN B. MARTIN, JR.
 COLONEL DANIEL R. MCDONOUGH
 COLONEL ALLISON C. MILLER
 COLONEL MARK W. MITCHUM
 COLONEL MICHELLE R. MULBERRY
 COLONEL BILLY F. MURPHY, JR.
 COLONEL JOHN R. O'CONNOR
 COLONEL DAVID A. PREISMAN
 COLONEL JORI A. ROBINSON
 COLONEL SHANNON D. SMITH
 COLONEL BRYONY A. TERRELL

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL JEFFREY R. ALEXANDER
 COLONEL MARK A. GOODWILL
 COLONEL MARK A. MUCKEY
 COLONEL RICK L. MUTCHLER

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL JOHN H. BONDHUS
 COLONEL JEFFREY D. COATS
 COLONEL SEAN F. CONROY
 COLONEL MICHAEL L. CORNELL
 COLONEL EDWARD H. EVANS, JR.
 COLONEL CHRISTOPHER K. FAUROT
 COLONEL LAWRENCE P. HAGER
 COLONEL DAVID M. HOUGHLAND
 COLONEL CATHERINE M. JUMPER
 COLONEL JULIO R. LAIRET
 COLONEL WILLIAM M. LEAHY
 COLONEL JAMES R. PARRY
 COLONEL LYLE D. SHIDLA
 COLONEL TODD R. STARBUCK
 COLONEL MELINDA L. SUTTON
 COLONEL MICHAEL T. VENERDI
 COLONEL PETER L. ZALEWSKI

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. DENISE M. DONNELL

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. ANTHONY D. STRATTON

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 531 AND 1211:

To be second lieutenant

BRANDON M. CRISP

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

MATTHEW B. ALEXANDER
 ELKANIAH L. ALTIUSPHU
 ELIZABETH A. ARROW
 CONNOR H. BERRIER
 WILLIAM R. BINGHAM
 SEAN S. BOYD
 ANTOINETTE G. BROERE
 CAIRI J. BUMPUS
 ANDREW G. BUTLER
 CHRISTOPHER B. CHONG
 ROBERT J. CLAVIN
 CARRIE G. COOLEY
 BRIAN S. CURRY
 MIGUEL DUPREYJEDA
 MO FENG
 JASON F. FIGGEROA
 ANDREW FOBES
 MATTHEW T. FRANK
 DANIEL A. FRITZ
 LAUREN E. GANNON
 DOMINIC M. GANZE

JAMES T. GRAVES
 DAVID C. GROVES
 JAMES A. HABERER
 WILLIAM C. HAGEBUSH
 ELIZABETH A. HAHN
 SHANE A. HALTON
 JEFFREY L. HARPER
 EDWARD A. HARRIS
 JOSHUA I. HAVASSY
 REBECCA L. HAWS
 DANE M. HOLTMEYER
 ELIZABETH M. HUBBS
 SARA E. HUTCHINGS
 ROBERT B. JEFFERSON
 DOUGLAS J. JONES
 GRACE A. JONES
 IRIS A. KAKU
 RORY F. KOZIK
 TIMOTHY G. LAUFER
 PETER J. LEBLANC
 CHRISTOPHER P. LEWIS
 ALEXANDER M. LUKICH
 PATRICK O. MCNAMARA
 MICHAEL S. MELZER
 KWESI A. MITCHELL
 JENNIFER M. MORSE
 BLAKE W. MURPHEY
 SEAN A. NEWMAN
 CHRISTOPHER R. NOVITICH
 JEREMY A. OLIVER
 KIMBERLY A. OLIVIER
 ANDREW E. PARKER
 BRYNN R. PELOQUIN
 CARLOS E. PEREZ
 ALEXANDER D. PHELPS
 DOMINIQUE L. PLUMAGE
 MICHAEL C. POLYARD
 LAUREN E. POWELL
 MARK R. RAPISARDO
 CHRISTOPHER L. RIVERA
 JASON M. ROBINSON
 JOHN R. SAPLIWAY
 JARRED P. SHANNON
 JESSICA K. SHEFFIELD
 KATHERINE L. SMITH
 RICHARD S. STURMAN
 TENESHIA G. SYLVE
 AIDAN E. TACHERON
 CARSON W. TALLEY
 DONALD M. TONEY, JR.
 NICOLE C. WASHINGTON
 ANNICKA M. WEBER
 DAVID C. WILLIAMS
 CHRISTOPHER W. WILSON
 ANGELINA R. WOODBURN

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

DEREK S. BERNSEN
 WALTHER A. DELORBE
 DWAYNE D. DUNLAP
 JOSEPH M. FEDERICO
 WILLIAM J. REIMER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

DEENA R. APT
 ERIC M. BACHTTEL
 ANDREW L. BALL
 JORGE L. BAUZO
 WILLIAM L. BRATCHER III
 HECTOR R. BREA
 MATTHEW B. BRINK
 LAURENCE M. CALUZA, JR.
 MICHAEL R. CARNEY
 JUSTIN S. CARTER
 DEMARLO M. CHAPPELL
 MICHAEL A. CLEMENTE
 KERRIE V. COLEMAN
 KORIN K. COOK
 PATRICIA R. CUNANAN
 JOHN R. DAVIS, JR.
 STEPHEN E. ECKSTEIN
 YVES EMILUS
 JONATHAN P. ENGLAND
 TAMFU G. FOMUSO
 DION B. GOODWYN
 HAROLD L. GORDON, JR.
 LASHONDRA P. GREEN
 GASTON A. HATFIELD, JR.
 STEVEN M. HAWKINS
 BRAD A. HEANEY
 GREGORY W. HERROD
 ROBERT S. HIBBS
 TIMOTHY A. HOLLAND
 FAUNI B. F. HOLT
 JOSEPH W. HUETT
 KEISHA A. HULLABY
 JASON J. JONES
 TEMI A. JONES
 KYLE R. KAUFFMAN
 JEFFREY A. KRYSKI
 JASON A. LAMBSON
 ANTHONY F. LAMONICA
 ADAM J. LEVINE
 JAMES E. LEWIS
 JAMES R. LEWIS, JR.
 PETER L. LOCKLEAR
 JEROME V. MALVEAUX, JR.
 JEFFREY T. MAULDIN
 MICHAEL C. MCDONALD

DENNIS H. NYSTROM
 KOREY A. PACK
 KENNETH W. PENNINGTON
 ROGER E. ROBITAILLE, JR.
 BRADLEY K. RUSH
 THOMAS R. SAMELLA
 DAREN L. SANFORD
 MICHAEL J. SCHRUMP
 VALERIE E. SELLERS
 JOHN L. TATRO
 CLINT E. TERGESON
 WILLIAM J. TRAYLOR
 GARY E. ULLRICH
 DAVID J. VANDYKE
 WINDIE M. VILLANUEVA
 SHANE A. WELSH
 DAVID D. WILLIAMS
 TODD W. WISH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

PATRICK R. ADAMS
 MICHAEL J. ATTERBERY
 RICK W. BATES
 NATHAN A. BATTLE
 DANIEL J. BELL
 REX W. BIXBY
 CHAD E. BLANKENSHIP
 VERBON D. BRADLEY III
 SHAWN C. BRANSKE
 MICHAEL L. COBLE
 JAMES B. CORLEY
 JASON R. CROW
 CODY W. DAVIS
 GEORGE L. DAY II
 THOMAS J. DISTEFANO
 ROBERT R. EASTMAN III
 JAMES N. EDWARDS
 TERRY A. ENGLAND
 JOHN P. ENGLISH
 MICHAEL A. ESPOSITO, JR.
 MIGUEL A. GONZALEZ
 STEVEN T. GRIFFITH
 JARROD A. HANCOCK
 ROBERT M. HARTWELL
 JUAN P. HERRERAMAUER
 JASON R. HOFFMIER
 PAUL G. HUCKABY
 MICHAEL J. JOHNSON
 NICHOLAS L. KNIGHTS
 JOHN T. LOOBY
 JASON S. MCLAUGHLIN
 NICHOLAS M. MEADORS
 JUSTIN G. MILLER
 MATTHEW R. MILLER
 CHRISTOPHER R. MONTMINY
 ERIC A. MOORE
 JOHN R. NOLDAN
 MICHAEL F. PEOPLES
 FRED D. RAY
 CHRISTOPHER S. SEE
 ZEBULUN J. SHAW
 CHRISTOPHER G. SMITH
 CODRUT I. STAN
 AARON M. STROEH
 JAMES H. TAYLOR III
 WILLIAM P. THOMAS
 IAN E. WATERS
 EARL WATSON III
 COLIN C. WILLIAMS
 JACOB R. WOFFORD
 TODD M. WOODCOCK
 DAVID M. YOST

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JOSHUA D. ALLEN
 YANO M. ANTEROCATLETT
 BENJAMIN S. BARTON
 NICOLAS J. Q. BARTISTA
 JAYSON S. BELMES
 SHEA A. BICKERSTAFF
 DUSTIN B. BLAIR
 SHAWN A. BLAND
 ADAM J. BROPHY
 WARREN K. BUCKLAND
 SHAWN M. CONLEY
 BRIAN C. COUGHLIN
 YUNIEL DELGADO
 JOAN M. DIAZ
 PERPETUA A. DOMITROVICH
 MICHAEL D. DOYLE
 AARON D. GATHER
 MICHAEL L. HARPER
 TERENCE J. HIGGINS
 HEATH R. HILLESHEIM
 JASON W. HOSLER
 OSBALDO IBARRAVARELA
 PAUL N. JENKS
 LAMAR T. JOHNEKINS
 CHRISTOPHER D. JONES
 RYAN R. JONES
 IMRAN M. KAMISS
 DOUGLAS A. KESTERSON
 KYLE D. KUESTER
 KENNETH J. LUTZA
 JULIO C. MIRANDA
 JEFFREY W. NAKHO
 KENZY C. NAZARE
 PATRICK D. PALMA
 DONALD E. PHELPS II

DANIEL J. PRATT
DAVID QUANT
MARIA D. RELAYO
MARK A. RODRIGUEZ
SAMUEL H. ROSE
QUENTINPARRISH L. SALINAS
KEVIN L. SAUER
JASON A. SHANKS
CHRISTOPHER C. SIMPSON
SHANNON D. THAYER
SHELDON C. WALLEN
MICHAEL E. WILCKENS
MICHAEL S. WILLIAMS
PAUL S. YOUNG
SHAWN F. ZENTNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

OLUWASEUN O. O. ABEGUNDE
NICHOLAS M. ACKERMAN
JAMES L. ADAIR
SCOTT A. ADAMS
SAMUEL J. ADAMSON
MAHMOOD D. ALAVERDI
ALVIN A. ALCAIDE
MICHAEL B. ALEXANDER
REBEKAH M. ALFORD
HANNAH E. ALLAIRE
DAVID M. ALLEN
JAMES M. ALLEN, JR.
ROBERT R. ALLEN
RUSSELL W. ALLEN
ASHLEY E. ALLISON
TRAVIS C. ALSUP
ANTHONY W. AMMERMAN
ALEXANDER S. ANDERSON
JOSEPH S. ANDERSON
KYLE J. ANDERSON
SHANNON R. ANDERSON
KATHLEEN M. ANDREWS
DONALD P. ANTHONY
JOHN J. ARBALL
JOSHUA P. ARCHER
ERIC M. ARNOLD
NICHOLAS R. ARNOLD
MATTHEW J. ARNSBERGER
TYLER A. ARP
JONATHAN D. ASBURY
JEFFREY J. ASCH
DAVID J. ASH
NATHAN D. ASHINHURST
KYLE E. ATAKTURK
DEVIN S. ATHEY
FRANCIS A. ATKINSON
DANIEL T. AUCOIN
KRISTIN E. AVILA
LATASHA A. BAICUS
JOSHUA S. BAILEY
JOHN L. BAKER
JONATHAN E. BAKER
TIMOTHY J. BAKER
BRYAN J. BALLANTYNE
CHARLES C. BALLARD
JOSHUA T. BALLARD
NICHOLAS W. BALLARD
JOHN D. BAMONTE, JR.
ANDREW J. BANKHEAD
DENNIS E. BANKS
BOWE L. BARGER
SEAN J. BARNER
MICHAEL S. BARRE
GRANT M. BARRETT
MICHAEL T. BARTEK
GERALD K. BATCHELDER
PATRICK W. BATES
STEPHEN B. BAUCHMAN
ZACHARY J. BAUER
JORDAN W. BAUM
JAMES W. BEA
GARY A. BELAGA
JOHN G. BELLEZZA
ROBERT J. BELLISIMO
AUBREY E. BENNETT
MATTHEW R. BENNETT
DANIEL P. BERGEN II
KELSEY L. BERGH
STEVEN M. BERRES
JOHN P. BERRY
PRITI BHATNAGAR
JAKUB S. BIALBEK
JOEL W. BIALKOWSKY
JOHN A. BICE
VERONICA J. BILDZUKEWICZ
RACHEL A. BITAR
PAUL J. BITNER
JOSEPH C. BIVANS
DERRON B. BLACK
JENNA H. BLAIS
MICHAEL W. BLAIS
WILLIAM C. BLALOCK
NICHOLAS S. BLANKENSHIP
KYLE H. BLIZZARD
LOREN A. BLUM
WILLIAM W. BOCHNER
KAITLIN E. BOENSEL
JEREMY R. BOHANAN
JUSTIN A. BOILY
BRYAN A. BOLDON
TRAVIS J. BOLLER
JEFFREY S. BOLSTAD
KYLE W. BOLTON
TRAVIS A. BOND
BRETT A. BONDS
IAN R. BOOK

CAROLYN V. BOOTHE
TAYLOR J. BOOTZ
ANDREW W. BOSCHERT
KRISTOFFER R. BOSTIC
JONATHAN D. BOTTLER
BRADLEY J. BOWEN
JENNIFER M. BOWER
BRYCE D. BOWERS
JOHN P. BOWMAN
JAMES D. BOYD
DAVID A. BRADLEY
KERRY K. BRADY
JUSTIN M. BRANLEY
JULIUS G. BRATTON
TAYLOR S. BRAUNS
COURTNEY K. BRAYMAN
RYAN P. BRENNER
SHANE P. BRENNER
RYAN C. BRESSON
PATRICK J. BRICE
HUNTER R. BRILEY
SAMUEL F. BRINSON
BRESHHAUN K. BROWN
CLINTON A. BROWN
VANESSA D. BROWN
ERIC T. BRUGLER
MICHAEL J. BRUNETTI
ROBERT C. BUCHANAN III
JORDAN A. BUCHANAN
ALEXANDER J. BUCK
JOSEPH S. BUCK
MICHAEL J. BUCK
PETER J. BUE
CLIPTON R. BUKOWSKY II
BRIAN N. BULLEN
ERIC M. BUNKER
MATTHEW Y. BURCH
CHRISTOPHER C. BURKE
ROBERT T. BURKE
TYRONE B. BURKE
WILLIAM J. BURNS
CALEB J. BURROW
SARA L. BURTON
CARSON M. BURTON
KAITLYN E. BUSSELL
CONOR M. BUTTLERRICKETTS
LARA R. BZIK
ROWELL A. CAGUIOA
CHARLES J. CALABRETTA
CLAIRE A. CALAWAY
SAMUEL J. CALAWAY
CAITLYN L. CALHOON
CHAD K. CALLENDER
JOSE L. CALOGA
RYAN P. CAMPBELL
SHANE M. CAMPBELL
COREY J. CAMPOS
VICTOR W. CANNUSCIO
SEFRAM T. CARLILE
BARBARA G. CARLSON
CHAD A. CARLSON
PAUL A. CARPENTER
ADDISON J. CARR
JOHN S. CARTER
JORDAN R. CARTER
JONATHAN A. CASHON
NICHOLAS P. CASTELLI
BRENDAN M. B. CELIZ
NICHOLAS P. CELONE
CARLOS R. CEPEDA
CHRISTOPHER D. CHANDLER
KEVIN A. CHANEY
NICHOLAS A. CHAPPELL
SAVITH R. CHAUHAN
LAUREN E. CHESTER
CHARLES F. CHOATE VI
ALEX J. CLARK
PATRICK E. CLARK
ADAM T. CLAUDY
MICHAEL J. CLAUDY
BENJAMIN J. CLAY
JAMES P. CLAYTON
BENJAMIN M. CLEDE
RYAN W. CLIFFORD
ERIC N. CLOW
DEVON G. COBBS
MICHAEL A. COFSKY
ALEXANDER F. COKER
SCOTT D. COLLARD
BRITTANY A. COLLARNS
BRYAN W. COLLINS
PATRICK B. COLLINS
TRAVIS A. COLLINS
JOHN P. COLLUMS
HECTOR A. COLUNGA
CHAD R. COMPTON
SEAN A. CONKLE
ROBERT M. CONNELL
ANDREW C. CONSTANTINO
BRETT M. COOK
JEREMY R. COOPER
DAVID D. CORBIN
RYAN L. CORBIN
BRENDAN E. CORDIAL
ANNA M. CORNELL
ROBERTO CORONADO II
JAMES B. CORRIN
ROBERT D. COSLICK III
JOHN Z. COUGHLIN
DEIDRE F. COULSONTUCKER
ALEXANDER C. COVELLE
JOSHUA R. COX
WILLIAM B. CRAVEN
NKI Y. CRAWFORD
SEAN K. CROSS
SAMUEL D. CROUSE
JOEL G. CUDA

CHARLES B. CUMMINGS
JOHN J. CUSHING, JR.
MORGAN A. DAHL
ALEXANDER M. DAIE
ZACHARY C. DANIEL
BRENDAN P. DANNER
FRED DARLINGTON IV
JAMES D. DAVIS II
DARNELL D. DEAS
SAMUEL F. DEEDY
ALEXANDER J. DEGELDER
CHRISTOPHER J. DEMATTEO
TIMOTHY R. DENNELLY
DAVID A. DENNING
JORDAN L. DENNIS
JEREMIAH A. DERRICK
TOM W. DESHAZO
RACHAEL M. DESKIN
CASEY P. DESORMIER
JOHN J. DEVER II
CHRISTOPHER T. DEYOUNG
BRYAN E. DIETEL
JAKE A. DIGHTON
ASHLEE J. DILLARDHOUSTON
JOVEN E. V. DINGLASAN
ROBIN M. DISARNO
JONATHAN M. DOBBINS
COLIN B. DOHERTY
BRANDON T. DORMONT
BRENDAN J. DOUGHERTY
KEVIN P. DOYLE, JR.
KONSTANTIN DRABKIN
ROBERT J. DREITZ
THOMAS M. DRESSER
NICHOLAS M. DRISCOLL
ABRAM C. DUBOIS
ZACHARY E. DUENAS
JOHN D. DUFFNER
THOMAS J. DUGAN
ANTHONY M. DUNCAN
MILES G. DUNFORD
WESLEY A. DUNHAM
TONY G. DUNLAVY
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NICHOLAS C. DUNN
TREVOR M. DUNN
GARY M. EDDY
MARK N. EDSON
NATHANIEL J. EDWARDS
DANIEL R. EFGINGER
JAMES R. ELDRIDGE
STEPHANIE R. ELLIOTT
PAUL A. ELLWOOD
RYAN J. ELLWOOD
DAVID A. ERWERT
CLAIRE S. EUDY
CHRISTOPHER J. FACKRELL
COLE D. FAHEY
JON E. FAILE
JASON R. FALK
SUSAN L. FALK
SOREN G. FARMER
GEOFFREY E. FASTABEND
SEAN R. FEENEY
ZACHARY A. FEENSTRA
KRISTEN E. FEKETE
BRIAN T. FENSTEMAKER
KATHERINE L. FENSTEMAKER
RYAN R. FERRAO
ANDREW J. FERRING
AUSTIN J. FICK
JARROD J. FIECOAT
ERIC R. FIELDS
ANTHONY S. FINIGAN
RICHARD H. FISCHER
KYLE E. FISHER
SEAN J. FITZMAURICE
ANDREW M. FITZSIMMONS
MICHAEL T. FLANIGAN
WESTON W. FLOYD
PATRICK D. FLYNN
ALEXANDER M. FORD
SCOTT H. FORD
DESMOND R. FOURNIER
KYLE S. FRANK
CHRISTIAN D. FRASHER
MARC J. FRICCHIONE
JAMES A. FRIEDLANDER
STEPHEN P. FRIEDRICK
ALEXANDER H. FULWILER
LAUREN M. FURBUSH
KEVIN M. GALANG
JESSE L. GANDY
EVER M. GARAY
DOMINIC A. GARCIA
ERIC M. GARCIA
VINCENT D. GARDNER
KURT N. GARMAN
CHRISTOPHER J. GARNER
SHAWN H. GARNER
MILES A. GARRETT
THOMAS G. GASTER
DAVID R. GATELY
MARGARET C. GATESGEORGE
RICHARD G. GESCH
DANIEL J. GESCH
ANTHONY J. GIAMPA
JAMES A. GIANCOLA
JASON M. GIBSON
JOEL A. GILLQUIST
MCLAREN K. GILMORE
BLAKE C. GLASS
IAN D. GOMES
FRANCHESKA P. GONZALEZ
IVAN C. GONZALEZ
DAMON A. GOODRICHHOUSKA

BRIAN F. GOTTFRIED
 ROBERT A. GRANT
 TYRELL S. GRANT
 ALEXANDER M. GRAVES
 DANIEL S. GRAY
 GAYLAN M. GREENAWALT
 DEREK P. GREENE
 ANDREW K. GREGORY
 LONSDALE F. GREGORY
 WADE R. GREGORY
 NICHOLAS Q. GRELL
 GARRETT T. GRIFFIN
 KEVIN R. GROCH
 RALPH N. GROSSMANN IV
 JESSICA M. GRUPP
 HAMILTON R. GUBANC
 SARAH E. GUNN
 SEAMUS H. GUNN
 PATRICK N. HABR
 KYLE A. HAITH
 ERWIN A. HALE
 ELLIOT T. HALL
 SAMUEL W. HALL
 WILLIAM J. HALL
 WESLEY T. HAMANN
 JESSE R. HAMPSPHER
 DONALD O. HAMPTON
 MICHAEL W. HAMPTON
 DREW J. HANCE
 DAVID J. HANCOCK
 MATTHEW D. HANNIFY
 MARK R. HANSBERRY
 BRADLEY D. HARDEN
 CALVIN S. HARGADINE
 BRENT W. HARKINS
 KELLY M. HARKINS
 RANDOLPH S. HARLAN
 HARLEY S. HARP
 MATTHEW E. HARTSOG
 ETHAN A. HARVEY
 PAUL T. HASSELL
 RYAN M. HAUBENSTEIN
 JACOB D. HAWLEY
 BENJAMIN W. HAYES
 CLARK L. HAYES
 ERIN S. HAYES
 WHITNEY C. HAYES
 DENNIS A. HAYNES
 SAMUEL P. HAYS
 ANTHONY J. HAYWOOD III
 JOSHUA M. HEANEY
 JEFFREY S. HECKELMAN
 AMY E. HEFLIN
 JAMES C. HELVEY III
 JOSHUA A. HENDERSON
 THOMAS R. HENDRICKS
 HEATH L. HENEVELD
 JOSEPH F. HENKEL
 DAVE V. HENSON
 SONIA R. HERRERA
 XERXES Z. HERRINGTON III
 TIMOTHY J. HERTTBERG
 THOMAS A. HIGGINS
 JOSHUA M. HIGHTOWER
 KATHERINE T. HINKLE
 DELTA M. HINSON
 BRENDAN M. HINZ
 JASON T. HINZ
 RICHARD T. HOBART
 WILLIS W. HOBSON VI
 ROBERT P. HODGSON
 JEREMY E. HOFFMAN
 RYAN S. HOFFMAN
 BRANDON M. HOGAN
 THADDEUS M. HOKULA
 ANDREW S. HOLDER
 MICHAEL S. HOLL
 REBECCA R. HOLMAN
 CHAPIN J. HOLUB
 STEPHEN G. HONAN
 BENJAMIN O. J. HONDRUM
 MICHAEL J. HOOK
 ROBERT B. HOPKINS
 JACOB R. HOPPER
 JOHN H. HORNE
 JONATHAN D. HORNE
 RICHARD K. HORTON, JR.
 NICHOLAS P. R. HORTON
 DEREK S. HUDSON
 KORY N. HUGHES
 CHRISTOPHER A. HUIZINGA
 VIRGIL P. HUMES
 ROBERT E. HUMMEL III
 JACOB R. HUNTLEY
 DANIEL J. HUNZIKER
 ANTHONY D. HUSTEDT
 ZACHARY A. HUTCHINGS
 NEAL P. HUTSELL
 CHRISTOPHER T. IHLAN
 TONY L. INGRAM
 TRAVIS D. IOTT
 CHRISTOPHER A. ISLEY
 JOHN T. IZZO
 JOSEPH E. IZZO
 JUSTIN A. JACKSON
 ANDREW R. JACOBS
 JOHN P. JAKES
 ANDREW S. JALALI
 ALAN M. JANICIAN
 CHRISTOPHER L. JANOWICZ
 LAUREN N. JELINEK
 KEITH W. JERONIMUS
 EVAN B. JESTER
 ANDREW W. JETER
 JOSEPH J. JOHANNES
 COLLEEN C. JOHNSON
 DENNIE C. JOHNSON, JR.

LAMONT R. JOHNSON
 MARCUS A. JOHNSON
 PETER D. JOHNSON
 SEAN A. JOHNSON
 STEVEN M. JOHNSON
 WILLIAM J. JOHNSON
 ALISON R. JONES
 CHRISTOPHER D. JONES
 KALYN N. JONES
 KEITH M. JONES
 STUART L. JONES
 WILLIAM B. JONES
 SYLVIA A. JORDAN
 JESSICA R. JOSES
 RYAN J. KACZOROWSKI
 TIMOTHY A. KAIN
 AARON M. KALFUS
 DANIEL J. KAMENSKY
 CHRISTOPHER L. KAMINSKY
 WILLIAM G. KAMM
 SAMUEL S. KANG
 ROBERT C. KAPLAN
 GAVIN X. KARSKI
 JOSEPH R. KEDROWSKI
 CODY A. KEEF
 RORY C. KEEL
 MICHAEL B. KEESSEE
 DAVID M. KEHOE
 DAVID A. KELLER II
 BRENDAN M. KELLY
 DANIEL P. KELLY
 JAMES K. KELLY
 MICHAEL P. KELLY
 ORION M. KELLY
 RYAN P. KELLY
 CAROLYN N. KENALEY
 KEVIN C. KENNEDY
 MATTHEW A. KENNEDY
 JOSEPH R. KESSENICH
 BRIAN M. KIDD
 RYAN P. KILWAY
 BAILEIGH E. KIMBALL
 SETH P. KIMBALL
 JESSICA L. KING
 ROBERT F. KING
 ALEXANDER M. KINNEY
 CALVIN C. KIRTLEY
 SEAN C. KITCHEN
 SHARI D. KLEIMAN
 ADAM J. KLIMAS
 SHEA B. KNECHT
 KARL G. KOBBERSTAD
 JOSHUA T. KOCH
 JUSTIN E. KOWATCH
 JOHN L. KOZLOWSKI
 JOHN B. KRAME
 ANDREW M. KRAMER
 JULIA L. KRANZ
 JASON W. KRESSEN
 DOUGLAS H. KROH
 BLAKE M. KROLL
 KALEN A. KROPA
 SEAN M. KRUEGER
 CONRAD J. KUSEL
 JACOB N. KUTZER
 JACOB D. KYZER
 CARTER T. LABARTHE
 MICHAEL R. LACAMAN
 CLARENCE F. S. LAMBERT
 BLAINE A. LANDER
 DANIEL N. LANDERHOLM
 THOMAS P. LANG
 ROBERT F. LANG III
 JOHN T. LANGRECK
 ALISON M. LANKES
 JUAN P. LANSANG
 STEVENPAUL G. LAPID
 MICHAEL R. LASKI
 MICHAEL S. LASSITER
 MATTHEW J. LATOCHA
 RICHARD C. LAUBER III
 OLUFEMI S. C. LAWRENCE
 JEANNETTE K. LAZZARO
 HO T. LE
 HEATHER I. LEE
 JASMINE D. LEE
 JENNIFER L. LEE
 TRAVIS J. LEE
 TONY LEGUIA
 WILLIAM D. LEIGHT
 NICHOLAS J. LENCI
 JONATHAN E. LEO
 SAMUEL B. LEPPLEY
 CHRISTOPHER T. LEUNG
 EVAN L. LEVESQUE
 KELLI A. LEWIS
 SARA M. LEWIS
 ADAM B. LEWIS
 ERIC M. LEWIS
 JOSEPH C. LEWIS
 SEAN C. LEWIS
 BRETT F. LIBBY
 BENJAMIN J. LICK
 THOMAS D. LIGHTBODY
 SCOTT A. LINDAHL
 SETH J. LLOYD
 TIMOTHY J. LLOYD
 WILLIAM A. LOERA
 KEITH D. LOKKINS
 JEFFREY R. LONG
 COLIN A. LOOBY
 KRISTOPHER A. LOVEKAMP
 DONITA L. LOZADA
 JONATHAN M. LOZANO
 SOLOMON C. LU
 JONATHAN M. LUETKENHOELTER
 AUSTIN J. LUGO

EVAN S. LUNDSTROM
 ALLAN B. LUTZ
 CLAYTON LYDICK
 GEORGE D. LYLE
 THOMAS P. MACNEIL
 DANIEL F. MAHAFFEY
 CARLOS L. MALDONADO
 MARK E. MALINIAK
 LISA M. MALONE
 CHRISTOPHER P. MALONE
 JONATHAN S. MALYCKE
 CAITLIN M. MANDRIN
 MARCIA L. MANNARINO
 PAUL L. MARDER
 BRYAN C. MAREK
 SAMANTHA F. MARGOLIS
 JASON MARISCAL
 CHARLES W. D. MARSHALL
 DARVIN L. MARSHALL
 WARLIN E. MARTE
 ADAM M. MARTIN
 SAMUEL N. MARTINETTE
 MICHAEL A. MARTINEZ
 JARROD S. MARTYN
 MICHAEL J. MASSEL
 WINSTON A. MASSEY
 JAMES E. MATHER II
 MATTHEW E. MATLOCK
 STEVE T. MATSUI
 ANDREW N. MAULDIN
 MICHAEL L. MAY
 KEVIN A. MAZZELLA
 SEAN J. MCABEE
 DANIEL J. MCCADDEN
 EMMA K. MCCARTHY
 MICHAEL P. MCCLARY
 JOSHUA J. MCCOLLISTER
 JUSTIN C. MCCORKLE
 JEFFREY S. MCCORMICK
 ALEX L. MCCOY
 TYLER K. MCCOY
 BRYAN P. MCDONOUGH
 BRANDON A. MCDOWELL
 CRYSTAL L. N. MCFADDEN
 MICHAEL T. MCGARRY
 ARIC M. MCGEE
 COLLIN M. MCGEEHAN
 KYLE J. MCGHIE
 ALEXIS M. MCGILVREY
 BRENDAN R. MCGOERY
 ZACHARY W. MCINTYRE
 THOMAS J. MCKENNA
 KRISTEN M. MCKIM
 BRYAN J. MCKNIFF
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 JEREMIAH G. MEDINA
 JUSTIN T. MEDLIN
 NICHOLAS C. MEHALIC
 TIMOTHY J. MESZAROS, JR.
 DANIEL J. MEYERS
 ELYSE F. MIELNIK
 SARAH B. MILLER
 JESSE R. MILLER
 JONATHAN A. MILLER
 JOSEPH W. MILLER
 KELLY D. MILLER, JR.
 NICHOLAS R. MILLER
 RYAN P. MILLER
 SELBY L. MILLER
 STEVEN M. MILLER
 ROBERT J. MILLS II
 JOSHUA L. MILLS
 JOHN H. MILNE IV
 ZACHARY G. MINETTE
 CHRISTIAN J. MINEUR
 MICHAEL T. MINNEMAN
 VICTOR C. MIRANDA
 JONATHAN D. MISKE
 KATHERINE M. MIYAMASU
 DANIEL R. MOCZYNGEMBA
 SHAUN K. MOLINA
 MOIRA B. MOLLOY
 MARYA C. MONROE
 BRYAN A. MONTGOMERY
 BENJAMIN E. MOONEY
 BRIAN T. MOORE
 OLCORD D. MOORE
 MATTHEW H. MOOREFIELD
 CHARLES A. MORANT
 BRADLEY A. MORGAN
 CLARKE S. MORGRET
 MICHAEL J. MORRISON
 JARED S. MOSIER
 THOMAS W. MOUNTAIN, JR.
 WILLIAM J. MOXEY III
 MEGAN MYETTE
 AMEER J. MULCAHY
 RYAN D. MULLER
 GEOFFREY C. MULLER
 ALEXANDER E. MULLIN
 CHELSEA O. MURPHY
 CHRISTIAN S. MURPHY
 JOHN P. MURPHY
 MATTHEW J. MURPHY
 MONY R. MURPHY
 SCOTT T. MURPHY
 KEVIN P. MURRAY
 TIMOTHY M. MUSMANNO
 ANGELA M. MYERS
 FRANK C. NAPIER
 RYAN M. NAULT
 ROBERT A. NELSON
 ANDREW S. NESBURG

THOMAS W. NETHERTON
 MICHAEL H. NEWELL
 JOSEPH P. NEWMAN
 ROBERT E. Q. NEWMAN
 MARK T. NICHOLSON
 THOMAS L. NICHOLSON
 ANTHONY S. NICOLAS
 TYLER P. NICOLL
 KATRINA S. NIETSCH
 BRADLEY J. NORDSTROM
 KYLE A. NORLIN
 MITCHEL R. NORMAND
 JOHN M. NORRIS
 REBECCA E. NORTZ
 NATALIE A. NORWOOD
 PATRICK J. NORWOOD
 LEANDER A. NUNEZ
 JOSHUA A. NUNN
 ANDREW J. NUNNIKHOVEN
 GALEN D. OBER
 NICHOLAS R. OBERKROM
 REBECCA J. O'BRIEN
 KRISTOFER W. OCHS
 RORY T. O'DONNELL
 MORGAN A. B. OGREEN
 RODERICK J. O'HEARN
 CHRISTOPHER M. OLANDER
 ROSS H. OLEY
 BENJAMIN L. OLIVAS
 OLAF D. OLSON
 WESTLEY E. OLSON
 KELLI M. ORNDORFF
 BRIAN T. OSBORNE
 JUSTIN W. OTTO
 MICHAEL E. OVERTON
 ASHLY C. PACHECO
 TRAVIS R. PAGE
 NATHAN L. PALMER
 TARA A. PALMER
 TAI PAN
 PETER A. PAPPALARDO
 JASON J. PARK
 ANDREW J. PARKER
 JAMES R. PARREIRA
 NICOLAS R. PARSONS
 REILLY A. PARSONS
 BRIAN J. PASKY
 BRIAN A. PATTERSON
 LEE A. PATTERSON
 TARA L. PAYNE
 JASON A. PECK
 EOWYN E. PEDIICINI
 NATHANIEL S. PELLETTIER
 MICAH L. PENLEY
 MADISON D. PENNINGTON
 DAVID M. PEREZ
 KORY L. PEREZ
 GEOFFREY M. PETERSEN
 PATRICK S. PETERSEN
 ERIK M. PETERSON
 JOSHUA D. PFAFF
 ANDREW C. PFARNER
 LONG H. PHAN
 CHRISTOPHER L. PHILLIPS
 DAVID C. PHILLIPS
 RAYMOND V. PIANA
 BERNARD K. PICHA
 MICHAEL J. PIRES
 MICHAEL A. PIRIE
 KEVIN W. PITCOCK
 CARLOS A. PLAZAS, JR.
 JOHN M. POLAKOVSKY
 CHRISTOPHER H. POPA
 JOSEPH L. POSWILKO
 EDWARD J. POTTSSZOKO
 MICHAEL R. POUNDERS
 ANDREW M. POWANDA
 SEAN M. Poyer
 ERIK T. PRATT
 CHRISTOPHER K. PRICE
 CHRISTOPHER M. PRICE
 ANNE E. PRISK
 NICHOLAS M. PULIDO
 JOSHUA L. PUSCAS
 TYLER H. PUTNAM
 MARY O. QUINN
 JOHN J. RADEMACHER, JR.
 KYLE R. RADEMAKER
 MARK D. RANDAZZO
 ALAN M. RATZEL
 PATRICK T. RAWLINSON
 MICHAEL P. RAY, JR.
 BENJAMIN S. READ
 ALEXANDER J. REARDON
 DANIELLE A. EDMOND
 CASSIE J. REDNER
 BENJAMIN J. REED
 BRANDEN M. REED
 BRYAN J. REED
 KEVIN M. REES
 ROBERT R. REICHHARDT
 JUSTIN C. REIFSNYDER
 CHRISTOPHER C. REILLY
 JEFFREY D. REILLY
 MARK B. REIS
 JOHN P. RENNINGER
 KYLE W. RETZLOFF
 VICTOR H. REZA
 RYAN D. RHEA
 DANIEL R. RHEAUME
 JOSEPH R. RICE
 JAMES M. RILEY
 CHARLES D. RINK
 DAVID T. RITCHEY
 JOSHUA M. ROAF
 CHRISTOPHER M. ROBERTS
 JARED D. ROBEY

MATTHEW R. ROBIDA
 CHASE B. ROGALSKI
 THOMAS A. ROLLOW
 STEPHEN J. ROMAN
 JASON M. ROMEO
 SIERRA G. ROONEY
 JOHN J. ROSA
 DANTE A. ROSS
 EDWARD R. ROSTETTER
 COREY R. ROTH
 CRYSTAL N. ROTH
 MATTHEW W. ROUKEMA
 THERESA L. ROUSE
 EVAN T. ROWE
 WILLIAM B. ROWNTREE
 JAMES M. ROYALS
 ERIC A. RUBY
 JENNY RUDEWICZ
 DAVID M. RYAN
 JACLYN M. SALVATINI
 ALEXANDER K. SAMANIEGO
 SRDAN SAMARDZIC
 JOSHEUA J. SAMUELSON
 LUIS E. SANCHEZ
 RAYMOND A. SANDERS, JR.
 FRANCISCO J. SANTIAGORAMOS
 FREDERICKPAUL SAPORITA
 JEFFREY M. SARGIS
 DANIEL L. SAUER
 JOHN C. SAULS
 ALEX M. SCAPEROTTO
 TRAVIS L. SCHALLENBERGER
 JOCHELLE A. SCHATZ
 DUSTIN P. SCHEINERT
 JASON D. SCHLADT
 LOUIS A. SCHLECKER
 PETER K. SCHMIDT
 KEITH E. SCHMITT
 BRIAN T. SCHOENBORFER
 COLT W. SCHOFIELD
 BRADLEY D. SCHOLTES
 ALBERT J. SCHRUTEMER III
 BRIAN M. SCHUESSLER
 MATTHEW J. SCHWEERS
 STEVEN P. SCOGGINS
 BRYAN J. SCOTT
 ERIC A. SCOTT
 MELISSA A. SEETS
 BRIAN J. SERBENT
 BRIAN P. SEYMOUR
 DILLON B. SHEPLEY
 MATTHEW V. SHILAN
 DERICK A. SHIMA
 JOEL B. SHIPLEY
 MILES C. SHIPLEY
 NATHAN D. SHUEY
 PETER H. SHULTIS
 CHRISTOPHER F. SIEDSMA
 JOSEPH B. N. SILVERMAN
 JEFFREY K. SKILES
 STEVEN H. SLAUGH
 ALLISON K. SMITH
 AARON M. SMITH
 ANDREW M. SMITH
 CODY T. SMITH
 DALLAS B. SMITH
 DANIELLE A. SMITH
 JERD H. SMITH
 JONATHAN M. SMITH
 MYRIAN SMITH
 RUSSELL D. SMITH
 STEPHEN D. SMITH
 THOMAS M. SMITH
 TIFFANY N. SMITH
 STEVEN L. SNOW
 KEITH H. SOSS
 DAVID J. SPAULDING
 JORDAN A. SPECTOR
 WILLIAM P. SPENCER
 JACOB W. SPITZER
 AARON P. SPONSELLER
 MATTHEW S. STAFFORD
 AARON M. J. STALFORD
 JEREMIAH B. STAMPFLER
 TAYLOR D. STANG
 CAROLINE E. STANTON
 JACOB R. STARR
 DANIEL J. STARSINIC
 LINDIANA J. STEFFAN
 JEFFREY C. STEINER
 FOSTER P. STENSON
 WESLEY D. STERRETT
 JOSHUA J. STEWART
 THOMAS P. STEWART
 THOMAS P. STEWART
 NICHOLAS D. STONER
 ANDREW M. STOPCHICK
 ALEX J. STOUT
 JOSHUA J. STRAKA
 BRIAN G. STRIFLER
 ERIC T. STROME
 HENRY R. STRONG
 BENJAMIN D. STUBBLEFIELD
 NATHAN P. STUMP
 RYAN M. STUMPF
 JOHN R. STURGILL
 JOHN R. SUABEDISSEN
 KARL J. SUABEDISSEN
 JARROD S. SULLIVAN
 PATRICK J. SULLIVAN
 JOSEPH G. SUMMA
 NATHAN M. SUNDELL
 ROBERT L. SUTPHIN
 GREGORY C. SUTTER
 TERRENCE C. SWENEY
 RYAN W. SWEETSER
 CASEY K. SWIFT
 GREGORY R. SYERS
 JOSHUA E. SZAKAL

ANDREW M. SZOCH
 BRADLEY S. TALBERT
 CASEY R. TALBOT
 JOHN F. TANALEGA
 BRANDEN S. TANKO
 BLAKE R. TAYLOR
 GREGORY P. TAYLOR
 SEAN T. TAYLOR
 ALISON D. TEM
 LAURA B. TEMPERATO
 MICHAEL J. TENAGLIA
 DOUGLAS E. TENGLE II
 TYLER T. TERRONEZ
 CARISA A. TERRY
 ROGER D. TERRY II
 IAN L. THAMM
 ZACHARY D. THRASHER
 JEREMY S. TIJERINA
 JASON R. TINNEL
 HANS W. TOOHEY
 EMILIE F. TORIELLI
 TEDMAN A. TORRES
 MARK R. TRASK
 CARLOS S. TRAVERIA
 JOSEPH B. TRAVERS II
 ALEXANDER G. TREFILEK
 AARON Z. TRODAHL
 GABRIELE S. TROULLIER
 CHRISTOPHER S. TUCKER
 ALEX R. TUROCO
 CHRISTA A. TURNER
 ALEXANDER C. TURNER
 JACK E. TURNER
 TRAVIS M. TURNER
 CHAD S. TUTTON
 JONATHAN E. TWIGG
 ANDREW J. TYE
 CHRISTINE L. TYNDALL
 WILLIAM C. VAHEY
 DANIEL E. VALDO
 MATTHEW P. VANLANDINGHAM
 KENNA M. VANOURNEY
 JESSE J. VARELA
 RAFAEL E. VARGAS
 JOHN B. VAUGHT
 CASEY D. VELAZQUEZ
 ALEXANDRA G. VISCOVICH
 STEPHEN R. VITALI
 DANIEL E. VOGEL
 ALLEN J. VOHDEN
 JANET S. VONEIFF
 JUSTIN R. WALDRUP
 MICHAEL P. WALLACE
 NATHAN T. WALLACE
 MARC T. WALLIS
 STEPHEN J. WALSH
 BRIAN J. WALTERS
 DANIEL J. WALTERS
 RICHARD J. WARD
 JAYME L. WARREN
 JOSEPH WASHINGTON III
 MYLES F. WASSON
 BENJAMIN M. WATERS
 RICHARD L. WATKINS
 GWENDOLYNN E. WATSON
 MICHAEL T. WATSON
 JAMES A. WEBB
 KYLE R. WEBBER
 MATTHEW G. WEBER
 MATTHEW R. WEBER
 TODD K. WEEKS
 DONATUS M. WEITHMAN
 DAVID R. WELLEN
 THOMAS J. WENDT
 ARON M. WERHAN
 JONATHAN R. WHEELER
 STUART W. WHIPKEY
 NATHAN A. WHISLER
 TAYLOR R. WHITAKER
 ALEXANDER W. WHITE
 MATTHEW R. WHITE
 JESSICA L. WHITENS
 ANDREW R. WHITMER
 GRAHAM J. WILL
 BRETT R. WILLIAMS
 CHELSIE M. WILLIAMS
 JONATHAN E. WILLIAMS
 MARK D. WILLIAMS
 NATHAN A. WILLIAMS
 ANDREW C. WILLIS
 ALICIA R. WILLMS
 ERAN C. WILSON
 JACOB K. WILSON
 JOSHUA D. WINGFIELD
 WILLIAM M. WINDINGER
 CHASE E. WINSOR
 DANIEL S. WINSOR
 GRAIG A. WITHROW
 BENJAMIN D. WITT
 JUSTIN H. WITWICKI
 BRYAN C. WOGGERMAN
 JORDAN A. WOLF
 AUSTIN J. WOOD
 LAURA H. WRIGHT
 JONATHAN W. WRIGHT
 BRYCE W. WYCKOFF
 CALEB J. WYMAN
 XENG XIONG
 WAI G. YAU
 HAN S. YI
 BRYCE E. YOST
 BRIAN K. YOUNG
 CALEB M. YOUNG
 THOMAS L. YUHANIAR
 MATTHEW M. ZAK
 SARA A. ZANITSCHE
 CALEB J. ZEID

KYLA M. ZENAN
GRAHAM D. ZIEMBA
ALEXANDER T. ZIMMERMAN
JOSHUA W. ZISKA
PETER J. ZOLLWEG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

BEKIM F. AUSTIN
BRANDON R. BAXTER
PETER BAZALAKI
RYAN W. BOWERS
KEVIN S. CARLSEN
CODY M. CARTWRIGHT
BRYCE L. CHRISTENSEN
ADRIAN J. ELIZALDEVALENCIA
AMERICA E. ESTEVEZGUERRERO
CORY C. FLAMENT
JOSEPH M. FLESHMAN
KIMBERLY M. FOWLER
TAMARAH K. GRANT
LUCAS M. GROVES
JAYLYN D. HAGEN
JESSIKA S. HALL
CHANTRELLE L. HARRIS
PAUL P. HEFT
ALLISON R. HOGARTH
ROBERT E. LUERS
PHILIP J. LUKANICH
NICOLE P. LUNG
EMMANUEL E. MAMARIL
MATTHEW C. MOLLOY
BRITTANY W. MORGAN
ERIC M. MYERS
THOMAS K. NEDDLES
LANCE M. NOEL
KAMILLE D. PIZARRO
GARY L. RAYFIELD
CHARLOTTE E. ROCHE
KENNETH D. T'ATE
ROBERT J. TERRANOVA, JR.
KELLY R. THOMSON
SYKESHA M. THURMAN
NIKITA D. TIPPINS
HENRY A. VILLATORO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ROBERT T. AUGUSTINE
ROBYN W. BIANCHI
SCOTT M. BIRKEMEIER
RAYMOND D. BLYSKAL
KAITLYN M. BOWER
JOSHUA D. BOWLING
ANDRE E. BYRD
ADAM M. CAMPBELL
KYLE A. CHANCE
BRYAN D. CROSBY
JULIA E. CUMMING
EMILY A. CURRAN
RENATA DACRUZARAUVIOVEIRA
THOMAS A. DEETER
KRISTOPHER K. DEVISSER
JAMES J. DRACE
JAMISON R. FIEBRANDT
ANNA L. HAAG
ROBERT D. HALL
ZISHAN HAMEED
DAVID J. HATCH
SHANE A. HAYS
HERBERT F. HEANEY
MARCELLA R. HERSTERDUDLEY
JOEL J. HUBBARD
SUNG HUH
FAISA T. HUSSEIN
STEVEN F. HUTCHINSON
DAVID M. INGRAHAM
KATHERINE E. IRGENS
AUSTIN R. JOLLEY
JORDAN A. KLEIN
AARON D. LENTNER
DANIEL W. LESZCZYNSKI
JAMES R. LEY
TRAVIS A. LIPPMAN
WYATT T. MIDDLETON
SAM C. MURPHY
SHAWN C. MURRAY
TRAVIS J. NORRELL
BENJAMIN W. PARKER
KEMI R. PAVLOCAK
TRAVIS J. RAPP
JOSEPH A. SCHNIEDERS
ALEXANDER L. SCOTT
MATTHEW D. SPAKOWSKI
PHILLIP M. TALARICO
CHRISTOPHER C. TANG
NEIL S. TUBLIN
NICOLAS W. TWISSELMAN
CHARLES E. VALDYKE
ROBERT T. VANN
TODD M. VRANAS
MATTHEW S. WAGNER
MICHAEL F. WALTERS
CODY C. WHITE
ALEXANDER J. WUNDERLICH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

GAVIN L. KUREY

MICHAEL A. MELNICK III
MATTHEW R. MERROW
MATTHEW E. OATES
ANTHONY J. WICH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

CHRISTOPHER S. FIFE II
GRANT R. GAGNON
GILBERT GARCIA, JR.
SCOTT A. HATZUNG
THOMAS C. HIGGINBOTHAM
JOHN V. KAMENSKY
CRAIG B. K. LAPILLO
KEITH C. LOEDEMANN
BENJAMIN M. MATHE
MARY D. MCGHEE
DAVID G. MERRILL
TRACIE L. MEYERS
KEVIN D. NIST
KEVIN M. SCHLEICHER
CLINTON J. SMITH
TANISHA Y. SPEED
CASEY J. STAIDL
JOSEPH R. TULLIS III
DENISE M. WASHINGTON
WAYNE M. ZANNI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JAMES F. ADAMS
COURTNEY M. CALLAGHAN
LAUREN M. CHATMAS
ANDREW R. DEGARMO
ANDRIANA J. GENUALDI
KARA L. HANDLEY
MADISYN S. M. HANSEN
JOSEPH P. KELLEY
KATHERINE C. KOENIG
TIMOTHY S. PIETRACK
ROBERT A. REINHEIMER
KARL L. SANFORD
KARL F. SCHONBERG
CATHERINE M. SHEERIN
MARY E. R. SMITH
MARY C. WALSH

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

DAVID F. BORING
CASEY J. BURGNER
ALEXANDER W. CAVINS
ERIKA A. FEE
STEPHANIE A. GEANT
TERRANCE O. GREEN
MATTHEW K. HARDIE
JOSHUA J. HELMS
SHUNIKA S. JOHNSON
MELISSA N. JONMOORE
KYLE R. KAUSCH
ALEXANDER J. LEHMAN
EMILY A. MOTZ
DARREN L. PASTRANA
DAVID C. RAMSAUR
NIKLAS H. RUETER
LEE T. SURING
JESSICA B. WASSERMAN
CYNTHIA F. WILLIAMSON
JACQUELINE ZIMNY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

NEHA U. ATHAVALE
JONATHON R. BICE
AMAMNDA K. DAY
PHOENIX W. GEIMER
JERIMY R. HARTLESS
CELESSE C. HIDROVOGUIDRY
BRENNAN T. HOSACK
CAMERON D. JENNISON
KI S. JUNG
JESSICA H. KAWAMURA
ROS A. LARY
JOSEPH B. MCGINNIS
CHELSEY C. MCMAHAN
JASON M. OLSON
GREGORY A. PAVONE
HANG S. PHEIFFER
JINWEI PHO
JOSEPH A. SALVATORE
DANIELLA P. SEPULVEDA
VANESSA K. SONNICHSEN
RACHEL J. THOMAS
STEVEN P. THOMAS
ISMAEL TOUNKARA
MARIA J. VELORIA
CHRISTOPHER T. WEHNER
ERIC T. WILMER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

MALIKUL A. AZIZ
ANDREW C. BAIERWALTER

PETER B. BENSON
MATTHEW S. BERNARD
MALCOLM L. BORDEN
SUSANMARIE BRIDENBECKER
LONDON BRIDGET
BRITT J. CAMPBELL
TODD M. CARLSON
JEREMY S. CARTER
JAKOB P. CHAUVIN
SHAMEEKA A. COLON
CASSIE R. H. CORL
SARITA K. CRADDOCK
RYAN M. M. EDEM
BART D. ELLISON
SCOTT E. FINDLEY
KAYLA R. FOSTER
ALEXANDER T. FROELKE
ROBERT R. GARY
TAYLOR I. C. GAZELEY
DONALD J. GEORGE, JR.
MATTHEW W. GLAZE
YOLANDA E. GUTIERREZ
FRITZ W. HAIN
JASON M. HEINEN
WILLIAM D. HENRY, JR.
JAMES R. HOWELL
KYLE G. HUNTER
PATRICK C. JOHNSON
TEWANER L. JOHNSON
RICHARD C. JONES III
JOHN T. KALAFATIS
SPIROS P. KAROUSOS
RYAN M. KAVANAUGH
IAN M. KELLY

MARIAN M. KENDRICK
CHRISTOPHER S. KIRKPATRICK
CAMERON E. KOVAREK
TYLER J. KRAMER
RENE S. LAPIDARIO II
GARY L. LATTIMORE
MICHAEL R. LIDESTRI
CHRISTOPHER R. MARTIN
GABRIELLE H. MCCrackEN
DUSTIN M. MCKINNEY
JOSHUA L. MILLWOOD
JUSTIN T. MITCHELL
EBEN R. MOORE
WILLIAM V. MOULTRIE
MBANEFO N. OFODILE
BRANDON J. V. OLAND
MICHAEL L. PARKS, JR.
MICHELLE L. PARMENTAR
JOSEPH V. PASION
CHRISTOPHER M. PAYNE
JACOB D. PILARSKI
RANDY L. PRICE
NJERI A. PURVIS
JAMES S. RICE
KATHERINE E. RICE
CHRISTOPHER J. RICHARDS
DAVID S. ROSE
ZAKI A. RUCKER
JASON R. RUNKLE
GILBERT A. SANCHEZ
RICHARD T. SCHROYER
CALVIN A. SESSIONS
BENJAMIN J. SHELDON
JASON C. SNYDER
CRAIG E. STORRY
TRISHA M. STRATTON
MICHELE R. SULLIVAN
WILLIAM J. TYLER
JOSHUA J. VERRET
ALEXANDER D. WASHOFSKY
IAN M. WELLER
STEPHANIE L. WEXLER
KANISHA A. WHITE
SCOTT H. ZINN II

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

LUIS E. BANCHS
TROY M. BEIDERBECKE
MICHAEL A. BERTSCHINGER
SAMANTHA J. BLEA
JASON R. BROWN
CARLOS D. CAMPUZANO
BRIAN J. CAPLAN
MARIE R. CARR
LUKE R. CHAPMAN
SHARON L. CLARK
KYLE W. DECKER
ANDREW J. FAULK
YOUNG J. GI
PAUL M. GUIDRY II
IKEEKEN D. HARDY
DMITRI HATLEY
ROBERT H. HAUSER
KATIE L. HENDRICKSON
ERIC L. HUGHES
JAMES B. HUSTED
RANIA L. JOHNSON
ADRIAN A. JONES
REGINA M. KETTER
JUSTIN L. KOMMA
CHRISTIAN D. LARSEN
HANS M. LAUZEN
BRYAN P. LAY
ERICK A. LIM
BRYAN L. MAUSTELLER
LINDA J. MCMILLAN
DANIEL A. MICHNEWICH
SHAURICE S. MILLER
JAMES W. OVERBY IV

JASON W. POOL
JUSTIN R. ROBSON
AMANDA K. SCHUCK
MEGAN N. SILVESTER
JORDAN A. SMITH
BRIAN J. STORM
MARK G. VILLA
LEE H. WARWICK
MATTHEW K. WITTKOPP

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

GEORGE W. ACFALLE
MARCUS T. BROWNING
JUAN D. CARDONA
MATTHEW R. CLARK
ROBERT C. COATES
DAVID J. COON
BRIAN C. CRUMP
LEE E. EVANS
CORY D. FITZPATRICK
GREGORY A. FRITZ
ANSEL G. HARRIS
CHRISTOPHER A. HOULE
SHANIQUE D. HOWARD
GARY MOLINA
DANIEL R. MORRISON
MICHAEL A. NORIEGA
MALIKA H. PETTIGREW
BOGDAN RIMBU
ANTHONY M. ROJAS
MATTHEW E. RUMPKE
CLARENCE E. SHELTON, JR.
JORGE VARGAS
EMMA S. YEARBY

DISCHARGED NOMINATIONS

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations was discharged from further consideration of the following nominations by unanimous consent and the nominations were confirmed:

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF AZIZ Y. YOUNES.
FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF GUNTER E. SCHWABE.
FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT L. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH CONRAD WP. WONG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE

SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 29, 2020.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BERGEN NICHOLE BASSETT AND ENDING WITH MARK A. SULLO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 6, 2020.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate November 18, 2020:

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

MICHELLE A. SCHULTZ, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR THE TERM OF FIVE YEARS.

THE JUDICIARY

STEPHEN A. VADEN, OF TENNESSEE, TO BE A JUDGE OF THE UNITED STATES COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LISA S. KENNA, OF VERMONT, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF PERU.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

ROBERT E. PRIMUS, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2022.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THOMAS LASZLO VAJDA, OF ARIZONA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNION OF BURMA.

MELANIE HARRIS HIGGINS, OF GEORGIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF BURUNDI.

JEANNE MARIE MALONEY, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE KINGDOM OF ESOWATINI.

JAMES BROWARD STORY, OF SOUTH CAROLINA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAOR-

DINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF VENEZUELA.

MICHAEL A. MCCARTHY, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

THE JUDICIARY

KATHRYN KIMBALL MIZELLE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA.

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14 U.S.C., SECTION 2121(D):

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) BRENDAN C. MCPHERSON
REAR ADM. (LH) DOUGLAS M. SCHOFIELD
REAR ADM. (LH) ANDREW M. SUGIMOTO
REAR ADM. (LH) RICHARD V. TIMME
REAR ADM. (LH) TODD C. WIEMERS

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH STEVEN C. ACOSTA AND ENDING WITH JESSICA S. WORST, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2020.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CORINNA M. FLEISCHMANN AND ENDING WITH KIMBERLY C. YOUNG-MCLEAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2020.

COAST GUARD NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL S. ADAMS, JR. AND ENDING WITH ANDREW H. ZUCKERMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON OCTOBER 20, 2020.

FOREIGN SERVICE

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF AZIZ Y. YOUNES.
FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATION OF GUNTER E. SCHWABE.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH SCOTT L. ANDERSON AND ENDING WITH CONRAD WP. WONG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JUNE 29, 2020.

FOREIGN SERVICE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BERGEN NICHOLE BASSETT AND ENDING WITH MARK A. SULLO, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON AUGUST 6, 2020.