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House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, the recent numbers are staggering: 500,000 deaths from COVID, 58 people who have died in the winter storms of the last 10 days, and at one point 4 million households were without power in Texas.

In the face of the enormity of these figures, we come to You this day at a loss for words, few answers, and in some cases no hope.

Speak to us, O infinite Lord. How precious are Your thoughts, how vast is their sum. If we could count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand. You who have determined the number of the stars and call them each by name, great are You our Lord and mighty in power. Your understanding has no limit.

In Your attention to us, You have numbered the hairs on our heads. We ask then that You would heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds. Cover us with Your eternity. May we rest secure in knowing that You will never leave nor forsake us.

It is in the strength of Your everlasting name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(A) of House Resolution 8, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

ELECTING A MEMBER TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Republican Conference, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 146

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Ms. Tenney (to rank immediately after Mr. Meuser).

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS: Ms. Tenney (to rank immediately after Mr. Meuser).

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

EDUCATORS OWED BASIC PUBLIC HEALTH PROTECTION

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

Ms. BOURDEAUX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as we celebrate Public Schools Week, to talk about the urgent need to protect our teachers, educational support staff, all of their fami-

lies, and the community at large in our schools.

While the national debate has centered around schools that are closed, in many States, such as Georgia, school districts with high COVID transmission rates are back to in-person teaching, but often without basic safety standards in place, such as requiring students to wear masks on school property.

Teachers and staff in Georgia do not enjoy the protection of strong teacher unions, and the State has exempted schools from liability around COVID. A teacher recognized for excellence in Forsyth County, in my district, chose to quit her job.

She wrote me, saying: Fortunately, my family earns enough money for me not to return to teach, but there are some others who don't have this blessing and are forced into dangerous circumstances. They can't speak up. They know their employment would be on the line if they did. So unless others like me speak up and out, this mess will continue.

Mr. Speaker, I join this teacher in speaking out. We owe our educators the courtesy of basic public health protection. We owe them prioritization in receiving the vaccine.

PARIS ACCORD DESTROYS JOBS

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it has been estimated the Paris Accord adopted by President Joe Biden will destroy 2.7 million American jobs.

The Washington Examiner, on January 26, exposes more dangers to American families:

"President Biden's decision to rejoin the Paris climate accord immediately delivered . . . a gift to China.

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

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



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"It commits the United States . . . that will entangle American businesses and jobs in new lengths of red tape, and will also probably increase electricity prices.

"China, which emits twice as much carbon each year as we do, has given the rest of the world nothing but empty promises.

"Biden is giving away the store for nothing . . . he should demand external verification of emissions data. . . ."

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

I appreciate President Biden last night recognizing the lives lost by the Wuhan virus, joining President Trump last year, who took the first action to ban travel from China.

UNRELATED COVID RELIEF BILL

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

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I have been reading the COVID "unrelated" relief bill. At least when President Trump was borrowing money to keep the economy from crashing, he was creating jobs, making America energy independent—lowering gasoline and fuel prices for every American family—lowering unemployment, protecting our borders, rebuilding our military, and so on.

Now, however, with the assistance of this Chamber, this administration is doing just the opposite.

It sounds like something right from the pages of Saul Alinsky's book, "Rules for Radicals," how malcontents propose to destroy America.

This COVID "unrelated" relief bill is more about keeping America closed and funding liberal policies than getting past this virus, and it is outrageous.

RECOGNIZING LUKA GARZA

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of someone in my district who is not as vertically challenged as I am.

This past weekend, University of Iowa men's basketball player Luka Garza broke the University of Iowa's all-time scoring record in basketball. The new record of 2,126 points put Luka ahead of the late Roy Marble, who held the previous record of 2,116 points for over 30 years.

A native of the D.C. area, Luka was a star player for the Maret School, leading the Frogs to a city championship while being named Gatorade D.C. Player of the Year and setting the school points record.

Luka has been a dominant player in college basketball since his first game

as a University of Iowa Hawkeye against Chicago State. Since then, he has gone on to win numerous conference and national awards, including Big Ten Player of Year and the Sporting News Player of the Year last season.

As a former faculty member at the university, I was thrilled when Luka decided to return to Iowa City for his senior season instead of heading to the NBA draft. With four regular season games, the Big Ten Tournament, and March Madness left, I have no doubt that Luka will continue to break his own record and make Iowa proud and the best place to live, work, play, and raise a family.

PRESERVING OUR CIVIL RIGHTS

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

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as we convene this week, I would like to ask all of my fellow colleagues and Members of the 117th Congress to reflect on the words right there on the wall: In God We Trust.

God created us male and female. In His image, He created us. The Equality Act that we are to vote on this week destroys God's creation. It also completely annihilates women's rights and religious freedoms.

It can be handled completely differently to stop discrimination without destroying women's rights, little girls' rights in sports, and religious freedoms violating everything that we hold dear in God's creation.

As we are reflecting on the 500,000 people who have died from COVID-19, I would like to remind everyone that over 62 million people have been murdered in the womb in our country and that our tax dollars many times have funded it. This is an evil that should not exist in our land, and I ask all Members of Congress to stop this evil now.

HONORING SHARON SANDERS

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

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Sharon Sanders, one of Charlotte's great philanthropists and the founder of Kids First of the Carolinas, which through the decades has provided essentials and Christmas gifts to over 35,000 children and families in the Charlotte area. Ms. Sanders died January 14 after a battle with cancer.

Sharon was a wife, mother, and friend to all, with an extraordinary passion for helping others. Her love for children led to her founding Kids First; and with the assistance of legendary Charlotte broadcaster John Hancock, the organization was able to expand outreach, providing for more than 2,000 children every Christmas and raising about \$80,000 a year.

Even as she endured treatment for cancer, Sharon remained devoted to Kids First. Despite her hospitalization, she was overjoyed that they were, once again, able to help over 1,000 families during the holidays past.

Mr. Speaker, the Charlotte community will miss Sharon greatly. It is a privilege to honor her memory today.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

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

JOSEPH HAYNE RAINEY MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 264) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the "Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 264

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

SECTION 1. JOSEPH HAYNE RAINEY MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, shall be known and designated as the "Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial 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 "Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues here in the House in consideration of H.R. 264 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building.

Joseph Rainey was the first African-American Member of the United States House of Representatives and one of 14 Black Representatives elected before the end of Reconstruction in 1877.

Joseph Rainey was born into slavery in Georgetown, South Carolina, in 1832. His father was a barber and used his earnings to buy freedom for himself and his family and, yes, including Joseph. Later, during the Civil War, Joseph was drafted by the Confederacy, but he escaped to Bermuda and his wife and he there started a business.

In 1866, he returned to Georgetown where he became the county's Republican Party chairman. Just a few years later, in 1870, he was elected to the United States Congress where he served until 1879, making him the longest serving African-American Member of Congress in the 19th century.

Following his time in Congress, Rainey was appointed as a Federal agent of the U.S. Treasury Department. He returned to South Carolina in 1886 and, unfortunately, passed away the following year in Georgetown.

Representative Joe Rainey fought tirelessly for civil rights, education, and economic opportunity for all people. He left behind a legacy that will never be forgotten. So, at the very least, naming a post office in his honor will continually help all of us to remember the contributions of this remarkable trailblazer.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE) for his remarks.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the First District of South Carolina for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 264.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend. Will the gentleman put on his mask, please.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Oh, I thought you could take it off when you are speaking. I am sorry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 264, to rename the Post Office in Georgetown, South Carolina, the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office.

A man, a trailblazer of many firsts, a civil rights pioneer, an American hero that I had never heard of before I got to Congress; I first learned of him because his portrait hangs on the wall in the halls of the House of Representatives.

Joseph Rainey was the first African-American Member of the United States

House of Representatives. Rainey was born into slavery in Georgetown in 1832. His father was a slave, but also a barber, and used his earnings to buy freedom for himself and his family, including Joseph.

During the Civil War, Joseph Rainey was conscripted into the Confederate Army, but he escaped to Bermuda with his family and built a prosperous business as a barber.

In 1866, he returned to Georgetown, where he became the county's Republican Party Chairman. In 1870, he was elected to the United States Congress, where he served until 1879. Think about that for a moment. The first African American to serve in the United States Congress was a former slave and a Republican from Georgetown, South Carolina.

His tenure in Congress was distinguished by its advancement of civil rights, equality, and opportunity for all. He fought against violence and intimidation toward African Americans. In 1878, as Reconstruction was ending, he was defeated in his last race for Congress. He was one of 14 Black Representatives elected before the end of Reconstruction in 1877. He was the longest-serving African-American Member of Congress, a record which stood until the 1950s.

Following his time in Congress, Rainey was appointed as a Federal agent of the United States Treasury Department for the Internal Revenue Service in South Carolina.

In 1866, he returned to South Carolina for good and passed away the following year in Georgetown. Rainey fought tirelessly for equal rights, education, and economic opportunity for all. He left behind a legacy that has improved the lives of generations, not just in South Carolina, but across the country.

Representative Rainey's house still stands in historic Georgetown. It is located at 921 Prince Street. It was designated a national historic landmark in 1984, and I had the opportunity to visit just last year. The next time you are close by, stroll by the modest home in downtown Georgetown and pause for a moment to marvel at the life of an American hero; a man born a slave, a successful entrepreneur, escaped conscription in the Civil War, and served as a Representative in the United States Congress. What a remarkable life.

It was a privilege to introduce this bill that honors a true American patriot like Mr. Rainey. All South Carolinians, all Americans, can look up to Joseph Rainey as a trailblazer of civil rights.

I would like to thank Lorna Rainey, the great-granddaughter of Joseph Rainey, for her support in this effort.

I also want to thank Representative CLYBURN and Representative MACE, who helped move this through committee and bring it to the floor, along with the entire South Carolina House delegation for their cosponsorship of this bill.

This is a much-deserved honor for an accomplished American patriot from South Carolina, Joseph Rainey. I urge my colleagues to vote "yea".

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD).

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. MFUME for yielding time, and I thank Mr. RICE for introducing this legislation.

Madam Speaker, when I was first elected to Congress, I visited Congressman CLYBURN's office seeking his assistance with committee assignments. While there, I noticed the pictures of eight former South Carolina Congressmen, all African American, hanging prominently in his outer office.

Among those was Joseph Rainey, the first African American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. I was unaware of Mr. Rainey, and so I became curious about this man.

Joseph Rainey was born to enslaved parents on June 21, 1832, in Georgetown, South Carolina, a community heavily dominated with slaves.

As the years went on, Joseph Rainey's father was permitted by his master to work independently and save a little money. Using his accumulated funds, Edward Rainey purchased freedom for little Joseph and his family.

When President Lincoln was elected in 1860, 11 States seceded from the Union; South Carolina was the first. A civil war erupts.

Joseph Rainey, now 28 years of age, was conscripted, or drafted, to work on fortifications in Charleston. This was unacceptable to Joseph, and so, with his family, he escaped to St. George, Bermuda.

Madam Speaker, St. George is a small parish on the island of Bermuda. While there, Rainey undoubtedly became acquainted with my grandfather, James Peter Butterfield, born 1853, who lived his entire life in St. George.

On December 6, 1865, the 13th Amendment was added to the Constitution, ending slavery in America. 400,000 slaves in South Carolina are free: 37,000 in Charleston, 32,000 in Beaufort, 18,000 in Georgetown.

The same year, the Civil War ends. South Carolina desires to be readmitted to the Union. As a condition, South Carolina was required to adopt a constitution that repudiated secession, acknowledged the end of slavery and repudiated debts that the State and its White citizens had incurred.

The South Carolina Constitutional Convention convened on January 14, 1868. A very prominent delegate to the convention was Joseph H. Rainey. The convention's minutes, Madam Speaker, reflect that Rainey advocated for free public education for all South Carolina citizens. He advocated for relieving White landowners of their insurmountable debt that had accumulated during the war.

The convention was successful; a new constitution was adopted, and on July

9, 1868, South Carolina was readmitted to the Union. Joseph Rainey was recognized for his brilliance during the convention.

The following year, 1869, Congress passed the 15th Amendment granting the former slaves the right to vote and hold office. On February 3, 1870, the 15th Amendment was finally ratified by the States.

Joseph Rainey seized the opportunity; ran for Congress in the First District. Elected on December 12, 1870, Congressman Rainey remained a Member of this body until after President Rutherford B. Hayes ended Reconstruction, which gave rise to violence against African Americans.

Though Rainey was reelected in 1876, he did not seek office again, making him the longest-serving African-American Congressman during Reconstruction.

Madam Speaker, this is a remarkable story. I appreciate Mr. RICE, and Mr. CLYBURN, and the entire South Carolina delegation for offering this legislation to name the Post Office located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown as the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 264.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the distinguished whip of the House of Representatives.

□ 1615

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 264, which will designate the post office located on Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building.

I am proud to join with the bill's lead sponsor, Congressman TOM RICE, and the other members of the South Carolina congressional delegation in co-sponsoring this important legislation.

This action builds on our efforts in the last Congress to honor the life and legacy of Joseph Rainey by naming H-150, the former House Committee on Indian Affairs room in the Capitol, in his honor.

These are just two of the long-overdue actions needed to amplify the historical significance of the first African American to serve in the United States House of Representatives.

Congressman Rainey was a trailblazer whose story and place in history have been overlooked. As a former his-

tory teacher who believes knowing our history is instructive so that we don't repeat the mistakes of our past, I would like to share with you my fellow South Carolinian's legacy.

Joseph Rainey, as you heard, was born enslaved in 1832 in Georgetown, South Carolina. His father was able to buy his family's freedom with earnings he made as a barber. As a freedman living in Charleston, Rainey was conscripted by the Confederacy in 1862. Rather than fighting to preserve slavery, he and his family fled to Bermuda, where he worked as a barber until the end of the war.

Rainey returned to South Carolina after the Civil War and served, as you heard, as a delegate to the 1868 South Carolina Constitutional Convention. He was elected to the State senate in 1870. Later that year, he was elected to Congress in a special election and was sworn into Congress on December 12, 150 years ago, becoming the first Black to serve in the House of Representatives.

He was the first of several African-American Members of this body during Reconstruction, when the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments were enforced, however imperfectly, by the power of the Federal Government.

But Reconstruction was short-lived. Jim Crow laws and white supremacists dismantled multiracial democracy with voter suppression, nullifications, and violent insurrection. Federal troops were withdrawn from the South following widespread white supremacist violence during the 1876 election and the subsequent election of Rutherford B. Hayes as President.

Joseph Rainey spoke out against the removal of Federal protection of voting rights, but in 1878, he lost reelection to former Confederate officer John Smythe Richardson in a district that was, like South Carolina, majority Black.

Severe gerrymandering reduced the number of Black South Carolinians in Congress to one in the 1890s. When George Washington Murray lost his bid for reelection in 1897, South Carolina's representation in Congress was again all White and remained all White for the next 95 years.

Segregation and Black disenfranchisement were the law of the land until the 1960s. But thanks to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and its 1982 amendments, I was elected to this august body in 1992.

Today, Congress is still grappling with racial issues, voter suppression, and, as we witnessed last month, domestic terrorism.

It is fitting and proper that we are taking this step as we are celebrating Black History Month. I believe we would do well to learn some of the lessons of American history through Joseph Rainey's experiences, and I hope today's action will help illuminate his story and cause us all to reflect on his legacy. We must not allow the progress we have made toward racial equity

since the 1960s to retrogress, as it did after the 1860s.

To truly honor the contributions of Joseph Rainey and all African Americans, we must build on this progress by working together to address our country's longstanding racial inequities and fulfill the promise of liberty and justice for all.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers and am prepared to close.

It is a real honor to be here today, and the distinguished whip is correct that this is long overdue, to recognize Joseph Rainey and his accomplishments.

He fought tirelessly for civil rights and education and opportunity. He fought for freedom for every working American in this country. To be here today in Black History Month to recognize his legacy and his legend, he will not be forgotten, and we ensure that today.

I hope that future generations of South Carolinians and Americans across the country can be inspired by his courageous leadership here in this House. I urge my colleagues to support this bill today.

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

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I want to make sure that I mention my appreciation to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) for the way they succinctly captured a great swath of American history over the period of time that followed Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 all the way up to the beginning of the Black Codes and the failing of Reconstruction, an era that held great hope for this country but did not come to pass and really was not evidenced until many, many decades later, as Mr. CLYBURN pointed out.

I am happy and honored to bring this measure forward. I want to thank the gentlewoman from South Carolina for all of her efforts and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. RICE) for their work advancing this.

Madam Speaker, I strongly urge the passage of H.R. 264. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 264.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JIM RAMSTAD POST OFFICE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 772) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South

in Wayzata, Minnesota, as the “Jim Ramstad Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 772

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

SECTION 1. JIM RAMSTAD POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South in Wayzata, Minnesota, shall be known and designated as the “Jim Ramstad 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 “Jim Ramstad Post Office”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 772 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South in Wayzata, Minnesota, and I hope I am pronouncing that correctly, as the Jim Ramstad Post Office.

Jim Ramstad was born in Jamestown, North Dakota, on May 6, 1946. He was a graduate of the University of Minnesota and the George Washington University Law School, as well as a member of the Army Reserve from 1968 until 1974.

Jim became a State senator in 1981. There, he began shaping his personal and political life around the principles of recovery, honesty, resilience, transparency, and accountability.

Jim Ramstad would then go on to serve in the Minnesota State Senate for 10 years before ultimately becoming a Member of this body, the United States House of Representatives, representing Minnesota’s Third District.

In the Congress, he was a consensus builder, championing the bipartisan policies needed to reduce discrimination against those suffering from mental health and addiction problems.

His signature legislation, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Treatment Act, was enacted in 2008 just before Jim retired from Congress. After retiring, he served as a fellow at Harvard University and as an adviser to Minnesota’s Hazelden treatment center.

Representative Ramstad lived the final 39 years of his life in absolute and

complete sobriety. His story is the story of recovery, impacted in a way that many of us will not understand, but impacting the lives of Minnesotans and Americans. He died November 5, 2020, after battling Parkinson’s disease for some time.

Naming a post office for Jim Ramstad is an entirely appropriate measure, given his distinguished political career and contributions to his State and to his country.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 772, a bill that would name a Minnesota post office after Jim Ramstad.

From 1968 to 1974, Jim Ramstad served as a member of the Army Reserve. In 1981, he was elected to the Minnesota State Senate, where he would go on to serve for 10 years. He was then elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he represented Minnesota’s Third Congressional District.

During his time in Congress, he strove to reduce discrimination against those suffering from mental health and addiction problems. He retired from Congress in 2009 and went on to serve as a fellow at Harvard University and as an adviser to Minnesota’s Hazelden treatment center.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill honoring an inspiring American leader that proves that everyone deserves a second chance.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS).

Mr. PHILLIPS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 772, to designate the post office in Wayzata, Minnesota, on the shores of Lake Minnetonka as the Jim Ramstad Post Office.

Congressman Ramstad spent 10 years representing the 45th District in the Minnesota Legislature and 18 years representing Minnesota’s Third District in this Chamber. As the current Representative for Minnesota’s Third, I am humbled to have followed in the footsteps of such a gentleman, public servant, and statesman.

Throughout his life in public service and throughout his entire life, Jim led with principle, with compassion, and with grace. His battle with and recovery from alcoholism gave voice to millions of Americans facing the very same challenge and illuminated every aspect of his life and his service.

From the statehouse to this House, Jim embodied the spirit of honesty, resilience, transparency, and accountability. He was a noted consensus seeker and a champion of bipartisan policies to reduce discrimination against those suffering from mental health challenges and addiction. His signature

legislation, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health Treatment Act, was enacted in 2008 just before his retirement from Congress.

□ 1630

Congressman Ramstad will go on to continue his service as a fellow at Harvard University, and as adviser to Minnesota’s Hazelden treatment center. He lived the final 39 years of his life in sobriety.

Congressman Ramstad passed away on November 5, 2020, after a battle with Parkinson’s disease.

Naming a post office in Wayzata is a small gesture to commemorate the passing of a giant of Minnesota politics. But as former Minnesota State Senator and Jim’s former district director, Paul Anderson, told me: “Jim loved Wayzata, and Wayzata always loved Jim back.”

So I send my love to Jim’s wife, Kathryn, and to all of his family and friends and colleagues who continue to mourn his loss.

May his memory be for a blessing. May his spirit and legacy of bipartisanship—and I note that Jim was a Republican and I am a Democrat—inspire this Congress. May his name grace the post office in the town he loved and the town that loved him back for generations to come.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) for his leadership on this effort, for his leadership in the House, and for reminding me, especially, that the post office will reside in Wayzata, appropriately.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers on this side. I urge passage of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 772.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JOSE HERNANDEZ POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 813) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the “Jose Hernandez Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 813

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

SECTION 1. JOSE HERNANDEZ POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050

Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, shall be known and designated as the "Jose Hernandez 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 "Jose Hernandez Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 813, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the Jose Hernandez Post Office Building.

Jose Hernandez was born in 1971, in Arizona. He enlisted in the Army after graduating from Arizona State University and was stationed in Germany. In 2003, he deployed to Iraq for 1 year. When he was discharged from the Army, Mr. Hernandez moved to New Mexico with his wife and continued his career in public service at the U.S. Postal Service.

New Mexicans on his mail route remember the days when they were in a rush and Mr. Hernandez would quickly go through his mailbag just to get them their mail before they had to rush on their way. And they remembered the slower days when he would join them for a short chat or simply sit for a moment to enjoy the weather.

In April of 2019, letter carrier Jose Hernandez was tragically killed while protecting a mother in an argument with her son. Mr. Hernandez intervened to try to peacefully end the dispute, but was, instead, shot and killed by the young man.

Mailboxes along his former route quickly became memorials, while his colleagues made their own memorial at his former post office.

So naming a post office after this distinguished public servant, who gave his life in the line of duty trying to protect an innocent woman, I think is the very least that this body can do.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 813, a bill that would name an Albuquerque, New Mexico, post office after Jose Hernandez.

Mr. Hernandez enlisted in the Army after graduating from Arizona State University and was then stationed in Germany and deployed to Iraq in 2003.

After his discharge from the Army, Jose Hernandez moved to New Mexico and began working at the U.S. Postal Service as a civil engineer and letter carrier.

In 2009, he was tragically killed while protecting a mother in a domestic dispute. He intervened to try to peacefully end the fight, but was shot by the woman's son. His hometown mourns this tragic loss.

I urge my colleagues today to support this legislation honoring a true American hero.

Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. HAALAND).

Ms. HAALAND. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jose Hernandez, a beloved letter carrier and local hero who was killed on the job in 2019, while trying to resolve an argument along his route.

Residents who live along his route remember Jose as the type of letter carrier who would go above and beyond the call of duty. His shocking death was devastating for our community, and more than a year later, we continue to mourn the loss.

To honor his legacy, I introduced a bill to rename his old workplace in his honor.

Jose Hernandez has served proudly in the Army. He has four beautiful children and a loving wife, Nikki. He served the Albuquerque area U.S. Postal Service for 12 years.

Our letter carriers and postal workers shouldn't have to worry about their safety when they go to work. Those who will see Jose's name on the Five Points Post Office will remember him as the hero that he was who went above and beyond his duty.

For these reasons and many more, I am thankful first for the entire New Mexico delegation for their support, and for Chairwoman MALONEY's and Chairman RASKIN's swift work to move my bill that will name the post office at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 813 honoring Mr. Hernandez.

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers on this side. I thank the gentlewoman from New Mexico for being here as the Secretary-Designate of the Interior Department. This is a confirmation day. So to be at both places at the same time is very important, and I think it underscores her real heartfelt appreciation with respect to this legislation and its passage.

Having said that, I urge passage of H.R. 813, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 813.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COLONEL CARLYLE "SMITTY" HARRIS POST OFFICE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 208) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the "Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 208

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

SECTION 1. COLONEL CARLYLE "SMITTY" HARRIS POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, shall be known and designated as the "Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris 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 "Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MFUME. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in consideration of H.R. 208, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the Colonel Carlyle "Smitty" Harris Post Office.

Smitty Harris entered the Air Force on January 2, 1951, and served through the rank of sergeant before being commissioned. He retired from the Air Force in 1979 as a colonel.

In his career, he flew fighter aircraft and was an instructor and operations officer and a faculty member at the Air War College.

On April 4, 1965, just a week before his 36th birthday, he was on a combat mission over North Vietnam to bomb the Thanh Hoa Bridge.

Smitty was successful in destroying the bridge, but his F-105 fighter plane was hit and Smitty was forced to bail out over North Vietnam. He was captured immediately and spent the next 8 years as a prisoner of war in various prisons, where he was confined, mistreated, and tortured.

He is credited with introducing the tap code to POWs so that they could communicate surreptitiously between their cell walls.

During his distinguished Air Force career, Smitty earned two Silver Medals, three Legion of Merits, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars for valor, two Purple Hearts, and two Air Medals as well.

Smitty retired from the Air Force in August of 1979, and entered directly into the University of Mississippi School of Law, joining the Mississippi bar in December of 1981. His post-Air Force employment included banking law and marketing. In October of 2012, Colonel Harris was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Air Force Association.

Tupelo, Mississippi, is the home to Smitty and to Louise, their two daughters, and a son who was born in Okinawa shortly after Smitty was shot down. Their spouses, as well as others in their family, reside in Tupelo.

Madam Speaker, we are urging today an extra honor for Smitty Harris, a true American, by naming this postal facility after him.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 208, a bill to name a Mississippi post office for Colonel Carlyle "Smitty" Harris.

Smitty Harris enlisted in the Air Force in 1951, and would later go on to serve for 28 years as a pilot instructor, operations officer, and faculty member at the Air War College.

In 1965, while on a combat mission over North Vietnam, Smitty's F-105 was struck and he was forced to bail out over North Vietnam where he was captured.

He spent the next 8 years as a prisoner of war, where he was confined in various prisons and tortured. During his time in prison, he is known for creating the tap code, which POWs used to communicate secretly between cells.

After nearly 8 years as a prisoner of war, he returned home to the U.S. and to his loving family. His son called him his hero and role model. But the truth is, he is every American's hero.

He has earned numerous medals and accolades for heroic service on behalf of our Nation. Those include: two Silver Star Medals, three Legion of Merits, the Distinguished Flying Cross, two Bronze Stars for valor, two Purple Hearts, and two Air Medals.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to support this legislation in recognition of this great American hero, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. KELLY).

□ 1645

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for allowing me to speak today in support of H.R. 208 to designate a post office for Colonel Carlyle "Smitty" Harris, my friend.

Madam Speaker, he served with one of our colleagues and friends here, Mr. Sam Johnson, and was in the Hanoi Hilton with him for much of the time they shared together. I have this long speech written, but I want to talk about who Carlyle Smitty Harris is.

He is Smitty to all his friends. You would never know that he was a lawyer; you would never know that he was a pilot; you would never know that he was a retired colonel. He is such a gentleman and such a role model for our entire community. His family are key people in the Tupelo area.

Smitty was shot down and spent almost 8 years in the Hanoi Hilton. During that time, he had learned many, many years ago, from a sergeant, about a tap code they used to communicate in World War II. Being one of the first 10 or 12 prisoners in the Hanoi Hilton, they would separate them so that they couldn't communicate. And Smitty taught this to all the other members when they came in so that they could communicate when they were separated and segregated as prisoners.

You would think that 8 years serving in the Hanoi Hilton that you would be bitter, that you would hate humanity, that when you were tortured, you would want to be tortured or be mean to others, but not Smitty Harris. Colonel Harris is a gentleman of all gentlemen. He took it, and now he uses his faith and all the strength that he gained from all those years being away from the people and the things that he loved, and he is not necessarily happy about it, but he is so content with his life, and he passes on the lessons that he learned.

I think back when I went to the governor's mansion many years ago, and I had my—at the time—17-year-old son. Smitty spent about 2½ hours on the tour bus with my son talking to him about life, about what it meant to be a man.

Madam Speaker, there are not enough words to describe what Smitty Harris has done for this Nation. He is a true hero, just like our former colleague and friend, Sam Johnson, was. These guys gave their best to this Nation during the Vietnam war during their captivities, but he continues to give to his community even today.

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

Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman for his remarks, and I thank him for his service, as well. The distinguished gentleman also is a Major General of the Army National Guard Element, Joint Force in Mississippi. I don't take that lightly. I appreciate all he has done, and I appreciate him calling the name of Sam Johnson, who I served with previously in this body.

Madam Speaker, I went to the Hanoi Hilton as a tourist, and stood there in pain looking at what he and Senator McCain, and so many others went through in that facility. I mean, it just brings you back to Earth. And sometimes we take lightly the service. Sometimes, we take lightly the fact that some of our servicemen and women were captured. And sometimes, we take lightly the fact that war can happen at any time. And when it does happen, we hope that it will continue to always bring out the best in all of us.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to stand here and to give these remarks from our side of the aisle about Smitty. I talk about him as if I know him, but when I read about him, I feel like I do know him.

My thanks to the gentleman from Mississippi and the gentlewoman from South Carolina for leading this discussion on the other side.

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

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 208.

The question was taken.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF COUNSEL IN THE DIGITAL ERA ACT

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 546) to regulate monitoring of electronic communications between an incarcerated person in a Bureau of Prisons facility and that person's attorney or other legal representative, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 546

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 “Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act”.

SEC. 2. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN AN INCARCERATED PERSON AND THE PERSON’S ATTORNEY.

(a) **PROHIBITION ON MONITORING.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall create a program or system, or modify any program or system that exists on the date of enactment of this Act, through which an incarcerated person sends or receives an electronic communication, to exclude from monitoring the contents of any privileged electronic communication. In the case that the Attorney General creates a program or system in accordance with this subsection, the Attorney General shall, upon implementing such system, discontinue using any program or system that exists on the date of enactment of this Act through which an incarcerated person sends or receives a privileged electronic communication, except that any program or system that exists on such date may continue to be used for any other electronic communication.

(b) **RETENTION OF CONTENTS.**—A program or system or a modification to a program or system under subsection (a) may allow for retention by the Bureau of Prisons of, and access by an incarcerated person to, the contents of electronic communications, including the contents of privileged electronic communications, of the person until the date on which the person is released from prison.

(c) **ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE.**—Attorney-client privilege, and the protections and limitations associated with such privilege (including the crime fraud exception), applies to electronic communications sent or received through the program or system established or modified under subsection (a).

(d) **ACCESSING RETAINED CONTENTS.**—Contents retained under subsection (b) may only be accessed by a person other than the incarcerated person for whom such contents are retained under the following circumstances:

(1) **ATTORNEY GENERAL.**—The Attorney General may only access retained contents if necessary for the purpose of creating and maintaining the program or system, or any modification to the program or system, through which an incarcerated person sends or receives electronic communications. The Attorney General may not review retained contents that are accessed pursuant to this paragraph.

(2) **INVESTIGATIVE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.**—

(A) **WARRANT.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Retained contents may only be accessed by an investigative or law enforcement officer pursuant to a warrant issued by a court pursuant to the procedures described in the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

(ii) **APPROVAL.**—No application for a warrant may be made to a court without the express approval of a United States Attorney or an Assistant Attorney General.

(B) **PRIVILEGED INFORMATION.**—

(i) **REVIEW.**—Before retained contents may be accessed pursuant to a warrant obtained under subparagraph (A), such contents shall be reviewed by a United States Attorney to ensure that privileged electronic communications are not accessible.

(ii) **BARRING PARTICIPATION.**—A United States Attorney who reviews retained contents pursuant to clause (i) shall be barred from—

(I) participating in a legal proceeding in which an individual who sent or received an electronic communication from which such contents are retained under subsection (b) is a defendant; or

(II) sharing the retained contents with an attorney who is participating in such a legal proceeding.

(3) **MOTION TO SUPPRESS.**—In a case in which retained contents have been accessed in violation of this subsection, a court may suppress evidence obtained or derived from access to such contents upon motion of the defendant.

(e) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this Act—

(1) the term “agent of an attorney or legal representative” means any person employed by or contracting with an attorney or legal representative, including law clerks, interns, investigators, paraprofessionals, and administrative staff;

(2) the term “contents” has the meaning given such term in 2510 of title 18, United States Code;

(3) the term “electronic communication” has the meaning given such term in section 2510 of title 18, United States Code, and includes the Trust Fund Limited Inmate Computer System;

(4) the term “monitoring” means accessing the contents of an electronic communication at any time after such communication is sent;

(5) the term “incarcerated person” means any individual in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons or the United States Marshals Service who has been charged with or convicted of an offense against the United States, including such an individual who is imprisoned in a State institution; and

(6) the term “privileged electronic communication” means—

(A) any electronic communication between an incarcerated person and a potential, current, or former attorney or legal representative of such a person; and

(B) any electronic communication between an incarcerated person and the agent of an attorney or legal representative described in subparagraph (A).

The **SPEAKER pro tempore**, Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, the first thing I would like to do is thank our distinguished chair of the Democratic Caucus, Mr. JEFFRIES, for working with us and moving forward on this bill, along with the chairman of the full committee, Mr. NADLER.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546, the Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act requires the Federal Bureau of Prisons to establish a system that ensures the confidentiality of all privileged electronic communications between incarcerated individuals and their attorneys or legal representatives.

H.R. 546 is identical to bipartisan legislation sponsored by Representative

HAKEEM JEFFRIES last Congress. Last September, the House approved this bill by voice vote. However, the Senate failed to take up the measure prior to adjournment. As we move forward today, I hope that the House will approve this bill with broad support, again, so that the Senate will take swift action and President Biden can sign this much-needed proposal into law.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546 addresses important constitutional protections for criminal defendants, and all of these I support. The Sixth Amendment to the United States Constitution provides the right to counsel, to assist in the defense of those accused of criminal offenses. In order to represent their clients in an effective manner, defense attorneys must have the ability to communicate candidly with their clients.

The attorney-client privilege, which keeps communications between individuals and their attorneys confidential, exists in part to foster open communications. This privilege is a fundamental component of the effective assistance of counsel guaranteed by the Constitution. Of course, this privilege does not protect communications between a client and an attorney made in furtherance of or in order to cover up a crime or fraud, also known as the crime-fraud exception. We understand that.

Outside of any custody setting, defendants are less constrained in their ability to have candid conversations with their attorneys. Generally, out-of-custody defendants can go to their attorneys’ offices, speak with them freely on the phone, or send written or electronic correspondence without fear of interference or monitoring. To an extent, in-custody defendants also have these protections.

For example, in the Federal system, Bureau of Prisons’ regulations ensure that inmates can meet with their attorneys without auditory supervision. Current regulations also allow confidential phone calls and letters between inmates and their attorneys. But these same protections do not apply to email communications for the nearly 152,000 individuals currently in Federal custody, including those in pretrial detention who have not been convicted of any crime.

I know that my colleagues can see that that is definitively a denial of the civil rights, civil liberties, and the criminal justice rights that these individuals should have access to.

H.R. 546 would ensure that all communications between attorneys and their clients remain confidential, including email.

Madam Speaker, over a decade ago, the Federal Bureau of Prisons recognized the growing importance of email, which is important in providing efficient and swift communications between inmates and individuals on the outside.

Since 2009, Bureau of Prisons’ inmates have been able to access emails

through a system known as TRULINCS. However, TRULINCS requires inmates and their contacts to consent to monitoring of all communications, even email exchanges between inmates and their attorneys. That, I think we all understand, is unfair.

Madam Speaker, during the last decade, email has grown rapidly and is the primary means of communication between inmates and their attorneys. During the current pandemic, emails have become even more important given how difficult it is for attorneys to meet with their clients.

Without appropriate safeguards, the Bureau of Prisons risks severely hindering the effective representation of inmates by limiting attorney-client privilege for electronic communications. Therefore, H.R. 546 would require the Bureau to implement an adequate system to ensure that these attorney-client communications remain confidential—again, a constitutional provision or principle of the right to counsel.

H.R. 546 also includes additional protections, including the requirement of the contents of electronic communications be destroyed when an inmate is released from prison, as well as authorizing the suppression of evidence obtained or derived from access to information that is in violation of the provisions set forth in the bill.

Madam Speaker, this is an important bill. Its time is now. I commend our colleague, Representative JEFFRIES, for his effort and leadership in developing this bipartisan legislation. This proposal has already received broad support by the House during the last Congress, and now we must act swiftly to see it enacted into law, moving to the United States Senate, and seeing the United States Senate act quickly for it to be signed by President Joe Biden.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join us in support of this bill today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Judiciary, Committee, I rise in strong support of H.R. 546, the bipartisan “Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act,” re-introduced by Congressman JEFFRIES of New York, legislation that ensures that email communications between people in Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) custody and their legal teams are protected with the same privilege as legal visits, letters, and phone calls.

This legislation was reported out of the Judiciary Committee unanimously in the 116th Congress and was passed in the House twice—once as part of a COVID relief bill and later without objection on the House floor.

The principles of justice, fairness, and due process upon which our legal system is built necessitate confidentiality between the accused and their defense counsel.

Attorney client privilege is one of the oldest privileges for confidential communications and has been an important part of the American legal system for hundreds of years.

This privilege is critical when clients are in custody, and the form of communication—

whether it be in person, by letter, by telephone, or by email—should have no bearing on that protection.

Currently, individuals held in BOP facilities are uniformly denied the ability to have privileged communications with their lawyers through TRULINCS, the only email system available to them.

In order to use the BOP system, incarcerated individuals must sign a waiver acknowledging that their communications may be monitored.

Without signing the waiver, they cannot use the email system, cutting off any opportunity to communicate electronically.

The need for access to privileged email is long overdue, and it is more critical than ever today.

As the COVID pandemic has raged across the country and spread through detention facilities, BOP has restricted in-person visits, and unmonitored calls and legal mail are more difficult to use.

But incarcerated clients’ need to have access to their lawyers is undiminished, and in many instances is heightened by the delays and fears brought on by the pandemic.

Email is the safest and most cost-effective means of communicating.

The Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act remedies many of these concerns by striking the right balance between the government’s limited interest in accessing certain email communications with a warrant and the need to properly protect communications subject to the attorney-client privilege.

This legislation will only require the Department of Justice to change procedures concerning attorney-client communications and still maintains the ability for United States Attorneys to access other emails.

Privileged communication is the cornerstone of attorney-client relationships and inseparable from the due process rights on which the U.S. legal system is founded.

It is past time for BOP to bring its policies into the 21st century and ensure that electronic communications between people in custody and their legal teams are protected.

I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 546, the “Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act.”

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 546, the Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act.

This bill will modernize our criminal justice system by extending attorney-client privilege to electronic communication sent or received through the Bureau of Prisons’ email system. This will ensure that incarcerated individuals can communicate with their attorneys efficiently and privately, as it should be.

Under the legislation, the Bureau of Prisons will be prohibited from monitoring privileged email communications between incarcerated individuals and that individual’s attorney.

The attorney-client privilege is a vital component of our legal system that ensures a criminal defendant has an effective advocate in the courtroom. Emails between incarcerated individuals and their attorneys should fall

under the attorney-client protections, but currently, that is not the case.

This bill will protect the rights of incarcerated men and women to speak openly and honestly with their attorneys via email, without fear that the prosecution is monitoring those communications. Other methods of communication, such as in-person meetings and letters, can be particularly burdensome and time-consuming. Even if an attorney is near the incarcerated client, it can take hours to travel to a detention facility and visit with the client.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546 requires the Attorney General to ensure that BOP’s email system excludes the contents of electronic communications between an incarcerated person and his or her attorney from the current email monitoring process.

The bill stipulates that the protections and limitations associated with the attorney-client privilege, including the crime-fraud exception, apply to electronic communications sent or received through the BOP email system. The BOP will be allowed to retain electronic communications until the incarcerated person is released, but the bill specifies that the contents may only be accessed under very limited circumstances.

Finally, H.R. 546 allows a court to suppress evidence obtained or derived from access to the retained emails if the emails were accessed in violation of the act.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 546, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), the sponsor and author of this bill, the chairman of the Democratic Caucus.

□ 1700

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman, my good friend from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), for yielding and for her tremendous leadership on so many different criminal justice issues, including with respect to this particular piece of legislation. I thank the distinguished gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) for his support as well.

I rise to support H.R. 546, the Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act, a critical bipartisan bill to protect the constitutional right to effective representation. This legislation passed the House last Congress, and I urge my colleagues to pass it once again today.

The Sixth Amendment to the Constitution provides that in all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall have the assistance of counsel for his or her defense. An attorney must be fully informed about the facts of the case in order to effectively represent a client

and provide the best possible legal advice and guidance. That is why confidential communication between attorneys and their clients is so critical and why the attorney-client privilege must be protected.

In *Lanza v. New York*, the Supreme Court stated that even in a jail, or perhaps especially there, the relationships which the law has endowed with particularized confidentiality must continue to receive unceasing protection.

There are nearly 124,000 individuals currently in BOP custody, many of whom are in pretrial detention and have not been convicted of a crime. In our system, defendants, American citizens, are innocent until proven guilty. Like any person involved in a criminal proceeding, these individuals who are incarcerated must be able to confidentially communicate with their attorneys.

The bipartisan Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act would enable incarcerated individuals to communicate with their legal representatives privately, safely, and efficiently by prohibiting the Bureau of Prisons from monitoring privileged electronic communications.

While BOP regulations do protect the confidentiality of in-person attorney visits, phone calls, and traditional mail, no such protections exist in the context of email communications sent through the BOP's electronic mail system. This system, known as TRULINCS, has become the easiest, fastest, and most efficient method of communication available to incarcerated individuals and their attorneys.

Let's consider the alternatives. Even a brief client visit can take hours when you factor in travel and wait times. Confidential phone calls are perhaps useful, but they are subject to time limitations and can be difficult to schedule even for urgent legal matters. Postal mail must first be opened and inspected by staff for physical contraband, which can significantly extend the time it takes for the communication to reach an incarcerated individual.

These delays should be unnecessary in a prison system that permits electronic communications and would be available if the attorney-client privilege was consistently applied.

To address this serious problem, H.R. 546 would require the Attorney General to ensure that the BOP email system excludes from monitoring the contents of electronic communications between an incarcerated person and their attorney.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) an additional 1 minute.

Mr. JEFFRIES. The BOP will be permitted to retain the contents of these messages until the incarcerated person is released, but they would be accessible only under limited circumstances.

The bill is supported by a wide variety of groups, including the American

Bar Association, ACLU, Americans for Prosperity, Dream Corps, Due Process Institute, National Action Network, Prison Fellowship, Right on Crime, Faith and Freedom Coalition, FAMM, Federal public and community defenders organizations, and so many others.

I want to thank all the sponsors of this bill, most particularly Representatives VAN TAYLOR, JERRY NADLER, TOM MCCLINTOCK, DON BACON, NANCY MACE, and SHEILA JACKSON LEE, as well as DAN CRENSHAW and DUSTY JOHNSON. This has truly been a bipartisan journey.

Our criminal justice system depends on the attorney-client privilege to ensure effective representation. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 546.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

I wanted to say my compliments to the gentleman from New York in pursuit of this bill and the things he spoke to about the presumption of innocence and the right to counsel, among those sacred core rights that our Constitution guarantees to every individual in this country. This important bipartisan bill is preservative of that.

That is what we do in this Chamber. That is what this Congress should always do. So my compliments to the gentleman from New York and the cosponsors on this piece of legislation. I encourage my fellow Members to support it.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Let me thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) for his collegial response and his very important remarks on collaboration for important legislation like this.

Let me also thank the distinguished gentleman from New York for finding an Achilles' heel that would really and continues to undermine the true sense of attorney-client privilege and to respect that privilege, whether you are in custody or not, and also recognizes the increasing utilization of the digital world to file briefs, to make arguments, and, of course, to find that divide between those in-custody inmates incarcerated and those that are not in custody. We are now moving to extensive virtual court proceedings.

As we well know, individuals in custody are making a number of efforts to prove their innocence. They are appealing. They are seeking new trials. They, too, have rights that should be respected under both the Criminal Code and the Constitution.

So, again, I thank the gentleman for his thoughtfulness and all the bipartisan cosponsors that he has.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 546 would ensure that the attorney-client privilege, again, is safeguarded in all communications between criminal defendants and their attorneys. This bipartisan legislation addresses an issue that is

essential to the fair administration of the criminal justice system.

During this ongoing pandemic, this measure has become even more urgent when there is even more reliance on electronic communications between attorneys and incarcerated individuals.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 546.

The question was taken.

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

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PUERTO RICO RECOVERY ACCURACY IN DISCLOSURES ACT OF 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1192) to impose requirements on the payment of compensation to professional persons employed in voluntary cases commenced under title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight Management and Economic Stability Act (commonly known as "PROMESA").

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1192

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 "Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021" or "PRRADA".

SEC. 2. DISCLOSURE BY PROFESSIONAL PERSONS SEEKING APPROVAL OF COMPENSATION UNDER SECTION 316 OR 317 OF PROMESA.

(a) REQUIRED DISCLOSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In a voluntary case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), no attorney, accountant, appraiser, auctioneer, agent, consultant, or other professional person may be compensated under section 316 or 317 of that Act (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) unless prior to making a request for compensation, the professional person has submitted a verified statement conforming to the disclosure requirements of rule 2014(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure setting forth the connection of the professional person with—

- (A) the debtor;
- (B) any creditor;
- (C) any other party in interest, including any attorney or accountant;
- (D) the Financial Oversight and Management Board established in accordance with section 101 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2121); and
- (E) any person employed by the Oversight Board described in subparagraph (D).

(2) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—A professional person that submits a statement under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) supplement the statement with any additional relevant information that becomes known to the person; and

(B) file annually a notice confirming the accuracy of the statement.

(b) REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The United States Trustee shall review each verified statement submitted pursuant to subsection (a) and may file with the court comments on such verified statements before the professionals filing such statements seek compensation under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177).

(2) OBJECTION.—The United States Trustee may object to compensation applications filed under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177) that fail to satisfy the requirements of subsection (e).

(3) RIGHT TO BE HEARD.—Each person described in section 1109 of title 11, United States Code, may appear and be heard on any issue in a case under this section.

(c) JURISDICTION.—The district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction of all cases under this section.

(d) RETROACTIVITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a court has entered an order approving compensation under a case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), each professional person subject to the order shall file a verified statement in accordance with subsection (a) not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) NO DELAY.—A court may not delay any proceeding in connection with a case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164) pending the filing of a verified statement under paragraph (1).

(e) LIMITATION ON COMPENSATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In a voluntary case commenced under section 304 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2164), in connection with the review and approval of professional compensation under section 316 or 317 of PROMESA (48 U.S.C. 2176, 2177), the court may deny allowance of compensation for services and reimbursement of expenses, accruing after the date of the enactment of this Act of a professional person if the professional person—

(A) has failed to file statements of connections required by subsection (a) or has filed inadequate statements of connections;

(B) except as provided in paragraph (3), is on or after the date of enactment of this Act not a disinterested person, as defined in section 101 of title 11, United States Code; or

(C) except as provided in paragraph (3), represents, or holds an interest adverse to, the interest of the estate with respect to the matter on which such professional person is employed.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making a determination under paragraph (1), the court may take into consideration whether the services and expenses are in the best interests of creditors and the estate.

(3) COMMITTEE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS.—An attorney or accountant described in section 1103(b) of title 11, United States Code, shall be deemed to have violated paragraph (1) if the attorney or accountant violates section 1103(b) of title 11, United States Code.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, as I always do, let me thank the sponsor of this legislation for her leadership, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), and all of those who have supported this important leadership bill.

H.R. 1192, the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy In Disclosures Act, or PRRADA, is commonsense legislation that would promote greater transparency and integrity with respect to the ongoing financial reorganization of Puerto Rico.

In response to dire fiscal issues facing Puerto Rico at the time, Congress passed the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, or PROMESA, in 2016. That legislation established a financial oversight and management board with control over Puerto Rico's budget, laws, financial plans, and regulations and the authority to retain professionals to assist the board in executing its responsibilities.

Though largely patterned on Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, PROMESA did not incorporate all facets of Chapter 11 and other relevant provisions of the code. Importantly, this includes the code's mandatory disclosure requirements regarding actual or potential conflicts of interest that professional persons seeking to be retained in a bankruptcy case must make to the court prior to their retention.

This bill would close that loophole by conditioning the compensation of professional persons retained under PROMESA upon certain disclosures similar to those required under the Bankruptcy Code.

Additionally, the bill would require the United States Trustee to review these disclosures and submit comments in response to the court and also authorize the United States Trustee to object to compensation requested by the professionals.

Finally, H.R. 1192 would allow courts to deny compensation for services and reimbursement of expenses if the professional person did not comply with the disclosure requirement, was not a disinterested person, or represented or held an interest adverse to the bankruptcy estate.

I thank Ms. VELÁZQUEZ for her leadership in championing this bill and for her relentless dedication, which we all have witnessed, to ensuring that the people of Puerto Rico receive the fair, efficient, and transparent restructuring process they deserve.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, which was passed out of the House last Congress by a unanimous vote.

Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Judiciary, Committee, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1192, the "Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021" or "PRRADA Act," which conditions compensation of professional persons retained under the congressionally passed "Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act" ("PROMESA") upon the applicant providing certain disclosures similar to those required under Bankruptcy Code section 327.

In response to dire fiscal issues facing Puerto Rico at the time, Congress passed Pub. L. 114-187, the "Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act" or "PROMESA" in 2016, legislation I strongly supported and cosponsored.

The Act established the Financial Oversight and Management Board (Board), a fiscal control board comprised of seven members that would have control over Puerto Rico's budget, laws, financial plans, and regulations.

It empowered the board to propose a budget for Puerto Rico and restructure its obligations owed to bondholders, estimated to be \$6.5 billion, and other creditors.

Although largely patterned on chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code, PROMESA did not incorporate all facets of chapter 11 and other relevant provisions of the Code.

For example, although the Board is authorized to retain and compensate professional persons in connection with its efforts to reorganize Puerto Rico, PROMESA does not include certain restrictions that the Bankruptcy Code requires for such purposes.

For example, Section 327 of the Bankruptcy Code, unlike PROMESA, authorizes professional persons, such as attorneys, financial advisors, appraisers, and others, to be retained in connection with the administration of a bankruptcy case provided they meet the following conditions: first, such a person must not hold or represent an interest adverse to the bankruptcy estate; and second, the professional must be a "disinterested person."

As I indicated at the outset, H.R. 1192, the "Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021" or "PRRADA," conditions compensation of professional persons retained under PROMESA upon the applicant providing certain disclosures similar to those required under Bankruptcy Code section 327.

In addition, it would require the United States Trustee to review such disclosures and submit comments in response to the court as well as authorize the United States trustee to object to compensation requested by professionals. Further, the measure would apply retroactively to professionals who have previously been awarded compensation.

Finally, H.R. 1192 would authorize the court to deny allowance of compensation for services and reimbursement of expenses accruing after the bill's enactment date if the professional person did not comply with the disclosure requirement, was not a disinterested person, or represented or held an interest adverse to the bankruptcy estate.

I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 1192, the "Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021."

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act.

In 2016, Puerto Rico was experiencing significant financial pressures brought on by sizable debt and related obligations. In response to Puerto Rico's financial crisis, Congress enacted the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act of 2016. The 2016 law established a bankruptcy mechanism for Puerto Rico to address its obligations.

Like the general bankruptcy law, the 2016 law enables bankruptcy professionals, like accountants, consultants, and lawyers, to apply for payment for their services upon court approval. But the 2016 law omitted disclosure requirements that apply to compensated professionals in proceedings under the general Bankruptcy Code, title 11 of the United States Code, pursuant to rule 2014(a) of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure.

Most significantly, the gap in the 2016 law created a potential for undisclosed compensation terms and undiscovered conflicts of interest vis-a-vis parties of interest for professionals serving in Puerto Rico's bankruptcy.

To address this concern, this bill applies the disclosure requirements of rule 2014(a) to professionals serving in connection with Puerto Rico's bankruptcy and seeking compensation for those services.

The bill also requires oversight of the disclosures that bankruptcy professionals make.

This bill's disclosure and oversight requirements increase the likelihood that conflicts of interest will be caught and timely addressed before compensation decisions are made.

Taken as a whole, this added transparency will benefit important interests, such as those of creditors and taxpayers—and ultimately, of Puerto Rico itself.

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

□ 1715

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ), the author of this legislation and also a champion, as all Members of the United States Congress know, during the very trying and difficult times of our friends in Puerto Rico. It is her voice that has been the most singularly powerful in their advocacy, along with her wonderful colleague, the distinguished representative, the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico.

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1192. I was proud to introduce this bill with bipartisan support in the House.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI and Chairman JERRY NADLER for bringing this legislation to the floor, and Mr. BISHOP, the ranking member of the subcommittee, and Sen-

ator BOB MENENDEZ for introducing a companion bill in the Senate.

The Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021, or PRRADA, eliminates a double standard currently facing Puerto Rico. Under U.S. Code and Federal bankruptcy procedure, any conflicts of interest, or even the perception of such conflict, between those working on the bankruptcy and the debtor are required to be disclosed. However, a loophole in the current law prevents this requirement from being extended to the people of Puerto Rico.

In 2016, Congress passed the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act, or PROMESA, to set up an orderly bankruptcy process to restructure its debt, stimulate economic development, and put the island on a path to financial recovery. This bill will extend current U.S. law, requiring disclosures of conflicts of interest to Puerto Rico, thereby improving transparency and restoring confidence in the island's future.

Puerto Ricans should be confident that the board's bankruptcy advisers do not have their thumb on the scale to favor certain debts where they have a self-interest. This bipartisan bill ensures integrity of the PROMESA process.

While we can have different opinions on how effectively the oversight board is carrying out its mission, one thing should be clear: The island's residents should be entitled to the same rights and protections as any debtor on the mainland.

Once more, I would like to thank Chairman NADLER, the staff, and the bipartisan cosponsors of the bill. I strongly encourage all Members to vote "yes" on this critical piece of legislation. I also would like to recognize the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN), who is a cosponsor of the bill.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico (Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN).

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act, H.R. 1192.

Representative VELÁZQUEZ and myself have proposed this bipartisan initiative in the last two Congresses, having achieved passage in the House during the last session. I think Congresswoman VELÁZQUEZ is very thoughtful in terms of how important this is and the effects on PROMESA regarding this bill.

We support this bill as an important component in ensuring the restructuring process under PROMESA, and it looks out for Puerto Rico's interests.

This legislation requires any counsel and professional personnel that the financial oversight board may hire to work on a title III case for the restructuring of Puerto Rico's debt to submit verified disclosures of their connections with the debtor, creditors, or persons employed by the oversight board prior to being compensated.

These provisions extend the same requirements to decisions about the hiring of personnel for the restructuring as are imposed on such personnel under existing bankruptcy rules. I think it is important to have the same kind of rules for those people who are going to be managing, as we speak, those kinds of negotiations.

Our intention is not to exclude any people with expertise and knowledge about Puerto Rico's fiscal transactions from being resources in the restructuring process, but I think it is essential that any such connection be clear and known so that such persons' qualifications and the role they are going to be playing can be better evaluated.

Conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict of interest, can be best avoided if there are accountability and transparency during the process. This bill would allow that to happen.

This bill would require that such personnel must disclose in detail their participation and involvement with any entity involved in the issuance of Puerto Rico's debt and in any claims involving Puerto Rico's debt, informing the identity of each one.

Anyone who is serving in the board—and I repeat, anyone who is serving in the board—working to inform its decisions, or representing it before the title III court, must have the trust of all parties that they are committed to defending the interests of Puerto Rico to the best of their ability in accordance to the law and justice.

A lack of transparency in personnel decisions creates a lack of confidence and distrust. Learning that someone was involved in the business of one of the parties in the case, only after they are named and working on the case, does not create assurance of their commitment to the best interests of Puerto Rico or even managing the debt.

Our goal must be to reach the day that we will no longer need the provisions of PROMESA or the fiscal oversight board, and we can dedicate ourselves to rebuild our economy and provide for growth. But until that happens, we must demand that those instruments created by PROMESA be accountable and transparent in their processes. Anything else should be unacceptable.

That is the reason this bill, H.R. 1192, is important, and I ask my colleagues to support and pass this bill.

Madam Speaker, I say thank you to the Congresswoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ) for this bill and for allowing this initiative to be a bipartisan one.

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico, and I thank the gentlewoman from Texas and New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, let me indicate again, this is a very vital initiative to continue to help in Puerto Rico's recovery. Let me thank the gentlewoman from New York for her leadership and, of course, the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico. This partnership and bipartisan collaboration with the other cosponsors is very crucial as we continue to work as a Congress to do our job for the people of Puerto Rico.

H.R. 1192 closes a loophole under current law by establishing disclosure requirements regarding actual or potential conflicts of interest in the bankruptcy process under PROMESA. In doing so, this legislation promotes transparency and accountability in the Puerto Rico restructuring process.

Again, I thank my colleague, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ from New York, the author of the bill, for her leadership on this issue, and Mr. NADLER and his work.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this commonsense measure. This, of course, along with the gentlewoman from Puerto Rico, is helping the people of Puerto Rico, our neighbors and our fellow Americans.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1192.

The question was taken.

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

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1831

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR) at 6 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.

COLONEL CARLYLE "SMITTY" HARRIS POST OFFICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 208) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite

102, in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the "Colonel Carlyle 'Smitty' Harris Post Office", on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 406, nays 15, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 32]

YEAS—406

Adams	Crenshaw	Harshbarger
Aderholt	Crist	Hartzler
Aguilar	Crow	Hastings
Allen	Cuellar	Hayes
Allred	Curtis	Hern
Amodei	David (KS)	Herrell
Armstrong	Davidson	Herrera Beutler
Arrington	Davis, Danny K.	Hice (GA)
Auchincloss	Davis, Rodney	Higgins (LA)
Axne	Dean	Higgins (NY)
Babin	DeFazio	Hill
Bacon	DeGette	Himes
Baird	DeLauro	Hinson
Balderson	DeBene	Hollingsworth
Banks	DelBago	Horsford
Barr	Demings	Houlahan
Barragán	DeSaulnier	Hoyer
Bass	DesJarlais	Hudson
Beatty	Deutch	Huffman
Bentz	Diaz-Balart	Huizenga
Bera	Dingell	Issa
Bergman	Doggett	Jackson
Beyer	Donalds	Jackson Lee
Bice (OK)	Doyle, Michael	Jacobs (CA)
Biggs	F.	Jacobs (NY)
Bilirakis	Duncan	Jeffries
Bishop (GA)	Dunn	Johnson (GA)
Bishop (NC)	Eshoo	Johnson (LA)
Blumenauer	Estes	Johnson (OH)
Blunt Rochester	Evans	Johnson (SD)
Boebert	Fallon	Johnson (TX)
Bonamici	Feenstra	Jordan
Bost	Ferguson	Joyce (OH)
Bourdeaux	Fischbach	Joyce (PA)
Boyle, Brendan	Fitzgerald	Kahele
F.	Fitzpatrick	Kaptur
Brady	Fleischmann	Katko
Brooks	Fletcher	Keating
Brown	Portenberry	Keller
Brownley	Foster	Kelly (IL)
Buchanan	Fox	Kelly (MS)
Buck	Frankel, Lois	Kelly (PA)
Bucshon	Franklin, C.	Khanna
Budd	Scott	Kildee
Burchett	Fulcher	Kilmer
Burgess	Gaetz	Kim (CA)
Bustos	Gallagher	Kim (NJ)
Calvert	Gallego	Kind
Cammack	Garamendi	Kinzinger
Carbajal	Garbarino	Kirkpatrick
Cárdenas	García (CA)	Krishnamoorthi
Carl	Gibbs	Kuster
Carson	Gimenez	Kustoff
Carter (GA)	Gohmert	LaHood
Carter (TX)	Golden	Lamb
Cartwright	Gomez	Lamborn
Case	Gonzales, Tony	Langevin
Castor (FL)	Gonzalez (OH)	Larsen (WA)
Cawthorn	Gonzalez,	Larson (CT)
Chabot	Vicente	Latta
Chu	Good (VA)	LaTurner
Cicilline	Gooden (TX)	Lawrence
Clark (MA)	Gosar	Lawson (FL)
Clarke (NY)	Gottheimer	Lee (CA)
Cleaver	Granger	Lee (NV)
Cline	Graves (LA)	Leger Fernandez
Cloud	Graves (MO)	Lesko
Clyburn	Green (TN)	Levin (CA)
Clyde	Green, Al (TX)	Levin (MI)
Cohen	Greene (GA)	Lieu
Cole	Griffith	Lofgren
Comer	Grijalva	Long
Connolly	Grothman	Loudermilk
Cooper	Guest	Lowenthal
Correa	Guthrie	Lucas
Costa	Haaland	Luetkemeyer
Courtney	Hagedorn	Luria
Craig	Harder (CA)	Lynch
Crawford	Harris	Mace

Malinowski	Payne	Staubert
Malliotakis	Perlmutter	Steel
Maloney,	Perry	Stefanik
Carolyn B.	Peters	Steil
Maloney, Sean	Pfleger	Steube
Mann	Phillips	Stevens
Manning	Pingree	Stewart
Massie	Pocan	Stivers
Mast	Porter	Strickland
Matsui	Posey	Suozzi
McBath	Price (NC)	Swalwell
McCarthy	Quigley	Takano
McCaul	Raskin	Taylor
McClain	Reed	Tenney
McClintock	Reschenthaler	Thompson (CA)
McCollum	Rice (NY)	Thompson (MS)
McEachin	Rice (SC)	Thompson (PA)
McGovern	Rogers (AL)	Tiffany
McHenry	Rogers (KY)	Timmons
McKinley	Rose	Titus
McNerney	Rosendale	Tonko
Meeks	Ross	Torres (CA)
Meijer	Rouzer	Torres (NY)
Meng	Roy	Trahan
Meuser	Roybal-Allard	Trone
Mfume	Ruiz	Turner
Miller (IL)	Ruppersberger	Underwood
Miller (WV)	Rush	Upton
Miller-Meeks	Rutherford	Valadao
Moolenaar	Ryan	Van Drew
Dean	Salazar	Van Duyne
Moore (AL)	Sánchez	Vargas
Moore (UT)	Sarbanes	Veasey
Moore (WI)	Scalise	Vela
Morelle	Schakowsky	Velázquez
Moulton	Schiff	Wagner
Mrvan	Schneider	Schrader
Mullin	Hoyer	Schrier
Murphy (FL)	Murphy (FL)	Schweikert
Murphy (NC)	Murphy (NC)	Scott (VA)
Nadler	Nadler	Scott, Austin
Napolitano	Neal	Scott, David
Neal	Neguse	Sessions
Nehls	Nehls	Sewell
Newhouse	Newhouse	Sherman
Newman	Newman	Sherrill
Norcross	Norcross	Sires
Norman	Norman	Slotkin
Nunes	Nunes	Smith (MO)
O'Halleran	O'Halleran	Smith (NE)
Obernoite	Obernoite	Smith (NJ)
Owens	Owens	Smith (WA)
Palazzo	Palazzo	Smucker
Palmer	Palmer	Soto
Panetta	Panetta	Spanberger
Pappas	Pappas	Spartz
Pascrell	Pascrell	Speier
		Stanton

NAYS—15

Bowman	Espaillet	Ocasio-Cortez
Bush	García (IL)	Omar
Casten	García (TX)	Pressley
Castro (TX)	Jayapal	Scanlon
Escobar	Jones	Tlaib

NOT VOTING—10

Butterfield	LaMalfa	Weber (TX)
Cheney	Pence	Williams (TX)
Emmer	Rodgers (WA)	
Fudge	Simpson	

□ 1913

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. MALINOWSKI, SMITH of Nebraska, and CARL changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Davis (KS))	Bowman (Clark (MA))	Cárdenas (Gomez)
Barragán (Beyer)	Boyle, Brendan	Carter (TX)
Bilirakis (Fleischmann)	F. (Jeffries)	(Nehls)
	Buchanan (Donalds)	DeSaulnier (Matsui)

Deutch (Rice (NY))	Kirkpatrick (Stanton)	Neguse (Perlmutter)
Dingell (Kuster)	Langevin (Lynch)	Payne (Pallone)
Frankel, Lois (Clark (MA))	Lawson (FL)	Pingree (Kuster)
Gaetz (Franklin, C. Scott)	(Evans)	Porter (Wexton)
Gonzalez, Vincente (Gomez)	Lieu (Beyer)	Royal-Allard (Bass)
Gosar (Wagner)	Lofgren (Jeffries)	Ruiz (Aguilar)
Grijalva (Garcia (IL))	Lowenthal (Beyer)	Rush (Underwood)
Hastings (Cleaver)	Meng (Clark (MA))	Stevens (Wexton)
Huffman (Thompson (CA))	Moore (WI)	Vargas (Correa)
	(Beyer)	Wasserman (Soto)
	Moulton (Trahan)	Schultz (Coleman (Pallone))
	Napolitano (Correa)	Watson Coleman (Pallone)
		Wilson (FL) (Hayes)

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THE LOSSES CAUSED BY COVID-19

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, just a few minutes ago, Members stood on the steps of the United States Congress, reminiscent of the unity of this Nation and the words of our Pledge of Allegiance that we stand united.

I rise to offer words of condolence and remembrance for the 500,000 lives taken by COVID-19. The Nation, over the last 12 months, has faced a crucible of suffering, death, and disease that has taken lives, devastated the economy, and put millions at risk of greater hardship due to the death of a loved one, unemployment, loss of healthcare or forgone education opportunities.

I continue to remember the little 4-year-old boy in Texas who lost both of his parents; or those who continue to mourn losing a mom, dad, husband, wife, children, yes, and siblings.

Yesterday, as the news broke that this Nation has lost 500,000—more than World War I, World War II, the Korean war, and the Vietnam war—my heart was heavy, and this loss is a sad mark.

So I come today to this floor to say to those who have lost: You will never be forgotten.

To those who remain: Your loved one will never be forgotten. Their lives will not be in vain. Their deaths will not be in vain.

And though these are staggering proportions, our commitment as the United States Congress should be to ensure this moment.

Madam Speaker, I end by a quiet moment of silence at this moment.

Madam Speaker, I rise to offer words of condolence and remembrance for the five hundred thousand lives taken by COVID-19.

The Nation over the last twelve months has faced a crucible of suffering, death, and disease that has taken too many lives, devastated the economy and put millions at risk of greater hardship due to the death of a loved one, unemployment, loss of health care or forgone education opportunities.

Yesterday, as news broke that the Nation had reached the milestone of losing five hundred thousand people to COVID-19, I was at the dedication of a Community Vaccination Center at the NRG Stadium located in Houston Texas.

Today, with a heavy heart our nation sadly marks the loss of 500,000 American lives to

the coronavirus: an unimaginable human toll in our modern era of medical and technological advances.

These deaths are of staggering proportions and cause incomprehensible sadness, but we cannot think of them as the end of COVID-19. As we have learned COVID-19 can surge again claiming even more lives.

This is why we cannot be complacent by accepting so much death without continuing to fight to save lives and end this pandemic.

Every life lost is a profound tragedy and earth-shattering moment in the lives of families, neighborhoods, and communities that touch each of us in countless ways as we mourn and console our family members, co-workers, neighbors and friends.

Today, I joined my colleagues of the House to observe a moment of silence on the steps of the Capitol for the 500,000 lives lost.

Members of Congress will join tens of millions of Americans in prayer for the lives lost or devastated by this vicious virus.

As we pray, we must commit ourselves to honoring those we have lost by wearing face coverings, observing social distance, washing of hands—and most important getting the vaccine when it is our time to do so as a pledge to all who have been taken from us far too soon that we will act swiftly to put an end to this pandemic and to stem the suffering felt by so many.

My commitment is to save lives and also livelihoods through public and personal action.

As Texans work to overcome the tragic winter disaster that befell the state last week, I wrote to President Biden asking that he grant the state's request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration, which he did and today FEMA is on the ground providing water delivery, food distribution, and other vital services to help Texans get back on their feet.

I also encourage those who have lost health insurance during the economic crisis created by the COVID-19 pandemic to take advantage of the extended enrollment period for getting health insurance through [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), which is open until May 15, 2021.

Currently, 36 states are using [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov). Since President Biden announced the creation of the Special Enrollment Period for [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), all 14 states and D.C. that have their own state-based marketplaces have announced that they would also have Special Enrollment Periods.

President Biden has extended a lifeline to struggling small businesses, to save American jobs and power the American economy, while promoting equity and fairness across Main Street.

The reforms he had made will expand access to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to the hardest-hit businesses that anchor our low and middle-income and communities of color.

Importantly, they will ensure that sole proprietors, which are overwhelmingly women and minorities, and which also serve our immigrant communities, are not left behind.

My unwavering support of these Biden Administration reforms will also build on recent PPP successes that increase assistance to businesses with ten or fewer employees in underserved and rural areas.

They also build on the work of increasing assistance through community-based lenders that specialize in serving those markets.

As President Biden advances these actions, I can say with pride that I participated in the

Budget Committee's Markup of the American Rescue Plan intended to end COVID-19 pandemic and save the nation's economy.

Real Help is on the way. We will win this battle against COVID and save the economy by working together.

I conclude with these words "Precious Lord take my hand" and lead me on. We will together win the battle.

PENN STATE THON

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to give a big thank-you to Penn State students for their commitment to an incredible cause.

Each year, students spend countless hours raising awareness and money in the fight against pediatric cancer. Every February, these efforts culminate in a 46-hour dance marathon known as THON.

THON provides financial and emotional support to thousands of families across the Commonwealth who have a child battling pediatric cancer.

THON is normally a celebration of thousands in the Bryce Jordan Center on campus—an opportunity for children with cancer to focus on simply being a kid even just for the weekend.

Sadly, the pandemic forced this proud tradition online this year. However, despite a global pandemic, students still managed to raise \$10.6 million this year.

Since 1973, Penn State students have raised more than \$180 million. Those figures, combined with nearly 17,000 student volunteers, makes Penn State THON the largest student-run philanthropic effort in the world.

I am proud of the Penn State students who are so committed to this cause, and I am even more proud of the children and families who keep fighting.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: HONORING COBB COUNTY SHERIFF CRAIG OWENS

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

Mrs. MCBATH. Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Black History Month, I rise today in honor of a trailblazer in Black history, Cobb County Sheriff Craig Owens.

This past November, Sheriff Owens made history as the first African American to be elected sheriff in Cobb County, in my district.

Born and raised in Atlanta, Sheriff Owens has served over 30 years in the Army, Army National Guard, Army Reserve, and Cobb County Police Department. His career in law enforcement utilizes the leadership skills that he gained from his experience serving in our Armed Forces.

Sheriff Owens leads by putting people first, and I am so proud of the work he is doing to unite Cobb County and instill faith and trust in its police department. As one of his constituents and as a partner in service to Cobb County, it is my honor and privilege to recognize Sheriff Owens today.

REMEMBERING TOM SEIPEL, JR.

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor Tom Seipel, Jr., who passed away on February 13.

Tom had a heart for enriching the lives of countless children, and it shined in all he did.

After graduating from Ohio State University, he moved to Seoul, South Korea, to teach English to kindergartners. Tom then returned to the U.S. to serve as a children's minister in Kentucky for several years.

He later selflessly moved to Nicaragua, where he opened and operated a children's ministry to provide meals and afterschool tutoring for the poor children of Managua. While there, Tom also taught at Nicaragua Christian Academy.

In his final years before losing his hard-fought battle with cancer, he received treatment in Savannah, Georgia.

Tom's legacy will surely live on for many years to come, and I am thankful for the positive impact he made on countless lives. My thoughts and prayers go out to all who knew and loved him, especially the love of his life, Margarita, and their daughter, Mia Isabella.

RECOGNIZING MACOMB AND OAKLAND COUNTY STUDENTS

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

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Macomb and Oakland County students who participated in my inaugural Ninth District MLK Jr. Day Youth Conference. These students brought their whole brilliant, vulnerable, and idealistic selves to the table to zero in on what Dr. King's life is really about: transforming society to be more just.

COVID-19 has exposed deep inequalities in every facet of life, especially for Black Americans, who are nearly two times as likely as White Americans to die of COVID-19. Imagine what we could do to end these disparities if we honor Dr. King by emulating his work.

Having watched these students sponge up lessons on the true premise of MLK Day—achieving social justice—and make plans to fight for change in their own lives and communities, I am

energized and hopeful that we can boldly champion justice and equality in Congress. I can think of no better way of marking Black History Month than that.

RECOGNIZING PARRY McCLUER HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM

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

Mr. CLINE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Parry McCluer High School boys' basketball team that won the Virginia Class 1 State championship this weekend.

After trailing by 8 in the first quarter to Altavista, the Fighting Blues lived up to their name and battled back—leading by 2 at halftime. In the locker room, Coach Cartolaro told his team to go out and attack in the third quarter. And attack they did. Quickly outscoring 10-2, the Blues opened up their lead and never looked back. When the final buzzer sounded, Parry McCluer had pulled off a 17-point victory, securing the school's best-ever boys' basketball championship and closing the season with an impressive 12-1 record.

I applaud Coach Cartolaro and the entire team for their fortitude and perseverance these past few months. They overcame every obstacle presented to them and brought home the trophy to Buena Vista.

Congratulations to the Blues. This achievement is well-deserved and their community is proud of their hard work.

EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW

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

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Equality Act.

For far too long our Nation has failed to read and live up to the words that adorn the front of the United States Supreme Court: Equal Justice Under Law.

We now have a rare opportunity to explicitly push our Nation to live up to its founding ideals and make that phrase ring true for all Americans. No matter who you are or whom you love, under the Equality Act you will be guaranteed the exact same protections as everybody else.

LGBTQ individuals should not have to worry when they try to access a small business loan, seek healthcare, or buy a home.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to co-sponsor this historic civil rights legislation, and I look forward to casting my vote in support of its passage.

REMEMBERING RUSH LIMBAUGH

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight in sadness to acknowledge and commemorate the loss of an American icon, Rush Limbaugh, who, since 1985, extolled the virtues of conservatism on radio.

Starting in Sacramento, California, for the first 3 years, 1985 to 1988, he was within range of my tractor and my pickup out in the fields, where I was working at the time. He was really a breath of fresh air for radio, for a different type of talk and a different style.

I know he inspired millions around the country during his many years on radio. With his loss, he won't be replaced. He surely led the way for many others to take on that mantle, but nobody will do it quite like Rush Limbaugh. He did so well at it, and he touched so many that he was even recognized about 1 year ago right here in this Chamber by President Trump with the Medal of Freedom, one of the highest honors anybody can receive.

Mr. Limbaugh may be controversial to some, but he was always coming from truly a humble heart to try to get a message out to what America was about, his love for this country, and a love for its ideals.

So I know that many will miss him, and I am glad to be honored to help touch on his legacy here tonight.

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LIVING UP TO THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM AND EQUITY

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

Ms. NEWMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the millions of Americans who continue to be denied housing, education, public services, and much, much more because they identify as members of the LGBTQ community; Americans like my own daughter who, years ago, bravely came out to her parents as transgender.

I knew from that day on, my daughter would be living in a nation where, in most of it States, she could be discriminated against merely because of who she is. And yet, it was still the happiest day of my life, because my daughter has found her authentic self.

And as any mother would, I swore that I would fight to ensure this country changes for the better. Without the Equality Act, this Nation will never live up to its principles of freedom and equality. The right time to pass this act was decades ago. The second best time is right now.

I am voting yes on the Equality Act for Evie Newman, my daughter, and the strongest, bravest person I know.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LUKE
LETLOW

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

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, coming from Illinois, it is often a question I get here in this Chamber, why do you have a pin of the State of Louisiana on your lapel?

I have the pin on my lapel because there is a void, a void in this institution because one of our colleagues wasn't able to get sworn in. Luke Letlow would have made a tremendous Member of this institution. And I want to thank my colleague, MIKE JOHNSON, and the entire Louisiana delegation, and what would have been his freshman class, for honoring him tonight in a Special Order.

Like Luke, I was a district staffer for years, trying to make this House be a better place for every single American. I was looking forward to serving with him. Unfortunately, tragedy took his life, and we are without his service.

My heart goes out to his wife, Julia, and their two kids, and the entire State of Louisiana, and this institution, for not having the opportunity to see the true leadership of Congressman Luke Letlow.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LUKE
LETLOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BOURDEAUX). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, our Special Order tonight is to honor a dear friend, one who would have been a colleague of ours here, and a great tragedy.

Congressman-elect Luke Joshua Letlow, from Start, Louisiana, passed away from complications due to COVID-19 on December 29, 2020. He had just been elected to Congress December 5, and he was only, as we know, weeks away from taking the oath of office and serving here with us.

He was 41 years old. He was in the prime of his life and, so far as any of us could tell, otherwise the picture of health and energy and excitement and positivity. He was excited to serve with us here. His death came as a terrible shock to all the people of Louisiana and to millions of people around this country.

Luke was known in Louisiana for having a servant's heart. He had a peaceful nature about him. When he talked to a constituent, or a friend, or anyone, he made them feel they were the most important person in the world. He was one of those guys who was a great statesman, and he would have left a big mark here.

I have also been encouraged since his passing to know that my friend was guided by his faith in Christ. A good friend of ours told me shortly after his passing that Luke was drawn even closer to the Lord in his final days. In fact, he called this trusted prayer warrior to share briefly about an experience he had just a few nights before he passed away.

He was in the hospital, and Luke said he felt the certain presence of God and his peace. Luke Letlow knew the truth of Christ and the peace of his salvation, and we all have taken great comfort in that.

Luke leaves behind his devoted wife, Julia, and their two young children, Jeremiah and Jacqueline. He leaves his parents, Johnny and Dianne Letlow; his grandmother, Mary Taylor; his brothers, Paul and Matt, and their families; and a huge network of people who were like family to Luke and loved him as their own.

He was raised in Start, Louisiana, just east of Monroe. For the people who don't know the geography, it is northeast Louisiana. Throughout his entire adult life, it was very clear how deeply he cared about the people of our State and those who live in the Fifth Congressional District, which is a sprawling 24 parishes, the largest by land area in our State.

He worked for Bobby Jindal during Jindal's stint here in the U.S. House, and also later when Bobby was elected Louisiana's Governor.

Luke also worked as chief of staff for his predecessor and our good friend, Dr. Ralph Abraham, who just retired and left the seat open.

Throughout Luke's time in each of those positions, he made it a priority to work every day to benefit those that he served. He wanted to make life better for the people of his home State and, in those efforts, he worked closely with our farmers and the oil and gas industry and countless small businesses to ensure they were given every opportunity to succeed.

Judging from his accomplishments and a remarkable record of public service, there is no doubt at all that he would have made an outstanding Member of Congress.

Many people are aware now that there will be a special election in March, March 20, to fill that seat that he has left open, and we are delighted to tell you that his beloved bride, his widow, Dr. Julia Barnhill Letlow, will be running for that seat, and we expect that she will be taking her place here shortly thereafter.

She is a native of Monroe, a dedicated mother, of course, and an edu-

cation professional who has dedicated her life to promote and advocate for higher education, traditional family values, and our quality of life in Louisiana. We are excited to soon welcome her here to fill the giant void that our dear friend and brother, Luke, has left us.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS), another member of our delegation.

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, Congressman-elect Luke Letlow was called home far too soon. He was a friend and we were looking forward to working together here in the people's House.

His passing was so sudden and unexpected that it caused many of us—it certainly caused me to reflect upon my life and to be renewed in my determination to serve the people and to become a better man every day, because that is the kind of spirit that Luke delivered to the world.

He was a charming and brilliant man with a beautiful smile, a wonderful spirit, a compassionate man, driven to serve.

I had the opportunity to break bread with Julia, Luke's wife, last week, and I saw in speaking to her that Luke lives in the light in her eye, in her children, and everyone that Luke touched during the course of his life.

So I am prayerful that this child of God's presence will be felt, that Representative-elect Luke Letlow's service will, indeed, be felt within this Chamber, if we can just take a moment to seek that guidance that he clearly pursued and listened to during the course of his life. He brought that to those that he worked with and the citizens that he served. So I thank my colleagues for arranging this Special Order tonight.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana, Mr. HIGGINS, for his remarks. We sat together at the funeral of Luke, and it was a great service. There were so many kind words said about him. And he is remembered to just be the great spirit and the great Louisiana homegrown talent that he was.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. BICE), who is also the freshman class president, the class that Luke of course would have been a part of.

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding.

I rise today as the president of the 117th Congress Republican freshman class to express our profound sadness that we all share for the loss of our friend and colleague, Luke Letlow.

Luke was a great American who was committed to serving his country and the people of his home State of Louisiana. Sadly, Luke was taken from us way too early.

I never actually had the chance to meet Luke. He was elected on December 5, which was the last day of the second week of New Member orientation.

But as the freshman class president, I felt it my duty to make sure that he felt included by texting him, connecting him with other Members, and making sure that he had all of his needs met as he joined this 117th freshman class.

Our entire class looked forward to being sworn in together on January 3, and we were devastated by the news of his passing on December 29 of 2020. We all know that Luke would have been a tremendous addition and someone who would have made a positive impact on this great Nation.

I join with all of my colleagues in sending our thoughts and support to Luke's family, including his wife, Julia, son, Jeremiah, daughter, Jacqueline, and I am keeping them all in my prayers.

It is interesting to see In God We Trust above the Speaker's chair because one thing I do know is that Luke trusted God.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership of the freshman class and for those kind remarks.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER), another leader from that class.

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my friend, Luke Letlow.

Luke and I spoke many times as we both prepared to enter Congress, and we shared the privilege of both representing districts that are centered around a couple of very important things, faith, family and agriculture. I looked forward to serving with him and working together to better the lives of our farmers and our ranchers across the district and across the entire country.

Luke led a life of public service to the good people in the great State of Louisiana from a young age, beginning as a young college graduate serving on the staff of Congressman John Cooksey, the Representative of Louisiana's Fifth District at that time.

He went on to serve the people in multiple capacities before launching a successful Congressional bid of his own.

He was a man of faith in Jesus Christ, and he lived his life in accordance with His guiding principles. There is no way for us to know the thousands of lives that he had already touched before he entered into a plan to run for Congress, and how many lives he touched in those years of service, and the countless others who were blessed just by knowing him.

There was nothing that he loved more than serving others and primarily, his love of being a husband and a father, a husband to his wife, Julia, and a father to their two children, Jeremiah and Jacqueline, something that his legacy will live on forever in our hearts.

Today, we give glory to God for his life and pause to reflect on that legacy which will live on through Julia, Jeremiah, and Jacqueline. My prayers are with all of them.

His passing is a tremendous loss to this U.S. Congress, to the State of Louisiana and, more importantly, to his family and friends who loved him and cherished him.

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Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, we have a few others from the class that Luke Letlow would have been proud to serve in, some of the rising leaders here. I will call on them in no particular order here, but I yield to another gentleman from Texas (Mr. FALLON), if he is ready.

Mr. FALLON. Madam Speaker, I never had the privilege and blessing to meet Luke Letlow in person and to share our hearts and enjoy the blessed gift of fellowship. But to be honest, I still feel a bond and a connection and a friendship with Luke because we were both married to beautiful, successful women, and we certainly outkicked our coverage; we both had two children; and we both chose public service and eventually ran for Congress.

Luke left this world far too early, only 41. The scourge of an evil virus whose growth across the globe was fostered by the nefarious denial and negligence of a Communist regime in Beijing.

COVID-19 has claimed millions, 500,000 here at home, and it stole Luke from us. Luke Letlow, a man in his prime who had everything to live for, is now gone. And it shouldn't be that way.

He should be with us today. He should be with us here, voting, visiting, talking, learning, and leading. But COVID robbed our country and this Chamber of Luke Letlow.

This same scourge, Madam Speaker, crossed my path 3½ weeks ago, and it damn near killed me. I experienced the worst pain in my life. I had bacterial and viral pneumonia, along with the virus thriving in my body at the same time. I thought I was going to die. Prayers and terrific American medical care spared me. So I am not going to hold back, and I am just going to talk frankly and from the heart.

I am consumed today, right now, this very moment, with why. Why is Luke gone? Why was I spared? Why are 500,000 Americans dead? I don't know. But I do have a strong belief that we all have a purpose, and everyone in this Chamber has a purpose the Almighty has for us, and we just don't know what it is yet.

I feel, now that I have been gifted bonus decades, I want to know what I should do with those years. How should I lead my life? The bottom line is, we all should ask ourselves that question and exercise the power that we have within each of our souls to be kinder, to be gentler, to be more understanding, to smile when somebody walks on an elevator. It costs us nothing to do these things. We should live for others. And above all, we should love and never be ashamed to be vulnerable and love thy neighbor.

We want to honor Luke Letlow? You want to honor his legacy and his life? Then live and love and be joyous and be kind. Live for others with all of your hearts. I am not the least bit ashamed to say that I am going to try.

That is what we are here for, and that is our purpose. Let's acknowledge the bounties and the blessings and the very gift of life itself because life is short, and it is delicate, and it is fragile, and it is fleeting, and it is also so very beautiful.

Luke, we are praying for you. We miss you; we love you; and we are going to be there for Julia and your kids.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. HINSON), another classmate of Luke's.

Mrs. HINSON. Madam Speaker, tonight, we are here to honor the life of Luke Letlow, who was taken from us far too soon.

Luke led a life of public service, and he was dedicated to bettering the lives in Louisiana. I know he was so looking forward to serving the great people of the State of Louisiana here in Congress.

Most importantly, though, he was a dedicated husband to his wife, Julia, and a loving father to their two young children. We are all grieving with them during this time, their entire family. I hope the Letlow family can seek some comfort in knowing that so many people here in D.C., back in Iowa, Georgia, and around the country are lifting up prayers for them every single day.

Although Luke is no longer with us, he does leave behind, and he reminds us about, a remarkable legacy that we and, most importantly, his two children will always be able to remember him by long after we are all gone from this place, too.

Thank you, Madam Speaker, for letting me speak tonight on behalf of our classmate, Luke Letlow, and his entire family.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida, Mrs. KAT CAMMACK, another bright light in this class and my friend.

Mrs. CAMMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life of Luke Letlow.

As a Member-elect of this freshman class, Luke was one of us. We didn't get the privilege of serving alongside him, but in getting to know his family, I have no doubt that he would have been an energetic leader among us.

In talking with Luke's wife, Julia, I have come to know the very best of what Luke stood for and why he will forever be with us as a Member of this body.

Luke's love of Louisiana ran as deep as the roots of generations that came before him. Luke revered leaders ranging from Ronald Reagan, whose optimistic vision of conservatism transformed the Republican Party and the world, to the local Richland Parish police jurors who ensured residents received the essential services that local

government was charged with providing.

Luke loved studying Louisiana political history and voraciously read every out-of-print book on the subject that he could get his hands on. Luke's passion for preserving the history of Richland Parish and his forebears took him from documenting gravesites and local churches to building a website that chronicled the history of the rural community where he was raised.

Luke's love of America, Louisiana, and Richland Parish defined him as a person and motivated him to pursue a career in the noble profession of public service.

Tonight, we honor his memory. But moving forward, we will strive to embody his passion for people, our history, and our Nation.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to introduce another member of the Louisiana delegation for remarks in our Special Order tonight. We are going in, it seems to be, reverse order by seniority, but I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), my friend. He knew Luke very well, and I know he will bring some good thoughts to us tonight.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman, Mr. JOHNSON, for yielding and for organizing this.

Madam Speaker, I sat here and listened to all of these people talk about Luke Letlow, and I don't know who they are talking about.

Luke was a redneck. There is this iconic picture of Luke where he is wearing this hat, and it says: "Start Fire." The only thing that comes to mind is this is parent material, right?

Luke was a good ol' boy, and I know, in many instances, that term is associated with negativity. That is not Luke. Luke was a force for good, and he did that before the Navy even coined that term.

I have known him for 15, 20 years. We staffed together up here in Congress. We worked together in the Governor's office in Louisiana. Luke was always a workhorse, always, not a show horse.

Madam Speaker, Luke was a public servant. He wasn't a politician. He had a heart for the public. He had a heart for fixing things, and he was good at it. Luke brought folks together, and he got things done.

There wasn't a prejudiced or discriminatory bone in his body. Everybody was a friend. Everybody Luke met, he looked you in the eye, he gave you that little grin, which was a little bit cockeyed, and he truly wanted to know you.

He truly wanted to get to know people, to find out what you were about. He loved finding out about the background or history of people, their ancestry, their relatives, where they were from, what they did, what they cared about.

Madam Speaker, the people in the Fifth District of Louisiana saw that as

well. There are 24 parishes that comprise the Fifth District, and Luke won 23 of those, 23 of them in the election. This district, his predecessor used to brag, and Luke serving as the chief of staff to Congressman Ralph Abraham used to brag, has more acres of row crops than any other district in Congress. This wasn't an urban area. This wasn't New York City or even New Orleans. This was a rural area. Madam Speaker, these were the people that Luke had a heart for.

I have never in my life been as excited as I was to have a colleague like Luke. Years and years ago, I told him, I said: "Luke, look, if Doc, if Ralph Abraham, ever steps down, you have to run. You have to do it."

There are a lot of people up here that are good. Luke would have been great.

Madam Speaker, you look at this place, you watch the network TV, the news, and you wonder why in the world anyone would want to come to do this. You have really got to question people's sanity, looking at how dysfunctional, how partisan, how divisive this place is.

One of the previous speakers hit it on the head when they said Luke is exactly what we need. He is exactly what we need here. I will say it again: Luke is a workhorse, not a show horse. He brings people together. He doesn't care about your race, your ethnicity. He doesn't care about your political party. What he cares about is doing things right.

Luke's dream was to find a good life partner, and knowing him when he was a little younger, I think many of us thought that was a pretty lofty goal for Luke. But, man, he nailed it. He did. Julia, his partner, his life partner, his spouse, his wife, is just amazing, and Luke was just so excited, so giddy, about that relationship.

Luke's dream was to be a good son, and he is. He is a great son. He is a great brother.

Before I leave you all with the wrong impression, I should have clarified that his dad actually started the volunteer fire department in Start, S-t-a-r-t, where he was from. I didn't mean to suggest that he was a pyro. He was a good son.

Luke's dream was to be a Member of Congress, and he did that, too. He won the election. His dream was to be a good father to Jeremiah and the apple of his eye, Jacqueline. He loves them, absolutely loves them.

And his dream was to be a good Christian. Look, all of us are sinners, but Luke was a difference-maker.

He didn't run for Congress for the name recognition, for the ego, or for the popularity. He did this, he ran, to represent the underrepresented, to stand up for these small communities, like Start, Louisiana, and the people of these small communities so they would have a voice, so they would be represented.

I will never in my life forget when we were at the burial, following the hearse

to the burial ceremony, seeing that hearse driving and the water tower of Start right there in the background, and this just ominous sky. All I could think about is Luke doing what was right and wanting to be here because he really cared. He did. It was so genuine.

Madam Speaker, people often talk about term limits, and term limits make a lot of sense. There are some people that should be term-limited after they have been in Congress for about 2 months, and there are some people that should be term-limited after 40 years. Luke was one of those people who should be here forever because you couldn't change his genuine heart and care for the people and doing what is right.

□ 2000

So, Madam Speaker, I want to thank, again, my friend from Louisiana for organizing this. It was absolutely well deserved. Filling the void Ralph Abraham's retirement created was a big void, but, certainly, Luke was absolutely up for that task. He was going to do an amazing job.

To Julia, to Jeremiah, to Jacqueline: Luke is looking down at us from heaven right now probably playing Xbox or PlayStation, and he is looking over this place. He is looking over this family. What Louisiana lost was heaven's gain.

God bless you, brother.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, GARRET GRAVES of Louisiana, for those poignant words. The funeral service was like that, with recollections from close friends. We could have sat there all afternoon and reveled in it.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the whip, my dear friend, and one of the guys who helped guide Luke on his path to get here.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana for yielding.

Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I stand here today to pay tribute to Luke Letlow. Just like earlier tonight when we stood out on the steps of the Capitol to pay respects to the 500,000 people who we have lost from COVID-19, Luke, unfortunately, is in that number. He is not somebody you would have expected. He was young, healthy, and he had his whole life in front of him.

He had already lived a rich life. He had already left such a powerful impact on people in the right kind of way, like my colleague, Congressman GRAVES, talked about. He had a big heart, Madam Speaker. He had a servant's heart.

Luke was the kind of person who you want to get into public service to do it for the right reasons, to actually believe in something and want to make people's lives better.

When he would go through the rural communities of his district—which is a

very rural district—he would just talk to people, strike up conversations. He would want to hear their stories and he would want to help people. He had a lot of opportunities to do that, Madam Speaker.

He started working for Congressman John Cooksey out of college at Louisiana Tech. He had already garnished a desire for public service.

After he worked for Congressman Cooksey, I met him in 2004, when he was working on the campaign of my predecessor, Bobby Jindal, who got elected to Congress. Luke served with him there. When Bobby got elected Governor, Luke went to serve with him in the State to make our State a better place.

And then when Ralph Abraham came to Congress, Luke spent the last 6 years working for Ralph as his chief of staff, going around the rural parts of that district in northeast Louisiana, just reaching out, finding out about people.

He was very much into genealogy. He wanted to know not just about people, but about their history, where they came from, what made people tick, and how he could keep making a difference.

Ultimately, when Ralph retired, Luke made that decision to run. And he didn't make that decision alone. His lovely wife, Julia, was all in. They were a family that was a partnership. They were a true love story of two people who cared deeply about each other and who cared deeply about their young children: young Jeremiah; and young Jacqueline, who we also grieve for.

It is heartbreaking when you think of the promise and what was lost, what we as colleagues lost. You hear members of his own freshman class who never got to serve with him—some have might not even met with him, just knew about him or heard about him—and miss him. That is the kind of person who Luke Letlow was.

I got to talk to Luke a lot in those last few days and in the last few weeks before he even got COVID. He was so excited to come up here and get sworn in as a Member of Congress and to start helping people in a different way.

He had already helped so many people working for others, but now was his chance to make his own mark. He was talking about what committees he wanted to be on. He wanted to serve on the Agriculture Committee. He wanted to serve on the Appropriations Committee. And he had big ideas, ideas that inspire other people to want to do better as well.

So, Madam Speaker, when we remember Luke Letlow, it is that big smile that Luke had. It is that servant's heart, the heart of a person who cares about other people and wanted to make a difference for all of the right reasons. Thank God we still have people like Luke Letlow who care enough to want to get into public service for the right reasons.

It is sad that we didn't get that opportunity to serve with him. I so

looked forward to serving with him as a colleague in the Louisiana delegation. He was only 5 days away from getting sworn in when we lost him.

So, Madam Speaker, as we remember the life of Luke Letlow, I know he is up in heaven looking down. He was a man of deep, deep faith, and that faith carried him and his family through those difficulties in the last few days when he was struggling and fighting for his life. I know that faith is what got him into heaven. He would probably be looking down and saying: Y'all shouldn't be making such a big fuss.

But you know what? He deserves this kind of tribute because this would have been a richer body if we had Luke Letlow.

We will all remember him and keep him in our thoughts and our prayers.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the whip for those great remarks and his great leadership, and I know Luke appreciated that as well.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

Mrs. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding and for setting up this Special Order to honor Congressman-elect Luke Letlow.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Congressman-elect Luke Letlow, whose tireless work for his community, passion for public service, and love for his constituents will long be an inspiration to many Americans.

He spoke glowingly of the mighty Mississippi and his district's rich Louisiana soil, both of which flowed freely through his veins as he passionately advocated for the people who elected him to be their voice.

His life of service working for Governor Bobby Jindal, serving as chief of staff to Congressman Ralph Abraham, and then successfully running for Congress himself, exemplified his commitment to win the day.

Congressman-elect Letlow shared my great love for our Western States, and he was a fierce advocate for the issues facing everyday Americans. His calling to public service was only surpassed by his calling to be a loving husband, father, brother, and son. He cared deeply for his beloved wife, Julia; son, Jeremiah; and daughter, Jacqueline.

After he won his race, Congressman-elect Letlow's wife, Julia, spoke of God's sovereignty over the life of her husband, quoting the words from scripture: "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; before you were born, I set you apart."

God set Luke apart with a calling, with an anointing, and that same calling and anointing is now in that Godly heritage that he has left behind. God's wraparound presence is surrounding the Letlow family.

God's plan for Luke's life was one of service, and his legacy will live on through his family. His wife, Julia, is a

woman of deep faith. A calling to public service is on her life. She was his rock for all of his years in public life. I am honored to call her my friend now.

May his family find comfort in the words of the scripture: "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted. . . ." and in knowing that Congressman-elect Letlow fought the good fight, finished his race, and kept the faith.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Colorado for her words. That was very appropriate. I was going to cite the same scripture.

I will just say this as we close tonight: The night we got word of Luke's passing was December 29, and that word, the phone call we got shook my whole family, as it did everybody in the State.

As we were putting our children to bed at night, I reminded my youngest son, my 10-year-old son, that while grieving is part of our human experience, the Lord mourns with us. We know that from Isaiah 53:4. And as Lauren just said, He always remains close to the brokenhearted. Psalm 34.

So many are mourning this loss and so many remain brokenhearted. But I will close with these words from the Apostle Paul, as he wrote to the church in Rome, Romans 8:38-39: "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present or the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Luke believed that and he lived it, and he would want us to remember it, too.

Madam Speaker, this concludes our Special Order tonight, and I yield back the balance of my time.

DANGER OF GENDER IDENTITY POLITICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from Louisiana, for that very heartfelt time recognizing Mr. Letlow and his family. Our hearts are with them.

I now move on to another topic that is also very, very important to all of us and to America, and it deals with a bill that will be on the floor this week.

It is shamefully called the Equality Act, but it shreds the principles of protecting our children. In fact, under this

bill, children, beginning with the womb, will be targeted and victimized.

Under this bill, children in the classroom will be bombarded with unscientific, confusing materials questioning the reality of their biological sex.

Under this bill, children struggling with gender dysphoria will be pushed toward medical treatments and even surgical procedures, which will disrupt their natural development and may leave them sterile and physically altered for life.

Under this bill, children's privacy will be violated when locker rooms, restrooms, and homeless shelters will no longer be single sex.

Under this bill, parents may face custody battles for making healthy, wholesome choices for their children's health.

This scenario was not hypothetical for the Ohio couple who lost custody of their daughter for not affirming hormonal treatments.

Under this bill, foster care and adoption agencies will be forced to shutter. And this is just the tip of the iceberg.

The so-called Equality Act jeopardizes the well-being of our children. It jeopardizes the role of parents, the privacy and safety of vulnerable women, the competitive edge of female athletes, the livelihood of charities and businesses, and the integrity of our healthcare system.

We demand better for our children and their futures, and we will not be silent. We are here tonight to expose the Equality Act for what it is, a far-reaching policy that will upend all aspects of life, and turn basic decency and common sense into discrimination.

I appreciate my colleagues who have joined me tonight to let America know why this bill must be defeated.

Madam Speaker, first, I would like to yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HARRIS), my friend and colleague who is a practicing anesthesiologist.

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, this bill, the Equality Act, is nothing more than an identity politic sellout, a thinly veiled attempt to attack and coerce individuals who hold serious and legitimate concerns or objections to things like parental rights to make healthcare decisions for their children; the ability of women to compete on an equal athletic playing field; and even medical procedures like sterilization and abortion.

I am a physician and I have been practicing medicine for over 35 years. This bill, if enacted, would mandate that healthcare practitioners and even facilities like Catholic hospitals would be forced to provide and participate in procedures like abortion, which ends a human life.

We should all be able to agree that a Catholic hospital should never be compelled by the government to offer procedures like abortion that they morally object to in the strongest possible terms.

Furthermore, if society continues to support politically correct gender iden-

tity politics, the science is becoming clearer that gender dysphoria, especially in children, is a psychiatric condition that in most cases will resolve itself with time.

Instead, however, this bill would require parents to allow irreversible medical interventions for their children, children who may even be pre-pubescent, resulting in sterilization, and oftentimes later regret.

□ 2015

Scientific data confirms that many who undergo gender transition continue to deal with serious depression, even after full transition. And the poorly named "Equality Act" would mandate that medical professionals accept and support the desire of their patients to undergo these invasive procedures, even if they have professional or conscience objections.

Madam Speaker, in response, I will be reintroducing the Conscience Protection Act this week. My bill will protect healthcare providers from being required to perform abortions or sterilizations and allow them to continue practicing medicine without duress or coercion from their employer or perhaps even their patients.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to cosponsor my bill, and I oppose the so-called Equality Act on the floor this week.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I thank Dr. HARRIS, and I appreciate his firsthand experience and thoughts on this very, very, serious matter.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. LAMBORN), cochair of the Values Action Team.

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Missouri for her courage and backbone in supporting these vital social issues.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on the dangers of H.R. 5, the so-called Equality Act. This bill would have disastrous effects on our culture. H.R. 5 will not only turn the Civil Rights Act on its head, it would harass individuals and entities who are merely seeking to exercise their sincerely held religious beliefs.

Under the current text, countless faith-based businesses and nonprofits across the country would simply cease to exist. I am not convinced that my colleagues across the aisle understand the far-reaching consequences of the so-called Equality Act. The reality is that churches could be forced to violate their beliefs simply to stay open if it were enforced as written.

This awful legislation also creates fundamental inequalities for many Americans. Parents sending their kids to public schools would live in fear that their young daughter would have to use the same locker room or restroom as a man because the Equality Act would open the door to biological males self-identifying as females.

I have introduced an amendment to the Equality Act protecting accommodations choosing to designate pri-

vate, single-sex spaces, such as restrooms or locker rooms. I hope the Democrat majority allows a vote on this commonsense amendment that tens of millions of American parents want.

In addition, the so-called Equality Act would significantly disadvantage women participating in sex-specific sports leagues. That is why I have also introduced an amendment, originally filed as a bill last Congress by Democratic Representative TULSI GABBARD, protecting equal opportunities for women and girls in high school and college sports. This amendment of mine seeks to protect women and girls simply wanting to compete against other biological women and girls on a level playing field.

Women and children suffer when Democrat policies are enacted. Women's sports, and the girls and young women who just simply want to compete with other females on an equal basis, will be the victims of Democrat policies.

Madam Speaker, I adamantly oppose the radical Equality Act, and I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will take a stand and oppose it as well.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. LAMBORN, such great remarks, so much common sense there.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN), my friend, and an emergency room physician.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlewoman from Missouri for her leadership on this very important issue.

Madam Speaker, as a physician, I know firsthand that this bill, H.R. 5, will force medical providers to surrender sound medical judgment and their sincerely held convictions to politically fashionable dogmas.

According to the radical activists who seek to enshrine gender identity in the Federal civil rights law, the only appropriate treatment for a child struggling from gender dysphoria is gender reassignment. That is it. Such procedures often lead to irreversible damage, especially in adolescents. But under the Equality Act, medical providers who object to performing these procedures will face crushing legal liability if they refuse to comply. Every medical facility receiving any Federal money will be given an ultimatum: Comply or shut down.

Madam Speaker, if H.R. 5 becomes law, a doctor who refuses to perform a mastectomy or a hysterectomy on an otherwise healthy teenage girl seeking gender reassignment surgery, will be held liable for violating the Federal law.

H.R. 5 even goes so far as to exempt itself from longstanding, bipartisan Federal religious liberty protections—protections both Congress and the Supreme Court have consistently upheld. A Catholic hospital, following the commands of Scripture to serve the frail and the poor will be forced to violate

their very faith to comply and perform abortions or face financial ruin.

Madam Speaker, as a physician, I took a sacred oath to do no harm and to preserve the health of those in my care. If this bill becomes law, many doctors will be forced to go against both their conscience and their medical judgment.

Make no mistake, this is a death sentence for medicine and for the sacred rights of conscience. Biology is not bigotry, and medicine is not discrimination.

All Americans who do not wish to see medicine sacrificed to the politically correct orthodoxy should stand up and oppose this bill.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Thank you, Dr. Green. That is excellent. "Biology is not bigotry." It seems like common sense, but we are not talking about common sense with the Equality Act. And that is why we are here tonight, to let the American people know about the ramifications, the very serious, permanent ramifications of this bill.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), another doctor, who I am proud to be joined by, who is a dentist from Texas.

Please share your thoughts about this bill and what it is going to mean to Americans.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague from Missouri for this opportunity.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in objection to the so-called Equality Act. Once again, under the guise of equality, the left is prioritizing its radical agenda over religious freedom, the well-being of children, and the safety of women and girls.

As the father of three daughters and the grandfather of nine granddaughters, I am outraged at the assault that this bill launches on women in sports. And furthermore, as a healthcare practitioner, I am infuriated at its blatant attack on the conscience rights and religious freedoms of those in the healthcare industry.

This bill is not about preventing discrimination in medical treatment, it is about forcing medical professionals to abandon their conscience rights and medical judgment to comply with the left's extreme views on gender.

The Equality Act would prohibit physicians from counseling children with gender dysphoria. Instead, they would be required to administer dangerous medical treatments, including puberty blockers, cross-sex hormones, and surgeries.

This mandate contradicts science. Increasingly, we are finding that these treatments compound these children's confusion rather than solving it. The catastrophic effects leave children physically and psychologically scarred and often render them sterile. It is nothing short of child abuse.

The left will not tolerate disagreement with its view on gender. They provide no conscience protections and explicitly state that the Religious

Freedom Restoration Act does not apply to this new definition of sex. Physicians refusing to perform these harmful treatments would be punished, even if they object because of religious or moral convictions.

The Equality Act is another attempt by the left to promote its radical agenda and suppress everyone else who disagrees. We must fight for the conscience rights and religious freedoms of our medical professionals, and we must stop our children from being used as pawns in the game of political correctness.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Well said, and I thank the gentleman so much.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH), the first female president of the Minnesota Senate. She is a mother of two and grandmother of five.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Madam Speaker, I thank Congresswoman HARTZLER for putting this together. I appreciate the opportunity in making sure the people in the country understand what is in this bill.

Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5, the so-called Equality Act. The reality of this bill is anything but equal. It is nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to force unreasonable mandates on our institutions and restrict the liberties of the American people.

If this becomes law, Americans can expect government-imposed limits on the free exercise of religious liberty, businesses forced to cover the costs of abortions, and medical providers required to perform abortions, even if it conflicts with their deeply held beliefs.

Unfortunately, this is just the tip of the iceberg. So today, I rise to speak on behalf of pro-life Americans in my district and across the country who fear this legislation will be manipulated by the radical left to impose its will and create a right to abortion right up to the moment of birth.

Madam Speaker, a majority of Americans support at least some restrictions on abortion, including making sure taxpayer funds are not used to fund abortions. Instead of respecting the rights of all Americans, this bill will impose a top-down abortion mandate that interferes with the State and Federal laws that protect the right to life and will force doctors, nurses, and other medical providers to participate in abortion procedures, even if it goes against their own sincerely held beliefs.

The previous administration made great strides in protecting religious freedom and the liberties of all Americans. Unfortunately, the new administration does not seem to value those cherished beliefs.

This bill will relegate the pro-life view to discrimination, redefine gender, and require faith-based employers to pay for abortion in their insurance offerings.

Madam Speaker, I oppose this legislation on behalf of the unborn who do

not have a voice. I oppose this legislation on behalf of my constituents, many of whom hold beliefs that are in conflict with this bill's radical ideology. And I oppose this bill on behalf of the millions of Americans who know that life is a God-given gift worth fighting for.

Madam Speaker, I oppose this bill and ask Members to do the same.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Thank you, Representative FISCHBACH. Life is precious, and it is jeopardized under this very poor bill, and so thank you for raising those points.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT), a volunteer counselor to incarcerated women.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding time.

The Equality Act.

Madam Speaker, equality for who?

Where is the equality in this legislation for the young girls across America who have to look behind their backs as they change in their school locker rooms just to make sure there isn't a confused man trying to catch a peek?

Where is the equality for women who have been sexually assaulted?

Under this legislation, their crisis counselor may be "Alexis" who was actually born "Alex." And they will have to talk to him about their assault.

Where is the equality for parents who want and deserve the right to raise their children, free from government overreach?

Under this proposal, Congress seeks to replace mom and dad with bureaucrats. This isn't hyperbole. In Ohio, a mom and dad had their child removed from their custody because they didn't allow their daughter to undergo gender transition. Removed from their custody.

And so here we are. The left will lay down the rights and security of millions of Americans, particularly young women, at the altar of gender ideology.

Following the lead of liberal indoctrination camps, also called colleges and universities, my colleagues on the left are committed to advancing this radical ideology, the rights and sovereignty of individual States be darned. So much for Federalism.

The power-hungry left will not slow down until every school, every church, every workplace, every State, and every community adheres to the left's definition of gender.

You disagree?

They will find you. They will imprison you. Or as we have seen, they will even take your children. And let's make sure the American people know this is only the beginning.

The Equality Act requires doctors to perform abortions, and they are going to use your tax dollars to pay for them.

Once the left codifies their ideology, they will come for your speech. It is already happening in Canada, where you can be fined and imprisoned for misgendering someone.

□ 2030

Madam Speaker, they won't stop there. Nothing will ever satisfy the left until there is complete and total compliance.

Madam Speaker, Scripture says, when speaking of those who have turned their back on God, who have traded the truth for a lie: Professing to be wise, they became fools.

I can think of no better description of the so-called Equality Act, or inequality act, than this. The utter foolishness is astounding. Up is down. Wrong is right. Left is right. Boys are girls and vice versa.

Madam Speaker, for the sake of our sons and daughters, for the sake of parental rights, privacy, decency, and so much more, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this horrendous legislation.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, so well said. Up is down, and right is wrong.

Our last speaker is the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), a doctor of education.

I want to thank the other colleagues who are here. We are running out of time, but I want to thank Representative RICK ALLEN, who objects to this bill, for being here as well.

Dr. Foxx, will you share, in closing, why we should oppose this bill this week? I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, our First Amendment is a powerful instrument that has protected our most sacred freedoms for hundreds of years. Few other countries provide the same protections and freedoms that our First Amendment guarantees. Yet, today, these essential rights are under attack.

H.R. 5 is the latest example of Democrats' misleading and partisan manner of legislating. As a former educator and the Republican leader of the Education and Labor Committee, I can tell you the bill may have "equality" in the title, but it certainly does not serve all Americans.

The Equality Act would empower the government to interfere in how regular Americans think, speak, and act. Specifically, it would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to make sexual orientation and gender identity protected classes.

According to the National Review, this extreme legislation redefines sex to include gender identity, undermines religious freedom, gives males who identify as females the right to women's spaces, and sets a dangerous political precedent for the medicalization of gender-confused youth.

Under H.R. 5, our Nation's K-12 schools would be forced to treat gender as being fluid, subjective, and not tied to biological reality.

Government intervention often causes more harm than good. I've spent my time in Congress working to protect individual freedoms from unnecessary bureaucratic burdens. I recognize that a strong family is vital to our na-

tion's progress and prosperity, which is why I've worked to advance legislation that allows families to flourish and protects life at all stages. It is unconscionable that in America, where we fight for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, we tolerate this systematic extermination of an entire generation. The right to life demands that we protect our Nation's most vulnerable, including the unborn.

Our First Amendment is a powerful instrument that has protected our most sacred freedoms for hundreds of years. Few other countries provide the same protections and freedoms that our First Amendment guarantees. We are the 'land of the free' because of it. Our individual liberties are the envy of people around the world and they are the cornerstone of the world's oldest democracy.

Yet today, these essential rights are under attack.

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As a former educator and the Republican Leader of the Education and Labor Committee, I can tell you that the bill may have "equality" in the title, but it certainly does not serve ALL Americans.

This legislation has a clever name and an allegedly noble purpose, but it is a vehicle for serious, harmful consequences.

The Equality Act would empower the government to interfere in how regular Americans think, speak, and act. Specifically, it would amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to make sexual orientation and gender identity protected classes. According to the National Review, this extreme legislation "redefines sex to include gender identity, undermines religious freedom, gives males who identify as females the right to women's spaces, and sets a dangerous political precedent for the medicalization of gender-confused youth."

Under H.R. 5, our nation's K-12 schools would be forced to treat gender as being fluid, subjective, and not tied to biological reality.

The bill would undermine Title IX protections for girls by outlawing sex-based athletic competitions.

Even more troubling is the bill's meticulous and intentional destruction of religious freedom protections.

Religiously affiliated colleges and universities that maintain student codes of conduct, hiring practices, or housing rules reflecting sincerely held beliefs about marriage and sexuality risk losing federal funding under the Equality Act, as such policies would be deemed discriminatory.

Beloved secular private colleges that maintain single sex admissions policies, like Smith College and Morehouse College, could be forced to change their policies or forego federal funding.

In Virginia, we've already seen the displeasure amongst parents regarding such policy implementation. In an opinion piece published by the Washington Post in 2019, a former middle and high school teacher whose children attend Arlington Public Schools said, "It would erode parents' rights over their children's education, corrode Title IX protections for girls and risk convincing healthy, normally developing boys and girls that their bodies are wrong and must be altered with hormones and be vandalized by surgical instruments."

The bill also lacks any pro-life protections, which is why I am submitting my amendment that will protect religiously affiliated groups and

individuals from participating in or funding abortions.

This bill is a brazen attempt to replace longstanding constitutional rights with the identity politics of the moment.

We've entered treacherous waters by considering legislation that stifles proven, bipartisan solutions and, more seriously, our Bill of Rights. It's outrageous that Democrats would advertise these proposals as guaranteeing fundamental civil and legal rights.

Madam Speaker, as elected Representatives, we all strive for equality before the law, but H.R. 5 is another classic example of Democrats passing a bill now and figuring out what it means later.

This is no way to legislate.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, the Equality Act's supporters claim it will protect students from discrimination, but in reality it makes schools more dangerous and unfair for everyone.

By expanding the definition of "sex" to include self-declared gender identity, it requires schools to allow biological males into girls' restrooms, locker rooms, showers, and sport events usually reserved for women.

And by incorporating sexual orientation and gender identity into Title IV of the Civil Rights Act, which appropriately mandates the desegregation of public education, this bill could order the incorporation of radical gender ideology in sex education or other aspects of curriculum, far outside the original law's scope. Activists are already pushing graphic, age-inappropriate content on these topics on students in places like Arlington, Virginia.

This bill puts teachers and administrators at risk too. Those who "misgender" a student or fail to use the individual's preferred pronouns could be accused of harassment and subject to discipline or even lose their jobs.

Girls would also face unfair competition in sports. The Equality Act would force schools to allow biological males to compete on female-only teams.

We have already seen consequences of this. One transgender MMA fighter has broken the skulls of two female opponents (and counting), and transgender runners and basketball players are dominating female competitors, leaving many females' long ambioned goals of trophies and scholarships dashed.

For years, supporters of Title IX have fought to encourage and empower girls through athletic competition. Democrats would like to erase those gains, shattering countless girls' dreams and dignity, to appease the woke mob.

Americans of faith would suffer too. Religiously affiliated colleges and universities that maintain student codes of conduct, hiring practices, or housing rules reflecting their faith's sincerely held beliefs about marriage and sexuality would lose federal funding under the Equality Act, as such policies would be deemed discriminatory and open them to countless lawsuits to threaten their very existence.

All-female universities, whether religious or secular, would be required to accept male students identifying as female students, and male students identifying as males, since this bill provides no exemptions for female-only institutions. Is that a policy Americans want?

The misnamed Equality Act erases opportunities for girls and women and harms all students and teachers. It must be opposed.

OUR POWER, OUR MESSAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous materials on the subject of my Special Order hour.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to open our first Congressional Black Caucus Special Order hour of this year, during Black History Month, utilizing to the fullest extent possible: Our Power, Our Message.

I would like to thank the Congressional Black Caucus members for having the confidence to elect me to be chairwoman during the 117th Congress. I stand on the shoulders of greatness as I acknowledge the past members and chairs for their tremendous leadership.

For the next 60 minutes, we have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people about the issues of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus and the millions of constituents we represent.

Tonight's Special Order hour topic will serve as part of a rollout of our policy agenda and celebrate our 50th anniversary in the context of the many critical issues facing the Black community.

The Congressional Black Caucus kicked off Black History Month, Madam Speaker, with the powerful Travon Free film "Two Distant Strangers," a moving story about a young Black man caught in a George Floyd type of nightmare with his local police department.

During tomorrow's CBC meeting to be held at 12 p.m., the "Living Black History" vignette, featuring all 58 members of the CBC, will be unveiled to the public via Facebook, TheGrio, and my YouTube page.

We are also hosting a virtual film screening of director Lee Daniels' film, "The United State vs. Billie Holiday," tomorrow evening.

In that spirit, later this week, I will be introducing the Black History is American History Act to close out our Black History Month.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the CBC with the largest CBC group ever, 58 members who represent the diversity, hope, and promise of this great Nation. It has been stated before, and it certainly bears repeating, the CBC is commonly referred to as the conscience of the Congress and over the decades has forcefully advocated on policies that our Nation cares about, ranging from economic justice and rep-

arations, healthcare, voting rights, consumer protection, education, and fair policing to far beyond.

The killing of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and George Floyd drew America closer to another watershed moment last year, amid a pandemic that has disrupted life as we knew it, triggering an intergenerational cross-class collective of people demanding change, which led to the passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, a bill that is the first-ever bold, comprehensive approach to hold police accountable, change the culture of law enforcement, empower our communities, and build trust between law enforcement and our communities by addressing systemic racism and biases to help save lives.

I also wear another hat, and that is as chairwoman of the Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee of the House Financial Services Committee. Though it may speak for itself, I appreciate that kind of transformative change which we seek in the spirit of policy, legislation, and regulation that will, hopefully, result in building a record that we can use as we promote diversity and inclusion in our democracy. As CBC founder member Bill Clay noted, we have no permanent friends or enemies, just permanent interests.

The CBC's priorities will allow us, in many instances, to work with the Biden administration to deliver relief to our constituents who have been so devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic and to work on long-term plans for recovery. To that end, we are so pleased that we will announce our domestic policy team tomorrow, as we have met with Ambassador Susan Rice, who is head of the Biden domestic policy team.

It is so important that I end by saying the Congressional Black Caucus is committed to dramatically reversing these alarming trends by working with our community leaders, allies, and colleagues in Congress to pass critical legislation and by working with the Biden-Harris administration to encourage responsible executive branch policies and actions using Our Power, Our Message.

Now, I am honored to announce our CBC anchors for tonight: Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, a scholar, a strategist, an orator, a woman who has sponsored legislation and helped craft much of the changes that we will be talking about through the 117th Congress; and I am equally as proud to say that the Special Order hour will be co-chaired by her coanchor, Congressman RITCHIE TORRES, a freshman, a member of the Financial Services Committee, a giant in public housing legislation. Tonight, you will hear from them.

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

OUR POWER, OUR MESSAGE
DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, let me thank our illustrious leader of the Congressional Black Caucus, whose visionary leadership is going to carry us into the 117th Congress.

Congresswoman JOYCE BEATTY acts legislatively on her history. She is from Ohio, one of the major stops of the Underground Railroad. In fact, Cincinnati, Ohio, has one of the most monumental monuments, if you will, to that freedom train, that courage, of Harriet Tubman. I might say that our chairwoman's actions are in resemblance to Harriet Tubman. We are grateful for her vision.

We will tomorrow, at the Congressional Black Caucus, unveil the talent of tens upon tens of members of the Congressional Black Caucus and lay out our legacy, Our Power, Our Message. I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership.

It is as well my honor to be able to co-chair this with, if I might with a degree of familiarity, a brother from the Bronx. I am delighted that a working man's and woman's representative has come to be able to shine, a man who is a product of public housing, public schools, and public hospitals, and who had a dream of lifting up his community and building back a better Bronx.

I am delighted that at 25, against all odds, he became the youngest elected official in New York City and the first openly LGBTQ elected official from the Bronx. He doesn't know that his reputation preceded him as a dynamic gether-done person.

I will repeat his motto before I begin my remarks, and that is RITCHIE TORRES' remarks and life motto is as follows: "My motto is life is simple. If you do nothing, nothing will change."

Wow, what a piercing message for all of us, Republicans and Democrats, to do something good.

His motto is: "If you do nothing, nothing will change. We can build a better Bronx, and we will do it together."

I am delighted to coanchor with Mr. RITCHIE TORRES for the 117th Congress.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am particularly delighted to begin my remarks, as I continue to weave in and out tonight, and then, with my remarks, will yield to Mr. TORRES as well.

This is a moment in history. Tonight, we will explore honoring our 50-year legacy, Our Power, Our Message.

As I was flying up today, I was very happy to find on the movie list on an airplane “Good Trouble,” the movie about John Lewis, with so many Members telling their story. I think I will just simply say: Good trouble.

Tonight, we hope to exemplify good trouble as we honor the 50-year legacy of the Congressional Black Caucus and emphasize Our Power, Our Message. We want to be in good trouble.

I am honored in the 117th Congress to chair the Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee and serve as a senior member on the Judiciary Committee, where, in addition to the powers of Congressional Black Caucus, we will seek to have justice rain down like righteous waters.

□ 2045

We will do that, however, with the 55 members of the Congressional Black Caucus, and I think our numbers are higher than that, and they are all on different committees. Amazing. They will pierce the seams of equality and justice in the 117th Congress. So we will have our past, but we will have our future.

Let me briefly talk about where we were 400 years ago. Ships sailed from the west coast of Africa and in the process began one of mankind’s most inhumane practices, human bondage and slavery. Approximately 4 million Africans and their descendents were enslaved in the United States and colonies, that became the United States, from 1619 to 1865.

The institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 to 1865, and certainly American slavery is our original sin. But tonight you will hear woven throughout the remarks of so many of my colleagues, how out of these ashes of enslaved Africans, out of the toll of death from those held in bondage, out of the heroes that fought in the Civil War, who rose up out of the south and the north and came and bled for this Nation, out of that death toll of American fighters who happen to be present and former slaves and suffered indignities, and continue until the end of the 1800s and into Jim Crow-ism, you will find the overcomers.

You will find those who have climbed and clawed their way to leadership. Of course, there will be those who say there is no need for an apology, which is part of H.R. 40, no need for a commission to pierce into these ongoing disparities because you have overcome. In fact, this caucus was founded by overcomers, an array of talented men and women who themselves are the cornerstone of democracy and legitimacy.

Who would ever forget the Honorable Shirley Chisholm, the first woman to run for the Presidency, an African-American woman, Black woman, and a

woman to run for the Presidency, never to be daunted, never to be rejected, never to be denied?

Or William L. Clay, Sr., who chaired the Education and Labor Committee, the first Black man, or the second, to do so.

George W. Collins, a pioneer and powerhouse out of Chicago, Illinois.

John Conyers, the dean of the United States Congress, and the first Member of Congress to hire Rosa Parks, and a Member of Congress—I think it is his distinction alone—to have Dr. Martin Luther King endorse him.

Ron Dellums, he was a man that was told: You sit in the chair with Pat Schroeder, in the Armed Services Committee. We are not interested in you being here in the first place. And Ron Dellums rose to be chair of the Armed Services Committee.

And how much of an overcomer they are: Charles Diggs, the leading man on Africa.

Augustus Hawkins, the leading man on the empowerment of working families.

Again, Ralph Metcalfe, one of the early pioneers of elected Black Members of Congress, again, out of Chicago.

Parren Mitchell, the father of affirmative action.

Robert C. Nix, a pioneer out of Pennsylvania.

Charles B. Rangel, who worked his way up from the streets of Harlem to the U.S. Attorney’s Office to then be chair of the Ways and Means Committee.

Lou Stokes, a major force on the Appropriations Committee and healthcare in America.

And, of course, delegate Walter E. Fauntroy, who I met in South Carolina with a commitment to defeat a segregationist who chaired the District of Columbia Committee.

Overcomers, but each of them will say that this definition of who we are should not be on the few, it should be on the many. That means that, we, as members of the Congressional Black Caucus, stand here today to be able to call as our mandate, our challenge, our power, our message, is to be able to lift the opportunities of all African Americans and Black people, and people of color, as we work to ensure that anyone who is denied equality has us, we, the collective body politics, as their champion. That is what tonight is about.

You will hear a number of descriptions of many persons, and you will hear the words of many of us from different parts of the country.

Madam Speaker, I am delighted to kick-off this series of CBC Special Order Hours for the 117th Congress with my colleague Congressman RITCHIE TORRES (NY-15) who will serve as co-Anchor.

Tonight, we will explore Honoring our 50 Year legacy Our Power, Our Message.

As chair of the Judiciary Committee’s subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security and a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, and a

member of the House Budget Committee, I clearly understand the importance of history and why we should take time to appreciate the path that has led us to this moment.

Four hundred years ago, ships set sail from the west coast of Africa and, in the process, began one of mankind’s most inhumane practices: human bondage and slavery.

For two centuries, human beings—full of hopes and fears, dreams and concerns, ambition, and anguish—were transported onto ships like chattel, and the lives of many were forever changed.

The reverberations from this horrific series of acts—a transatlantic slave trade that touched the shores of a colony that came to be known as America, and later a democratic republic known as the United States of America—are unknown and worthy of exploration.

Approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved in the United States and colonies that became the United States from 1619 to 1865.

The institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 through 1865.

American Slavery is our country’s Original Sin and its existence at the birth of our nation is a permanent scar on our country’s founding documents, and on the venerated authors of those documents, and it is a legacy that continued well into the last century.

The framework for our country and the document to which we all take an oath describes African Americans as three-fifths a person.

The infamous Dred Scott decision of the United States Supreme Court, issued just a few decades later, described slaves as private property, unworthy of citizenship.

And, a civil war that produced the largest death toll of American fighters in any conflict in our history could not prevent the indignities of Jim Crow, the fire hose at lunch counters, and the systemic and institutional discrimination that would follow for a century after the end of the Civil War.

The mythology built around the Civil War has obscured our discussions of the impact of chattel slavery and made it difficult to have a national dialogue on how to fully account for its place in American history and public policy.

While it is nearly impossible to determine how the lives touched by slavery could have flourished in the absence of bondage, we have certain datum that permits us to examine how a subset of Americans—African Americans—have been affected by the callousness of involuntary servitude.

We know that in almost every segment of society—education, healthcare, jobs, and wealth—the inequities that persist in America are more acutely and disproportionately felt in Black America.

This historic discrimination continues: African-Americans continue to suffer debilitating economic, educational, and health hardships including but not limited to having nearly 1,000,000 black people incarcerated; an unemployment rate more than twice the current white unemployment rate; and an average of less than 1/16 of the wealth of white families, a disparity which has worsened, not improved over time.

These conditions gave rise to a strong believe by Congressman Charlie Diggs that black members of Congress needed a way to make a difference by working together.

The idea for an organization of black elected Members of Congress came from Representative Charles Diggs (D-Mich.) who created the Democracy Select Committee (DSC) in an effort to bring black members of Congress together.

Diggs noticed that he and other African American members of Congress often felt isolated because there were very few of them in Congress, and he wanted to create a forum where they could discuss common political challenges and interests.

Diggs believed that “The sooner we get organized for group action, the more effective we can become.”

The DSC was an informal group that held irregular meetings and had no independent staff or budget, but that changed a few years later.

As a result of court-ordered redistricting, one of several victories of the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act joined by the force of the Civil Rights Movement, the number of African-American Members of Congress rose from nine to 13, the largest number since the end of the Civil War brought reconstruction that paved the way for voting rights for former slaves.

The Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) was established in 1971 by the following 13 founding members:

1. Rep. Shirley A. Chisholm (D-N.Y.);
2. Rep. William L. Clay, Sr. (D-Mo.);
3. Rep. George W. Collins (D-Ill.);
4. Rep. John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.);
5. Rep. Ronald V. Dellums (D-Calif.);
6. Rep. Charles C. Diggs, Jr. (D-Mich.);
7. Rep. Augustus F. Hawkins (D-Calif.);
8. Rep. Ralph H. Metcalfe (D-Ill.);
9. Rep. Parren J. Mitchell (D-Md.);
10. Rep. Robert N.C. Nix, Sr. (D-Pa.);
11. Rep. Charles B. Rangel (D-N.Y.);
12. Rep. Louis Stokes (D-Ohio); and
13. Del. Walter E. Fauntroy (D-D.C.).

Few recall that before these storied luminaries were elected to Congress, there were other African American Members of Congress immediately following the end of the Civil War who also served in this august body.

1. Robert Brown ELLIOTT 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75)
2. Jefferson Franklin LONG, 41st (1869–71)
3. Joseph Hayne RAINEY, 41st (1869–71), 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75), 44th (1875–77), 45th (1877–79)
4. Hiram Rhodes REVELS, 41st (1869–1871)
5. Robert Carlos DE LARGE 42nd (1871–1873)
6. Robert Brown ELLIOTT, 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75)
7. Benjamin Sterling TURNER, 42nd (1871–1873)
8. Josiah Thomas WALLS, 42nd (1871–73), 43rd (1873–75), 44th (1875–77)
9. Richard Harvey CAIN, 43rd (1873–75), 45th (1877–79)
10. John Roy LYNCH, 43rd (1873–75), 44th (1875–77), 47th (1881–83)
11. Alonzo Jacob RANSIER, 43rd (1873–75)
12. James Thomas RAPIER, 43rd (1873–75)
13. Blanche Kelso BRUCE, 44th (1875–77), 45th (1877–79), 46th (1879–81)
14. Jeremiah HARALSON, 44th (1875–77)
15. HYMAN, John Adams 44th (1875–77)
16. Charles Edmund NASH, 44th (1875–77)

At the end of reconstruction, many of these Black members of Congress lost their office

and many others who sought elected office or attempted to vote in public elections lost their lives.

It would take nearly another hundred years until a sufficient number of Federally elected black candidates would return to Congress.

But as too many African Americans know, in some ways, the civil war has never truly ended.

On January 6, 2021, we saw the raw, savage face of the lingering confederacy attempt to put a dagger into the heart of our democracy.

On that day, every belief expressed by this preamble to the Constitution of the United States was at risk of being lost to the hands of a wellcoordinated attack hidden within the ranks of a riotous, murderous mob that invaded and laid siege to U.S. Capitol during the constitutionally required but ministerial act of counting the ballots submitted by the presidential electors of each state and declaring publicly the persons who were by their ballots elected President and Vice-President of the United States.

We all knew the outcome of the 2020 Presidential Election long before January 6, 2021 because of the transparency of each state’s election administration and that the Joint Meeting of Congress would simply confirm that Joe Biden had won more than a majority of the electoral votes, along with winning the national popular vote by more than 7 million votes.

The riot came immediately after then-President Trump promoted a march on the Capitol and called his supporters to ‘stop the steal,’ ‘never give up, never concede,’ and to ‘fight like hell’ during a speech that day, asserting that they would not ‘have a country anymore’ if they did not act.

During the breach, Members of Congress were voting to certify then-President-elect Joe Biden’s election victory, and many participants in the attack intended to thwart this effort.

Violent participants, incited by the former President’s rhetoric, injured scores of D.C. Police and U.S. Capitol Police officers—killing one, while four civilians also died.

The level of violence and passions demonstrated are out of character for a nation that is accustomed to the peaceful transfer of power, especially when the results were so clear—the President had been soundly defeated for reelection.

We did not appreciate how powerful a lie could be in the domain of social media where people can wall themselves off from alternative views and news.

A nation accustomed to the peaceful transfer of power from one presidency to another was unprepared for the enemy within; from a Chief Executive who would attempt to strike at the heart of lawful authority to destroy the union so that he could remain in office.

The underlying currents that led to the siege of the Capitol on January 6, 2021 began with the Compromise of 1876, which ended Reconstruction.

We must have an account of the crimes committed and the exacting of justice to those whose violent acts of rebellion against the authority of the United States resulted in the deaths of six Americans and the desecration and defilement of the Citadel of Democracy.

The injury done to the nation by white supremacists on January 6, 2021, can be linked to the harm they have done to this nation for

well over 100 years beginning with the end of Reconstruction.

The withdrawal of Union troops from the defeated and seditious southern states in 1877 effectively put an end to Reconstruction and ushered in the era deconstruction of any efforts to normalize equal rights under law to former slaves.

This period of American history is obscured by time and characterized by a willful ignorance by governments, media, and academia, of the scale of murder mania that gripped the South during the period before Jim Crow de jure segregation, when the lines were being drawn in the blood of black people that outlined what black people would and would never be allowed to do in American society.

Before they were written into law, the ‘Black Codes’ were shaped by a series of violent acts that occurred in communities large and small throughout the South, leading to tens of thousands of murders and attacks that maimed many because of arbitrary rules of social conduct such as a black man did not tip his hat, get off the sidewalk, spoke to a white person without first being spoken to, or other perceived slights.

The reign of terror visited upon former slaves and their communities began near the end of Reconstruction and resulted in a secret history of the United States that almost erased the gains made by former slaves during the period 1865–1876 that included over 1,500 elected offices held throughout the South.

There were former slaves elected to serve in the 41st and 42nd Congresses of the United States, most of whom were denied reelection to office once Jim Crow laws limited access to voting for former slaves.

It was unnatural for black communities to have gone silent in the body politic after the strides made by newly freed slaves in engaging in political discourse but that silence was caused by the tens of thousands of singular and mass murders and lynchings that occurred after the end of Reconstruction and continued well into the 20th Century.

The 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre that killed hundreds of blacks is another example of what a mob stirred by racial amano can do to African Americans who only crime was living a prosperous and economically independent American Dream.

African American history has a long, painful and bloody path that clearly exhibits how violent the Confederacy was, and we have fought a cold civil war for over 156 years, which today is on the verge of turning hot.

Evidence of the desperation of black people to escape the drudgery of the south is evident by the greatest self migration of people within the United States known as the Great Migration, which saw the relocation of more than 6 million African Americans from the rural South to the cities of the North, Midwest and West from about 1916 to 1970.

The push to leave family and communities in the south was motivated by a deep desire to escape the yoke of the cold civil war; and the pull to go to other parts of the nation was a chance to live free of fear, which translated into black people who were allowed to pursue the American Dream.

This is why for millions of Americans it was shameful, painful and a disgrace that the Confederate battle flag was paraded in the Capitol of the United States by Trump’s motley band of disloyalists, something that hundreds of

thousands of true patriots gave the last full measure of devotion to prevent in the crucible years of the civil war from 1861 to 1865.

The lynchings, beatings, rapes, burnings, joined with roadblocks to advancements that would afford African American people basic human rights such as fair wages, food, shelter, education, economic opportunity, healthcare, due process and equal treatment under the law, were denied for much of our history.

The goals of this cold civil war were simple: it was to end or frustrate any effort by society to create a world where black people are free and have full rights as citizens of the United States.

The threat of a hot civil war comes from the majority of Americans accepting that African Americans have a place in America, and a right to pursue the American Dream.

The shift in American values and views regarding race have come very slowly with advances and setbacks until the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 created space and time to reestablish voting rights for black voters that continues to be under threat.

In this latter respect, the Insurrection of January 6 sought to duplicate the Compromise of 1876 because in both cases adherents of white supremacy sought to retain and monopolize political power by disenfranchising and disempowering millions of black Americans, throughout the South in 1876 and in the urban centers of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin and Georgia in 2020.

The threat of a hot civil war stems from the fear of white supremacists that a growing majority of Americans accept that African Americans have an equal right and entitlement to the blessings of liberty because they are full members of the American political community.

January 6, 2021, was not the first time that white supremacists attacked to overthrow duly elected white and black public officials. In 1898, in Wilmington, North Carolina and again in Colfax, Louisiana in 1873, the election of diverse slates of statewide candidates to public office triggered violent white mobs to attack and murder newly elected officials.

The Colfax Massacre, sometimes referred to euphemistically as the Colfax Riot, occurred on Easter Sunday, April 13, 1873, in Colfax, Louisiana, the seat of Grant Parish, where between 62 and 153 black men were murdered by racist white vigilantes calling themselves a militia.

Three white men also died in the confrontation, with at least one said to have been shot by his own ally.

In the wake of the contested 1872 election for governor of Louisiana and local offices, a group of white Democrats armed with rifles and a small cannon, overpowered Republican freedmen and black state militia occupying the Grant Parish courthouse in Colfax.

Most of the freedmen were murdered after they surrendered; nearly 50 were killed later that night after being held prisoners for several hours.

Estimates of the number of dead have varied, ranging from 62 to 153. The exact number of black victims was difficult to determine because many bodies were thrown into the Red River or mass gravesites.

Reconstruction ended in 1877 and by 1898 the protection afforded newly freed slaves to participate as equal citizens in casting ballots

in public elections that allowed for the election of black and white candidates ceased to exist.

White supremacists who ran as candidates in 1898, but lost their elections used mob violence to take the offices from the duly elected officials, sparking the Wilmington Insurrection, also known as the Wilmington Massacre of 1898 or the Wilmington Coup of 1898.

The similarities between what happened on January 6, and the events of 1898 are striking in that both featured a mass riot and insurrection carried out by white supremacists.

The mass riot carried out by white supremacists on January 6, 2021, sought to overturn an election where black voters played a significant role in electing Joseph Biden and KAMALA HARRIS as President and Vice President of the United States.

Furthermore, to add injury to their racist sensibilities, the preceding day, January 5, 2021, the state of Georgia elected its first African American and Jewish U.S. Senators during a special election.

Today, we see the potential for the 1898 level of violence against the entire Congress, which has become the most diverse deliberative body in our nation's history.

Since the attack, the FBI has identified more than 400 individuals out of an estimated 800 who illegally entered the Capitol on January 6, 2021. As of January 27, 2021, the FBI's Washington Field Office has confirmed that more than 150 criminal cases against those individuals have been filed.

Although some reporting initially contradicted Justice Department officials' public statements regarding aggressive efforts to charge all those involved in the criminal activity, acting U.S. Attorney Michael Sherwin reaffirmed the Department's commitment on January 26, 2021, stating "[r]egardless of the level of criminal conduct, we're not selectively targeting or just trying to charge the most significant crime . . . [i]f a crime was committed we are charging you, whether you were outside or inside the Capitol."

The long and blood history of white supremacy requires an approach that holds individuals accountable for their actions as a means of ending the lure of the mob as a tool of violence against targets of interest.

Reports that cite that over a hundred current or former members of the military were involved in the riot at the Capitol are shocking to some.

Unfortunately, this aspect of white supremacist violence was evident by violence committed by Proud Boys and Boogaloo adherents made clear their objectives.

My efforts to focus the attention of the military on this link was evident in an amendment I offered to the NDAA for FY2021 that was adopted.

This Jackson Lee Amendment included in the House version of the NOAA directed the Secretary of Defense to report to Congress the extent, if any, of the threat to national security posed by domestic terrorist groups and organizations motivated by a belief system of white supremacy, such as the Boogaloo and Proud Boys extremists is reflected in the Conference bill.

The NDAA conference identified that the FBI is under statutory obligation, established by Section 5602 of the NDAA FY 2020 (Public Law 116–92), to complete a report that would better characterize the domestic terrorist threat by requiring the FBI and the Department of

Homeland Security in consultation with the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC), to produce a set of comprehensive reports over 5 years.

The report is to include: a strategic intelligence threat internal to the United States; metrics on the number and type of incidents, coupled with resulting investigations, arrests, prosecutions and analytic products, copies of the execution of domestic terrorism investigations; detailed explanations of how the FBI, DHS and NCTC prioritize the domestic terrorism threats and incident; and descriptions regarding the type and regularity of training provided by the FBI, DHS, or NCTC to other Federal, State and local law enforcement.

The conferees noted that the report has not been delivered to the appropriate committees, and they urged the FBI Director to deliver the report without delay.

The Jackson Lee Amendment to the NDAA FY 2021 sought the same information that is required under the NDAA FY 2020 because of the threat posed by accelerationists and militia extremists who comprise a range of violent anti-government actors, movements and organizations, some of which branch out of decades-old ideologies and others of which are relatively new has led to violent engagement of law enforcement.

My concern is that in the aftermath of a historic national election, the activity of violence influencers like Boogaloo Boys or Proud Boys will increase and lead to attacks becoming more frequent.

In 2018, we saw too many instances of violent extremists searching for opportunities to sow violence and disrupt democratic processes.

Boogaloo and Proud Boys are targeting constitutionally protected activity for cooption or to provide cover for attacks.

HONORING OUR 50-YEAR LEGACY: OUR POWER, OUR MESSAGE

LIST OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS IN THE 117TH CONGRESS:

The work of the 117th Congress is just begun, but the list of unfinished business is long:

Ending the COVID–19 by Ending Healthcare Disparities;

Passage of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act;

Criminal Justice Reform;

Funding to complete the restoration of a safe drinking water system for Flint, Michigan; Enactment of the John Lewis Voting Rights Act;

Immigration Reform.

The United States is a work in progress, as stated in the preamble to the Constitution:

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, ensure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States.

African Americans have fought in every war this nation has faced knowing that they were not afforded the same rights and freedoms of white Americans.

We comprise thirteen percent of the population of the United States, and yet experience a higher rate of incarceration, health disparities, more vulnerable to economic slowdowns, and even more likely to get COVID–19 and have much worse health outcomes.

Disparities tell the story of living while black in America.

Disparities in maternity mortality, in the care we receive from doctors when we are in pain caused by Sickle Cell anemia, or present with serious symptoms like Ebola as was the case with Thomas Eric Duncan who went to a Dallas Area hospital for treatment.

Disparities in the spread of COVID-19 are killing Black people at a much higher rate than our percentage of the population in states reporting demographic data.

Since that time, we have seen a pandemic sweep the country, taking more than 500,000 souls in its wake and devastating the African American community.

According to the latest estimates from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, Black people get COVID-19 at a rate nearly one and a half times higher than that of white people, are hospitalized at a rate nearly four times higher, and are three times as likely to die from the disease.

Interestingly, a recent peer-reviewed study from Harvard Medical School suggests that reparations for African Americans could have cut COVID-19 transmission and infection rates both among Blacks and the population at large.

Their analysis, based on Louisiana data, determined that if reparations payments had been made before the COVID-19 pandemic, narrowing the wealth gap, COVID-19 transmission rates in the state's overall population could have been reduced by anywhere from 31 percent to 68 percent.

I include in the RECORD an article detailing the results of a Harvard Study that found that reparations for slavery could have reduced COVID-19 infections and deaths in US from between 31-68 percent.

There are disparities in every aspect of African American life and death.

Between 1980 and 2015, the number of people incarcerated in America increased from roughly 500,000 to over 2.2 million.

Today, the United States makes up about 5 percent of the world's population and has 21 percent of the world's prisoners.

1 in every 37 adults in the United States, or 2.7 percent of the adult population, is under some form of correctional supervision.

In 2014, African Americans constituted 2.3 million, or 34 percent of the total 6.8 million correctional population.

African Americans are incarcerated at more than 5 times the rate of whites.

The imprisonment rate for African American women is twice that of white women.

Nationwide, African American children represent 32 percent of children who are arrested,

42 percent of children who are detained, and 52 percent of children whose cases are judicially waived to criminal court.

Though African Americans and Hispanics make up approximately 32 percent of the US population, they comprised 56 percent of all incarcerated people in 2015.

In African Americans and Hispanics were incarcerated at the same rates as whites, prison and jail populations would decline by almost 40 percent.

We will have special orders throughout this Congress that can delve more deeply in the aspect of live in America through discussions on H.R. 40.

In 1989, Congressman John Conyers introduced "The Commission to Study Reparation

Proposals for African Americans Act, which later became known as H.R. 40, in remembrance of the Gen. Sherman's 1865 Special Field Order No. 15 to redistribute 400,000 acres of formerly Confederate owned coastal land in South Carolina and Florida, subdivided into 40 acre plots.

In 2019, I reintroduced an updated H.R. 40 entitled "Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans Act," noting that in the 30 years since the bill's original introduction, sufficient evidence has been assembled to not just study but also develop proposals for a remedy.

H.R. 40 allows for the first constructive scholarly conversation on race that is clearly needed in the U.S. today and the ability to take a moment in 250 years for a full discussion or analysis of economic, political, psychological, scientific, and sociological effects of slavery in the U.S. It acknowledges the fundamental injustice and inhumanity of slavery in the U.S. and establishes a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans. The Commission is also charged to make recommendations to Congress on appropriate remedies.

H.R. 40 follows the successful model of the reparations campaign for Japanese-Americans interned during WWII. The campaign began with a 1980 congressional bill establishing a commission to investigate the internment, evaluate and consider the amount and form reparations would take, and make recommendations to the Congress for remedy. Based on the Commission's findings, President Reagan signed into law the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The bill formally apologized to Japanese-Americans, authorized the payment of \$20,000 to each Japanese-American detention camp survivor; instituted a trust fund to educate Americans about the suffering of the Japanese-Americans; and issued pardons to all those who resisted detention camp internment.

The nation over the last twelve months has faced a crucible of suffering, death, and disease that has taken too many lives, devastated the economy, and put millions at risk of greater hardship due to the death of a loved one, unemployment, loss of health care or forgone education opportunities.

Hidden in these numbers are the health disparities that have plagued African Americans for generations.

Today, with a heavy heart our nation sadly marks the loss of 500,000 American lives to the coronavirus: an unimaginable human toll in our modern era of medical and technological advances. These deaths are of staggering proportions and cause incomprehensible sadness, but we cannot think of them as the end of COVID-19. As we have learned COVID-19 can surge again claiming even more lives. This is why we cannot be complacent or accepting of so much death without continuing to fight.

Every life lost is a profound tragedy and earth-shattering moment in the lives of families, neighborhoods, and communities that touch each of us in countless ways as we mourn and console our family members, co-workers, neighbors and friends.

Today, I joined my colleagues of the House to observe a moment a silence on the steps

of the Capitol for the 500,000 lives lost. Members of Congress joined Americans in prayer for the lives lost or devastated by this vicious virus. As we pray, we must commit ourselves, in memory of those we have lost, to wearing face coverings, observing social distance, washing of hands-and most importantly getting the vaccine when it is our time to do so as a pledge to all who have been taken from us far too soon that we will act swiftly to put an end to this pandemic and to stem the suffering felt by so many.

My commitment is to save lives and also livelihoods through public and personal action. As Texans work to overcome the tragic winter disaster that befell the state last week, I wrote to President Biden asking that he grant the state's request for a Presidential Disaster Declaration, which he did and today FEMA is on the ground providing water delivery, food distribution, and other vital services to help Texans get back on their feet.

I also encourage those who have lost health insurance during the economic crisis created by COVID-19 pandemic to take advantage of the extended enrollment period for getting health insurance through [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), which is open until May 15, 2021. Currently, 36 states are using [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov). Since President Biden announced the creation of the Special Enrollment Period for [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov), all 14 states and D.C. that have their own state-based marketplaces have announced that they would also have Special Enrollment Periods.

Questions about how justice is served to different communities in our nation came into stark focus with the horrifying killing of George Floyd on May 25, 2020 by a Minneapolis police officer, which shocked and awakened the moral consciousness of the nation.

Untold millions have seen the terrifying last 8 minutes and 46 seconds of life drained from a black man, George Floyd, taking his last breaths face down in the street with his neck under the knee of a police officer who, along with his three cohorts, was indifferent to his cries for help and pleas that he "can't breathe."

In direct response, civil protests against police brutality occurred in cities large and small all across the nation.

It is clear that the times that we find ourselves in demand action, and that is precisely what my colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, on the House Judiciary Committee, and Congressional Democrats did by introducing H.R. 7120, the Justice in Policing Act of 2020 in the 116th Congress.

The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act will be reintroduced this Congress to complete the work this nation has already begun in bringing justice to the criminal justice system.

And every day, we use our power and our message to lift up these important issues that are facing our nation, and we ask those who are listening and watching to make these efforts your own.

Criminal Justice Reform is a pressing issue that Congress must address.

As Judge Learned Hand observed, "If we are to keep our democracy, there must be one commandment: thou shalt not ration justice."

Reforming the criminal justice system so that it is fairer and delivers equal justice to all persons is one of the great moral imperatives of our time.

For reform to be truly meaningful, we must look at every stage at which our citizens interact with the system—from policing in our communities and the first encounter with law enforcement, to the charging and manner of attaining a conviction, from the sentence imposed to reentry and collateral consequences.

House Democrats, led by House Judiciary Committee Chair JERROLD NADLER and myself, as Chair of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, have accepted and embraced the challenge of reforming the criminal justice system and developed many innovative legislative remedies to correct many of the most glaring inequities and racial disparities in the most critical areas of the system.

This is an important topic and one that Congress must turn its attention to with urgency and unity of effort to:

- address the harms caused;
- get an accounting of what happened;
- understand how the water was poisoned;
- make the lives of people damaged by this tragedy whole;
- find justice for those lives that may have been lost; and
- determine and provide for the long-term health needs of those impacted.

Today, the water in Flint, Michigan is not safe to drink and we have no concrete answer on when it may be safe to drink in the future.

Flint, Michigan like so many communities across the nation really felt the brunt of the financial crisis created by the abuse of new home lending practices and deceptive investment schemes that hid the weaknesses in the economy until the great recession spread across the nation beginning in late 2008.

The financial damage done to communities like Flint in the form of steep declines in property values, which caused significant declines in property tax income.

This was not just Flint's problem, but a national reality—for financially strapped cities, towns, school boards, and municipal governments who rely on Congress to fund all 12 Congressional appropriations bills to provide them with much needed revenue to meet the needs of their citizens.

In the 51 years since its passage on August 6, 1965, the Voting Rights Act has safeguarded the right of Americans to vote and stood as an obstacle to many of the more egregious attempts by certain states and local jurisdictions to game the system by passing discriminatory changes to their election laws or administrative policies.

In signing the Voting Rights Act on August 6, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson said:

"The vote is the most powerful instrument ever devised by man for breaking down injustice and destroying the terrible walls which imprison men because they are different from other men."

But on June 25, 2013, the Supreme Court decided *Shelby County v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 193 (2013), which invalidated Section 4(b) of the VRA, and paralyzed the application of the VRA's Section 5 preclearance requirements, which protect minority voting rights where voter discrimination has historically been the worst. Since 1982, Section 5 has stopped more than 1,000 discriminatory voting changes in their tracks, including 107 discriminatory changes in Texas.

Although much progress has been made with regard to Civil Rights, there is still much

work to be done in order to prevent systemic voter suppression and discrimination within our communities, and we must remain ever vigilant and oppose schemes that will abridge or dilute the precious right to vote.

H.R. 885, 'VOTING RIGHTS AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2015,' of which I am an original co-sponsor, repairs the damage done to the Voting Rights Act by the Supreme Court decision and is capable of winning majorities in the House and Senate and the signature of the President.

This legislation replaces the old 'static' coverage formula with a new dynamic coverage formula, or 'rolling trigger,' which effectively gives the legislation nationwide reach because any state and any jurisdiction in any state potentially is subject to being covered if the requisite number of violations are found to have been committed.

For millions of Americans, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is sacred treasure, earned by the sweat and toil and tears and blood of ordinary Americans who showed the world it was possible to accomplish extraordinary things.

I want to thank my colleagues, Chairwoman BEATTY of the CBC, and my co-Anchor, Representative TORRES, for participating in this Special Order on these important topics.

[From the Harvard Civil Rights—Civil Liberties Law Review, June 10, 2020]

WHY WE CAN'T WAIT

(By Mo Light)

In May 1920, Henry Scott, a middle-aged Negro, was working as a Pullman porter in Florida when a mob seized and lynched him because a white woman said he insulted her.[1] Scott said that she had asked for his help arranging her seat on a train while he was busy arranging another woman's seat. He asked her to wait. The white woman called the police and told them that Scott had insulted her. From there the story followed the usual lynching pattern: A deputy sheriff arrested Scott and then a white mob "overpowered" the deputy sheriff and took Scott from police custody. The mob then ridged Scott with "forty or fifty bullets." [2] The jury returned the typical verdict: not guilty.[3]

Recently, another middle-aged Black man was working when he was seized and lynched. George Floyd was lynched by police officers after a store employee accused him of buying cigarettes with counterfeit money. He protested to the store employee that this was not true. But the teenage employee refused to believe him and proceeded to call the police. From there the story followed the all-too-common policing pattern: Police officers who swore an oath to serve and protect lynched a Black man while their colleagues stood by in silence.

Two stories, one hundred years apart. In this time, America has shot forward scientifically and technologically. America put a man on the moon, found vaccines and cures for deadly diseases, invented the computer, and revolutionized technology. But throughout this time, America has left Black Americans behind in the shadows. For Black Americans, too little has changed in the last sixty or so years. They are still dreaming that one day they will be judged by the content of their character and not the color of their skin, all while living through a constant nightmare. Henry Scott is George Floyd and George Floyd is Henry Scott. And that is why we can't wait.

Black Americans have been and will continue to be severely disappointed with the slow pace of change. Before the Civil War, Richard Allen, Robert Purvis, Frederick

Douglass, and many other Negro abolitionists and leaders were told to wait. After Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, slaves still toiled the fields through at least 1865.[4]

The government promised the Negro "forty acres and a mule" but instead gave the Negro "separate but equal." [5] The Negro knew that in 1954 the Supreme Court called for the desegregation of schools "with all deliberate speed" but was met with all deliberate delay.[7] The Voting Rights Act of 1965 has all but failed to live up to its potential.[7] In 2020, police officers are still disproportionality killing Black people.[8] If we respond to this oppression with the same methods we have used in the past, we will sing the same chants, march through the same streets, and demand the same justice in 20, 40, 60 years. For over 100 years we have heard "change will come." Words that consistently ring hollow. The People must do everything they can to prevent another innocent person from dying at the hands of the police or white supremacists.

The idea that the People must engage radical methods of change, change that accepts all action except violence as legitimate, has generated a great deal of apprehension to many Americans. But lest we forget our history, one should be reminded that America's birth and continued existence is a never-ending dance with radicalness and extremism. Ideas that were once shunned as too radical are now lauded as examples for others. Was not Patrick Henry an extremist: "Give me liberty or give me death." [9] Was not the Declaration of Independence radical when it stated that it is "the Right of the People to alter or abolish" the government if it became destructive to equality.[10] Our Founding Fathers listed in the Declaration the King of England's crimes that spurred and legitimized the American Revolution—including the Crown's "protect[ion] of [his soldiers], by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States." [11] Was it not Thomas Jefferson who wrote to William Smith and said, "what country can preserve its liberties, if its rulers are not warned from time to time that their people preserve the spirit of resistance?" [12] Was not Abraham Lincoln called radical when he said, "I believe this government cannot endure, permanently half slave and half free." [13] And was not Dr. King considered one of the most radical and most hated men in America? [14] History has been kind to these men and so, too, will history be kind to us.

Black Americans and their allies can't wait for perfect adherence from their movement on how one should engage in radical change. "No revolution is executed like a ballet," said Dr. King, "[i]ts steps and gestures are not neatly designed and precisely performed." [15] There will be violent elements in every revolution, but the majority of those revolting are doing so nonviolently. And more importantly, the oppressor is responsible for the violence of the oppressed. The oppressor is responsible for the American Revolution and the Civil Rights Movement. The Revolutions of 1848 were formed by ad hoc groups of the middle-class, workers, and commoners. They did not act with perfect discipline, but we nonetheless celebrate those radicals' tenacity and vision.[16]

The necessity of Black Americans and their allies forming a movement for radical change is difficult for many to swallow. It is difficult because too many Americans do not understand the centrality of radical change to American history. They sit in the shade of trees they did not plant, warm themselves by fires they did not light, and drink from wells they did not dig.[17] They profit from persons they do not know, and they build upon

foundations that they did not lay.[18] But Black Americans know this difficult truth: radical change is the only acceptable change. They are keenly aware that their struggle for equality and justice is a never-ending battle. Black Americans are resentful because after all these years they must constantly push for change or be pushed back into the shadows. Black Americans are the seeds that go unwatered and still rise. The soil not tilled but still fertile. You can't ask us to be patient with change anymore or to play by your rules because Black Americans have been patient from John Castor to Henry Scott to George Floyd to — .

[1] Ralph Ginzburg, 100 Years of Lynching 130–31 (1962).

[2] *Id.*

[3] *Id.*

[4] Shennette Garrett-Scott et al., “When Peace Come”: Teaching the Significance of Juneteenth, 76 Black History Bulletin 1, 19–23 (2013).

[5] *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537, 552 (1896).

[6] Martin Luther King, Jr., Why We Can't Wait 3 (1963).

[7] See *Shelby Cty., Ala. v. Holder*, 570 U.S. 529 (2013).

[8] See Deidre McPhillips, Deaths From Police Harm Disproportionately Affect People of Color, U.S. News & World Report (June 3, 2020) <https://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2020-06-03/data-show-deaths-from-police-violence-disproportionately-affect-people-of-color>.

[9] William Wirt, Sketches of the Life and Character of Patrick Henry 123 (1817).

[10] The Declaration of Independence para. 2 (U.S. 1776).

[11] *Id.*

[12] Letter from Thomas Jefferson to William Smith (Nov. 13, 1787), in *Quotes by and about Thomas Jefferson* (1998).

[13] Abraham Lincoln, A House Divided Speech at Springfield, Illinois (June 16, 1858).

[14] Tavis Smiley, The One Single Thing Donald Trump and Martin Luther King, Jr. Have in Common, *Time* (Dec. 1, 2017, 11:09 AM), <https://time.com/5042070/donald-trump-martin-luther-king-mlk/>.

[15] King, *supra* note 6, at 140.

[16] See Melvin Kranzberg, 1848: A Turning Point? xii, xvii–xviii (1962).

[17] See Deuteronomy 6:10–12 (King James) (adapted by Rev. Dr. Peter S. Raible).

[18] *Id.*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield to the distinguished gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES).

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of an institution like no other, the Congressional Black Caucus.

I am honored to be in the presence of fierce and formidable public servants like the CBC chair, JOYCE BEATTY, and today's anchor, Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE.

Madam Speaker, I thank her for those inspiring words. I thank her for reminding us of the long and rich history of the CBC, a history that continues to inspire us all.

Madam Speaker, I am also honored to be here in the presence of my brother, MONDAIRE JONES. You know, in the history of the United States Congress there have only been about 163 Black Members of Congress, and none of them were openly LGBTQ until the election of MONDAIRE JONES and myself. So I am

proud to join my brother in making history in the 117th Congress.

You know, before I was Congressman RITCHIE TORRES, before I was Councilman RITCHIE TORRES, I am and will always be the son of the most powerful woman I know, Debra Bosolet, my mother. And the most important lesson that my mother taught me is never forget where you come from. Never forget where your roots lie. And my roots are in the Bronx. Even when I leave the Bronx for Washington, D.C., the Bronx never leaves me.

I was born, bred, and battle-tested in the boogie down Bronx. And I have the high honor of representing New York's 15, the south Bronx, which for too long has been ground zero for racially concentrated poverty. The unemployment rate in the south Bronx could be as high as 25 percent, comparable to the joblessness of the Great Depression.

More than half the residents in the Bronx pay more than half their income toward their rent, and that is before you factor in the cost of prescription drugs and utilities, and food, and all the bare necessities of life. And even though the south Bronx has long been known to be the poorest congressional district in America, COVID-19 has shown the south Bronx to be the essential congressional district.

It is the home of essential workers who put their lives at risk during the peak of the pandemic so that most of us could safely shelter in place. And our mission, as the CBC, should be to give those essential workers, who are overwhelmingly women of color, a fighting chance at a decent and dignified life.

You know, I never thought as a poor kid of color from the Bronx that I would embark on a journey that would take me from public housing in the Bronx to the people's House in Washington, D.C. And I never thought that as a Congress Member I would live through an insurrection against the U.S. Capitol.

Now, on January 6, we were reminded that there are two competing realities that define America. There is the reality of multiracial democracy. America is slowly emerging as a multiracial, multiethnic, LGBTQ-inclusive democracy. Seventy percent of the Democratic Caucus consists of people of color, women, and members of the LGBTQ Caucus.

But then there is the reality of white supremacy, which reared its ugly head on January 6. And, for me, the scene on the U.S. Capitol was not simply an attack on a physical structure, it was an attack on the very idea of America as a multiracial democracy. And it is that vision of America that, we, as the CBC, are charged with defending.

And despite the overwhelming shock and despair that I felt on January 6, Madam Speaker, I have hope. The inauguration was reason for hope. The image of KAMALA HARRIS, a Black woman in the Vice-Presidency, being sworn in by Sonia Sotomayor of the

United States Supreme Court, is a powerful encapsulation of how far we have come, of how much we have achieved. And that moment reminds us that the future of our country does not belong to white supremacy. The future of our country belongs to multiracial democracy.

And the Congressional Black Caucus will continue to be at the forefront of making America the more perfect multiracial union that it ought to be. In the words of the CBC chair: Our Power, Our Message.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, let me thank the gentleman very much for his powerful words and his very prominent focus on the idea that you are from the Bronx, but the spirit of the Bronx cannot be taken from you, and that your commitment and your assessment of this country will be defined in your way, not in the way of white supremacists, domestic terrorists, or insurrectionists.

Madam Speaker, I think more than ever he has captured an important moment by saying he has hope, and that is what the Congressional Black Caucus represents for the millions of Americans that we represent. He is right, our constituency is multicultural, they come from many different perspectives, they are Black, they are African American—as they may be desired to be called—they are Latinx, they are Hispanic, they are Anglo, they are White, they are Southeast Asian, they are Asian Pacific, they are LGBTQ, and they are varied. That is what we are here today to stand for.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JONES), a distinguished member of the Judiciary Committee, among other committees, and a scholar in his own right, a lawyer, and someone who has been able to be trained in the ways of the law, but whose heart is vested in the ways of justice. I am delighted to yield to my colleague for his time on the floor in this wonderful momentous occasion.

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished co-chair of this incredible Special Order sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus for those very kind words.

I will say, as someone who has spent most of his life following the work of this Black Caucus, it is an honor to finally join the legends, the luminaries who helped to inspire my own run for the United States Congress. Thank you.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the CBC for holding this hour to reflect on Black history. I want to share, in particular, the story of a young lawyer who came to the village of Hillburn in Rockland County, New York, during his fight to desegregate our public schools.

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Like many places in 1943, the Village of Hillburn had a main school for White children. It was called the Hillburn School. And it had a school for children

of color without a library, a playground, or indoor plumbing. That was called the Brook School.

But our elders did not accept this. They fought back. Parents of the Brook School children organized and, with the help of a young attorney with the NAACP's legal defense fund, they sued the district. With the help of their lawyer, the parents of the Brook School children won their fight against segregation in a case that helped to lay the groundwork for *Brown v. Board of Education* 11 years later.

Who was this young lawyer who came to the Village of Hillburn?

He was the man who would later become our Nation's first Supreme Court Justice who was Black: Thurgood Marshall.

I am moved by the story because it shows how Black history creates Black futures, how the courage and resistance of the Black leaders of years past are the reason a poor Black kid from Rockland County now stands in this special Chamber as the United States Congress Member representing that same school district today.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman JONES so very much for that powerful statement. A powerful statement, obviously, a lawyer's lawyer to bring to our attention the great leadership of Justice Thurgood Marshall, civil rights attorney Thurgood Marshall, from a lawyer whom we know will continue to promote justice now as a legislator.

Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment to just put in the RECORD really the historical description of the Congressional Black Caucus.

Since its establishment in 1971, the Congressional Black Caucus has been committed to using the full constitutional power, statutory authority, and financial resources of the Federal Government to ensure that Black Americans and other marginalized communities in the United States have the opportunity to achieve the American Dream.

As part of this commitment, the CBC has fought in the past 50 years to empower citizens and address their legislative concerns by nursing a policy agenda that is inclusive, pragmatic, effective, and resonates with the American people.

Just for a moment, I would like to comment on the dangerous interrelatedness of race and the insurrectionist day of January 6.

We are on the floor because we have a unique history. We are a multiranged people and a multicultural people. We are individuals whose heritage is intertwined with other backgrounds. We are African Americans. We are Caribbean Americans. And in terms of African Americans, we are Caribbean Blacks, if you will. We come from all over the world, but we come to America and we are described by a singular history.

And if we have come with a singular history, I think it is important to intertwine what happened on January

6. Shockingly, Madam Speaker, those who came to object—so they say—to the duly qualified and legitimate election of President Joe Biden and, of course, Vice President Harris, they, of course, came allegedly with that proposition. But, at the same time, I am stunned by the words of a police officer by the name of Mr. Harry Dunn—courageous and brave with so many others—who indicated: The rioters called me the n-word dozens of times.

So here we are 50 years celebrating the Congressional Black Caucus. Here we are defenders of democracy. Many of our Members are former members of the United States military, having gone into battle, or our family members have. Many fell in as early a war as World War I, World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, Iraq, and Afghanistan, and other wars in between. We shed our blood for this country.

And the so-called people who came and said they just wanted some democracy, they believed that their candidate won, but they took enough time to call the sons and daughters of enslaved Africans, who wear the uniform defending democracy, the n-word.

They took time to carry a fake flag, calling it the Confederate flag when it is a symbol in the 1960s of the harshness and brutality of segregation and the Klan. They took time to bring that flag to the United States Congress, in the midst of the highest number of elected persons of color, persons who are descendants in many different ways of enslaved Africans.

But here I wanted to mention Mr. Dunn's name. There were many others who were beaten that day. I honor them, and we will honor them as time goes. This night, tonight, we mention this gentleman who said most powerfully—Harry Dunn recalled the sickening events of January 6—when he says that the level of racist abuse he suffered caused him to break down in tears, but he was not broken. His quote was: "Y'all failed."

That is my message today. All of the brutality that we may have experienced, which I will talk about in a moment, all of it failed. That is why we are here today fighting in the Education and Labor Committee; fighting in the Science, Space, and Technology Committee; fighting in the Ways and Means Committee; fighting in the Energy and Commerce Committee; the Judiciary; the Interior; the Armed Services Committee; the Oversight and Reform Committee; and the Budget Committee, where you will see our presence.

We are fighting for America, but we are the conscience that drives the reality that there are more people to be concerned about than those of us in this Chamber. That there are mothers and father who work every day, who don't see the fruit of their labor. There are children who clamor for education, but it is not there.

There are soldiers who need to have the line of hierarchy and the route to

promotion and elevation, who don't get it. There are businesspersons who have brilliant ideas, but can't access the capital. There are incarcerated persons who are not guilty, but are still incarcerated.

There are doors of college institutions closed. There are people who want to do better with a new house, but still, in the 21st century, are redlined. And there are many who want to go places and cannot go, who are African American.

No, we are not complaining. We are trying to explain how much has been done by people who have had this kind of history. It is important to take note of that.

Madam Speaker, may I have the time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from Texas has 24 minutes remaining.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES), if he will carry forth.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman, as always, for the inspiration of words.

Our colleague, Congressman JONES, spoke earlier of *Brown v. Board of Education*. *Brown v. Board of Education* was the first legal case I ever read. In high school, I participated in a form of legal debate known as moot court, which taught me how to think, read, write, and speak critically and artfully. I will never forget after reading *Brown v. Board of Education* how inspired I felt, those words in the field of education: Separate but equal is inherently unequal.

Those words inspired me to see myself—as a young Black man—as a public servant and maybe one day as a Member of the United States Congress.

But I have to be honest. If you had said to me 1 year ago that I would become a Member of Congress during an infectious disease outbreak, that I would witness an insurrection against the U.S. Capitol during the electoral college vote count, and that I would then vote to impeach an outgoing President who had been impeached once before, I would have said that sounds a lot like a movie.

So this has been the most draining and disorienting beginning for any freshman class in the modern history of the United States Congress, but I am nevertheless honored to be here.

January 6 is a reminder that the mission of the CBC takes on a renewed urgency. The Congress Member and I sit on the Homeland Security Committee, and one of our highest priorities is going to be counterterrorism. During one of our recent hearings, I made the observation that America has a pattern of willful blindness toward white supremacist extremism as a form of domestic terror.

Even though the statistics have been clear that white supremacist extremism has been the dominant driver of violence in the United States for decades, the U.S. Government did not designate a white supremacist group as a

terrorist organization until 2020. 2020. Never mind the massacre against African Americans, against Latinos, and against members of the LGBTQ community. It took the Federal Government until 2020 to finally recognize white supremacy as a form of domestic terrorism.

I am often asked: Whom do you admire in history?

The gentlewoman brought up the Underground Railroad, and I am a great admirer of Harriet Tubman, who, as the architect of the Underground Railroad, is America's Moses. She was a genuine liberator of an enslaved people.

I also have deep admiration for Ida B. Wells, who was alone as a journalist in standing up to the campaign of domestic terrorism and lynchings against African Americans. And we have to draw from the legacy of Ida B. Wells and renew our commitment to fighting domestic terrorism in our own time.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to joining the gentlewoman in that fight and learning from her.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, my coanchor has very powerfully captured the many heroes in our community, historical heroes as well, and heroes who pushed against the edge, walked right up to the line, never failed to be courageous, never failed to work on behalf of people who were voiceless and powerless.

Harriet Tubman was that woman. She was General Moses, and she told slaves that it was not going to be their task to stop along the railroad, they were going to get to their destination—and I guess she was a little harsh—dead or alive.

That is the push of the Congressional Black Caucus. We are not violent people, so I won't say dead or alive. But we are consistently engaged in pushing the envelope, pushing the margins, and pushing the conscience of this Congress led certainly over a huge number of years by the late John Robert Lewis and John Conyers, who headed the Judiciary Committee and fought against every civil rights injustice.

So many leaders. As I indicated, Shirley Chisholm, who ran for the Presidency. And Barbara Jordan, who sat on the impeachment committee as a young Member and said, We, the People. She denied any right of anyone to undermine the Constitution.

□ 2115

Her voice was strong and powerful. I am glad to call her my mentor and my predecessor.

And so I just want to give these words. I want to capture some words here on that insurrection.

Everyone knew the outcome of the 2020 Presidential election long before January 6, 2021. We also knew that the States had gone to a lot of traversing, even they were sued, and they still came back as each State leader said, no fraud: This is the outcome.

Because of the transparency of each State's election administration and

that of the joint meeting of Congress, it would simply confirm that Joe Biden had won more than a majority of the electoral votes along with winning the national popular vote by more than seven million votes.

We all know that this was a historic election; more votes than we had ever counted, I believe, in the history of the United States. There was such a sense of exhilaration because democracy was alive. There were so many young people that voted. So many people of the potpourri of America, all backgrounds.

We felt so good about voting together, many of us voting the same way for the same candidate, as evidenced by his victory. States that we had lost 4 years ago, enthusiastically voting for change, for goodness, for a spirit of unity. We knew something was on the horizon.

But isn't it interesting that after that election, for months, people had been told a complete lie, which allowed them to stay in places that we did not know and conspire to come and attack this place, this holy place, this place of democracy, this place that has, Madam Speaker, above you, In God We Trust.

They attacked this place and the riot came immediately after then-President Trump promoted a march on the Capitol and called his supporters to stop the steal; never give up; never concede, and to fight like hell, during a speech that day, asserting that they would not have a country anymore if they did not act.

I read these into our message of our power hour message, 50 years of the Congressional Black Caucus, because I think history will tell. Reading the annals of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, you will see that members of the Congressional Black Caucus, when they were tiny, until we have expanded, have consistently gone to the floor on questions of justice and expanding opportunity and ensuring that justice is a respecter of color or age or region. We fight for justice no matter what the color of your skin, what your background is.

We are purists as it relates to justice. We love the Constitution, because—even though we were three-fifths of a person, we were not a human being when it was finalized—it was a document that grew and continues to breathe rights, from the First Amendment to the 13th Amendment, 14th Amendment, 15th Amendment, to the right for women to vote, to the amendments that deal with a right to a trial by jury, to the Fifth Amendment, due process, and the protection of your property. These are all breathing documents and words, breathing amendments that have allowed a people who were in bondage to scrap their way out of the devastation of hatred. We use this Constitution.

But shamefully, that fight has to continue. And on January 6, that fight, that scab was torn off again. That rug was burning again. Those who came to say that they were fighting for Trump and fighting to overturn the election,

but more importantly, they are fighting because the election was theirs, they called a Black officer the N word more times than he can remember, caused him to break down, among others. And he had the courage to say, all that they tried to do failed.

Let me just show these depictions of our journey. I will start with this one. This year, 2021, is the 100th anniversary—I hate to even use that term—of the Tulsa riot. Allegedly, a young Black man in an elevator was alleged to have touched a White woman. I think when he finally got out of the elevator it was alleged rape, or it was rape, a typical story, over and over again.

That is why we have such pain for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Walter Scott, Tamir Rice, Trayvon Martin, Ahmaud Arbery, Pamela Turner, Sandra Bland, Jacob Blake, and Elijah McClain in Colorado, and names beyond, Sean Bell, Eric Garner, the mothers who have become friends, Michael Brown, that is why we have such pain.

And I guess my constituent—the family that has become America's family, along with all the other mothers and fathers—George Floyd grew up in Houston, Texas, in the Cuney Homes, public housing. His mother was the queen of public housing, took in children, fed children. They felt like they were at home in the Floyd family.

Big George is what he was called. Big man. Took his brothers and sisters under his wing. George Floyd played basketball—my recollection is—in China with Yao Ming when they were young players, not pros. We never know who someone is.

So this is the 100th anniversary of probably some of the likes of those names that I called. Life cut down.

And this depiction is Captured Negroes on way to Convention Hall during the Tulsa race riot. They were captured. There was no justice. 300 Negroes, Black Americans were buried in an unmarked grave, as we are told. This is how it was. This is how it was. This is how it was.

The Congressional Black Caucus will be commemorating that this year. And I will introduce legislation with Senator WARREN, on the Tulsa race riots next week.

4,000, 4,000-plus Blacks were hung. And as you can see, there were smiling faces in the crowd. It was entertainment. Come to the town square.

No, this is not a depiction of some dastardly person who did violent acts and raided through the community. This could have been someone walking along a dark road. It could have been the three boys in Mississippi during the civil rights movement; they were just driving, trying to get to their destination.

These folks could have been walking. We had one woman who had a dispute with a storekeeper. She was a businesswoman. She was ultimately hung; never came back home. The family was looking for where she might be.

It looks like another celebratory occasion, hanging. We will hear more of this when we proceed to discuss our commission to study and develop reparation proposals.

But let me—before I yield to my good friend and co-anchor, I just want you to see this one. This gentleman's name was—I am going to call him Mr. Gordon. He is a slave—was a slave, deceased. And clearly, those are markings of a very bad beating. But that is not the end of his story.

This gentleman came out of slavery and fought in the Civil War on behalf of the Union. This is what we did. We always rise to the occasion.

You will hear more about our story. But I wanted to make sure that we just got a sense of how we have been overcomers. But even with being overcomers, we know there is more to do.

Madam Speaker, I am very delighted to be able to yield to the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. WILLIAMS), and she is, in her own right, a leader, a new member of this body, has civil rights in her blood, she is a mother, and she is here ready to fight for our children's education and she will succeed.

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, today my Congressional Black Caucus colleagues and I observe Black History Month and celebrate 50 years of Our Power, Our Message.

For 50 years, the Congressional Black Caucus has uplifted the voices of Black people and other marginalized communities so that they can share in the promise of America for all.

For the 117th Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus marks a new milestone with 58 members, the largest membership in CBC history. The next 50 years of Our Power, Our Message is strong.

We are here in D.C. witnessing more Black history being made with the first Black woman, HBCU grad, our soror, and a member of our Congressional Black Caucus serving as Vice President of the United States. Indeed, our power and our message are strong.

While we continue to make great strides, it is not lost on me that 2020 was a difficult year for Black people across this country. Collectively, we battled a pandemic that continues to infect and kill Black people at disproportionate rates.

In my home State of Georgia, Black people are also experiencing some of the highest levels of unemployment in decades. By November 2020, Black Georgians had filed 71 percent more unemployment claims than White, Hispanic, Latinx, and Asian-American workers combined.

Being Black in Georgia, we fight daily for what so many take for granted in this country, the right to vote, the right to the fair and equal treatment that George Floyd didn't get, the right to be, the right to exist.

Today, in particular, we reflect on how far we have to go. One year ago, Ahmaud Arbery was hunted down and

murdered, simply because he was a Black man going for a jog in Brunswick, Georgia.

His murder by white supremacists and the subsequent delays in realizing justice may seem new, but Black people have dealt with systemic racism for centuries in America, and we are here to break these structures and dismantle these systems using our power and our message as the Congressional Black Caucus.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her words and certainly her powerful words on the importance of our Vice President, the Honorable Vice President Harris. We are grateful for her.

It is my pleasure to yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES), my co-anchor.

□ 2130

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I want to pay tribute to my classmate, Congress Member NIKEMA WILLIAMS, who, as the chair of the Georgia Democratic Party, was instrumental in winning the Senate for the Democratic Party.

Thanks to the leadership of on-the-ground organizers like Congress Member WILLIAMS, a Democratic Senate, a Democratic House, a Democratic President means we have the makings of an FDR moment. We have a historic opportunity to govern as boldly in the 21st century as FDR did in the 20th century.

Systemic racism in America traces back 400 years, and it is incredible to think that in the 400-year history of our country, we are as close as we have ever been to confronting the root causes of systemic racism.

That is the burden that we bear as the Congressional Black Caucus, but it is not only a burden. It is a blessing. Public service in an FDR moment is a blessing.

It is said the first historian, Herodotus, said that he wrote the first historical book so that the deeds of brave people cannot be forgotten. That is the same reason the CBC exists, so that the deeds of Black heroes like Harriet Tubman and Ida B. Wells, like John Lewis, like Barack Obama and KAMALA HARRIS, are never forgotten, that the contributions of Black America should remain front and center in the life of our country.

It has been an honor to be with you, Congress Member JACKSON LEE. I cannot tell you how honored I feel to be a member of the CBC.

You know, I grew up poor most of my life. I was raised by a single mother who had to raise three children on minimum wage, which in the 1990s was \$4.25 an hour. I grew up in public housing, in conditions of mold and mildew, leaks and lead, without consistent heat and hot water in the winter. I never could have imagined myself as a member of the greatest institution in the United States Congress, the Congressional Black Caucus. It is an honor to

be here with you in this caucus at this moment.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, we are humbled by the gentleman's words. We are humbled by this moment in history.

I will conclude my remarks by building on Congressman TORRES', that we are humbled, but we are honored, but we are ready to work.

I will leave you with these words from our colleague and others. John Lewis said we are in a very difficult time in our country. I am afraid we may wake up one day in America, and our democracy is gone. But he went on to say that when you see something that is not right, say something, do something, get into good trouble.

One of our ancient fathers, Frederick Douglass, said that there is no power without struggle.

Tonight, we have laid the landscape of genius, contributions, sacrifice, brilliance, and the commitment to civil rights that is the Congressional Black Caucus. Our message, our power, Our Power, Our Message. We will continue to work. We will not yield, not give in, not give out, and not give up.

Madam Speaker, let me thank my colleagues for joining the CBC Special Order tonight, and I thank the Speaker.

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, this evening, on the occasion of this special order hour, I rise to commemorate the Congressional Black Caucus and its rich history of representation of Black voices across the nation.

Today's Black Caucus is the materialization of the vision that our founding members had 50 years ago. Now nearly 60 members strong, our caucus has fought to empower the Black community so that they too may achieve the American Dream. And our success in doing so, as well as upholding the fundamentals of democracy, is unparalleled in this body's history.

Now, in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, we face one of our toughest challenges yet. While it is true that the pandemic has affected all of us in some way, it has especially highlighted and exacerbated the inequalities that the Black community still faces in our society. We have been forced to battle the pandemic on two fronts—health-wise and economically.

Studies show that the comorbidities most closely associated with COVID-19 complications are diabetes and hypertension, which disproportionately affect the Black community. The prevalence of these diseases is systemic in nature—a result of decades of a lack of access to quality, accessible, and culturally competent medical care.

I have also met with Black business owners in North Texas, who credited preexisting funding gaps and feeble relationships with lenders for their hardships during the pandemic. Disadvantaged at the onset, these businesses became increasingly unable to meet market needs, and reports now say that the pandemic has wiped out nearly half of Black small businesses in our country.

In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Black Caucus has played a critical role in the

drafting and enacting of legislation to support Black Americans—including President Biden’s newest package. Billed as the American Rescue Plan, the \$1.9 trillion relief package consists of several provisions advocated for by the Black Caucus. Among them include \$400 billion for vaccine distribution with a focus on minority communities, \$15 billion for equitably distributed grants to minority-owned small businesses, and investment in infrastructure projects to create more jobs for unemployed minorities.

Madam Speaker, the Congressional Black Caucus will certainly play a prominent Congress for generations to come. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in the caucus to advance better, more equitable policies for all.

until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 9 o’clock and 32 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 5(a)(1)(B) of House Resolution 8, the House stands adjourned

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the fourth quarter of 2020, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR., Jan. 15, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ETHICS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH, Jan. 22, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. JERROLD NADLER, Jan. 22, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at the right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ADAM SMITH, Feb. 2, 2021.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 1 AND DEC. 31, 2020

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF, Jan. 8, 2021.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-359. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Market Participants Division, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Margin Requirements for Uncleared Swaps for Swap Dealers and Major Swap Participants (RIN: 3038-AF05) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-360. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Swap Dealer and Intermediary Oversight, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Margin Requirements for Uncleared Swaps for Swap Dealers and Major Swap Participants (RIN: 3038-AF03) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-361. A letter from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Market Oversight, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Swap Execution Facilities (RIN: 3038-AE25) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC-362. A letter from the Deputy Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Truth in Lending (Regulation Z) Annual Threshold Adjustments (Credit Cards, HOEPA, and Qualified Mortgages) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-363. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Implementation of Executive Order on Access to Affordable Life-saving Medications (RIN: 0906-AB25) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC-364. A letter from the Agency Representative, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Rules of Practice to Allocate the Burden of Persuasion on Motions to Amend in Trial Proceedings Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board [Docket No.: PTO-P-2019-0011] (RIN: 0651-AD34) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-365. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Lower Mississippi River, Natchez, MS [Docket No.: USCG-2020-0641] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-366. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Safety Zone; Neuse River, New Bern, NC [Docket No.: USCG-USCG-2020-0645] (RIN: 1625-AA00) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-367. A letter from the Chief Petty Officer, CG-LPD, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Security Zone; Fleet Week Demonstration Area, San Diego Bay, San Diego, CA [Docket No.: USCG-2020-0655] (RIN: 1625-AA87) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-368. A letter from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's temporary final rule — Special Local Regulation: Fort Lauderdale Air Show; Atlantic Ocean, Fort Lauderdale, FL [Docket No.: USCG-2020-0128] (RIN: 1625-AA08) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-369. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final regulations — Rollover Rules for Qualified Plan Loan Offset Amounts [TD 9937] (RIN: 1545-BP46) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-370. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Guidance on Sections 102 and 103 of the SECURE Act With Respect to Safe Harbor Plans [Notice 2020-86] received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-371. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — COVID-19 Relief for Employers Using the Automobile Lease Valuation Rule [Notice 2021-7] received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

EC-372. A letter from the Director, Legal Processing Division, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's IRB only rule — Administrative Appeals Procedures for Tax-Advantaged Bonds (Rev. Proc. 2021-10) received February 2, 2021, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. SCANLON: Committee on Rules. H. Res. 147. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 803) to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes (Rept. 117-6). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BACON (for himself, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. CUELLAR):

H.R. 1210. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself and Mr. MEEKS):

H.R. 1211. A bill to direct the Department of State to ensure persons representing the United States in international athletic competitions in certain countries are appropriately informed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SOTO, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TRONE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. SCHKOWSKY, Ms. BASS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. EVANS, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. SEWELL, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia):

H.R. 1212. A bill to end preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity in the United States and close disparities in maternal health outcomes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 1213. A bill to require elementary schools and secondary schools to provide an option for safe, in-person attendance during school years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana, Mr. MANN, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. WALTZ):

H.R. 1214. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons that knowingly spread malign disinformation as part of or on behalf of a foreign government or political party for purposes of political warfare and to require a determination regarding the United Front Work Department of the Chinese Communist Party; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. RUSH, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CASE, Mr. CARSON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. OMAR):

H.R. 1215. A bill 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 include additional information in an annual report to Congress on fraud targeting seniors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 1216. A bill to establish an advisory commission regarding eligibility for health care furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BOST (for himself and Ms. CHENEY):

H.R. 1217. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for

use by the national instant criminal background check system; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Ms. BLUNT ROCH-ESTER):

H.R. 1218. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Ms. CHU):

H.R. 1219. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the age requirement with respect to eligibility for qualified ABLE programs; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Ms. DEAN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. LAMB, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, and Ms. WILD):

H.R. 1220. A bill to reauthorize the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Lackawanna Valley National Heritage Area, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area, and the Oil Region National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. WELCH, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. JONES, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. SIRES, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. SPEIER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. RYAN, Mr. POCAN, Ms. MENG, Ms. WATERS, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 1221. A bill to increase deployment of electric vehicle charging infrastructure in low-income communities and communities of color, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 1222. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. CICILLINE):

H.R. 1223. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to individuals associated with the Government of the Russian Federation who are complicit in the poisoning and repression of citizens of the Russian Federation for political motives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Financial Services, Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. PORTER, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. NORTON, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 1224. A bill to reauthorize the authority of the Merit Systems Protection Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. CONNOLLY (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. SHERMAN):

H.R. 1225. A bill to improve diversity and inclusion in the workforce of national security agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Intelligence (Permanent Select), the Judiciary, Homeland Security, Agriculture, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CROW (for himself, Mr. BALDERSON, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. TRONE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CASE, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 1226. A bill to establish a Next Generation Entrepreneurship Corps program within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DELGADO (for himself, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut):

H.R. 1227. A bill to establish a public health plan; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. LIEU, and Mr. MALINOWSKI):

H.R. 1228. A bill to advance a diplomatic solution to the conflict in Libya and support the people of Libya; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEUTCH (for himself and Mr. DIAZ-BALART):

H.R. 1229. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 1230. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H.R. 1231. A bill to prohibit the reentry of the United States into the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action unless the President makes certain certifications relating to Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 1232. A bill to require a five-year staffing plan for the Department of State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. GROTHMAN (for himself, Mr. KIND, Mr. GALLAGHER, Ms. VAN

DUYNE, Mr. STEEL, Mr. FITZGERALD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. TIF-FANY, and Mr. POCAN):

H.R. 1233. A bill to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Megellas, formerly of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and most recently of Colleyville, Texas, before his death on April 2, 2020, for acts of valor on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. HASTINGS (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. PINGREE, and Ms. WILSON of Florida):

H.R. 1234. A bill to end the use of corporal punishment in schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER (for herself and Ms. PORTER):

H.R. 1235. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of mental or physical disability in cases of anatomical gifts and organ transplants; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY):

H.R. 1236. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure the safety of imported seafood; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H.R. 1237. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit a person from knowingly providing substantial assistance relating to a contribution or donation by a foreign national, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 1238. A bill to establish the Office of the Ombudsperson for Immigrant Children in Government Custody, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER):

H.R. 1239. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on motor vehicle recalls, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself and Ms. CRAIG):

H.R. 1240. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to modify prevented planting coverage; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. TRONE):

H.R. 1241. A bill to improve the full-service community school program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 1242. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for lifelong learning accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KILMER (for himself and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 1243. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for training services received by individuals who are unemployed as a result of the coronavirus pandemic; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself and Mr. CONNOLLY):

H.R. 1244. A bill to repeal certain foreign affairs reporting requirements; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. NORCROSS):

H.R. 1245. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interfering with voter registration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KIND (for himself and Mr. FORTENBERRY):

H.R. 1246. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to allow ranchers and farmers to use an alternative calculation for a maximum loan amount under the paycheck protection program; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LANGEVIN (for himself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 1247. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to include an act of unregulated custody transfer in the definition of child abuse and neglect, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. RUSH, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. EVANS, Mr. NADLER, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. WELCH, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. BASS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. JONES, and Mr. BROWN):

H.R. 1248. A bill to remove all statues of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of America from display in the United States Capitol; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. MENG, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, and Mrs. LAWRENCE):

H.R. 1249. A bill to discourage the use of payment of money as a condition of pretrial release in criminal cases, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 1250. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvements to network outage reporting; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. GALLAGHER, and Mr. KEATING):

H.R. 1251. A bill to support United States international cyber diplomacy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 1252. A bill to provide for certain construction-related authorities of the Department of State, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MEUSER (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 1253. A bill to modernize and streamline the public diplomacy capabilities of the Department of State, increase evaluation of public diplomacy programming, enhance strategic planning for the Department's pub-

lic diplomacy physical presence abroad, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina (for himself, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. BUDD, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ROY, Mr. KELLER, Mr. DUNCAN, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. GAETZ, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. PALMER, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. JACKSON, Mrs. MCCLAINE, and Mr. BABIN):

H.R. 1254. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to modify certain requirements for Federal agencies in the disposition of surplus real property, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER):

H.R. 1255. A bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Reform, House Administration, Education and Labor, and Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. NORTON (for herself, Mr. RASKIN, and Ms. TITUS):

H.R. 1256. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to remove the bronze plaque and concrete block bearing the name of Francis Newlands from the grounds of the memorial fountain located at Chevy Chase Circle in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 1257. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on the effect of financial and credit counseling for homeless veterans and veterans experiencing housing instability; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. PINGREE (for herself, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 1258. A bill to amend the Poultry Products Inspection Act and the Federal Meat Inspection Act to support small and very small meat and poultry processing establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. ROSENDALE (for himself, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. GAETZ, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. HARRIS, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. PERRY, Mr. POSEY, Mr. ROY, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. NORMAN, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, and Mr. PALAZZO):

H.R. 1259. A bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to continue to implement the Migrant Protection Protocols, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER (for himself and Mr. KINZINGER):

H.R. 1260. A bill 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 Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RYAN (for himself, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 1261. A bill to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to reauthorize the Ohio & Erie National Heritage Canalway, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. STAUBER (for himself and Mr. DESAULNIER):

H.R. 1262. A bill to establish a task force on improvements for certain notices to airmen, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. STEFANIK (for herself, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mrs. MCCLAINE, Mr. OWENS, and Mr. BANKS):

H.R. 1263. A bill to limit Federal funding for institutions of higher education that have partnerships with the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. CASE, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 1264. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require corporations to report disbursements made by foreign nationals for purposes of disseminating campaign-related public communications and to inquire whether persons providing such disbursements are foreign nationals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. DEMINGS, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 1265. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to make the disclosure of the identity of a whistleblower a criminal offense, to provide a civil right of action for the disclosure of the identity of a whistleblower, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SWALWELL (for himself, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. VEASEY, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 1266. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require reporting to the Federal Election Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigation of offers by foreign nationals to make prohibited contributions, donations, expenditures, or disbursements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SWALWELL:

H.R. 1267. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit corrupt foreign influence over the President, the Vice President, and their immediate family members, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself, Ms. MENG, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. SIREN, Mr. EVANS, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JONES, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. CARBAJAL):

H.R. 1268. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award targeted grants to State, Tribal, Territorial, and local health departments or nonprofit organizations in geographic locations with racial and ethnic minorities and other vulnerable populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 to disseminate information regarding the safety and efficacy of

COVID-19 vaccines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. WALBERG:

H.R. 1269. A bill to amend titles II and XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Social Security Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Social Security surplus and a Medicare Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Medicare surplus, to provide for suspension of investment of amounts held in such Accounts until enactment of legislation providing for investment of the Trust Funds in investment vehicles other than obligations of the United States, and to establish a Social Security and Medicare Part A Investment Commission to make recommendations for alternative forms of investment of the Social Security and Medicare surpluses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JONES, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. HASTINGS):

H.R. 1270. A bill to prohibit private passenger automobile insurers from using certain income proxies to determine insurance rates and eligibility; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. TONKO, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. CASTEN, and Mr. HUFFMAN):

H.R. 1271. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain tax credits related to electric cars, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WEXTON (for herself, Mr. BEYER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. SARBANES, and Ms. SCANLON):

H.R. 1272. A bill to require Federal agencies to conduct a benefit-cost analysis on relocations involving the movement of employment positions to different areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. ZELDIN (for himself, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. NEGUSE):

H.R. 1273. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to study and report on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma in veterans who served in the Vietnam theater of operations during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H. Res. 146. A resolution electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. CLARKE of New York (for herself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. VEASEY):

H. Res. 148. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to Marcus Garvey; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H. Res. 149. A resolution calling on President Biden to immediately implement his

radical climate agenda at the White House by prohibiting use of petroleum-based products and energy sources; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MANN (for himself, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. ISSA, Mr. COMER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. McCAUL, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. HERRELL, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. LATTA, Mr. BOST, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. BACON, Mr. EMMER, Mr. JACKSON, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. KELLER, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mrs. McCLAIN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. CLINE, Mr. PENCE, Mr. CARL, Mr. JACOBS of New York, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. STAUBER, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. BALDERSON, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. SIMPSON, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LUTKEMEYER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. FULCHER, Mrs. HINSON, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. CASE, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. ESTES):

H. Res. 150. A resolution expressing support for the designation of February 20 to February 27, 2021, as "National FFA Week", recognizing the important role of the National FFA (FFA) Organization in developing the next generation of leaders who will change the world, and celebrating 50 years of National FFA Alumni and Supporters; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Ms. MENG (for herself, Ms. CHU, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. TITUS, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. COOPER, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. WELCH, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. PETERS, Ms. McCOLLUM, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. BERA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. POCAN, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. McNERNEY, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. ROSS, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. CASE, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. CROW, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JONES, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. LEE of

California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KILMER, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. BEYER, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. LIU, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. DEAN, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. TONKO, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CARSON, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. TRONE, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. COHEN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. UNDERWOOD, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. PINGREE, and Mrs. BEATTY):

H. Res. 151. A resolution condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia (for himself, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Ms. BASS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. FUDGE, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington):

H. Res. 152. A resolution supporting the designation of March 2021 as Endometriosis Awareness Month; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. STEEL (for herself, Ms. PORTER, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. CORREA, and Mr. LOWENTHAL):

H. Res. 153. A resolution condemning recent hate crimes committed against Asian-American and Pacific Islanders; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 1210.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. McCAUL:

H.R. 1211.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Ms. ADAMS:

H.R. 1212.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 7

By Mr. ALLEN:

H.R. 1213.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 1214.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 1215.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 1216.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states “[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States”.

By Mr. BOST:

H.R. 1217.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which states “[t]he Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States”.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:

H.R. 1218.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Congress may also make laws that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution their powers enumerated under Article I.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS:

H.R. 1219.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 1220.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)

By Ms. CLARKE of New York:

H.R. 1221.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 1222.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 1223.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 1224.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. CONNOLLY:

H.R. 1225.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. CROW:

H.R. 1226.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. DELGADO:

H.R. 1227.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 1228.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 1229.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8. To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

By Mr. GARAMENDI:

H.R. 1230.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H.R. 1231.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 3

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:

H.R. 1232.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article II, Section 2

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 1233.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. HASTINGS:

H.R. 1234.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER:

H.R. 1235.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8 Clause 1, Article I Section 8 Clause 3, Article I Section 8 Clause 18

By Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana:

H.R. 1236.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S.C. Article I Section 8

By Ms. HOULAHAN:

H.R. 1237.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8

By Ms. JAYAPAL:

H.R. 1238.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia:

H.R. 1239.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 1240.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. JONES:

H.R. 1241.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the Constitution

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 1242.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. KILMER:

H.R. 1243.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mrs. KIM of California:

H.R. 1244.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. KIM of New Jersey:

H.R. 1245.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. KIND:

H.R. 1246.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. LANGEVIN:

H.R. 1247.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 1248.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Constitutional authority for this bill is derived pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States. Constitutional authority further derives from the authorities in Article IV, Section 3, clause 2, which provides Congress with the power to “dispose of and make all needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory and other Property belonging to the United States.”

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 1249.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to Article 1, Section 8.

By Ms. MATSUI:

H.R. 1250.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. MCCAUL:

H.R. 1251.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. McCAUL:
H.R. 1252.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. MEUSER:
H.R. 1253.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 8
By Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina:
H.R. 1254.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 (Clause 1, Clause 17, and Clause 18) of the U.S. Constitution and Article 4, Section 3 (Clause 2) of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. NADLER:
H.R. 1255.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clauses 3 and 18 of Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. NORTON:
H.R. 1256.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. PALLONE:
H.R. 1257.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
By Ms. PINGREE:
H.R. 1258.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. ROSENDALE:
H.R. 1259.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress to establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. RUPPERSBERGER:
H.R. 1260.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to institute legislation which is necessary and proper for the protection of the American people.

By Mr. RYAN:
H.R. 1261.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8: "To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."

By Mr. STAUBER:
H.R. 1262.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically Clause 3 (related to the regulation of Commerce with foreign Nation, and among the several States, and with Indian tribes).

By Ms. STEFANIK:
H.R. 1263.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. SWALWELL:
H.R. 1264.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 4; Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18

By Mr. SWALWELL:
H.R. 1265.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18; Article I, Section 9, Clause 7

By Mr. SWALWELL:
H.R. 1266.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 4; Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 and 18

By Mr. SWALWELL:
H.R. 1267.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clauses 1, 3, and 18; Article I, Section 9, Clause 8

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 1268.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . .

By Mr. WALBERG:
H.R. 1269.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1—The Congress shall have power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:
H.R. 1270.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. WELCH:
H.R. 1271.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. WEXTON:
H.R. 1272.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. ZELDIN:
H.R. 1273.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 7: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 30: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 38: Mr. KELLER.
H.R. 55: Ms. BOURDEAUX and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 82: Mr. COURTNEY, Ms. TITUS, Ms. PORTER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. THOMPSON

of California, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

H.R. 174: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 305: Mr. VEASEY, Mr. TRONE, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. MANNING, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin.

H.R. 322: Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. MANN, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 328: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. JONES, Ms. TLAI, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. PINGREE.
H.R. 343: Mr. JACKSON and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.R. 369: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 376: Mrs. MCCLAIN.
H.R. 392: Ms. MENG, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. WATERS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. DEFAZIO.

H.R. 399: Mr. SAN NICOLAS and Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 426: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 446: Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 454: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 460: Mr. KHANNA, Mr. EVANS, and Ms. SCANLON.

H.R. 471: Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. ROSE.
H.R. 475: Mr. BAIRD.
H.R. 480: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 499: Mr. EMMER.
H.R. 533: Mr. NEGUSE and Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.R. 537: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.

H.R. 542: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. SPEIER, Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. CARSON, Mr. NADLER, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 543: Mr. BUCK.
H.R. 547: Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. EMMER, and Mr. CASE.

H.R. 553: Mr. SAN NICOLAS and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 565: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 575: Mr. CLOUD.
H.R. 576: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 584: Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 586: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 588: Mr. NEGUSE and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 597: Ms. SCANLON, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 605: Mr. OWENS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. MAST, and Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 606: Mr. GUEST, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 611: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. GARAMENDI, and Mr. STIVERS.
H.R. 612: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.

H.R. 616: Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 623: Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. CORREA, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. GALLEGRO, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 638: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 677: Mr. SCALISE and Mr. PENCE.
H.R. 684: Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. BOST, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. PALMER.

H.R. 693: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 707: Mr. THOMPSON of California and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
H.R. 708: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 724: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
H.R. 725: Mrs. CAMMACK and Mrs. GREENE of Georgia.
H.R. 754: Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 755: Mrs. MCCLAIN.

H.R. 773: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 793: Mr. KATKO, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 794: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. CHU, Ms. OMAR, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. TLAI, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 824: Mr. BABIN.
 H.R. 825: Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. SWALWELL, and Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 826: Mr. SUOZZI.
 H.R. 834: Ms. HERRELL and Mr. HICE of Georgia.
 H.R. 839: Ms. WILD and Mr. CASE.
 H.R. 842: Ms. WATERS.
 H.R. 845: Mr. MANN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GIBBS, and Mr. UPTON.
 H.R. 859: Mr. MOONEY.
 H.R. 892: Mr. LUCAS.
 H.R. 896: Mrs. HARTZLER.
 H.R. 907: Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 909: Ms. ADAMS, Mr. KHANNA, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. RYAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. SOTO, Mr. NADLER, Mr. TRONE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BASS, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. EVANS, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
 H.R. 920: Mr. FOSTER, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. KUSTER, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
 H.R. 941: Mr. BUTTERFIELD.
 H.R. 964: Mr. CARTER of Texas and Mr. BAIRD.
 H.R. 992: Mr. BABIN and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
 H.R. 993: Mrs. HARSHBARGER.
 H.R. 1005: Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 1006: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mrs. HAYES.
 H.R. 1007: Mr. QUIGLEY.
 H.R. 1012: Mr. RYAN and Mr. GAETZ.
 H.R. 1013: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. CAWTHORN, Ms. STEFANIK, Ms. MACE, and Mr. GOSAR.
 H.R. 1014: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. BACON, and Ms. STEFANIK.
 H.R. 1016: Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. HASTINGS, and Mr. EVANS.
 H.R. 1035: Mr. KATKO, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. CARSON, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. COSTA, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. PAPPAS.
 H.R. 1048: Ms. MACE.
 H.R. 1051: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1055: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1061: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1065: Mr. TURNER, Mr. UPTON, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. KINZINGER, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
 H.R. 1069: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1073: Ms. FOXX.
 H.R. 1075: Ms. CHU, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CÁRDENAS, and Ms. BROWNLEY.
 H.R. 1095: Mr. CORREA and Ms. WATERS.
 H.R. 1098: Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
 H.R. 1103: Ms. FOXX.

H.R. 1105: Mr. GOSAR.
 H.R. 1112: Mr. ISSA, Mr. CARSON, Mr. KEATING, Mr. COSTA, Ms. TENNEY, and Mr. JACKSON.
 H.R. 1113: Mr. HAGEDORN, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Mr. FEENSTRA.
 H.R. 1115: Mr. COLE, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. WITTMAN, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. RYAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mr. MANN, and Mr. COURTNEY.
 H.R. 1116: Ms. LEE of California and Ms. CHU.
 H.R. 1132: Mr. BUDD.
 H.R. 1137: Mr. BABIN.
 H.R. 1145: Mr. RICE of South Carolina and Mr. PALAZZO.
 H.R. 1159: Ms. NORTON, Mr. GALLEGRO, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
 H.R. 1163: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Ms. WEXTON.
 H.R. 1165: Mr. CARSON.
 H.R. 1166: Mr. CARL.
 H.R. 1170: Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. CALVERT, and Ms. WATERS.
 H.R. 1176: Mrs. AXNE, Mr. BABIN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON, Ms. CHU, Mr. COHEN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. GONZALEZ of Ohio, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SIRES, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
 H.R. 1192: Mr. SOTO.
 H.R. 1193: Miss RICE of New York.
 H.R. 1196: Ms. LEE of California.
 H.R. 1203: Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, and Mr. BABIN.
 H.J. Res. 1: Mr. NADLER, Mr. CROW, and Mr. CONNOLLY.
 H.J. Res. 25: Mr. GROTHMAN.
 H. Res. 64: Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Mr. NADLER.
 H. Res. 98: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
 H. Res. 110: Mrs. SPARTZ.
 H. Res. 113: Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. CARTER of Texas, and Mr. BAIRD.
 H. Res. 114: Mr. TONKO, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. MENG, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. BOST.
 H. Res. 127: Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. ISSA, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. PERRY, Mr. POSEY, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
 H. Res. 130: Mr. KEATING, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. ISSA, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. HASTINGS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. SHERMAN, and Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.
 H. Res. 133: Mrs. HARTZLER.
 H. Res. 134: Mr. KEATING, Mr. LIEU, Mrs. KIM of California, and Ms. OMAR.

H. Res. 136: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KEATING, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. CASE.
 H. Res. 137: Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KEATING, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. CASE.
 H. Res. 142: Mr. JACKSON.
 H. Res. 144: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois and Ms. MANNING.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarked, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY Ms. LOFGREN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on House Administration in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mrs. MALONEY

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Oversight and Reform in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mr. NADLER

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mr. SCOTT

The provisions in H.R. 5 that warranted a referral to the Committee on Education and Labor do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

OFFERED BY Mrs. WATERS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Financial Services in H.R. 5 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mr. GRUJALVA

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on natural Resources in H.R. 803 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY Mr. SMITH

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Armed Services in H.R. 803 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.



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Vol. 167

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No. 34

Senate

The Senate met at 10:31 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in times of trouble You hear us. We cry to You and receive Your answers. May we embrace Your precepts as You guide us through the fog of our earthly pilgrimage.

Lord, may our lawmakers trust You for strength. Provide them with the powers of wisdom, discipline, and discernment. You have promised that those who trust patiently in You will soar high on wings like eagles, running without weariness and walking without fainting.

Mighty God, we praise Your matchless 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. LEAHY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, February 23, 2021.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore

Mr. WARNOCK 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 CALENDAR

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

NOMINATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, today the Senate will complete the confirmation of two key nominees: Linda Thomas-Greenfield to serve as U.N. Ambassador and Tom Vilsack to serve as Agriculture Secretary.

As I said yesterday, the Senate will also confirm Jennifer Granholm this week to serve as the next Energy Sec-

retary and begin the confirmation of Dr. Miguel Cardona to serve as the next Education Secretary. We also hope to do Gina Raimondo, nominee for Secretary of Commerce, early next week.

Each of these nominees has received bipartisan support in committee. Each of these nominees is undoubtedly qualified for their positions, a stark departure from the caliber of nominees the Senate was made to consider during the previous administration.

Make no mistake, the Senate will move quickly to approve key officials in the Biden administration this work period. These Cabinet positions and Agencies have an immense influence over the policies of the United States, impacting hundreds of millions of American lives. At a time of acute national challenge, we need qualified leaders atop our Federal Agencies—and fast. And that is what we intend to do.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. President, on COVID, while the Senate will be busy fulfilling its constitutional duty to advise and consent on Presidential nominees, Democrats remain hard at work preparing the desperately needed COVID relief bill.

Our country is still in the throes of a crisis. Yesterday, we passed that grim milestone of 500,000 deaths, a towering and incomprehensible figure. Millions of Americans have reported being thousands of dollars behind on rent, on utilities. Small businesses are hanging on for dear life. Vaccinating 330 million Americans as efficiently as possible is one of the most crucial and complex undertakings of our times.

What we need to do now is put our foot on the gas to end the pandemic as quickly as possible, get our economy back to normal, and repair the damage that has been done. That is what the American Rescue Plan is all about. It will deliver the resources to keep small businesses afloat; Americans in their homes; and teachers, firefighters, and other essential employees in the public sector on the job.

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



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It will send a direct check to Americans struggling with a once-in-a-lifetime financial burden. It will boost vaccine distribution. And it will provide funding and guidance for schools to reopen as quickly and safely as possible.

That last point, in particular, should appeal to my Republican friends who have been raising concern about school closures. We all want the schools to reopen safely. We are all worried about the cost of virtual learning on children and parents.

The solution is simple. It is not giving a speech here on the Senate floor. It is not criticizing teachers or school administrators. It is giving school districts the funding they need to reopen safely. It is expensive—expensive—to reopen safely during the COVID crisis. We want to do it as quickly as possible, and it is hard to understand that our Republican friends are saying: “Open up the schools” and “I won’t vote for any money for the schools” to do just that. It is a complete contradiction.

The Republican position seems to be that these difficult challenges will fix themselves, that we don’t need any more aid; we did enough already. Anyone who knows anything about schools knows, in the vast majority of schools in this country, that is just not the case.

So let our Republican friends put their votes where their speeches are, in helping the schools, in getting the money, in opening the schools safely—not in simply trying to make a political point and then trashing the schools without giving them the money they need. It makes no sense whatsoever. It is a total contradiction.

Also, if we don’t act, enhanced unemployment benefits will expire for millions of Americans in need. If we don’t act, millions of struggling families will miss out on direct payments and an expansion of the child tax credit and the earned income tax credit. If we don’t act, we risk the same long, slow, and painful recovery we experienced after the financial crisis of 2008, when Congress did too little to get our country back on track.

The worst thing we could do would be to slow down now before the race is won. We will not do that. Later this week, the House—and, soon thereafter, the Senate—will start working on President Biden’s American Rescue Plan.

Mayors, Governors, and economists from across the political spectrum agree that it should be a sizable effort. Treasury Secretary Yellen told us that “the smartest thing we can do is act big.” Federal Chairman Powell warned that we are “a long way off from full recovery” and that the greater risk lies in doing too little rather than doing too much.

Most importantly, the American people in poll after poll overwhelmingly approve of President Biden’s American Rescue Plan. One of the last polls I saw showed a majority of Republicans—vot-

ers, citizens, Americans, Republican citizens, Republican Americans—agree with this plan. The Nation understands that we are not out of the woods yet and that Congress should do what is necessary to finish the job. Where are our Republican friends?

As I have said from the start, Democrats remain committed to working with our colleagues from the other side of the aisle to improve the bill, but at the end of the day, the American people sent us here with a job to do, and the clock is ticking. Democrats will not wait to move forward with the American Rescue Plan and taking the next important step in getting our country back to normal.

PROTESTS

Mr. President, finally, January 6 is a day all of us will remember forever. The Capitol was breached by a violent mob. The Confederate flag was flown in the halls of our Union for the first time in American history. Insurrectionists—angry, bigoted—stood a few inches from where I am standing now. It is hard to believe these hallowed halls were occupied by such terrible, awful lawbreakers. Five Americans lost their lives, including a Capitol Police officer.

The impeachment of Donald Trump was one necessary consequence of the attack of January 6, but it is far from the only one. We must and will continue to recon with the events of that day. This morning—in fact, as we speak—the Senate Rules Committee and the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee are holding a joint hearing to examine the attack on the Capitol. The committees will hear important testimony from the acting chief of the Capitol Police, the former chief of police, and former members of the Sergeant at Arms. Later this week, Senators will be briefed by the acting chief of police and the Acting Sergeant at Arms on the current and future security measures around the Capitol.

It is our solemn responsibility to protect the Capitol and everyone who works and visits within it. It is our solemn duty to prevent a day like January 6 from ever, ever being repeated. At the same time, the Capitol has been and must be once again a symbol of democracy that is accessible to the people. No one expects the Capitol to remain a militarized zone in perpetuity. As I said, no one expects the Capitol to remain a militarized zone in perpetuity. We must strive to strike the difficult balance between access and security and better understand the intelligence and security failures that led to the attack on January 6. This will be a crucial and bipartisan undertaking. I am glad that Senators from both the Rules and Homeland Security Committees, from both parties, are starting that important work today.

I now yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republican leader is recognized.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, millions of American kids in the public school system have been robbed of a year, and counting, of anything resembling a proper education. It has been a historically tough year. That is why Americans are so excited our Nation appears to be approaching a major turning point.

Here are just a few recent headlines: A U.S. Vaccine Surge Is Coming, With Millions of Doses Promised

Another headline:

America’s vaccine rollout has been among the best in the world

Another headline:

CDC finds scant spread of coronavirus in schools with precautions in place

Here is one from my home State:

COVID-19 cases plummet in Kentucky nursing homes, a key target for the vaccine

So let’s take a look at the economy:

U.S. Retail Sales Surprise With Sharpest Advance in Seven Months

Blue-Collar Jobs Boom as COVID-19 Boosts Housing, E-Commerce Demand

Another headline:

Consumer Demand Snaps Back. Factories Can’t Keep Up.

To be clear, this isn’t over. The battle is not won yet. But the day is approaching when we will be able to end this defensive crouch and safely reclaim our normal lives.

Last year the Senate built the largest peacetime fiscal expansion in American history. We spent \$4 trillion on five overwhelmingly bipartisan packages. The most recent became law just 2 months ago. Funding for hospitals and providers kept our healthcare system above water. The Paycheck Protection Program saved Main Street small businesses. Direct relief and extra unemployment aid helped working families endure the shutdown. Operation Warp Speed laid the groundwork for our historic sprint toward vaccinations.

These were strong, bipartisan policies, targeted to what families specifically needed to wage the war, but today Democrats are steamrolling ahead with a massive spending plan on a completely partisan basis. It did not receive a single House Republican vote in committee yesterday because their partisan plan is not targeted toward helping Americans reclaim their lives and their country from this invader. Instead, here is what it is: a combination of miscellaneous, non-COVID-related, liberal wish-list items and the kinds of bandaids policies that make a defensive crouch slightly less painful but don’t help get us back on offense.

Let’s take a look at K-12 schooling. Until very recently, the new administration’s own scientists had been crystal clear. Earlier this month, CDC Director Rochelle Walensky said:

There is increasing data to suggest that schools can safely reopen.

A major CDC study found in-person schooling does not—not—fuel community transmission.

Last month, Dr. Fauci said:

It's less likely for a child to get infected in the school setting than if they were just in the community.

But Big Labor special interests didn't appreciate science undercutting their political goals. The empire struck back, and the Democratic leaders who love to claim the mantle of science ran away from the science as fast as they could. Now the CDC Director admits that "the lived experiences"—whatever that is—of government employees got between the hard science and the final guidance. It is a lot of points for candor.

The unions had spoken. The goalposts were on the move. And the White House keeps endorsing the idea that schools need the Democrats' new spending plan to reopen, when the science disagrees. And furthermore, just 5 percent—5 percent—of what they propose to spend on schools would even be spent this year. Let me say that again. In this big COVID package, only 5 percent of what they propose to spend on schools would be spent this year. In other words, the spendout is over years ahead. You would think their view is, we are never going to get over the coronavirus.

The United Kingdom just announced they will have kids back in school in less than 2 weeks—2 weeks. Countries like Spain and France have had kids in classrooms for months already. The European Centre for Disease Prevention has no problem affirming the science—that closing schools is "unlikely to provide significant additional protection of children's health." Even here at home, private and religious schools have been teaching kids in person for months without causing any explosion in the spread of the virus.

Science tells us unambiguously that in-person schooling can be quite safe and that having young children spend all day staring into a laptop is a nightmare. The evidence is crystal clear. Big Labor bureaucrats keep refusing to follow the science.

In my hometown of Louisville, our union-backed school board vice chairman now asserts, with no evidence:

I think we're probably likely to see better instructional outcomes . . . if we stay [remote] for the rest of the school year.

Ridiculous. No facts. No evidence. Just a personal whim. These are the people controlling our kids' futures and their parents' lives.

One anonymous teacher told reporters:

We already have a schedule and a routine going. We don't need to be babysitting for six weeks because parents are upset.

Let me say that again.

One anonymous teacher told reporters that we already have a schedule and a routine going. We don't need to be babysitting for 6 weeks because parents are upset.

By the way, failing grades in middle schools are up 388 percent in our county. Failing grades in middle schools are up 388 percent in our county while these kids are stuck at home.

The Biden administration has a clear obligation to tackle the special interest madness head-on. Our kids are suffering, not because science says they must be—it doesn't. It is just because a small group of powerful grownups has decided they prefer it this way. Instead, the White House keeps parroting the anti-science myths. They back this notion that schools need the Democrats' new spending plan before they can reopen, except that science completely disagrees—completely; except that only a tiny fraction of the funding request would even be spent this fiscal year.

Our children's futures are literally at stake. The administration has got to stop taking orders from the public sector unions that give generously to Democratic campaigns. This is exhibit A in why relief legislation must be targeted to the actual needs we face now. American families should be the starting point, not preconceived political priorities.

NOMINATION OF XAVIER BECERRA

Now, Mr. President, on one related matter, today, our colleagues on the HELP Committee will question Xavier Becerra, President Biden's nominee to run the Department of Health and Human Services.

Amid a global pandemic, the President has made a puzzling selection for this crucial post: the famously partisan attorney general of California. Mr. Becerra has no particular experience or expertise in health. His chief passion project in California seemed to be using the force of the government to attack Americans' religious liberty and freedom of conscience.

In 2017, the Department he is nominated to lead finally provided a religious exemption to a controversial ObamaCare mandate. Mr. Becerra led the lawsuit to challenge it. He used his taxpayer-funded office to sue Catholic nuns who didn't want government to force them to violate their beliefs. This is a pattern with Mr. Becerra. When a California law forcing pro-life crisis pregnancy centers to advertise abortion was challenged in court, Mr. Becerra defended it to the bitter end.

His absurd position in favor of government-compelled speech was slapped down by the Supreme Court. Over the last 2 years, the HHS Office for Civil Rights literally has had to hold California and Mr. Becerra in violation of conscience protections that are actually written into Federal law. His zealous refusal to respect the citizens' legal rights positioned his State to potentially forfeit hundreds of millions of dollars in HHS funding. That is how committed they were to these violations. And now the fox wants to guard the henhouse?

We will review Mr. Becerra's testimony today, but I am hard-pressed to see any way such a radical and underqualified nominee should fill such a critical post at this crucial time.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, in his inaugural address, President Biden spoke about his desire to unify.

He said this:

Today, on this January day, my whole soul is in this: bringing America together, uniting our people, uniting our nation.

Admirable words, but words have to be met with action, and, right now, we are not seeing much of an attempt to unify from the President or his party. In fact, we are seeing pretty much the opposite. The Democrats have made it very clear they are determined to pass another COVID bill on a purely partisan basis, which is particularly disappointing because, up until now, COVID relief has been a bipartisan process. That is right. To date, Congress has passed five COVID relief bills, and every single one of those bills has been overwhelmingly bipartisan.

I might add, last year, when we were in the majority, Senate Democrats made it very clear that they thought the minority should have a voice in COVID relief and that any legislation should reflect the thoughts of both parties. The Democratic leader filibustered the CARES Act—our largest COVID relief bill—multiple times until he got a version that he was satisfied with, but now that the Democrats are in the majority, apparently, they have decided that it is their way or the highway. Forget the fact that the Senate is evenly divided between Republicans and Democrats. The Democrats are determined to ensure that the Republicans and the Americans they represent don't have a voice in this bill.

The Democrats' move to use reconciliation to force through a purely partisan COVID bill might be understandable—and I add "might"—if the Republicans had made it clear that we opposed doing anything else on COVID, but that couldn't be further from the truth. The Republicans have made it very clear that we are willing to work with the Democrats on additional targeted relief. Just weeks ago, 10 Republican Senators put together a plan and met with President Biden for 2 hours to discuss a bipartisan agreement, but while the President certainly listened to them graciously, it quickly became clear that their efforts didn't matter. It didn't matter how willing the Republicans were to negotiate; the Democrats had no intention of reaching an agreement. They wanted to go it alone, and they were not going to let the Republicans stop them.

In a speech a few days ago, President Biden acknowledged that people have criticized his \$1.9 trillion plan but asked:

What would they have me cut? What would they have me leave out?

Well, let me offer a few ideas.

For starters, it might be a good idea to cut out the sections of the Democrats' bill that have nothing to do with combating COVID. The Democrats are calling this a COVID relief bill, but in actual fact, much of this bill has little to do with the coronavirus. In fact, less than 10 percent of the bill is directly related to combating COVID.

If President Biden wants to know what sections of the bill to cut, I might suggest starting with the bill's minimum wage hike. The Democratic bill would more than double the Federal minimum wage at a cost of an estimated 1.4 million jobs—that according to the Congressional Budget Office. That would be problematic enough at a time when we are already dealing with substantial job losses, but it is even worse when you realize that the people most likely to lose their jobs as a result of this hike would be lower income workers.

I would also suggest that the President cut his \$86 billion bailout of multi-employer pension plans, which has nothing to do with emergency COVID relief.

The President could also consider cutting his \$350 billion slush fund for States and localities, which would be used mostly to reward States that shut down their businesses for extended periods and, therefore, have higher unemployment rates.

It has become clear the majority of States are doing OK financially despite the pandemic. A number of States actually saw higher tax revenues in 2020, and a majority of States have the resources needed to weather the rest of this crisis. Three hundred fifty billion dollars far exceeds projected State need.

And while we are on that topic, the economic stimulus provided by President Biden's bill, in general, far exceeds the economic need and may actually harm the economy.

Even without a dollar more of stimulus spending, our economy is expected to grow at a robust 3.7 percent in 2021.

The massive amount of spending that the President is proposing to inject into the economy runs the very real risk of overheating the economy and driving up inflation, and you don't have to take my word for it. Even some liberal economists have expressed their concern over the size of the Democrats' coronavirus legislation and the damage that it could do to the economy.

Then, of course, there is the money the bill includes for schools. Now, while children in some places, like South Dakota, are in school, we need to get all kids back to in-person learning. In-person learning is important for kids' academic, social, and emotional health, and as Republicans have demonstrated, we want to ensure that schools have the resources they need to get back into the classroom safely.

Our previous coronavirus bills contained more than \$100 billion for education, and I think it is safe to say that

every Republican would support additional dollars, if needed, but the fact of the matter is, schools still have billions of dollars from previous coronavirus legislation that remains unspent. And the Biden bill would appropriate an additional \$129 billion for schools that schools would get—they would get—whether or not they get kids back into the classroom.

On top of that, most of that money would go to schools beginning next year and stretching all the way to 2028; in other words, long after the pandemic will be over. In fact, less—if you can believe this, less than 5 percent of the education spending would occur this year.

Ultimately, the Biden bill's school funding ends up looking less like a plan to get our kids back in schools and more like caving in to the teachers' unions.

So if President Biden would like to know what to cut, I would suggest he start with some of the things I have highlighted. And I would ask—I would ask that he and the Democratic leadership abandon their plan to shove through a bloated, partisan bill, paid for with all borrowed money—every single dollar goes on the debt—and to start trying for the unity that the President has talked about.

The President could show that he really meant what he said in his inaugural address by sitting down, in a serious way, with Republicans to develop targeted relief legislation.

We are ready to come to the table. The ball is in the President's court.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. 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. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise in support of the nomination of Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield to be the United States Ambassador to the United Nations.

Our next U.N. Ambassador will inherit the monumental task of rebuilding our frayed alliances after four years of isolation and division, in which the United States retreated from our leadership role in promoting democracy, freedom, human rights, and the rule of law. There is no person better suited to this task than Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield.

In a Foreign Service career spanning more than three decades, Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield served with distinction both in Washington and around the globe, including at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations that she will now lead.

As the son of a Foreign Service Officer and cochair of the Senate Foreign Service Caucus, I am also acutely aware of the significance of President

Biden selecting a career Foreign Service Officer for this position. For 4 years, members of the Foreign Service have been maligned, demeaned, and marginalized by the people trusted to lead them. The selection of a career Foreign Service Officer to represent the United States at the United Nations marks a sharp turn away from that shameful chapter.

I look forward to working with Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield as we take on the difficult work of restoring our standing in the world, rebuilding our alliances, and investing in the men and women of our Foreign Service. I am proud to support her nomination.

VOICE ON THOMAS-GREENFIELD NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Thomas-Greenfield nomination?

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. 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 Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

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

The result was announced—yeas 78, nays 20, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 61 Ex.]

YEAS—78

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Risch
Blumenthal	Hyde-Smith	Romney
Blunt	Inhofe	Rosen
Booker	Johnson	Rounds
Boozman	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Burr	Kennedy	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Capito	Klobuchar	Shelby
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Lee	Smith
Casey	Lujan	Stabenow
Cassidy	Lummis	Sullivan
Collins	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Thune
Cornyn	McConnell	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Van Hollen
Crapo	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Moran	Warnock
Durbin	Murkowski	Warren
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Fischer	Murray	Wicker
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden
Graham	Padilla	Young
Hassan	Peters	
Heinrich	Portman	

NAYS—20

Barrasso	Ernst	Rubio
Blackburn	Grassley	Sasse
Braun	Hagerty	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Hawley	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Hoeben	Shelby
Cruz	Lankford	Tuberville
Daines	Marshall	

NOT VOTING—2

Paul Toomey

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid

upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The 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 Calendar No. 11, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations.

Charles E. Schumer, Robert Menendez, Tina Smith, Tammy Baldwin, Thomas R. Carper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Patrick J. Leahy, Brian Schatz, Christopher A. Coons, Jack Reed, Michael F. Bennet, Debbie Stabenow, Chris Van Hollen, Ron Wyden, Martin Heinrich, Bernard Sanders, Edward J. Markey, Cory A. Booker.

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 Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, 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. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 77, nays 20, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 62 Ex.]

YEAS—77

Baldwin	Cornyn	Kaine
Bennet	Cortez Masto	Kelly
Blumenthal	Crapo	Kennedy
Blunt	Duckworth	King
Booker	Durbin	Klobuchar
Boozman	Feinstein	Leahy
Brown	Fischer	Lee
Burr	Gillibrand	Lujan
Cantwell	Graham	Lummis
Capito	Hassan	Manchin
Cardin	Heinrich	Markey
Carper	Hickenlooper	McConnell
Casey	Hirono	Menendez
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Merkley
Collins	Inhofe	Moran
Coons	Johnson	Murkowski

Murphy	Rounds	Tillis
Murray	Sanders	Van Hollen
Ossoff	Schatz	Warner
Padilla	Schumer	Warnock
Peters	Sinema	Warren
Portman	Smith	Whitehouse
Reed	Stabenow	Wicker
Risch	Sullivan	Wyden
Romney	Tester	Young
Rosen	Thune	

NAYS—20

Barrasso	Ernst	Rubio
Blackburn	Grassley	Sasse
Braun	Hagerty	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Hawley	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Hoeven	Shelby
Cruz	Lankford	Tuberville
Daines	Marshall	

NOT VOTING—3

Paul	Shaheen	Toomey
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 77, the nays are 20.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The clerk will report the nomination. The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:40 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be 20 minutes of debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I am very pleased today to rise to support the nomination of our former Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack. We are very lucky that he is willing to serve again. He is certainly no stranger to all of us, and we are very fortunate that he is willing to once again be part of public service. In serving as Agriculture Secretary during all 8 years of the Obama administration, Secretary Vilsack presided over the USDA with decisive, effective leadership. It was a pleasure to work with him.

The Agriculture Committee held a bipartisan hearing earlier this month, and mere hours later, we voted to advance his nomination without any objection. His deep knowledge of agri-

culture and rural America is needed now more than ever, for our farmers, our families, and our rural communities have so many challenges right now.

The COVID-19 crisis is continuing to disrupt our food supply chain for farmers, food processors, and essential workers. Tens of millions of families still don't have enough to eat and are lining up at food banks in order to put food on the table. The climate crisis is posing an extremely grave threat to the long-term viability of our economy and our food supply. Farmers of color, who have long faced civil rights abuses and systemic racism, continue to experience economic disparities.

On top of all of this, there is a lot of work to be done to rebuild the USDA workforce so that the Department can fulfill its very important mission.

American farmers, families, and rural communities need strong, effective leadership now more than ever. When it comes to strengthening our food and farm economy, I am very confident that soon-to-be-confirmed Secretary Tom Vilsack will be more than up to the task. He has a proven track record and will embrace new ideas in a new era at the Department.

I know he is committed to addressing the COVID-19 pandemic, and I know he is committed to focusing on feeding our families in need. We have more than 50 million Americans today who are in a hunger crisis, themselves and their families. I know he cares deeply and is committed to making sure they are able to feed their families.

I know he is very focused on tackling the climate crisis and has done a lot of work, since leaving as the Secretary of Agriculture a few years ago, focusing on voluntary, producer-led, farmer-friendly efforts that can make a real difference and allow agriculture to lead in addressing the climate crisis.

I also know he is very focused and committed on addressing the racial discrimination that we have seen systematically over the years in agriculture and addressing those issues in a very fair and equitable way. I look forward to partnering with him on these issues.

Senator BOOZMAN and I enjoyed our first hearing, which was his confirmation hearing. I look forward to partnering with Senator BOOZMAN and our entire committee to be able to move forward on a whole range of issues that are important for all of us, for everybody in our country. To do that, we need a great partner and an effective partner in the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, and I know with great confidence that this person is Tom Vilsack.

I yield the floor.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, as the United States is facing its worst hunger crisis since the Great Depression and family farms are struggling, President Biden has nominated Thomas Vilsack to reprise his role as Secretary of Agriculture and capably steward the Department to address

these critical needs and support our rural communities.

Mr. Vilsack served as Agriculture Secretary for all 8 years of the Obama administration, overseeing investments in rural communities, healthier school meals, and better food safety standards. He also chaired the first White House Rural Council, which streamlined the effectiveness of Federal programs serving rural America, engaged stakeholders on issues and solutions in rural communities, and promoted and coordinated private-sector partnerships in those communities.

Our agricultural landscape has changed over the last 4 years, and we must accelerate our transition to net-zero agriculture by incentivizing practices like crop-covering and carbon sequestration. Agricultural conservation practices are also critical for achieving the pollution-reduction targets for nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment under the Chesapeake Bay TMDL. I look forward to working closely with Mr. Vilsack to advance our climate goals.

Additionally, as communities of color experience disproportionate economic hardships as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic in addition to decades of discrimination within USDA, I will hold Mr. Vilsack to his promise to “fully deeply and completely address[ing] inequities” within the department and show “zero tolerance for discrimination.”

Thomas Vilsack has the experience and insight to provide immediate relief to our struggling farmers, families, and rural communities. For these reasons, I support his nomination for Secretary of Agriculture.

Ms. STABENOW. 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. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, it is a real honor to be down here with my friend and the chairwoman of the Agriculture Committee, Senator STABENOW, and I appreciate her cooperation in working so very hard and providing the leadership to get Secretary Vilsack confirmed.

The nomination hearing was held a few weeks ago by the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry to vet the former Secretary and now future Secretary Vilsack. The timing was unusual, but it displayed the bipartisan nature of the committee. The committee was not officially organized, so the chairwoman and I, because we didn't want to set a precedent and didn't have any precedent in that situation, led the hearing together. I trust, in going forward, that the chairwoman will continue to work with me and our minority members on the committee

to assist the Agriculture Committee in a truly bipartisan way. We have the example of her and Senator Roberts in the great job that they did in working as a team.

Secretary Vilsack is no stranger to the Department of Agriculture, in having served as the Secretary from 2009 through 2017. He has an excellent reputation of putting rural America at the top of his agenda. I am a strong believer that past performance is indicative of future performance, so I am confident that Secretary Vilsack will be successful this go-around.

I look forward to strengthening my working relationship with the Secretary so we can find success in supporting those who work at the Department and assisting those whom the Department serves. Whether that success is borne from the Secretary's utilizing existing authorities or through new legislation, I trust that the Secretary will work with Congress as the agriculture community tackles new and existing challenges and works to build on countless past successes.

The Department must continue to work with all producers in order to provide them with certainty and with predictability. Farmers and ranchers find themselves in a curious position and curious times in battling COVID, natural disasters, and turning the tide of a few tumultuous trade seasons. The Secretary must ensure that this administration works with producers of all regions and all commodities and that the Department does not make the hard work of farmers and ranchers more difficult by throwing up obstacles as opposed to opening doors of opportunity.

I look forward to Secretary Vilsack's coming back to the committee in a few weeks to discuss his plans in depth for the Department as was agreed to at his hearing. I believe the discussion will help the committee have a clearer picture of the Department and the work that lays before us. I will be voting to confirm Tom Vilsack, former Secretary and future Secretary. I urge others to do so as well.

Again, thank you to the chairwoman for her collegiality and cooperation.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the remaining time be yielded back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there an objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

VOTE ON VILSACK NOMINATION

Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Vilsack nomination?

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 92, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 63 Ex.]

YEAS—92

Baldwin	Graham	Ossoff
Barrasso	Grassley	Padilla
Bennet	Hagerty	Peters
Blackburn	Hassan	Portman
Blumenthal	Heinrich	Reed
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Risch
Booker	Hirono	Romney
Boozman	Hoeven	Rosen
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Rounds
Brown	Inhofe	Sasse
Burr	Johnson	Schatz
Cantwell	Kaine	Schumer
Capito	Kelly	Scott (SC)
Cardin	Kennedy	Shelby
Carper	King	Sinema
Casey	Klobuchar	Smith
Cassidy	Lankford	Stabenow
Collins	Leahy	Tester
Coons	Lee	Thune
Cornyn	Lujan	Tillis
Cortez Masto	Lummis	Toomey
Cotton	Manchin	Tuberville
Cramer	Markey	Van Hollen
Crapo	Marshall	Warner
Daines	McConnell	Warnock
Duckworth	Menendez	Warren
Durbin	Merkley	Whitehouse
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wyden
Fischer	Murphy	Young
Gillibrand	Murray	

NAYS—7

Cruz	Rubio	Sullivan
Hawley	Sanders	
Paul	Scott (FL)	

NOT VOTING—1

Shaheen

The nomination was confirmed.

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

VOTE ON THOMAS-GREENFIELD NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Thomas-Greenfield nomination?

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 78, nays 21, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 64 Ex.]

YEAS—78

Baldwin	Brown	Casey
Bennet	Burr	Cassidy
Blumenthal	Cantwell	Collins
Blunt	Capito	Coons
Booker	Cardin	Cornyn
Boozman	Carper	Cortez Masto

Crapo	Lee	Rosen
Duckworth	Luján	Rounds
Durbin	Lummis	Sanders
Feinstein	Manchin	Schatz
Fischer	Markey	Schumer
Gillibrand	McConnell	Sinema
Graham	Menendez	Smith
Hassan	Merkley	Stabenow
Heinrich	Moran	Sullivan
Hickenlooper	Murkowski	Tester
Hirono	Murphy	Thune
Hyde-Smith	Murray	Tillis
Inhofe	Ossoff	Van Hollen
Johnson	Padilla	Warner
Kaine	Paul	Warnock
Kelly	Peters	Warren
Kennedy	Portman	Whitehouse
King	Reed	Wicker
Klobuchar	Risch	Wyden
Leahy	Romney	Young

NAYS—21

Barrasso	Ernst	Rubio
Blackburn	Grassley	Sasse
Braun	Hagerty	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Hawley	Scott (SC)
Cramer	Hoeven	Shelby
Cruz	Lankford	Toomey
Daines	Marshall	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—1

Shaheen

The nomination was confirmed.

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

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 16.

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 bill clerk read the nomination of Miguel A. Cardona, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam 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 bill 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 Executive Calendar No. 16, Miguel A. Cardona, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education.

Charles E. Schumer, Cory A. Booker, Jon Ossoff, Richard Blumenthal, Richard J. Durbin, Alex Padilla, Christopher A. Coons, Sheldon Whitehouse, Robert Menendez, Benjamin L. Cardin, Kirsten

E. Gillibrand, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, Ron Wyden, Mazie Hirono, Tammy Duckworth, Sherrod Brown.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion be waived.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF THOMAS J. VILSACK

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I wanted to talk a little bit about the vote I just took here with regard to our Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary Vilsack, who is now the new Secretary or on his way to becoming the new Secretary.

You know, what I have tried to do when looking at nominees is I typically kind of look at three different questions: Do they have experience for the job, the experience necessary for the job, do they have views that I believe will help the country and in particular help my State, and do they care about the people they will be impacting? So that is a bit of a three-part test.

I have tried to work with a lot of the new nominees in the Biden administration. I voted for a number of them, most of them. As a matter of fact, I introduced Secretary Austin at his confirmation hearing. I got to know him many years ago when I was a marine and he was an Army officer, a two-star general.

You know, I will say to my friends, colleagues, constituents back home who say: Hey, Senator, you know, when the Trump administration put forward their nominees, you usually had kind of a party-line vote.

A lot of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, my Democratic friends, would vote no, no, no, no.

Why don't you do that?

Well, I don't think it is good for the country; that is why I don't do that. I am against some but I have been supportive of many, and I am not sure the way in which it worked with the previous administration was best for our Nation.

So certainly Secretary Vilsack passes the first two parts of that test I was talking about. Clearly he has the experience. He was the Secretary of Ag for 8 years under President Obama and Vice President Biden. Certainly he has views particularly with regard to farm country. You saw the strong vote he had there with regard to helping the ag sector. I am sure he is a patriot, of course. He cares about our country. But it was the third question—does he care about the people he will be impacting?—that I have had some serious hesitation on.

Mr. President, I will talk a little bit about, you know, a lot of our different economies throughout the country. Our States have been hit hard by this pandemic. I would say that my State's economy has been hit really hard. When you look at what drives a lot of the Alaska economy: the energy sector, oil, gas, mining, the tourism sector, the fisheries, commercial fishery sector—I like to call Alaska the superpower of seafood. Over 60 percent of all seafood harvested in America comes from the waters of the great State of Alaska, the most sustainable, best managed fishery probably in the world but a huge driver of our economy.

Also, there is the issue of access to our lands. Sixty-six percent of Alaska is Federal land. We need access to help have a strong economy. It is an issue that the Presiding Officer probably doesn't have to worry about, being from Connecticut, but in Alaska, access to land is huge.

In the last administration, we made a lot of progress on these issues for our economy, on oil and gas, ANWR, the NPRA, access to those lands, legislation by the Congress. Our tourism sector had been doing great. Our commercial fishing sector had been doing great. We even made progress on other access issues, like the Tongass, something that for 25 years Democrats and Republicans, whether Senators from Alaska, whether Governors from Alaska, were trying to get access to those lands. It is really important, and we were able to do that.

So there was progress, and then the pandemic that has hurt everybody. It certainly hurt the energy sector. It certainly hurt, crushed the tourism sector. Last year, Alaska was going to have 1.5 million people show up in our State with regard to tourism, a new record just on the cruise ships, but none of them showed up because of the pandemic. The commercial fishing sector also has had a really rough time with this pandemic—markets, international markets, markets domestically.

So I am very concerned about my State's economy, about working families, and about the average Alaskan who is struggling right now. The new policies put forward by this administration have been shockingly negative as it relates to my State. One month in, particularly in the energy sector, every day we are waking up to a new edict saying: Men and women who produce energy in America, who produce energy in Alaska, sorry, you are not favored anymore. You are not viewed in a positive light anymore.

It is a real, real, real concern. Hundreds, if not thousands of jobs in my State during a recession are at risk.

So these are some of the issues that I raised in my discussions with Secretary Vilsack, in particular our commercial fishing sector.

In the previous administration, under the USDA, the Secretary of Agriculture helped implement a new trade

relief program for fishermen. Huge progress. Hugely important. Just the way the farmers were getting this kind of relief with regard to trade and markets that have been destroyed by the pandemic, the Secretary of Agriculture undertook a new program for the farmers of the sea, for the fishermen who are being negatively impacted the same way that our farmers on the land were.

This is an issue that I raised with the Secretary on the importance of moving forward, continuing that, and to be honest, there didn't seem to be a lot of interest. I was kind of shocked, but there didn't seem to be a lot of interest, and I was concerned. I am concerned.

Similarly, this progress we made with regard to the Tongass, access to the largest national forest in the country that is under USDA management—something Alaskans have been working on in a bipartisan way for 25 years. There didn't seem to be a lot of interest from the Secretary on that either.

So these are two issues hugely important to my State, hugely important to my constituents, hugely important to try to get Alaska out of a really deep recession where a lot of families are worried. And I got the sense that the Secretary just wasn't that interested. I really hope I am wrong. I really hope I am wrong.

So I plan on trying to work with him. You know, he had a strong, very strong bipartisan vote, but every now and then, if you really think the people you represent are not going to be given a lot of attention when they need it, it becomes a harder vote. It becomes a harder vote. He obviously has got strong bipartisan support, but I sure hope that when he becomes Secretary of Agriculture, he cares as much about the farmers of the sea, where we have made progress on, as he does about farmers on the land. I didn't see that in my meeting with him and I hope I am wrong and that is why I voted the way I did.

I also voted the way I did as it relates to this issue of access to the Tongass. Again, it is a huge issue to my State, a very bipartisan issue for my State. And, again, I hope that the Secretary and his team look at it as something that can help the economy of Alaska while protecting our environment, which, of course, we care about.

But these are the reasons that I voted the way I did, and I hope that my concerns are going to be proved to be unfounded. I am going to continue to advocate for my constituents in the way that I think is going to be very important as we try and get through these challenging times, particularly the Alaska Tongass.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

NOMINATION OF XAVIER BECERRA

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, today, the HELP Committee considered the nomination of Xavier Becerra,

our former House colleague, to head the Department of Health and Human Services, and tomorrow the Finance Committee will take their turn at examining his record.

It is hard to think of a nominee more notorious for actively seeking out ways to undermine religious freedom and our religious liberty. His contempt for those whose beliefs differ from his own is well documented, and, in many cases, his positions on those issues are far more radical than those held by the majority in his own party.

He supports abortion up to the moment of birth, and, in 2003, actively opposed the partial-birth abortion ban. He cosponsored legislation that would have forced religious employers to provide insurance that covers the morning-after pill, in spite of their mainstream and sincerely held religious beliefs. Bear in mind I said the legislation would have forced—not an option—forced religious employers to provide insurance that covered the morning-after pill.

In fact, Mr. Becerra has been so antagonistic toward fundamental constitutional principles that you could almost forget he doesn't have the public health experience most Americans would expect the Secretary of Health and Human Services to possess. In fact, he has no meaningful experience in healthcare at all—zero, none, not in public health or large-scale logistical operations or in any other area that might be helpful as we navigate our way out of a global pandemic. That is right. He has no healthcare experience.

This lack of experience, combined with his desire to destroy those who disagree with him, places him among the most unqualified and dangerous nominees ever to come before the Senate for consideration, and I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing his confirmation.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. President, I wish that we could write off this nomination as an anomaly, but we can't. It is part of a pattern of behavior on the left that has destabilized our already fragile political discourse and convinced the American people that the Biden administration will prioritize their radical liberal agenda above the rights of the people they were elected to serve.

I have to tell you, I hear about this every single day as I am talking with Tennesseans. Since the earliest days of the Republic, our Union has managed to survive because of the people's willingness to return to our founding principles—those first principles upon which we stand.

However much that they disagreed, they knew that they were stronger united than they were divided. So they would come together in the public square. They would have robust, respectful debate. They would agree to disagree, but they respected the fact that they lived in a free country, and they could do this without fear of persecution, without fear of being ostracized, and without fear of losing a job.

Today, Americans are looking for that same commitment to unity. Oh, they heard about it during the inaugural address. Unity—we are going to work for unity. But what has happened is a cord of panic and fear has been struck in their hearts as they see Executive order after Executive order and as they see Executive orders that are preferencing other countries and not the U.S.A. And as they hear from the left words that are, We are not looking for unity; what we are looking for is you to submit to our agenda, conform to our way of doing things. What they are doing is leaving no room for discussion, even on issues of international importance.

For decades, the various schools of thought represented in this Chamber have advocated for different approaches to foreign relations. Some revere international bodies and sweeping multilateral agreements, and others approach these constructs with caution, prioritizing national sovereignty over surface-level diplomacy.

When former President Trump formally withdrew from the Paris climate accords in 2019, economists, business owners, and budget watchdogs all breathed a sigh of relief because they knew that adherence to the Paris climate accords would put the United States at a competitive disadvantage. This wasn't a partisan debate, mind you; this was U.S.-based companies—U.S.-based companies that were saying thank you for withdrawing because adhering to this, when other countries that are our competitors will not adhere, puts us at a disadvantage.

Now, with the climate accords, by 2035, we would have seen hundreds of thousands of people lose their jobs, household electric bills go up as much as 20 percent, and an aggregate GDP free fall of \$2½ trillion. That is the cost. That is the cost of my way or the highway. That is the cost of putting other countries and their agenda ahead of us, the cost of their noncompliance.

Fast-forward to a little over a year later, and the Biden administration has thrown us back into the accords and back into that predicted economic free fall.

This week, I worked with my colleague Senator DAINES to introduce two pieces of legislation that will hopefully do a little bit of damage control on that issue.

The first is a bill that would prohibit taxpayer dollars from being used to rejoin the Paris Agreement. It makes sense. The reason it does is you are taking jobs away from U.S. employers. You are causing employees to become former employees or the unemployed. So it makes sense. If you want to do this, don't use taxpayer dollars. Don't make people pay for things that are going to take away their jobs.

The second is a resolution that would call on President Biden to submit the Paris Agreement to the Senate for approval. It makes sense. Where are treaties to come? Here. If you want unity,

send things to the Senate. If you are proud of the step you are taking, send it to the Senate. Let there be a vote of the people's representatives. Let there be discussion. Do we fear discussion? Do we fear debate? Are we so given to the cancel culture that we just say it is our way or the highway?

I would note that submitting these types of agreements for consideration is a bare minimum standard set out in the Constitution, and there is no legitimate reason anyone in this Chamber should object to that. They should welcome respectful, robust debate.

I think we can all agree that this oversight duty is an important one, and I would ask my colleagues to join me in letting the administration know we are not going to abandon it simply because it would make things more convenient for them.

Freedom and preserving freedom are not always convenient. It takes a lot of hard work. It takes this body doing its job. It doesn't take "my way or the highway" Executive orders coming out of the White House.

On Inauguration Day, President Biden promised unity: all for it, wanted to see it, going to work for it—nice words. But so far he has done nothing but hide behind those Executive orders and force through policies that even members of his own party object to.

In Tennessee, I have talked to many who have, for most of their lives, been Democrats, and they are stunned—indeed, they are very concerned—about this authoritarian approach to running the country. Sign an Executive order and be done with it, hearing that the Speaker of the House has a few people who can vote proxy for people, seeing all this fencing around the Capitol causes Tennesseans to say: What in the world is going on up there? This is not how we are supposed to act.

And I will tell you, to my friends across the aisle, one day this tactic is going to backfire on the millions of Americans who are standing up. They are contacting us. They are speaking out. They are having buyer's remorse. It will be something that will backfire because this is not the way we should be running our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Iowa.

(The remarks of Mr. GRASSLEY pertaining to the introduction of S. 391 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. GRASSLEY. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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.

The Senator from Texas.

TEXAS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, my State is no stranger to severe weather.

In the past few years, we have experienced the devastation of major hurricanes, tropical storms, and tornadoes. But last week brought something entirely new in the form of extreme weather—winter storms, prolonged subfreezing temperatures, and treacherous roadways across the entire State. And unlike, for example, the State of Massachusetts, where that may not be entirely uncommon, we are not used to that subzero freezing weather.

Our State was not prepared, I think it is clear to say, correct to say, for these low temperatures or the devastating impact they would have on our critical infrastructure.

Frozen natural gas wells and wind turbines, among other issues, led to widespread power outages, and millions of Texans were left without a way to keep their family warm throughout the historic low temperatures.

Compounding matters even further, some 12 million Texans faced water disruptions due to the lasting power outages and frozen or broken water lines. Cities across the State issued boil notices, and folks whose taps are still dry resorted to boiling snow as their only option for drinking water or perhaps even to flush the toilets.

The weather created incredibly dangerous conditions for many across the State, especially our most vulnerable citizens. We know of nearly 80 Texans who have died due to this extreme weather, and that number is likely to climb in the days ahead.

These widespread outages will prompt a necessary investigation into the high level of generation failures, as well as the overall security and reliability of our energy grid. We have a lot of work to do to ensure that these deadly mass outages never occur again—no matter what Mother Nature sends our way. There is no reason for millions of people in one of the most energy-rich places in the world to be left without reliable power.

Senator CRUZ and I sent a letter to President Biden urging him to grant Governor Abbott's request for an emergency disaster declaration, and I appreciate the President's quick action to ensure our State could receive the full range of Federal resources to respond to this crisis.

I also worked with the Governor and the Department of Energy to secure an emergency order allowing Texas power generators to increase production, and I appreciate the fact that that, too, was quickly approved.

In times of crisis there is no red team and no blue team, and I want to thank every person who has supported the response to this crisis so far, whether they are Texans or not. I know more will be needed in the days and weeks ahead, and I want to assure the folks back home that I am listening, I am working, and I am here to help any way that I can. And I know that I speak for the entire Texas delegation.

I know there are still many without water and electricity, and I want to as-

sure them that you are the Nation's priority. But in the face of hardship—and, as I started my remarks, we have been through a lot over the last few years—I am always in awe of the way Texans show up and help one another—neighbors helping neighbors. We have seen countless inspiring stories in the past, and this disaster is no exception.

There are stories like that of Ken Everly, an 82-year-old Air Force veteran from Grande Prairie. Mr. Everly is on hospice care. He relies on a breathing machine to keep him alive and a special air mattress that prevents bedsores to keep him comfortable. When his home lost power, Mr. Everly was in serious danger of losing his life. The breathing machine cut off, and the air mattress deflated, leaving him struggling to breathe on an iron bed frame.

His son-in-law Nate pleaded for help on Facebook, and within hours help arrived. Nate said: "I don't know where it came from, but a generator showed up." Thanks to the generosity of a stranger, Mr. Everly once again had his breathing machine operating, a comfortable mattress, and heat in his home.

The best part of that story, though, is that it is not unique. In ways big and small, we have seen other examples of neighbors going out of their way to help one another.

Jeep drivers in North Texas teamed up to offer free rides to and from work for healthcare workers and first responders. Restaurants across the State offered free food to folks without power. And countless Texans shared offers on social media to deliver warm meals, bottles of water, and a range of other supplies to those in need.

One of the big issues that folks back home have faced is a lack of safe drinking water, a need Houston-area breweries stepped up to fill. The breweries already had a supply of clean water on hand for their brewing process, and they spread the word to their communities: Come by with a container, and we will give you some clean water. These breweries collectively donated thousands of gallons of clean drinking water completely free of charge.

Across Texas, churches, schools, nonprofits, community centers, and local organizations opened their doors as warming centers. One of those warming centers is operated by Houston's most beloved furniture store owner, known as "Mattress Mack." Dating back to Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Mack has opened the doors of his stores to provide food and shelter to those impacted by extreme weather. Over the last several days, Gallery Furniture, his furniture business, has been open around the clock for Texans to stay as long as they need, whether it is an hour for a hot meal or for several nights.

These stories warm my heart, and they are a reminder of the strength and generosity of Texans and an encouraging reminder of the endless amount of goodwill that still exists in the world. The outpouring of love exemplifies a quote that I heard some time ago

from a Texas county commissioner after one particularly terrible accident in West Texas. He said: "Being a Texan doesn't describe where you're from; it describes who your family is."

Well, I am grateful to those countless Texans who supported our communities across our State during this crisis. First responders and 9/11 dispatchers have gone above and beyond the call of duty. Healthcare workers, fighting a pandemic already, have now had to deal with power outages, staffing shortages, and water disruptions because of the storm. Utility workers and energy providers have worked, of course, around the clock in dangerous conditions to restore power and safe drinking water to Texans. And millions of unsung heroes have helped their fellow Texans get through these dark days: checking on an elderly neighbor, helping drivers whose vehicles were stuck in the snow, welcoming people into their homes, donating supplies to those in need, and so much more.

I would like to offer a special thank-you to members of my staff in Texas who continued working throughout this crisis while battling power and water outages themselves. Because of their diligence, my office has connected Texans in need with local resources to provide shelter, food, and water. We have stayed in contact with State and local emergency officials about the ongoing crisis, and we have assisted local critical care facilities in need, including a large COVID testing lab in Austin. We helped connect it with local resources to receive additional fuel for its generators so millions of dollars of COVID testing materials and pathology tests would not go to waste.

The past year has dealt us a tough hand. I would say that is true for America. But I have faith that we will come through this crisis just as we always have before—together. I continue to say a prayer for those impacted by the storm and assure my constituents, my friends and neighbors in Texas, that I will continue to do everything in my power to help our State recover and rebuild.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on another matter, the Senate will continue to evaluate President Biden's nominees for critical positions throughout the Federal Government. Yesterday and today the Senate Judiciary Committee, on which I am privileged to serve, heard from Judge Merrick Garland and others who have testified in connection with his nomination. Of course, Judge Garland has been nominated to serve as the next Attorney General.

I have said before publicly that Judge Garland is highly qualified for the job. He is a widely respected judge with the right experience and credentials and the right temperament to lead the Department and manage its many critical missions. I was struck by Judge Garland's humility and his humanity. I believe he is a good man and a good person for this job.

But I have to say that I am under no illusion that he is going to be able to stop the policies of this administration, some of which I am not going to agree with, some of which I will fight and try to oppose.

I am encouraged by Judge Garland's pledge to keep politics out of the Justice Department, which is a significant improvement over the past. I know our Democratic colleagues like to act like all of the concerns that we had about the Justice Department were just during the Trump administration, and so I did have to remind them that the Obama administration Justice Department had a few problems of their own.

Nevertheless, Judge Garland, while we don't agree on everything—and it is true of other nominees of the President that I have supported—I don't think that is the standard by which I should provide my consent as a Senator. But I do believe he has the right experience and character to serve.

Unfortunately I can't offer that sort of full-throated, enthusiastic support for the President's nominee to lead the Office of Management and Budget. The announcement of Neera Tanden's nomination managed to do something increasingly rare these days, and that is to put conservatives and progressives on the same side of the argument.

Ms. Tanden has repeatedly made combative, insulting, and flat-out false statements against both Democrats and Republicans. She has referred to Republicans as "evil" and "monsters." She has villainized Leader MCCONNELL and called Senator COTTON a "fraud" and Senator COLLINS "the worst." She has gone toe-to-toe with Senator BERNIE SANDERS, who accused her and her progressive organization of "maligning [his] staff and supporters and belittling progressive ideas."

She has even peddled a completely false conspiracy theory that Russian hackers changed votes in 2016 to help President Trump. In short, Ms. Tanden has consistently made comments that stand in stark contrast to the Biden administration's top goals of promoting the facts and unifying our country.

Last Friday, the Senator from West Virginia, Senator MANCHIN, announced he will not support Ms. Tanden's nomination because of her inflammatory rhetoric that would, he said, have a "toxic and detrimental impact" on Congress's relationship with the Office of Management and Budget. Yesterday, Senator COLLINS, who is known for working across party lines, said she won't support this toxic nomination.

I agree with our friends from West Virginia and Maine, and I think these announcements create a nearly impossible path to confirmation for this nominee. In order to be confirmed, she would need the support of at least one Republican Senator—and more, if there are additional Democrats who share the views of Senator MANCHIN.

Based on her well-documented history of divisive and misleading com-

ments, I think this nominee faces long odds, to say the least. My friendly advice to President Biden is to withdraw Neera Tanden's nomination and select someone who, at the very least, has not promoted wild conspiracy theories and openly bashed people on both sides of the aisle that she happens to disagree with.

If President Biden is truly interested in unifying our country, I would expect him to select an OMB nominee with mainstream views and a proven ability to work respectfully with those who have different views from his or hers.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, "More deaths in 2020 than in any year in over a decade." That is what the Chicago Sun-Times headline read last week. But this wasn't a story about the coronavirus. It was an article about suicide. There were more suicides by Black residents of Cook County, IL, in 2020 than over the past 10 years. All told, 437 of our neighbors in Cook County took their lives.

At the same time, more than 600 Cook County residents died from opioid overdoses between January and June 2020 alone—double the number from a year earlier.

While the human suffering of COVID-19 has captured our attention, as it should, two other deadly epidemics in America still rage on: opioids and the mental health crises.

Even before the virus took its toll, we had been in the midst of the worst drug overdose crisis in our Nation's history, and we are witnessing skyrocketing rates of suicide. But COVID-19 has deepened these epidemics, which sadly feed on isolation and despair.

With the convergence of coronavirus emergencies, we are failing those most vulnerable to addiction and mental health challenges. And like the coronavirus, mental health challenges and addiction can occur with any one of us in any family, in any neighborhood.

Earlier this month, the New York Times profiled three American mothers on the brink of chaos and crisis. The story chronicled the relentless stress and burdens of working mothers over 11 months of this panic—struggling to balance remote learning duties for their kids, keeping their families safe and healthy, keeping food on the table, paying the bills, and knowing that every morning they have to get up and do it all over again that day and the next day, with no end in sight.

One of the mothers described the struggle this way. She said:

We are holding together with the same tape that we have been using since March. The tape is barely working, but we are still here.

She speaks for millions of mothers. Experts and advocates warn that COVID-19 has created a perfect storm for a surge in mental health and addiction. Isolation, fear, grief, financial hardship all come together and can feel overwhelming.

At the same time, the pandemic has made it more difficult for many to connect with lifesaving care and social services. Peer recovery meetings have moved to Zoom; routine human connections have been lost; and treatment access restricted. It is trauma on the brain and body, and it fuels the alarming spikes in addiction, overdose, and suicide.

Last week, I spoke with advocates from the Illinois Society of Addiction Medicine and a group called Live4Lali, a community organization focusing on recovery and harm reduction. These community leaders provide lifesaving care through recovery programs, street medicine, handing out fentanyl test strips, and distributing the overdose reversal drug naloxone.

The statistics they shared with me on Chicago-area opioid overdose deaths during this pandemic are devastating. In the last year, opioid deaths have soared: 23 percent in Lake County, 37 percent in DuPage County, and a staggering 64 percent in McHenry County.

Every morning, we look at the posting on CNN of the deaths in America from the coronavirus. Heartbreaking. Over a half a million people dead. But we are not posting the increase in deaths from opioids during the same periods of time.

Addiction is an equal opportunity killer. But like COVID, the opioid epidemic strikes communities of color with a disproportionate ferocity. In Chicago, Black residents are dying from overdoses at seven times the rate of White residents.

Let me tell you about one person who sought help from Live4Lali, a woman named Tonya, who recently moved to Lake County. When the pandemic hit, the recovery meetings for her substance abuse disorder shifted to Zoom, and the weight of the challenge left Tonya to struggle. She knew her recovery was in danger.

For days, she called for treatment programs, but no beds were available. Desperate, she called 9-1-1 emergency care at a hospital. Tonya was evaluated and sent home. Feeling hopeless and ashamed, she decided to take all of the pills in her mother's bottle of blood thinner medication. She was taken unconscious back to the hospital and pronounced dead.

Too many like Tonya are being left alone in their darkest hours. And it is not just in the Chicagoland area. According to the CDC, emergency room visits for suicides and overdoses spiked nationally once the pandemic gripped our Nation. By May, the country had

experienced its largest 1-month spike in overdose deaths.

A new survey conducted by the CDC also found that one in four young adults had considered suicide in the past month—one in four. This should set off alarm bells in every direction.

There is no vaccine against despair and addiction, but there are programs and treatments and strategies. We must give communities and healthcare providers the support they need now more than ever.

The American Rescue Plan proposed by President Biden provides those resources. The House is expected to vote on the President's plan this week. The Senate has to show the same sense of commitment and urgency.

The American Rescue Plan includes nearly \$4 billion in addiction and mental health treatments for healthcare providers. It has \$7.6 billion for Community Health Centers to address behavioral health disparities.

It includes a plan that I crafted with Senator RUBIO to increase the availability of healthcare, including behavioral health treatment, by providing scholarship and loan repayment awards to build the pipeline of health professionals who agree to serve in needy areas.

Special efforts were made to recruit more people of color into these healing professions, which can help tackle disparities. The President's Rescue Plan also expands health insurance coverage through the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid. This money will save lives.

America has arrived at the heartbreaking milestone: half a million COVID deaths. As we work to expand vaccinations and end COVID-19, we cannot ignore the lethal epidemics of addiction and suicide, which are soaring in the cold shadows of this pandemic.

Every day we wait, more people, in every ZIP code in America, struggle. More families grieve. More lives are lost. We need to get help to the people who need it now.

Mr. President, you and I are veterans of Congress. We have been doing this for a few years. Some things happen that give you hope. A year ago, we passed the CARES Act. It was nothing short of amazing, but we did it at a moment of real fear. We just saw this pandemic starting to rise. We saw businesses starting to close. We moved quickly, decisively, with the biggest spending bill in the history of the United States, more than \$2 trillion for the CARES Act. And it passed this Senate, in this hopelessly politically divided America, by a vote of 96 to 0—the CARES Act.

Well, it took us a while to come back with a reprise or an answer to what happened after it passed. The pandemic raged through America. The economy floundered. Millions were unemployed. And in December, just a few short weeks ago, we passed the second bill, the December relief bill, \$900 billion, a sizable investment. And we character-

ized it as an emergency response, a special response, a temporary fix to go into the system and pay for unemployment benefits and many other things—\$900 billion, a substantial sum of money. And it passed here with 92 affirmative votes: 96 on the first, 92 on the second. Still, amazing rollcalls in a politically divided Chamber like the U.S. Senate.

Then came the new President. I won't put in all the other chapters that occurred that seemed like an endless novel, but it was serious. But this President came in—President Biden came in and faced the reality of what we have in America today. Last night, he did it as well. He and the First Lady, as well as Vice President HARRIS and the First Gentleman, stood in silent prayer for the half million Americans we have lost. Not ignoring the problem but facing the problem, President Biden said: Come together, America, unite, and let's, with common purpose, address this pandemic and the problems it has created.

It is a much different approach in his Presidency. To me, it is honest. It is refreshing. It is hopeful. But he has turned to this Congress and asked this Congress to pass the American Rescue Plan. It is a measure that costs \$1.9 trillion. It is huge. It has to be. Considering what we face in America, we need nothing less. Maybe we will not need to spend every penny. I hope we don't. But we better be prepared to pay for it if we are—money for more vaccine and distribution of that vaccine; money for cash payments to families who need a helping hand; money for unemployment benefits that are supposed to run out in just 2 short weeks, on March 14; money for rental assistance for people who are facing eviction; money for schools so that they can prepare the classrooms for teachers and students to return safely. The list goes on, and it is an important and valuable list and, as I mentioned, money for mental health treatment and addiction treatment that is still a very real challenge in America today.

The difference is this. In the CARES Act, with 96 to 0, and in the December bill, which we passed with 92 affirmative votes, those were under the Trump administration, and there was a strong bipartisan support of that legislation, as you can tell from the numbers. The rollcalls tell the story.

Now comes President Biden, asking for another rescue package for America, which is still languishing, fighting this pandemic. We don't hear the same calls for bipartisanship or at least we don't hear the same responses to the calls for bipartisanship. Why? What is different? The only thing different is we have a different President.

When it was a Republican President named Trump, Democrats, like myself and virtually all others, stood by and said: Let's do it together. We can disagree on everything under the Sun, but when it comes to this pandemic and what it is doing to America, we are

going to stand together, both political parties. But when President Biden makes the same proposal, we don't hear the chorus of support from across the aisle that we once did. That is disheartening to me.

The problem is real. Sure, there are ways any legislator could perhaps write the bill better, but let's get that done, and let's respond, as the President has called, with the resources America needs to get back on its feet. That is where we are today.

The House is going to pass their measure this week. And in the next couple of weeks, the Senate will get its chance. It is time for us to stand up and do something. The American people didn't send us here to squabble or to find reasons for differences but rather to come together in a bipartisan way and solve the problems facing this country.

The President believes, and I share that belief, that a united America with the resources can conquer this challenge as it has so many in the past. We can do that, but we need to do it by coming together.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

BUDGET

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor to talk about the \$1.9 trillion spending bill that is under consideration before this Congress.

As President Biden has said repeatedly, if you want to know someone's values, look at one's budget. Well, that is what we are doing, because I believe that President Biden is right. If the American people want to know the Democrats' values, all we need to do is look at the budget. The Democrats are making clear what they stand for. It seems that they are standing for teachers unions and job-crushing mandates on American businesses. The Republicans stand for ending the pandemic, for getting people back to work, and for getting kids back to school. The differences could not be more clear.

The Senate has debated the Democratic budget—we did it a couple of weeks ago—and we voted on many amendments. Every Senator had a chance to propose and make some changes to the budget that was brought forth. Every single Senator went on record on a number of amendments and items related to the budget for the United States of America. Now we know where we stand.

I introduced an amendment that had to do with energy production in my home State of Wyoming. Wyoming feels like we are being targeted by President Biden because of his ban on oil and gas exploration on public lands.

You know, those projects are a major source of jobs in my home State. They fund our schools, our roads, our bridges, our teachers, our students, and additional services for working families.

My amendment would provide funding for our public schools—schools that have been punished by this ban announced by President Biden. That amendment on this floor received 98 votes out of 100. It got the support of every single Democrat in the U.S. Senate, so I am grateful for my colleagues for that support of the amendment to protect our students and our schools and our teachers. Yet I have to say that by voting for my amendment, the 98 people in this body—specifically the Democrats—are admitting that there is a problem created by the actions of President Biden. They are admitting that President Biden's Executive order, signed on the day he was inaugurated, is hurting families all across the country.

So, to my Democratic colleagues, keep working with us to address the needs of the Nation. Stand up to these overreaching, radical proposals by the Biden administration. On issue after issue, that really has not yet happened.

Many of my Republican colleagues, on this side of the aisle, offered good ideas that the Democrats refused to support. Senator BLUNT introduced an amendment to reopen America's schools. Now, that is an idea that science has supported for months. Every Republican voted yes. Every Democrat voted no. I have yet to hear one of my Democratic colleagues make the case for keeping the schools closed; yet that is how they voted when it came to the budget. Just like President Biden, they are trying to have it both ways. They say they want the schools open; yet they don't do what needs to be done.

President Biden has claimed time and again he wants the schools open; yet his Chief of Staff says there is no money to reopen them. Well, that is absolutely wrong. Last year, President Trump signed into law \$68 billion for our schools, specifically tied to coronavirus relief. Only \$5 billion of that money has been spent. That leaves \$63 billion still available. In the Democrats' budget being proposed right now, almost all of the money for schools is not even for this year. Ninety-five percent of the money is for the years 2022 through 2028—after the coronavirus will be behind us.

The Democrats are still putting the teachers unions ahead of students. Joe Biden has surrendered to the teachers unions. They have written to him a ransom note, and he has been happy to pay it. Teachers are putting politics ahead of science, and so is this administration.

I joined with Senator SCOTT of South Carolina to introduce another amendment to the budget bill of the Democrats. It said that if we give money to States—and there is a lot of money in

this proposal to give money to States: New York, Illinois, California—that the States have to give the American people accurate data about the coronavirus and specifically in their nursing homes. People want to know the answers about the coronavirus and the impact on nursing homes because there is a real problem there.

New York now admits that it gave the public false information. The numbers were not just wrong; they were nearly off by half. The Governor's top aide in New York said they were afraid of being investigated by Bill Barr's Justice Department. They were afraid that President Trump would make it a "political football."

Don't the people of New York have a right to know the truth about what is happening in the nursing homes in that State when people are losing parents and grandparents and when people with the coronavirus are being moved from the hospital back into those nursing homes to spread the disease to others?

The Governor of New York wanted to cover it up. People would agree it sounds like a coverup, so Senator SCOTT and I came to the floor and said that it was unacceptable, that States have to tell the truth. Every Republican voted yes. Every single Democrat voted no. Every Senate Democrat voted to protect Governor Cuomo instead of telling the truth to the American people.

During the budget debate, there were some good ideas that some Democrats supported. Yet, even then, in the wee hours of the morning, a number of the Democrats who had voted for those amendments flip-flopped on a later vote to head the other way. What they did is they had another amendment to strip out the amendments that had been put on.

For example, Senator YOUNG of Indiana had an amendment so that money in the bill would go to American citizens, not to illegal immigrants. Eight Democrats voted in agreement with that. They said you shouldn't be sending checks to illegal immigrants. A few hours later, they voted to strip it out. So every Democrat in the Senate is now on the record. Every Democrat in the Senate has voted in favor of taking people's hard-earned taxpayer dollars and giving it to people who are in the country illegally.

Senator DAINES brought up an amendment on a different topic. He said we should proceed with the Keystone Pipeline. Remember, President Biden, with an Executive order on the day he was inaugurated, stopped work on the Keystone Pipeline, resulting in the loss of hundreds and hundreds and likely thousands of jobs. Several Democrats voted and said we should reopen the pipeline. Let it go. Let it work. A few hours later, in the wee hours of the morning, they reversed themselves and voted to strip it out.

Senator BRAUN of Indiana introduced an amendment to prevent President Biden from banning fracking. Now, this

is something that President Biden promised to do during the campaign. Of course, that would end millions of jobs across America, and it would put us at a disadvantage from the standpoint of energy. Seven Democrats voted with Senator BRAUN to protect American jobs. Hours later, they flip-flopped and took it out of the bill.

The Democrats keep trying to have it both ways. They want to look like moderates, pretend to be moderates, while still getting their leftwing spending bill through. They are not playing it straight with the American people. It is not going to work. The people in their States aren't going to be fooled. They are going to remember the votes, and they will certainly be reminded of those votes in the future.

So we have talked about what the Senate Democrats blocked. Now let's take a look at some of the things the Senate Democrats support.

The bill includes a mandate from Washington, DC, to double the minimum wage. It has nothing to do with the coronavirus. In fact, it would actually make things worse. The Congressional Budget Office took a look at this as to what the impact would be on the economy, and it said that 1.4 million people who have jobs right now would lose their jobs if the Federal Government were to come in with a mandate to double the minimum wage. It is not a stimulus.

According to one report, the new Washington mandate would also raise the cost of childcare by about 21 percent. How is that going to work for hard-working families who are trying to get back to work with the coronavirus and need daycare for their children? With schools closed in so many locations across the country, that is the last thing that working families need—an increase in the cost of providing care for their children.

The big Democratic spending bill also includes a \$350 billion bailout for States and local governments. The money is especially targeted to States that have stayed closed the longest. This is money rewarding big cities and States like California and New York and Illinois that have had financial trouble due to financial mismanagement for many, many years. It has nothing to do with the coronavirus. Those States were in trouble long before the coronavirus made it to our shores.

Multiple studies show that State tax revenues are actually up in many States across the country. In some States, they fell, but on average, States are continuing to do quite well. Most States are expecting more tax revenues this year than they had before the pandemic. If a State needs a bailout, it is not because of the coronavirus; it is because of years and years of mismanagement, and this bill rewards mismanagement.

Those are the priorities of the Senate Democrats, not jobs and not opening our schools. The priorities are mandates and bailouts.

Only about \$1 of every \$20 in this entire proposal goes for public health, but it does contain \$4.5 billion for Senator SCHUMER's New York City Subway system. It does provide \$112 million for a subway system in Silicon Valley. It does provide \$270 million in funding for the arts and humanities and \$12 billion in foreign aid. This is supposed to be for the coronavirus in America, here.

So what does \$1.9 trillion get for you? I am asked at home in Wyoming. What does it do for people at home—yes, the American taxpayer? Not much when you look at this Democratic shopping list. It is a wish list of liberal priorities.

As President Biden says, if you want to know somebody's values, look at one's budget. We have just done that. If the American people want to see the contrast between Republicans and Democrats, they should look no further than this bill. The Republicans are offering the American people jobs, a vaccine, and opening our schools. The Democrats are offering excuses and the liberal wish list.

We still have time to fix the final bill, so I would urge my Democratic colleagues to join with us. Work with the Republicans for real coronavirus relief. Help our small communities and small businesses keep their doors open. Get our kids back in school. Target the funding to the American citizens who need it the most. We have done five bipartisan coronavirus bills. A sixth coronavirus relief bill should be done in a bipartisan way as well. That is what the American people, with a 50–50 Senate, are asking us to do.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO GLYNIS JOHNS, JUSTAN PARKER FIELDS, AND DR. ALA STANFORD

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise tonight and, again, it is my privilege to come before the Senate, as I have since my very first year here, to celebrate Black History Month in a particular way by paying tribute to a number of Pennsylvanians.

I am honored again to have the opportunity to highlight the extraordinary leadership of Pennsylvanians who dedicate their lives to improving their communities and who wake up every day to rededicate themselves to that effort. This year I am grateful to be able to recognize three honorees—Glynis Johns, Justan Parker Fields, and Dr. Ala Stanford—and to recognize each of these individuals in a very personal way in terms of their work in their communities in Pennsylvania. Each of them are having a remarkable impact in their communities.

The theme of this year's recognition is "Bending the Arc: Celebrating Catalysts for Change." We know that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke of "bending the arc" on many occasions, but, most notably, in his address at the conclusion of the Selma to Montgomery March in 1965 in March of that year, when he said:

The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.

Our late and beloved colleague here in the Congress, Congressman John Lewis, carried that same spirit with him. He lived it, and he believed that we will get there someday, get there to a better day for justice. Congressman Lewis also said:

We will redeem the soul of America, and in doing so, we will inspire people around the world to stand up and speak out.

We know that justice, of course, takes hard work. In the face of adversity and exhaustion, to be the voice that stands up and speaks out, as John Lewis suggested, is not a decision that a person makes once and then just follows a well-worn path. It, of course, requires perseverance. It requires hope and faith.

Dr. King reminds us that justice is the—to use his words—is the "fierce urgency of now." Dr. King and Congressman Lewis understood that while the arc of the moral universe does bend toward justice, this is not something to which one can attach themselves a path that you can follow passively. To bend that arc toward justice requires strenuous exertion that often gets you enemies before it makes you any friends. It does not bend on its own but bends only—only—under the weight of acts of courage and the hard work of those who have committed themselves to the struggle for justice and equality.

President Obama, as well, in his work every day of his Presidency, did work to bend the arc on issues of racial, economic, and global justice, and he continues to do so in his years as a former President. Congressman Lewis not only gave all of us words to live by and inspiration, he also gave all of himself to the cause of justice. But his example, the example of John Lewis, still serves as an inspiration for the next generation of leaders. It is why Dr. King spent his entire life fighting for racial equality, voting rights, nonviolence, and the rights of the poor. King's work for the lives of others cost him his very own. We should honor his sacrifice daily and not simply during Black History Month.

But we know that behind every man and every woman leading the fight for justice stands a multitude. Behind Dr. King, millions labored and labor still for civil rights and voting rights. We saw that this summer when millions of Americans across our Nation took to the streets to condemn the mistreatment of Black Americans at the hands of law enforcement. And we saw it just last month when African Americans voted in extraordinary numbers in the Georgia special elections to send Rev.

RAPHAEL WARNOCK and JON OSSOFF to the U.S. Senate.

For every leader who rises to national prominence—Dr. King, President Obama, Congressman Lewis, Vice President KAMALA HARRIS, Stacey Abrams, just to mention a few—there are leaders and communities across the country who are themselves doing transformational work, who are doing their part to bend the arc of the moral universe, and to bend it, of course, toward justice.

Today, it is my privilege to highlight three such leaders from Pennsylvania. I will start in my home region and in my hometown, Scranton, PA, Glynis Johns.

First, I speak as a son of Scranton, the city I was born in and still live in. I was proud to honor a daughter—or I should say am proud, tonight, to honor a daughter from Scranton, Glynis Johns. Glynis is the founder and CEO of the Black Scranton Project, a nonprofit organization, a local heritage initiative and public history venture dedicated to archiving and celebrating the Black history of our hometown that too often has been overlooked and has been obscured. She received a B.A. and an M.A. in sociology from St. John's University and is currently a doctoral student at Rutgers.

Glynis did not always plan to become a local historian, but like so many, she became one because she saw a need, and she responded to it. While working on a research project during her master's program at St. John's, the stories called to her, and she knew she needed to share these stories. For her project, she investigated why the Black community is overlooked and seen as transient in a city like Scranton. She kept uncovering stories through old newspaper archives and historical memorabilia, and she knew she had to return to her hometown to share these stories and rebuild a community.

She is proud to shift local perspectives on culture, inclusion, representation, and history within the city of Scranton. As a native and as a resident, I am grateful for her work to uncover these stories for our entire community to learn and to enjoy.

I first met Glynis just last year, 2020. It was the Juneteenth Jubilee, which she organized in our hometown, along with her fellow Black Scranton board members. It was both a celebration and a call to action, and that was in the midst of a summer of Black Lives Matter rallies and marches.

From the moment I arrived at that event and saw hundreds of, at that time, socially distanced and masked attendees, I saw her dedication. I saw her commitment firsthand. In addition to events like the Juneteenth Jubilee, Glynis and her colleagues at the Black Scranton Project are hard at work on their plan to reopen the Black Scranton Project Center for Arts & Culture. The center will provide a safe, secure, and diverse environment that will lead to equity and inclusion for all residents

by offering support like job assistance, career readiness training for adults, and also afterschool and summer programs for children. The plans for the center are ambitious, and I know that Glynis and her team are up for this important task. I am looking forward to walking through the doors of the center to see their work for myself as soon as it opens.

Having spaces for the community to come together to learn is necessary. It is necessary to build up and support the community, and I am grateful for Glynis's commitment to do this work in our hometown. I know firsthand how Scranton can benefit from young people like Glynis moving up and dedicating their time to making our city and region a better place to live. We are lucky to have her talents and her drive.

We know that in March of 2020, she was named one of the most "Influential Women of Northeastern Pennsylvania" in *Happenings* magazine and was also named a "Top 20 under 40 Young Business Professionals" as part of the 2019 honors, and that was in the *North-eastern Pennsylvania Business Journal*. Glynis has already accomplished so much, and I am looking forward to watching her contributions to our hometown over the years to come.

Our second honoree for Black History Month is Justan Parker Fields from the Lehigh Valley, just south of Northeastern Pennsylvania, where the city of Allentown is, and it is right on the New Jersey border. Justan is a resident of the city of Allentown.

Following the deaths of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor just last year, Justan decided to gather a few of his friends in the city of Allentown, in the downtown, to bring attention to these and other injustices against the African-American community. This gathering gained attention across the city and was attended by hundreds, including the mayor of Allentown, the police chief, and elected officials from across the Lehigh Valley. This event gave the residents of Allentown an opportunity to express their thoughts and frustrations surrounding racial injustice, and from there, Justan and his colleagues founded Black Lives Matter Lehigh Valley. They founded it in order to create a platform to initiate real change in their community.

Since then, Justan's activism has only increased. He worked to form a collective with other local community and nonprofit leaders in the area to brainstorm about new initiatives for racial justice, for equity, and for equality for Black and Brown residents of the Lehigh Valley, and his work is not going unnoticed.

I spoke with Justan and his colleagues shortly after their first event, and over the past year, he has remained in regular communication with my office to discuss the progress that Black Lives Matter Lehigh Valley is making in Allentown and in surrounding communities. He has also

provided testimony to the Pennsylvania House Democratic Policy Committee, partnered with the city of Allentown to review their use of force policy, and he has also worked with the Allentown City Council to draft recommendations for police reform in the city.

His activism has been inspiring to me and to so many others, and I know that that same inspiration draws other young people to his work. His hope is that those who attend his rallies or follow Black Lives Matter Lehigh Valley on social media are motivated to jumpstart their activism and their fight for equality.

Justan lives in Allentown with his partner Kevin and children, Shyllee and Shamaer. There is no doubt that Justan's work in Allentown is creating a healthier and more inclusive community for his children and others like him.

Justan and Kevin have founded Change Now, a local nonprofit that serves families in need in the greater Lehigh Valley. They have hosted food drives, delivered emergency food relief packages to families, hosted a Friendsgiving Dinner for the city, and sponsored Christmas presents for over 100 children. Justan said that if there is anything this pandemic taught him, it was that anyone, any family was just an illness away from needing serious help.

Through his work with both Change Now and Black Lives Matter Lehigh Valley, Justan continues to make Allentown and the Greater Lehigh Valley a better place to live. And I thank him, and I know I speak on behalf of so many Pennsylvanians in thanking him for the many contributions to his community and to our Commonwealth.

Third and final, going further south to the southeastern corner of our State in the Philadelphia region, Dr. Ala Stanford. As we recognize changemakers this year, I am honored to recognize the contributions of Dr. Stanford.

She is an experienced physician, board certified by the American Board of Surgery in both general adult and pediatric general and thoracic surgery. She founded the Black Doctors COVID Consortium. It goes by the acronym BDCC. So many people have heard about them in our State and beyond. This consortium is an initiative established to provide African Americans, who, of course, we know are suffering disproportionately from the incidence of and the mortality surrounding COVID-19—this consortium provides those Americans, those Pennsylvanians, with testing and education. Her work addresses not only the urgency of the present moment due to the pandemic but also a legacy of systemic structural racism that has left the Black community with significant health disparities—I think that is an understatement—and a mistrust of the healthcare system.

I have had the privilege of engaging with Dr. Stanford on many occasions.

She has provided her subject matter expertise to my office countless times, and she has been an unrelenting and passionate advocate for the communities, the people, and the families whom she serves.

It is important to note that Dr. Stanford started the consortium, BDCC, with her own funds, her own money, which is a true testament to her commitment to delivering quality care to Black Americans. Dr. Stanford stepped up at an extremely volatile and uncertain time for the people of our State. This speaks volumes about her leadership and her dedication to addressing the enormous disparity in healthcare, both healthcare access and healthcare outcomes, for African Americans.

Last month, I was honored to, again, participate in the annual celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. King at Girard College, where BDCC set up a testing site, which they have done in every neighborhood throughout the city of Philadelphia. At that event, someone shared a powerful yet sobering quotation of Dr. King. Here is that quotation:

In March of 1966, at a press conference ahead of his address to the Medical Community for Human Rights in Chicago, [Dr. King] said that—

And I am quoting Dr. King here—

“of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health is the most shocking and the most inhumane because it often results in physical death.”

So said Dr. King about the terrible inequity in healthcare.

Visionary leaders and health experts like Dr. Stanford are on the frontlines every single day, working to fix a broken system—a system, frankly, that has been unfair to so many communities of color. However, Dr. Stanford is committed—committed—to making change happen in our healthcare system so it can better serve the African-American community.

She and her team have made national headlines and garnered the well-deserved attention and support of many across the Nation as a result of the work of this consortium. So I thank Dr. Stanford for being an advocate, for being an anchor for the community, and, of course, a trusted leader.

As I conclude, I think it goes without saying that this year has been a long, difficult, and dark year. I have to say, though, in the midst of all of that darkness and all of the pain—we just left the front of the Capitol in remembrance of the 500,000 Americans who have died from COVID-19—despite all that pain, all that loss, all that darkness, this month of February, which just happens to be Black History Month, gives me some hope. In so many ways, I think our hope can be renewed.

While the pandemic still rages, especially in those communities of color I spoke of, we also see that with continued education and leadership and courage, such as someone like Dr. Stanford provides, and, of course, with vaccines

available, COVID-19 will begin to recede, and we will once again be able to hug our friends and family members and to move on from this pandemic. So we commend and salute people like Dr. Stanford who are helping us through this difficult time, providing some light in that darkness.

Leaders like Justin Parker Fields have stood up to confront injustice and to proclaim to law enforcement and elected officials that the lives of Black men and women matter and are deserving of the same protection as any other life.

As we saw people go through the polls this fall voting, and then others voting in January in Georgia, all of these Americans refusing to be intimidated by misinformation and threats, I was more hopeful. Young leaders in communities of color have insisted on telling their own stories and writing them into the book of history that for too long has been kept hidden from them, just as Glynis Johns is doing in our hometown of Scranton.

Each of our honorees, and so many like them, have indeed bent the arc of the moral universe toward justice, and for those brave acts, for those courageous acts, we honor them today in Black History Month. May God bless their work.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CASEY. 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.

IMPEACHMENT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, “Remember this day forever.” That is what Donald Trump said on January 6, in a tweet to his supporters after they had attacked the U.S. Capitol.

I certainly will never forget what happened that day. I will remember the Vice President being removed from the Chair and whisked off the floor of the Senate by the Secret Service. I will remember the law enforcement officers, holding automatic weapons, standing guard in the well of the Senate while the mob spread through the Capitol building.

The entire country and the world will remember the now infamous images of a murderous mob rushing the barricades, attacking police officers, breaking into this building, and rampaging through these hallowed halls.

We will remember the incredible acts of heroism by Officer Eugene Goodman and others, to protect and defend those who work in this building. And we will remember the lives lost, including Officer Brian Sicknick, and the 140 police

officers who were injured in this attack.

On February 3, Officer Sicknick’s ashes rested in honor in the Rotunda of this Capitol. He died defending this building and this democracy. I have thought about Officer Sicknick and his family often in the past few weeks.

During the week of February 8, Senators served as jurors in the second impeachment trial of Donald Trump. Former President Trump was impeached on January 13 by the House of Representatives in a bipartisan vote, 10 Republicans joining with Democrats to impeach.

The Senate had a constitutional obligation to conduct a trial on this Article of Impeachment. We also had an obligation to make clear for the record and for history what happened on January 6 and the days leading up to it.

What did the record show over the course of this trial?

First, it showed Donald Trump’s big lie: his claim that the only way he could lose an election was if it were stolen. When he lost the 2020 election in a landslide to Joe Biden, Donald Trump refused to accept the will of the American people. He tried to challenge the election in the courts, losing over 60 times. He tried to bully State officials into overturning their States’ election results.

And when that failed, he invited his followers to come to Washington, DC, on January 6, the day when Congress would assemble to certify the States’ electoral votes. He invited them to come to DC to interrupt that process and, in his words, “stop the steal.”

Donald Trump knew what his extremist followers were capable of. Over the summer, when armed extremists stormed and occupied State capitols, demanding an end to COVID-19 safety restrictions, he had cheered them on.

On January 6, he whipped his followers into a frenzy. “We have to fight like hell,” he told the crowd he had invited and assembled. “If you don’t fight like hell, you’re not going to have a country anymore.” Then he told his followers—angry, inflamed, many of them armed—to go to the Capitol where the Vice President and Congress were certifying the votes.

Donald Trump was not shocked what happened that day. He was excited. We now know that he ignored pleas from Members of Congress in the Capitol—members of his own party—who begged him to calm the mob and stop the attack.

To this day, Donald Trump has not showed one ounce of remorse or regret. He later described his speech on January 6 as “totally appropriate.”

For 5 days, the House Managers meticulously laid out an overwhelming case for conviction. The managers had the facts, the law, the Constitution, and a mountain of evidence on their side. The former President’s defense team did not have much to work with. They only spent a couple of hours making their case and spent much of that

time showing cartoonish videos on repeat. The House Managers effectively rebutted all of the former President's defenses. The managers' case was clear, and it was compelling.

That is why I voted to convict Donald Trump for inciting an insurrection against our government.

I regret that more of my Republican colleagues did not join me in voting to convict and disqualify Donald Trump from holding future office. I wish the Senate had sent an unequivocal message that it is unacceptable for Presidents to incite violence in order to stop the peaceful transition of power. But that said, history will show that this was the most bipartisan impeachment vote against a President in American history.

And it should not be lost that a majority of Senators—including seven Senators from the President's own party—voted to convict him. Donald Trump is no longer President of the United States, but the poison he has injected into our national bloodstream remains, and it is still toxic.

As Americans reflect on the horrific, deadly events of January 6 and Donald Trump's role in inciting them, I hope we will remember that democracy and our Constitution do not defend themselves. They must be protected, preserved, and defended by "We the People."

On January 6, that greatest tradition of American democracy, the peaceful transition of power that had taken place in every Presidential transition since George Washington's, was broken. Our democracy, our Constitution, and this Capitol building were attacked on January 6, 2021. Brave Americans were wounded and killed defending them. And thanks to that bravery, our democracy endures.

We must learn our lessons from this. We will remember January 6, 2021, forever. And we must not repeat it.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the terrible events of January 6, the impeachment vote, and the need to hold people accountable for their actions.

While the U.S. Senate did not achieve the two-thirds vote necessary to convict former President Donald Trump, this will go down in history as the largest bipartisan vote ever to hold a President accountable for high crimes and misdemeanors under our Constitution.

Former President Donald Trump spent months pushing a big lie—that the November election was stolen from him. He inspired, encouraged, and incited a deadly insurrection at the U.S. Capitol in order to stop the certification of the electoral college vote, and then he did nothing to stop the violence, which caused massive injury and loss of life.

I wish to convey my personal and deep gratitude to all of the Capitol Police officers who courageously put their lives on the line to protect all of us that day, and I join with my colleagues in grieving the loss of life and injuries

that so many suffered as a result of this violent insurrection.

This wasn't just an attack on a building. It was an attack on all of the people who work there. It was an attack on our form of government. It was an attack on our Constitution. It was an attack on "We the People."

This bipartisan vote sent an important message: In America, no President is above the law. And inciting violence against our government is illegal and dangerous.

Now, as a nation, we must move forward. We must do everything we can to bring down the temperature of our debates, find common ground on issues we care about, and reduce the divide in our families and communities. And we must continue to strive for accountability and justice. Our democracy demands no less.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, the first few weeks of the Biden administration produced an absurd number of Executive orders, soft talk on China policy, and the threat of open borders. These actions left the American people confused and diluted their faith in our institutions, but nothing made the American people feel more unsettled than the unprecedented second impeachment and trial of former President Donald J. Trump.

Impeachment is inherently political. The fallout is everything but. Last week, I was able to spend time talking to Tennesseans about what they saw and heard during the trial, and I was struck by how fiercely most of them spoke out against the very idea of it.

The House Managers didn't just fail to prove their case against the former President. They failed to convince the American people that the Members of the House of Representatives who supported impeachment acted in good faith when they drafted their single Article and transmitted it to the Senate for consideration.

Tennesseans saw no serious inquiry into the alleged connection between the former President's words and the actions of the dangerous rioters who breached the Capitol on January 6, 2021. They remain unpersuaded by the arguments the House Managers offered to prove the constitutionality of the trial itself. In fact, the only thing they remain firmly convinced of is that this second impeachment culminated in nothing but a partisan show trial designed to humiliate the former President and wipe the voices of more than 70 million Americans from the pages of history.

The Senate's vote to acquit the former President of these spurious charges put an end to the House Managers' charade, but it will take more than an entry into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to help the country rise above the enmity that fueled it. It is our duty to lead by example and get to work on behalf of the millions of Americans living under this cloud of anxiety, fear, and mistrust. I encourage my colleagues to quiet their hearts in the

coming weeks and commit to doing the work that will put us on the path to economic recovery, quality in-person schooling, and a strong national defense. Only then will we be justified in asking those we serve to once again put their faith in us.

I would be remiss if I did not associate myself with the comments of the Republican Leader honoring Officer Eugene Goodman for his actions during the January 6, 2021 riot at the United States Capitol.

On that day, Officer Goodman found himself alone, facing off against a rushing tide of violence. Without blinking, he lured the mob away from the Senate chamber, protecting us from what we now know was an all but inevitable tragedy.

I was honored to celebrate these acts of bravery and self-sacrifice by joining the Senate's unanimous vote in support of S. 35, to award Officer Goodman the Congressional Gold Medal. I thank him for his courage and his commitment to duty, and for his willingness to continue to serve here in the Capitol.

REMEMBERING KAREN LEWIS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, I would like to recognize the life of an exceptional woman: Karen Lewis. Most remember Karen as the fiery president of the Chicago Teachers Union who led the 2012 strike. Karen always fought for what she believed. She devoted her career to education and people. Her commitment to her beloved teachers was her North Star.

Most will remember that Karen was no stranger to challenge. She attended Mount Holyoke College before transferring to Dartmouth College as a member of the first coeducational class in the institution's history. She had the courage to try her hand at medical school before finding her calling in teaching. As a new member in her teachers union, Karen did not hesitate to stand up when she thought something could be done better and ran for union offices as a member of the Caucus of Rank and File Educators, CORE.

However, this was only one side of Karen Lewis. In many ways she was a true renaissance woman. In Karen's love of opera, her musical skill playing both flute and piano, her love of languages, her conversion to Judaism, and her passion for professional tennis, you could see the many facets of her life.

But, above all else, I will remember Karen as a friend to both Loretta and me.

In 2014, she was diagnosed with glioblastoma, a cancerous brain tumor. I remembered her diagnosis when many months later my colleague, Senator John McCain, faced the same challenge. I asked Karen who seemed to be weathering her personal storm if she would speak with John and she, of course, agreed. I do not know if the conversation took place, but I thought that these two heroes of much different wars could become unusual allies in

the common struggle each of us will face.

The word “legendary” is overused, but when it comes to Karen Lewis, it falls short of describing an amazing life journey. I am reminded of a quote from Confucius that roughly translates to: “If your plan is for one year, plant rice; if your plan is for ten years, plant trees; if your plan is for one hundred years, educate children.” I am thankful for Karen’s 100-year plan. Let us honor her memory by continuing her work to educate the children of America.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION RULES OF PROCEDURE

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, the Committee on Rules and Administration has adopted rules governing its procedures for the 117th Congress. Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, on behalf of myself and Senator BLUNT, I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the committee rules be printed in the RECORD.

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

RULES OF PROCEDURE

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 1. The regular meeting dates of the Committee shall be the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, at 10:00 a.m., in room SR-301, Russell Senate Office Building. Additional meetings of the Committee may be called by the Chair as he or she may deem necessary or pursuant to the provision of paragraph 3 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Rule 2. Meetings of the Committee, including meetings to conduct hearings, shall be open to the public, except that a meeting or series of meetings by the Committee on the same subject for a period of no more than 14 calendar days may be closed to the public on a motion made and seconded to go into closed session to discuss only whether the matters enumerated in subparagraphs (a) through (f) would require the meeting to be closed followed immediately by a recorded vote in open session by a majority of the Members of the Committee when it is determined that the matters to be discussed or the testimony to be taken at such meeting or meetings:

(a) will disclose matters necessary to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States;

(b) will relate solely to matters of the Committee staff personnel or internal staff management or procedure;

(c) will tend to charge an individual with crime or misconduct, to disgrace or injure the professional standing of an individual, or otherwise to expose an individual to public contempt or obloquy, or will represent a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of an individual;

(d) will disclose the identity of any informer or law enforcement agent or will disclose any information relating to the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense that is required to be kept secret in the interests of effective law enforcement;

(e) will disclose information relating to the trade secrets or financial or commercial information pertaining specifically to a given person if:

(1) an Act of Congress requires the information to be kept confidential by Government officers and employees; or

(2) the information has been obtained by the Government on a confidential basis, other than through an application by such person for a specific Government financial or other benefit, and is required to be kept secret in order to prevent undue injury to the competitive position of such person; or

(f) may divulge matters required to be kept confidential under the provisions of law or Government regulations. (Paragraph 5(b) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

Rule 3. Written notices of Committee meetings will normally be sent by the Committee’s staff director to all Members of the Committee at least a week in advance. In addition, the Committee staff will telephone or e-mail reminders of Committee meetings to all Members of the Committee or to the appropriate assistants in their offices.

Rule 4. A copy of the Committee’s intended agenda enumerating separate items of legislative business and Committee business will normally be sent to all Members of the Committee and released to the public at least 1 day in advance of all meetings. This does not preclude any Member of the Committee from discussing appropriate non-agenda topics.

Rule 5. After the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member, speaking order shall be based on order of arrival, alternating between Majority and Minority Members, unless otherwise directed by the Chair.

Rule 6. Any witness who is to appear before the Committee in any hearing shall file with the clerk of the Committee at least 3 business days before the date of his or her appearance, a written statement of his or her proposed testimony and an executive summary thereof, in such form as the Chair may direct, unless the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member waive such requirement for good cause.

Rule 7. In general, testimony will be restricted to 5 minutes for each witness. The time may be extended by the Chair, upon the Chair’s own direction or at the request of a Member. Each round of questions by Members will also be limited to 5 minutes.

QUORUMS

Rule 8. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(1) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, a majority of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the reporting of legislative measures.

Rule 9. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(1) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, one-third of the Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, including action on amendments to measures prior to voting to report the measure to the Senate.

Rule 10. Pursuant to paragraph 7(a)(2) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules, 2 Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony under oath and 1 Member of the Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of taking testimony not under oath; provided, however, that in either instance, once a quorum is established, any one Member can continue to take such testimony.

Rule 11. Under no circumstances may proxies be considered for the establishment of a quorum.

VOTING

Rule 12. Voting in the Committee on any issue will normally be by voice vote.

Rule 13. If a third of the Members present so demand a roll call vote instead of a voice vote, a record vote will be taken on any question by roll call.

Rule 14. The results of roll call votes taken in any meeting upon any measure, or any amendment thereto, shall be stated in the

Committee report on that measure unless previously announced by the Committee, and such report or announcement shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of and the votes cast in opposition to each such measure and amendment by each Member of the Committee. (Paragraph 7(b) and (c) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

Rule 15. Proxy voting shall be allowed on all measures and matters before the Committee. However, the vote of the Committee to report a measure or matter shall require the concurrence of a majority of the Members of the Committee who are physically present at the time of the vote. Proxies will be allowed in such cases solely for the purpose of recording a Member’s position on the question and then only in those instances when the absentee Committee Member has been informed of the question and has affirmatively requested that he or she be recorded. (Paragraph 7(a)(3) of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules.)

AMENDMENTS

Rule 16. Provided at least five business days’ notice of the agenda is given, and the text of the proposed bill or resolution has been made available at least five business days in advance, it shall not be in order for the Committee to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee unless such amendment has been delivered to the office of the Committee and by at least 5:00 p.m. the day prior to the scheduled start of the meeting and circulated to each of the offices by at least 6:00 p.m.

Rule 17. In the event the Chair introduces a substitute amendment or a Chair’s mark, the requirements set forth in Rule 16 shall be considered waived unless such substitute amendment or Chair’s mark has been made available at least five business days in advance of the scheduled meeting.

Rule 18. It shall be in order, without prior notice, for a Member to offer a motion to strike a single section of any bill, resolution, or amendment under consideration.

Rule 19. This section of the rule may be waived by agreement of the Chair and the Ranking Minority Member.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO COMMITTEE CHAIR

Rule 20. The Chair is authorized to personally sign or sign by delegation all necessary vouchers and routine papers for which the Committee’s approval is required and to decide on the Committee’s behalf all routine business.

Rule 21. The Chair is authorized to engage commercial reporters for the preparation of transcripts of Committee meetings and hearings.

Rule 22. The Chair is authorized to issue, on behalf of the Committee, regulations normally promulgated by the Committee at the beginning of each session.

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO COMMITTEE CHAIR AND RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

Rule 23. The Chair and Ranking Minority Member, acting jointly, are authorized to approve on behalf of the Committee any rule or regulation for which the Committee’s approval is required, provided advance notice of their intention to do so is given to Members of the Committee.

Rule 24. The Chair, with the concurrence of the Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, is authorized to subpoena the attendance of witnesses and the production of correspondence, books, papers, documents, and other materials. Regardless of whether a subpoena has been concurred in by the Ranking Minority Member, such subpoena may be authorized by vote of the Members of the Committee. When a subpoena is authorized,

either by a vote of the Committee or by the Chair with the concurrence of the Ranking Member, the subpoena may be issued upon the signature of the Chair or of any other Member of the Committee designated by the Chair.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, in accordance with rule XXVI, paragraph 2, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I submit the rules governing the procedure of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in the RECORD.

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

RULES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES GENERAL RULES

Rule 1. The Standing Rules of the Senate, as supplemented by these rules, are adopted as the rules of the Committee and its Subcommittees.

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Rule 2. (a) The Committee shall meet on the third Thursday of each month while the Congress is in session for the purpose of conducting business, unless, for the convenience of Members, the Chairman shall set some other day for a meeting. Additional meetings may be called by the Chairman as he or she may deem necessary.

(b) Hearings of any Subcommittee may be called by the Chairman of such Subcommittee, provided that no Subcommittee hearing, other than a field hearing, shall be scheduled or held concurrently with a full Committee meeting or hearing, unless a majority of the Committee concurs in such concurrent hearing.

OPEN HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

Rule 3. (a) All hearings and business meetings of the Committee and all the hearings of any of its Subcommittees shall be open to the public unless the Committee or Subcommittee involved, by majority vote of all the Members of the Committee or such Subcommittee, orders the hearing or meeting to be closed in accordance with paragraph 5(b) of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

(b) A transcript shall be kept of each hearing of the Committee or any Subcommittee.

(c) A transcript shall be kept of each business meeting of the Committee unless a majority of all the Members of the Committee agrees that some other form of permanent record is preferable.

HEARING PROCEDURES

Rule 4. (a) Public notice shall be given of the date, place, and subject matter of any hearing to be held by the Committee or any Subcommittee at least one week in advance of such hearing unless the Chairman of the full Committee or the Subcommittee involved determines that the hearing is non-controversial or that special circumstances require expedited procedures and a majority of all the Members of the Committee or the Subcommittee involved concurs. In no case shall a hearing be conducted with less than twenty-four hours' notice. Any document or report that is the subject of a hearing shall be provided to every Member of the Committee or Subcommittee involved at least 72 hours before the hearing unless the Chair-

man and Ranking Member determine otherwise.

(b) Each witness who is to appear before the Committee or any Subcommittee shall file with the Committee or Subcommittee, at least 24 hours in advance of the hearing, a written statement of his or her testimony in as many copies as the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee prescribes.

(c) Each Member shall be limited to five minutes in the questioning of any witness until such time as all Members who so desire have had an opportunity to question the witness.

(d) No staff member may question a witness at a hearing.

BUSINESS MEETING PROCEDURES

Rule 5. (a) A legislative measure, nomination, or other matter shall be included on the agenda of the next following business meeting of the full Committee if a written request by a Member of the Committee for such inclusion has been filed with the Chairman of the Committee at least one week prior to such meeting. Nothing in this rule shall be construed to limit the authority of the Chairman of the Committee to include a legislative measure, nomination, or other matter on the Committee agenda in the absence of such request.

(b) The agenda for any business meeting of the Committee shall be provided to each Member and made available to the public at least three days prior to such meeting, and no new items may be added after the agenda is so published except by the approval of a majority of all the Members of the Committee on matters not included on the public agenda. The Staff Director shall promptly notify absent Members of any action taken by the Committee on matters not included on the published agenda.

(c) As warranted, the Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Member, may impose a filing deadline for first degree amendments for any legislative business meeting of the Committee.

QUORUMS

Rule 6. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), seven Members shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business of the Committee.

(b) No measure or matter shall be ordered reported from the Committee unless 11 Members of the Committee are actually present at the time such action is taken.

(c) One Member shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting a hearing or taking testimony on any measure or matter before the Committee or any Subcommittee.

VOTING

Rule 7. (a) A roll call of the Members shall be taken upon the request of any Member. Any Member who does not vote on any roll call at the time the roll is called, may vote (in person or by proxy) on that roll call at any later time during the same business meeting.

(b) Proxy voting shall be permitted on all matters, except that proxies may not be counted for the purpose of determining the presence of a quorum. Unless further limited, a proxy shall be exercised only upon the date for which it is given and upon the items published in the agenda for that date.

(c) Each Committee report shall set forth the vote on the motion to report the measure or matter involved. Unless the Committee directs otherwise, the report will not set out any votes on amendments offered during Committee consideration. Any Member who did not vote on any roll call shall have the opportunity to have his or her position recorded in the appropriate Committee record or Committee report.

(d) The Committee vote to report a measure to the Senate shall also authorize the

staff of the Committee to make necessary technical and clerical corrections in the measure.

SUBCOMMITTEES

Rule 8. (a) The number of Members assigned to each Subcommittee and the division between Majority and Minority Members shall be fixed by the Chairman in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member.

(b) Assignment of Members to Subcommittees shall, insofar as possible, reflect the preferences of the Members. No Member will receive assignment to a second Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all Members of the Committee have chosen assignments to one Subcommittee, and no Member shall receive assignment to a third Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all Members have chosen assignments to two Subcommittees.

(c) Any Member of the Committee may sit with any Subcommittee during its hearings but shall not have the authority to vote on any matters before the Subcommittee unless he or she is a Member of such Subcommittee.

NOMINATIONS

Rule 9. At any hearing to confirm a Presidential nomination, the testimony of the nominee and, at the request of any Member, any other witness shall be under oath. Every nominee shall submit the financial disclosure report filed pursuant to title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978. Such report is made available to the public.

INVESTIGATIONS

Rule 10. (a) Neither the Committee nor any of its Subcommittees may undertake an investigation unless specifically authorized by the Chairman and the Ranking Minority Member or a majority of all the Members of the Committee.

(b) A witness called to testify in an investigation shall be informed of the matter or matters under investigation, given a copy of these rules, given the opportunity to make a brief and relevant oral statement before or after questioning, and be permitted to have counsel of his or her choosing present during his or her testimony at any public or closed hearing, or at any unsworn interview, to advise the witness of his or her legal rights.

(c) For purposes of this rule, the term "investigation" shall not include a review or study undertaken pursuant to paragraph 8 of Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate or a preliminary inquiry, undertaken at the direction of the Chairman or the Ranking Member, intended to determine whether there is substantial credible evidence that would warrant an investigation.

SWORN TESTIMONY

Rule 11. Witnesses in Committee or Subcommittee hearings may be required to give testimony under oath whenever the Chairman or Ranking Minority Member of the Committee or Subcommittee deems such to be necessary. If one or more witnesses at a hearing are required to testify under oath, all witnesses at such hearing shall be required to testify under oath.

SUBPOENAS

Rule 12. The Chairman shall have authority to issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or other materials (1) with the agreement of the Ranking Minority Member, (2) when authorized by a majority of all the Members of the Committee, or (3) when within the scope of an investigation authorized under Rule 10(a).

CONFIDENTIAL TESTIMONY

Rule 13. No confidential testimony taken by or any report of the proceedings of a closed Committee or Subcommittee meeting

shall be made public, in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless authorized by a majority of all the Members of the Committee at a business meeting called for the purpose of making such a determination.

DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS

Rule 14. Any person whose name is mentioned or who is specifically identified in, or who believes that testimony or other evidence presented at, an open Committee or Subcommittee hearing tends to defame him or her or otherwise adversely affect his or her reputation may file with the Committee for its consideration and action a sworn statement of facts relevant to such testimony or evidence.

BROADCASTING OF HEARINGS OR MEETINGS

Rule 15. Any meeting or hearing by the Committee or any Subcommittee which is open to the public may be covered in whole or in part by web, television, radio broadcast, or still photography. Photographers and reporters using mechanical recording, filming, or broadcasting devices shall position their equipment so as not to interfere with the seating, vision, and hearing of Members and staff on the dais or with the orderly process of the meeting or hearing.

AMENDING THE RULES

Rule 16. These rules may be amended only by vote of a majority of all the Members of the Committee in a business meeting of the Committee: Provided, that no vote may be taken on any proposed amendment unless such amendment is reproduced in full in the Committee agenda for such meeting at least three days in advance of such meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF LINDA THOMAS-GREENFIELD

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, in times of conflict and peace, nations should discuss and resolve disputes. We cannot expect to achieve peace without effort and dialogue. The post of Ambassador to the United Nations is a position where engagement is of the utmost importance. Throughout Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield's 35-year tenure at the State Department, under both Republicans and Democrats, she developed a long track record of engaging diplomatically with other countries through a very unique approach. Based on Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield's career, I believe she will tackle international challenges and engage with friends and adversaries, alike, and I support her nomination.

CONFIRMATION OF THOMAS J. VILSACK

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, today, I voted to oppose the confirmation of Tom Vilsack as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. While I appreciate Mr. Vilsack's willingness to again serve in this capacity after holding this same role in President Obama's administration, his stance on USDA's assistance programs and climate change give me pause. During his confirmation hearing, Mr. Vilsack stated one of his main priorities is expanding eligibility for food stamps to people not necessarily in need. Mr. Vilsack's willingness to expand eligibility for these programs will require more Fed-

eral spending and add to the national debt.

Perhaps even more concerning is Mr. Vilsack's willingness to use his position at USDA to further President Biden's aggressive climate change agenda, which will undoubtedly lead to more regulations on the agriculture industry. In his confirmation hearing, Mr. Vilsack stated, "If confirmed, USDA will lead the federal government in . . . investing in renewable energy . . . embracing sustainable and regenerative practices that enhance soil health . . . and delivering science-based solutions to help mitigate and reduce climate change." Additionally, he said, "I share the president's vision of a net-zero emission opportunity for U.S. agriculture . . ." Cumbersome regulations based on climate alarmism will inevitably lead to higher food prices for consumers. Farmers should be able to exercise their own sound judgement and common sense without burdensome Federal regulations. For these reasons, I opposed his confirmation.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(5)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA), as amended, we are forwarding Transmittal No. 0D-21. This notification relates to enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability described in the Section 36(b)(1) AECA certification 14-59 of December 11, 2014.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosure.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 0D-21

Report of Enhancement or Upgrade of Sensitivity of Technology or Capability (Sec. 36(B)(5)(A), AECA)

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Greece.

(ii) Sec. 36(b)(1), AECA Transmittal No.: 14-59.

Date: December 11, 2014.

Military Department: Army.

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On December 11, 2014, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 14-59 of the possible sale under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (AECA) of ten (10) CH-47D Model Chinook Helicopters to include twenty-three (23) T55-GA-714A Engines (20 installed and 3 spares), twelve (12) AN/AAR-57 Common Missile Warning System (10 installed and 2 spares), twelve (12) AN/ARC-220 High Frequency (HF) Radios, twelve (12) AN/ARC-186 Very High Frequency (VHF) AM/FM Radios, twelve (12) AN/ARC-164 Ultra High Frequency (UHF)-AM, twelve (12) AN/ARN 123 VOR ILS Marker Beacons, twelve (12) AN/ARN-89 or AN/ARN-149 Direction Finder Sets, twelve (12) AN/ASN-128 Doppler/Global Positioning System Navigation Sets, twelve (12) AN/ARC-201D or AN/ARC-201E VHF FM Homing Radios, twelve (12) AN/APX-118 Transponders, three (3) AN/APX-118A Transponders, twelve (12) AN/APR-39A(V)1 Radar Signal Detecting Sets, mission equipment, communication and navigation equipment, Maintenance Work Orders/Engineering Change Proposals (MWO/ECPs), aircraft hardware and software support, repair and return, spare and repair parts, publications and technical documentation, support equipment, minor modifications, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. government and contractor technical and engineering support services, and other related elements of logistics and program support. The estimated cost was \$150 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$57.2 million of this total.

This transmittal reports the addition of eight (8) T55-GA-714A engines in support of Greece's CH-47D helicopter fleet. The total cost of the new MDE articles is \$14 million. The total MDE value increases to \$71.2 million. The total estimated cost increases to \$164 million.

(iv) Significance: The Hellenic Army General Staff plans to use these helicopters for firefighting, search and rescue, disaster relief, humanitarian support, counter-terrorism, and combat operations.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives by helping to improve the security of a NATO ally, which is an important partner for political stability and economic progress in Europe.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology: The statement contained in Congressional certification transmittal number 14-59 applies to the MDE items reported here.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: February 5, 2021.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed

in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 20-48 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA) for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$65 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20-48

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA).

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$38 million.
Other \$27 million.
Total \$65 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE): Five hundred seventeen (517) AN/PRC-158 Manpack UHF SA TCOM Radio Systems.

Non-MDE: Also included are crypto fill devices, man-portable ancillaries, vehicular ancillaries, deployed Headquarter ancillaries, power support, and operator and maintenance training, and other related elements of program, technical and logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (K4-B-VAA).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: February 5, 2021.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA)—UHF SATCOM Radio Systems

The NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA) has requested to buy five hundred seventeen (517) AN/PRC-158 Manpack UHF SATCOM radio systems. Also included are crypto fill devices, man-portable ancillaries, vehicular ancillaries, deployed Headquarter ancillaries, power support, and operator and maintenance training, and other related elements of program, technical and logistics support. The total estimated program cost is \$65 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of NATO allies and partner nations that are an important force for ensuring peace and stability in Europe.

This proposed sale will ensure NATO warfighters have access to the latest C3I systems and technologies, and will be interoperable with U.S. forces. An updated UHF TACSAT radios in the hands of NATO allies and partners will offer significant C3I capabilities at all echelons, from the operational level down to the lowest small unit tactical formation. These capabilities increase secure communication effectiveness and efficiency and enhance military decision making. NCIA will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The prime contractor will be Collins Aerospace, Cedar Rapids, IA. There are no known offset agreements in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require one (1) or two (2) contractor representatives to travel to the specified NATO country to conduct the Operator and Maintenance OCONUS for a period of two (2) months.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20-48

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The UHF SATCOM terminal provides voice or data connectivity. The device itself is CCI but is not classified until it is keyed with the proper keying material to enable secure communications.

2. The highest level of information required to furnish the equipment, training, and data associated with this proposed sale is UNCLASSIFIED.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the enclosed Policy Justification. A determination has been made that the NCIA can provide the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the NCIA.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter

references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 20-81 concerning the Navy's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Egypt for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$197 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20-81

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Egypt.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$182 million.
Other \$15 million.
Total \$197 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing (FMF).

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):

Up to one hundred sixty-eight (168) RIM-116C Rolling Airframe Missiles (RAM) Block 2 Tactical Missiles.

Non-MDE: Also included are RAM Guided Missile Round Pack Tri-Pack shipping and storage containers; operator manuals and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support.

(iv) Military Department: Navy (EG-P-ADJ).

(v) Prior Related Cases if any: EG-P-GJG.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: February 16, 2021.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Egypt—Rolling Airframe Missiles (RAM)
Block 2 Tactical Missiles

The Government of Egypt has requested to buy up to one hundred sixty-eight (168) RIM-116C Rolling Airframe Missiles (RAM) Block 2 tactical missiles. Also included are RAM Guided Missile Round Pack Tri-Pack shipping and storage containers; operator manuals and technical documentation; U.S. Government and contractor engineering, technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistical and program support. The estimated total program cost is \$197 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally country that continues to be an important strategic partner in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will support the Egyptian Navy's Fast Missile Craft ships and provide significantly enhanced area defense capabilities over Egypt's coastal areas and approaches to the Suez Canal. Egypt will have no difficulty absorbing this equipment into its armed forces since Egypt already operates previously procured RAM Block 1A missiles.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Raytheon Missiles & Defense (RMD), Tucson, AZ. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this sale will not require the assignment of any U.S. or contractor representatives to Egypt.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20-81

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act

Annex Item No. vii

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

The RIM-116C Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) is an autonomous (i.e., "fire and forget") lightweight, supersonic, surface-to-air tactical missile for ship self-defense against current and evolving anti-ship cruise missile threats. Advanced technology in the RIM-116C includes dual-mode RF/IR (radio frequency/infrared) guidance with IR all-the-way capability for non-emitting threats.

2. The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Government of Egypt can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Egypt.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 21-16 concerning the Army's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Finland for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$91.2 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-16

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Finland.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:
Major Defense Equipment* \$81.0 million.
Other \$10.2 million.
Total \$91.2 million.

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase:

Major Defense Equipment (MDE):
Twenty-Five (25) M30A2 Extended Range Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems—Alternative Warhead (ER GMLRS-AW) Pods.

Ten (10) M31A2 Extended Range Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems—Unitary (ER GMLRS-U) Pods.

Non-MDE: Also included is an ER GMLRS Materiel Release Package; Stockpile Reliability Program (SRP) support; Quality Assurance Testing (QAT) services; technical publications; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of program and logistics support.

(iv) Military Department: Army (FI-B-VBB).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: None.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: See Attached Annex.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: February 17, 2021.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Finland—Extended Range Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System

The Government of Finland has requested to buy twenty-five (25) M30A2 Extended Range Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems—Alternative Warhead (ER GMLRS-AW) Pods; and ten (10) M31A2 Extended Range Guided Multiple Launch Rocket Systems—Unitary (ER GMLRS-U) Pods. Also included is an ER GMLRS Materiel Release Package; Stockpile Reliability Program (SRP) support; Quality Assurance Testing (QAT) services; technical publications; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support services; and other related element of program and logistics support. The total estimated cost is \$91.2 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by improving the security of a trusted partner which is an important force for po-

litical stability and economic progress in Europe. It is vital to the U.S. national interest to assist Finland in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability.

Finland intends to use these defense articles and services to modernize its armed forces. Finland intends to expand its existing army architecture to counter potential threats. This will contribute to the Finland military's goal to upgrade its capability while enhancing interoperability between Finland, the United States, and other allies. Finland will have no difficulty absorbing these missiles into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation, Missile and Fire Control, Grand Prairie, TX. There are no known offsets associated with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will not require the assignment of U.S. Government or contractor representatives to Finland.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-16

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology:

1. The ER GMLRS provides a persistent, responsive, all-weather, rapidly deployed, long range, surface-to-surface, area- and point-precision strike capability. The AW variant (XM403, also referred to as M30A2) carries a 200-pound fragmentation assembly filled with high explosives which, upon detonation, accelerates two layers of preformed penetrators optimized for effectiveness against large area and imprecisely located targets. The Unitary variant (XM404, also referred to as M31A2) is a 200-pound class unitary with a steel blast-fragmentation case, designed for low collateral damage against point targets. The ER GMLRS maintains the accuracy and effectiveness demonstrated by the baseline GMLRS out to a maximum range of 150 km (double of GMLRS capability) while also including a new Height Of Burst (HOB) capability.

2. The highest level of classified information associated with the sale of this equipment is SECRET.

3. If a technologically advanced adversary were to obtain knowledge of the specific hardware and software elements, the information could be used to develop countermeasures or equivalent systems that might reduce weapon system effectiveness or be used in the development of a system with similar or advanced capabilities.

4. A determination has been made that Finland can provide substantially the same degree of protection for the sensitive technology being released as the U.S. Government. This sale is necessary in furtherance of the U.S. foreign policy and national security objectives outlined in the Policy Justification.

5. All defense articles and services listed in this transmittal have been authorized for release and export to the Government of Finland.

ARMS SALES NOTIFICATION

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act requires that Congress receive prior notification of certain proposed arms sales as defined by that statute. Upon such notification, the Congress

has 30 calendar days during which the sale may be reviewed. The provision stipulates that, in the Senate, the notification of proposed sales shall be sent to the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In keeping with the committee's intention to see that relevant information is available to the full Senate, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the notifications which have been received. If the cover letter references a classified annex, then such annex is available to all Senators in the office of the Foreign Relations Committee, room SD-423.

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

DEFENSE SECURITY,
COOPERATION AGENCY,
Arlington, VA.

Hon. ROBERT MENENDEZ,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, we are forwarding herewith Transmittal No. 20-50 concerning the Air Force's proposed Letter(s) of Offer and Acceptance to the Government of Jordan for defense articles and services estimated to cost \$60 million. After this letter is delivered to your office, we plan to issue a news release to notify the public of this proposed sale.

Sincerely,

HEIDI H. GRANT,
Director.

Enclosures.

TRANSMITTAL NO. 20-50

Notice of Proposed Issuance of Letter of Offer Pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended

(i) Prospective Purchaser: Government of Jordan.

(ii) Total Estimated Value:

Major Defense Equipment* \$0 million.

Other \$60 million.

Total \$60 million.

Funding Source: Foreign Military Financing (FMF).

(iii) Description and Quantity or Quantities of Articles or Services under Consideration for Purchase: Foreign Military Sales Case JO-D-QBN A2, implemented on January 22, 2018, for an F-16 Air Combat Training Center at \$51.2 million, was at the time below congressional notification threshold. Jordan has requested the case be amended to include additional devices and support. This amendment will push the case above Jordan's current notification threshold and thus requires notification of the entire case.

Major Defense Equipment (MOE): None.

Non-MDE: Includes an F-16 Air Combat Training Center and Devices comprised of full mission trainers, combat tactics trainers, instructor/operator stations, tactical environment simulators, brief/debrief stations, scenario generation stations, database generation stations, mission observation centers, and other training center equipment and support; software and hardware support; publications and technical documentation; maintenance, spares and repair parts and services; U.S. and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of program support.

(iv) Military Department: Air Force (JO-D-QBN A3).

(v) Prior Related Cases, if any: JO-D-QCU.

(vi) Sales Commission, Fee, etc., Paid, Offered, or Agreed to be Paid: None.

(vii) Sensitivity of Technology Contained in the Defense Article or Defense Services Proposed to be Sold: None.

(viii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: February 11, 2021.

*As defined in Section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act.

POLICY JUSTIFICATION

Jordan—F-16 Air Combat Training Center

The Government of Jordan has requested to buy an F-16 Air Combat Training Center and Devices including full mission trainers, combat tactics trainers, instructor/operator stations, tactical environment simulators, brief/debrief stations, scenario generation stations, database generation stations, mission observation centers, and other training center equipment and support; software and hardware support; publications and technical documentation; maintenance, spares and repair parts and services; U.S. and contractor engineering, technical, and logistical support services; and other related elements of program support. The estimated total cost is \$60 million.

This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO Ally that is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East.

The proposed sale will improve Jordan's capability to meet current and future threats by ensuring Jordan's pilots are effectively trained, which will contribute to the U.S.-Jordan lasting partnership and ensure the country's stability, a critical element to broader U.S. regional policy goals. Jordan will use this asset to enhance training of pilots. Jordan will have no difficulty absorbing these training center assets and simulators into its armed forces.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region.

The principal contractor will be Lockheed Martin Corporation Rotary & Mission Systems, Orlando, FL. There are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of two U.S. Lockheed Martin contractor representatives to Jordan for a duration of 2 years to support training.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

HONORING THE LIVES OF IDAHO NATIONAL GUARDSMEN

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, along with my colleagues Senator JIM RISCH, Representative MIKE SIMPSON, and Representative RUSS FULCHER, I rise today to honor the lives and service of CW4 Jesse Anderson, CW3 George "Geoff" Laubhan, and CW3 Matthew Peltzer. These three fallen Idaho Army National Guard personnel were participating in a routine training flight when their UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter crashed near Boise on February 2, 2021.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Anderson, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Laubhan, and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Peltzer answered the call of duty to serve our State and our Nation with honor, distinction, and courage.

CW4 Jesse Anderson, of Boise, was a senior instructor pilot. He had served in the Idaho Army National Guard

since 2008, and he first joined the U.S. Army as an aviation warrant officer candidate in 2000. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Anderson is survived by his wife and four children. While in the Idaho Army National Guard, CW4 Anderson served as a UH-60 A/L pilot in command, UH-60 A/L instructor pilot, C-12 fixed wing pilot, C-12 operations officer, company and battalion aviation standardization officer, and medical evacuation pilot. He served in multiple deployments, including two deployments to Afghanistan. He also participated in local search and rescue operations, wildland fire fighting missions in California, and civil support operations in Guatemala. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Anderson earned a long list of awards and decorations for his honorable service that include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the NATO Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Master Aviator Badge, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Combat Action Badge, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the California Achievement Medal, the Idaho Emergency Duty Ribbon, and the Idaho Service Ribbon.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Laubhan, of Boise, was an instructor pilot, who is survived by his wife and two children. In January 2010, CW3 Laubhan enlisted in the Idaho Army National Guard as an AH-64 attack helicopter repairer with D Company, 1st Battalion of the 183rd Aviation Regiment. He went on to serve as an AH-64 Apache and UH-60 Black Hawk pilot, a UH-60 instructor pilot, and a medical evacuation pilot while with the battalion. His service included deploying in 2019 as a Black Hawk pilot to Guatemala in support of Operation Beyond the Horizon, and he is credited with flying a lifesaving mission in support of Idaho search and rescue operations. He also flew in support of wildland firefighting operations in California. The awards and decorations he earned for his admirable service include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Aviation Badge, the Army Aviator Badge, the California Achievement Medal, and the Idaho Service Ribbon.

CW3 Matthew Peltzer, a resident of Nampa, was a UH-60 A/L Black Hawk pilot, having served in the Idaho Army National Guard since 2005. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Peltzer is survived by his wife and two children. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Peltzer enlisted into the Idaho

Army National Guard's 1st Battalion of the 183rd Aviation Regiment as an officer candidate in July 2005. Chief Warrant Officer 3 Peltzer served as an AH-64 Apache pilot in command, a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot, an aviation mission survivability officer, an aviation safety officer, and a medical evacuation helicopter pilot all while with the battalion. His service also included serving in Guatemala as a Black Hawk pilot in support of Operation Beyond the Horizon. The many recognitions he earned for his remarkable service include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon, the Senior Aviator Badge, the Idaho Adjutant General's Outstanding Unit Award, and the Idaho Service Ribbon.

Our citizen-soldiers embody a spirit of service and the best of American patriotism, and this loss is felt deeply throughout Idaho. All three were soldiers, husbands, and fathers who left an enduring legacy of service and strength. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Anderson's, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Laubhan's, and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Peltzer's service and sacrifices will not be forgotten, and their selflessness will continue to serve as an example for all of us. We extend our deepest condolences to the families and friends of these heroic men, including their fellow guardsmen. Our prayers are with their wives and children, friends and loved ones, and fellow soldiers in the Idaho National Guard as they grieve this tragic loss. Each of us owes a deep debt of gratitude to our Idaho Army National Guardsmen. Their service on behalf of Idaho and the Nation is second to none, and we thank them for their countless sacrifices to keep us safe. Our State and our country mourn the passing of three of our heroes.

In closing, the following poem titled "Above the Purple Sage" was written by Major Andrew Whipple, retired, an Idaho veteran, to pay tribute to the pilots and help lift the hearts of those mourning their loss:

"From field and farm,
From small town and large;
Their dreams all the same,
To answer the charge.
They dreamed of the feel of wind in their faces,
To roam the places of old story book Aces.
Leaving the ground the Flying Knights rose,
The city lights behind them,
Their nerves so composed.
Above the Purple Sage they soared;
Their friendships and bonds not easily forged.
While many lay dreaming and safe in their beds,
The three Knights rose higher,
From the ground they had shed.
The Purple Sage below them,
They flew higher and higher;
The night sky around them,
There was nothing so finer.
These three Knights of the Air,

Together they flew;
But alas all was quiet,
Except the coming of the dawning dew.
Their journey to soar,
To protect those behind;
It came to an end,
But forever entwined.
Their journey continues,
Their flight it goes on;
With Aces and others dreamers,
Fly on—Fly on!"

REMEMBERING BARBARA A. O'MALLEY

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute and honor the life of the late Mrs. Barbara O' Malley, a friend, and a dedicated public servant who proudly served Maryland and our Nation as a congressional staffer for Senator Barbara Mikulski for over three decades.

Born in Fort Wayne, IN, Barbara's love of public service was nurtured early on by her father, Joseph Suelzer, a World War I veteran who served as the chair of the Democratic Party in Indiana's Allen County. She got an early start in politics as a congressional campaign staffer and then moved to Washington, DC, where she met her future husband, Thomas Martin O'Malley, at the Young Democrats' headquarters in our Nation's Capital. The O'Malleys made a home in Maryland, where Barbara spent 33 years as a stay-at-home mother before her inclination towards politics called her into service once more, this time with an opportunity to work for one of the only two female Senators in Congress at that time, Senator Barbara Mikulski.

In Congress, Barbara found a second home. To all those fortunate enough to work in the Senate and especially to those who worked on the fifth floor of the Senate Hart Building, including myself, Barbara was simply known as "Mrs. O." She worked as a receptionist for Senator Mikulski and was the friendly face who welcomed constituents, colleagues, friends, and even Senators to the office. With her warmth and kindness, she made you feel right at home. And with her deep knowledge of Maryland's democratic politics, you knew she meant business. She cherished working for Congress, and as a lover of history, she did not take for granted how special it was to walk the same Capitol halls as many of our former great American leaders.

Even though Barbara was committed to serving the people of Maryland, she was also equally committed to her family—her husband, her six children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. In their family, Barbara and her husband, Thomas, a World War II veteran, instilled a sense of duty and public service, so it came as no surprise that their son, Martin O'Malley, went on to become the mayor of Baltimore and Governor of their beloved State of Maryland.

Dedication and commitment to public service defined Barbara's career in Congress, and we are so lucky she

chose the Senate as one of the places to make her mark in this world.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL BRIAN WINSKI

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor one of America's finest, MG Brian Winski, who served a 24-month tour as the commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division and Fort Campbell, KY. Major General Winski's unparalleled mastery across the tactical, operational, and strategic spectrums in combination with his infectious and inspirational leadership provided a continuous source of motivation for soldiers and leaders alike.

In a time of uncertainty, Major General Winski exhibited the most valued traits of a leader. As the senior commander of Fort Campbell, KY, Major General Winski oversaw support services for 33,000 soldiers, 50,000 family members, 10,000 civilian employees, and 150,000 retirees. Prior to the global Covid-19 pandemic, Major General Winski shaped the way in which the 101st Airborne Division plans and executes emergency deployment readiness exercises leading the 531st Hospital Center EDRE and later watched their successful domestic deployment to New York to provide help in crisis.

Major General Winski's impressive contributions enabled mission success in some of the toughest and most challenging conditions. The distinctive accomplishments of Major General Winski reflect great credit upon himself, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the XVIII Airborne Corps, the U.S. Army, and the Department of Defense. I join my fellow Kentuckians in honoring Major General Brian Winski with the Award of Distinguished Service Medal as he served his country with class and courage.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE KLAMATH TRIBES

• Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, the Klamath Tribes in Oregon have a saying: "We help each other; We will live good." These words are neither hollow nor trivial to the members of these Tribes. They live them each and every day and never more so than when disaster strikes. When the Two Four Two Fire raged through the Chiloquin Ranger District of the Fremont-Winema National Forest last September, scorching over 14,000 acres, destroying homes and traditional hunting and fishing sites, members of the Tribes rallied together, opening their doors, their hearts, and their wallets to help their fellow Oregonians in a time of great need.

They brought those eight words—"We help each other; We will live good"—to life.

When emergency personnel needed a large, open area to establish an evacuation shelter for all those who had to

flee their homes ahead of the inferno, the Tribes immediately offered up the parking lot the Kla-Mo-Ya Casino for their use.

When the firefighters tasked with containing the fire needed a massive open space to stage their ample equipment, those same expansive parking lots were readily provided to them.

At the same time, the doors of their hotel were thrown open to anyone displaced by the fire, to Tribal and non-Tribal members alike who were in need of shelter. In the middle of a pandemic, with all manner of precautions in place to keep folks healthy and safe, that was no easy feat, but they did it, all while also welcoming the Red Cross inside to set up a response center, as well.

As the forests burned around it, the Kla-Mo-Ya Casino stood there like the eye of a hurricane. It became a center of help and healing, of safety and shelter. Had they just done those things, the Klamath Tribes would have already gone far above and beyond to support Tribal members and community members alike. They didn't stop, however, with providing the use of their hotel and its facilities to first responders and to those in need.

No. Klamath Tribal Behavioral Health went out and provided assistance and services to anyone who had been affected and displaced, free of charge. Whether they were Tribal members or not, it didn't matter. Those who needed help were able to get it. They helped feed the firefighters risking their lives fighting the infernos, emergency volunteers helping others, and even evacuees.

And even now, some 5 months after the worst of the fire's carnage, the Klamath Tribes are still doing what they can to help those whose lives were turned upside down by it. A GoFundMe account has been set up to help any family who lost their home or their property to the Two Four Two Fire rebuild and start to get back up on their feet again. The distribution of the money raised by the account is still a work in progress. The Tribes are fine-tuning the priority system and how folks will apply for it. But once all of that is worked out, this is going to be a tremendous help to so many of our friends and neighbors who have endured such heartbreak and hardship.

"We help each other; We will live good." There is no question that the members of the Klamath Tribes have helped those in need across southern Oregon through an unimaginably difficult time. We are all deeply grateful for everything they have done, both during the Two Four Two Fire and afterward. And we will all be better off as a State and as a community because of their kindness and generosity of spirit.●

RECOGNIZING GENEVA'S SHEAR PERFECTION BARBER & BEAUTY SALON

● Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, this month our country is joining together in celebration of Black History Month. It is a month for all of us to recognize the indescribable impact that Black Americans have left made on our Nation; to recommit ourselves to the struggle to achieve and ensure racial justice throughout our land; and, of course, to celebrate Black culture and all of its contributions to America past, present, and future. Few institutions are more connected or have been more central to Black culture than the barbershop and beauty salon. As described by the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, for generations, men and women have been going to these businesses not just for hair care, but for the sense of community and security they provide. Black Americans go to spend time among peers, playing cards or chess, sharing the latest local news and engaging in passionate debates about politics. Men and women go in to these businesses for friendship and mentorship and to be engaged in the affairs of their neighbors and their community.

For 30 years, this was particularly true of Geneva's Shear Perfection Barber & Beauty Salon in northeast Portland. Since opening its doors in 1991, Geneva's has been a hub for Portland's African-American community, welcoming over 1,000 people through its doors every month. Folks from Michael Jordan and Muhammed Ali, to members of the Portland Trailblazers, sat in its chairs. But more importantly, it stood as the heart for three generations of Black Portlanders who first walked through Geneva's doors as children with their parents and then went on to bring their own sons and daughters for their first haircuts, even as the area around this local institution underwent the kind of gentrification that pushed Black families further and further away.

But it wasn't only the barbershop itself that is considered an institution of the Portland community—so is the Knauls family who owned and operated it for three decades. Geneva Knauls, who passed away in 2014, was our State's first Black female barber. Throughout her years as a businesswoman, Geneva supported all different kinds of local grassroots projects and organizations, and become one of the most beloved people in the northeast Portland community. Her status is only equaled by her husband's, Mr. Paul Knauls, Sr., who is affectionately known around town as the Mayor of Northeast Portland. From 1963 to 1970, Mr. Knauls owned and ran the Cotton Club, which was the place for jazz and soul music, welcoming such big names as Etta James, Big Mama Thornton, and Sammy Davis, Jr., to its stage to serenade music-loving Portlanders. He sold the Cotton Club in 1970 and went

on to open a series of others throughout town before finally opening Geneva's. All the while, throughout all of his business adventures, Paul has been active in other ways throughout the community. He worked with the Junior Achievement Program at both Humboldt and Jefferson schools, tutored in the HOSTS—Help One Student to Succeed—program at King School, and served for 6 years on the board of the Urban League.

Last year, Mr. Knauls and his son, Paul Jr., decided it was finally time to take a break and close the doors of Geneva's. It was also a decision made out of a recognition of the difficult new realities of trying to operate a personal care business in the midst of an unprecedented national and global pandemic. Sadly, the Knauls and Geneva's are not alone. Many businesses have been forced to confront life amid the COVID pandemic and BIPOC-owned businesses and communities have been disproportionately impacted. Last year's announcement of the closure of Geneva's Shear Perfection Barber & Beauty Salon was understandably met with an emotional outpouring from local Portlanders. Men and women who had been going to the shop their entire lives took to the shop's Facebook page to thank the Knauls family for their contributions to the community and to share some fond memories. Statements came from local leaders and celebrities touting Geneva's legacy, as one person put it, as "one of the most important examples of a black business that represented more to the community than just a place to get a haircut."

And a year after its closing, that legacy continues to endure. Geneva's Facebook page is brimming with pictures of young men in graduation robes in front of the salon, of a turkey giveaway in its parking lot that took place this past Thanksgiving to help provide for families in need, and announcements from other local Black business owners who are moving into the space to continue the Knauls family's entrepreneurial spirit. And the legacy of "The Mayor" and his iconic standing in the community remains as strong today as it ever has; even after celebrating Mr. Knaul's 90th birthday age and the pandemic have not stopped Paul Knauls, Sr., from putting on two masks to go out for daily walks in his neighborhood and around the Lloyd Center. For his 90th birthday last month, the nonprofit World Arts Foundation streamed a live storytelling event, featuring decades of friends, employees, and admirers to help him celebrate.

I know that Portlanders everywhere will join me in expressing the immense gratitude to Geneva's Shear Perfection Barber & Beauty Salon and to the Knauls family for all that they have done for the community. Northeast Portland certainly won't be the same without Geneva's, but everyone who walked through those doors over the last 30 years has had their lives

touched and impacted by it in ways both big and small. And it is reassuring to know that, through each of them, Geneva's legacy, the legacy of the Black barbershop and salon, the legacy of community and friendship and looking out for one another, will continue to endure.●

REMEMBERING MEL RICHARD ANTONEN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I would like to include in the RECORD the following obituary for Mel Antonen, a native South Dakotan and longtime Major League Baseball reporter for USA Today and elsewhere, who passed away on January 30, 2021. He is honored by Charles Raasch, also a native South Dakotan, of USA Today with an obituary upon his death. I extend my deepest sympathy to the Antonen family.

The material follows:

Mel Antonen, family man, friend to the world, and renowned sports journalist, died Saturday of a rare acute auto-immune disease and complications from COVID-19. He was a longtime USA TODAY Sports and MASN-TV baseball reporter who covered nearly three dozen World Series. In a half century in journalism, he reveled and excelled in telling others' stories.

He was 64.

Mel Richard Antonen's own story became the best of all. It began in the tiny town of Lake Norden, South Dakota, on Aug. 25, 1956, when he was the third of four children born to Ray and Valda Antonen.

Lake Norden is 225 miles from the nearest major league ballpark and has never been populated with more than 550 people, but on soft summer evenings fans from counties away congregate at Memorial Park to watch a new episode of South Dakota's storied amateur baseball history. Its pull never left him even as he walked, as a sports journalist, on Boston's hallowed Fenway Park with the late Yankees Hall of Famer Joe DiMaggio, or sat in a pre-game spring training dugout with another Hall of Fame member, Minnesota Twins slugger Harmon Killebrew, weeks before Killebrew died in 2011.

The Antonen family has promoted amateur baseball in Lake Norden for decades. Mel loved to tell how his father, Ray over the years brought to the tiny hometown a series of barnstorming pros, including the legendary Satchel Paige and Cy Young Award winner Jim Perry, to play at Memorial Park. On the mornings of home games throughout his childhood and beyond, Mel, his father and siblings would groom the field, with the rising corn and soybean fields ritually marking the progression of summer beyond the left-field fence.

"I love baseball because it always brings me home," Antonen said at his induction to South Dakota Sports Hall of Fame in 2017. "A baseball park in my mind is a home. It doesn't matter if it's next to a cornfield, as it is in Lake Norden, or if it is next to a rumbling subway, in New York."

At USA TODAY, and later as an analyst for MASN, the network that covers the Washington Nationals and Baltimore Orioles, Antonen "was a very good storyteller who went far beyond balls and strikes and the score of the game," said his retired USA TODAY Sports editor Henry Freeman.

Dan Connolly was among the reporters in the Washington-Baltimore area with whom Antonen was close, as they two sat next to each other in the press box and exchanged good-natured barbs.

"He had such an easy way about him with players and media and staff," Connolly said. "It was one of those things, everyone liked the guy. Everyone. He had a way about him. He could relate to anybody. He was really very smart, and being a South Dakota boy, he was very easy to relate to. I remember him saying that if he didn't go into baseball writers, he wanted to be a Lutheran minister. You could tell Mel anything, he was a pastoral listening-type guy."

Antonen's journalism career began as a kid, when he called in scores from Lake Norden's home games to two newspapers that he ended up writing for: the Watertown (S.D.) Public Opinion, which paid him as a high schooler 15 cents a copy inch; and the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, where he got his first job after graduation from Augustana University, eventually covering the sports, farm and political beats.

He joined USA TODAY in 1986, where one of his earliest assignments was covering the Tonya Harding Olympics figure-skating scandal. Antonen became a MLB reporter and columnist, covering history from Cal Ripken Jr.'s consecutive games streak to the Mark McGwire-Sammy Sosa record-breaking home run race and the steroid scandals that followed. The story he often said was seared most in his memory came during the earthquake-interrupted 1989 World Series. There, sitting in a press box high above San Francisco's Candlestick Park, he watched as the entire stadium undulated dangerously during the destructive Loma Prieta quake. Antonen filed a story, then headed out for days to cover the aftermath, focusing on the human costs.

Hall of Famer Ripken told USA TODAY Sports' Bob Nightengale that Antonen "was a fixture around the game for so many years, and it was clear that he had a passion for baseball. He was a thorough and thoughtful reporter and left his mark on his profession."

Along with the World Series, Antonen covered three Olympics, and professional bowling leagues.

"I can't imagine being anything other than a reporter, an ink-stained wretch," he told his Hall of Fame audience.

Freeman, his editor at USA TODAY's pioneering sports section, said Antonen's knowledge of baseball, reverence for its history, and his love of stories, was evident from the first day.

"It became clear to me right away the understanding he had of baseball, and a lot of that was because of his father," said Freeman.

Freeman said one of his favorite stories involved Antonen at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul. Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson won the 100 meters in world-record time, but failed a drug test, was stripped of his gold medal and ordered to be sent home. USA TODAY received a tip that Johnson had reservations on one of several potential flights out of South Korea, and Freeman immediately sent Antonen to the airport to find Johnson and to do anything necessary to get an interview.

Carrying nothing but a walkie-talkie and his reporter's notebook, Antonen arrived at the airport and quickly discovered that Ben Johnson was booked on a flight to Toronto. Antonen bought a ticket, went aboard and found Ben Johnson—who turned out to be a doctor, decades older than the sprinter by the same name. Antonen turned failure into a memorable human interest story about the frantic hunt through Olympics high-security obstacles that ended with the wrong Ben Johnson.

"It was a non-story that he made a good story of its own," Freeman said. "It also showed the lengths that Mel would go to get a good story."

Using persistence and personality, Antonen scored a rare interview with the notoriously press-shy DiMaggio, late in the legend's life, after learning that DiMaggio was in Boston for a special event at Fenway Park. The man considered "ungettable" by many sports journalists talked for several hours with Antonen, and they finished with a stroll in front of the Green Monster. DiMaggio "loved the history of baseball," Antonen years later told the Argus-Leader.

He was a sports broadcaster for MASN's Mid-Atlantic Sports Report, and radio analyst on Sirius-XM in the last decade of his career, and also wrote for Sports Illustrated and other publications. He did a radio interview on the baseball Hall of Fame voting from his hospital bed less than a week before his death. He especially loved talking baseball with long-haul truckers on his late-night satellite radio show.

Antonen's mother died when he was 12. His father, himself enshrined in the South Dakota Sports Hall of Fame, raised Mel and his sisters, Kathy and Carmen, and brother, Rusty, with the field at Memorial Park becoming a refuge.

"My life reflects the power of baseball," he said in that 2017 speech. "One of my earliest memories of Lake Norden baseball was the summer of 1969. . . . In March of that year my mom died after a year-long battle with cancer. But it was baseball, and Lake Norden baseball, with hot dogs and a 10-cent glass of pop and chasing batting-practice foul balls on a beautiful summer night, that created a diversion from fearful images of three months prior—(of) my mom's tan casket, crying adults, the hearse in front of Trinity Lutheran, on an overcast subzero day, when there were piles of snow in one of South Dakota's worst winters."

Antonen kept reporting and writing throughout his illness with COVID-19 and an auto-immune disease so rare that his doctors told him he may have been the only person on Earth with that combination.

Months after being diagnosed with both diseases, Mel scored an interview with Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert and big baseball fan, who talked about the need for caution, but also hope, in a pandemic. "You've got to go on with your life, but that doesn't mean you have to deprive yourself of all the pleasures" Fauci told him.

Antonen's final column for MASN, written after the Dodgers won the World Series in October, paid homage to the comforting and reassuring next-year ritual of baseball. It ended this way: "World Series 2021 prediction: The Padres in six over the White Sox."

Mel Richard Antonen is survived by his son, Emmett, 14, and his wife, Lisa Nipp, a photojournalist, whom he married in 2001, along with three siblings and their families. Lisa embraced the many characters in Mel's baseball orbit, once holding the phone for Mel with the crusty, late Hall-of-Fame pitcher Bob Feller by discussing the beauty of hollyhocks.

"From Joe DiMaggio to Dusty Baker and Bryce Harper, I have gotten to meet and interview and become friends with people that baseball fans around the world would love to know," he said in that Hall of Fame speech in South Dakota. "But those experiences only happened because I grew up around people that we should all be lucky to know. The lessons learned here, and on the prairie, have gone with me and worked beautifully. And tonight, baseball brings me home once again."●

REMEMBERING JANE ANNE
BOORMAN

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I would like to pay tribute to Ms. Jane Anne Boorman, a native South Dakotan and dedicated public servant, who passed away in December. Jane was deeply respected among her peers and beyond, having earned a superb reputation with her hard work and integrity. Jane was active and well-known in South Dakota Republican Party politics, and she was a thought-leader and friend, who no doubt helped inspire countless leaders and support important efforts throughout our great State. I extend my deep condolences and prayers to the Boorman family.

The following is Jane's obituary honoring the life of this great South Dakotan.

The material follows:

Jane Anne Boorman (1932 to 2020), a retired federal employee, Congressional aide, and newspaper editor died on December 11, 2020, at Arbor Place Retirement Home in Rockville, Maryland. She was 88.

Jane was born in Lemmon, South Dakota to Anne Sutton Boorman and Lloyd Bruce (LB) Boorman. She graduated from Lemmon High School and Marquette University.

Jane's life straddled South Dakota and Washington, DC. Born and raised on the high plains in Lemmon, South Dakota, Jane embodied the flinty independence of its early settlers. She was hard to know and always pushed for perfection, but once you were in her life you had a steadfast, loyal, and loving friend.

In Lemmon, Jane was editor and held other roles at the Lemmon Leader—the family-owned newspaper—where she worked until 1973. She also was named co-editor for "Dakota Panorama"—an history of South Dakota published by the South Dakota Territory Centennial observance in 1961.

Jane's passion for Republican party politics started early in her life. She was selected Outstanding Young Republican Woman in South Dakota and represented South Dakota as the state's Young Republican National Committee woman in 1961. In 1963 she was elected Vice Chairman of the National Young Republican Federation.

In 1973, she moved from Lemmon to Washington, D.C. to be a Press Secretary for then Congressman James Abdnor when he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She followed Abdnor to the U.S. Senate in 1981 as the Senator's personal secretary. As the Washington Post noted in 1986, Jane was "the embodiment of that Hill legend—the furiously devoted personal secretary, a combination mother, wife and watchdog, protecting as she sees best the beloved senator behind the door."

Boorman joined the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in 1987 as Director of Communications after President Ronald Reagan appointed Abdnor as Administrator of the SBA. During her 28 years at the Agency, Jane held various positions including managing the agency's relationship with SCORE and coordinating activities when international delegations visited the SBA. She retired from the SBA in 2015.

In Washington, she made her home at Riverside Condominium for 48 years and was active on the condo board, Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, and was a long-time organizer at Fort Leslie J. McNair, and at St. Dominic Catholic Church.

Although she lived in Washington DC, Jane maintained a strong foothold in South Da-

kota through memberships in the S.D. Newspaper Association, the S.D. Historical Society, and in championing growth for her hometown of Lemmon. She was also a lifetime member of the Society of Professional Journalists.

She is survived by her brother Bruce Boorman, Santee, California, and numerous nieces and nephews. Jane was preceded in her death by her parents and a sister, Katherine Becker, Hartford, Wisconsin.

In remembrance of Jane Boorman's life, the family asks that any charitable donations be made to WETA, Jane's favorite classical music station or to Jewish Social Service Agency (JSSA), her amazing hospice care team.

Memorial services will be held in Washington, D.C. and Lemmon, S.D after the pandemic threat has diminished. •

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-447. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate Previously Held by Rolls-Royce plc) Turboprop Engines; Amendment 39-21346" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0425)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-448. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd Airplanes; Amendment 39-21369" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0781)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-449. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-21370" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0858)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-450. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-21373" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1135)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-451. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Canada Limited Partnership (Type Certificate Previously Held by C Series Aircraft Limited Partnership (CSALP); Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-21375" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0683)) received in the

Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-452. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Piper Aircraft Inc., Airplanes; Amendment 39-21339" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0712)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-453. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation Helicopters; Amendment 39-21368" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0792)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-454. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Leonardo S.p.A Helicopters; Amendment 39-21365" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0468)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-455. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace LP Airplanes; Amendment 39-21367" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0796)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-456. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Bombardier, Inc., Airplanes; Amendment 39-21348" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0458)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-457. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Investment Adviser Marketing" (RIN3235-AM08) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-458. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Net Stable Funding Ratio: Liquidity Risk Measurement Standards and Disclosure Requirements" (RIN3064-AE44) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-459. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Transferred OTS Regulations Regarding Prompt Corrective Action Directives and Conforming Amendments to Other Regulations" (RIN3064-AF38) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the

President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-460. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Transferred OTS Regulations Regarding Certain Subordinate Organizations of State Savings Associations" (RIN3064-AF37) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-461. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Transferred OTS Regulations Regarding Application Processing Procedures of State Savings Associations and Conforming Amendments to Other Regulations" (RIN3064-AF36) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-462. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Libya declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-463. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the designation of Ansarallah and its aliases as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-464. A communication from the Chief of the Regulatory Coordination Division, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Registration Requirement for Petitioners Seeking to File Cap-Subject H-1B Petitions; Delay of Effective Date" (RIN1615-AC61) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-465. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3934" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31344)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-466. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3933" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31343)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-467. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amend-

ment No. 3935" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31346)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-468. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Take-off Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments; Amendment No. 3936" ((RIN2120-AA65) (Docket No. 31347)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-469. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-21376" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0681)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-470. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-21346" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0844)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-471. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-21366" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0841)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-472. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; CFM International, S.A. Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39-21355" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0729)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-473. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-21363" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0465)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-474. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Aerostar Aircraft Corporation Airplanes; Amendment 39-21340" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0574)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-475. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal

Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes; Amendment 39-21359" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0689)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-476. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Aviation Airplanes; Amendment 39-21362" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0778)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-477. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Rolls-Royce Deutschland Ltd & Co KG (Type Certificate Previously Held by Rolls-Royce plc) Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39-21338" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1032)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-478. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-21356" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1121)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-479. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters; Amendment 39-21333" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-1027)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-480. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-21342" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0780)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-481. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes; Amendment 39-21341" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0484)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-482. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Helicopters Deutschland GmbH Helicopters; Amendment 39-21358" ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0572)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-483. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; St. Clair Icy Bazaar Fireworks, St. Clair River, Michigan" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2021-0009)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-484. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Pipeline Testing; Tampa Bay, Gibsonton, Florida" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2020-0716)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-485. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Narragansett Bay, Quonset, Rhode Island" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2021-0639)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-486. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Narragansett Bay, Quonset, Rhode Island" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2020-0639)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-487. A communication from the Yeoman Chief Petty Officer, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Oakland Ship-to-Shore Crane Arrival, San Francisco Bay, Oakland, California" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2020-0719)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-488. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Warroad, Minnesota" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0878)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-489. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Marquette, Michigan" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0880)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-490. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Mineola and Kenedy, Texas" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0877)) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-491. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Trenton, Montana" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0750)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-492. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Helena, Montana" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0810)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-493. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Dubious, Pennsylvania" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0826)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-494. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Removal of Class E Airspace; Homestead, Florida" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0822)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-495. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace, Kalispell, Montana" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0825)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-496. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Burlington, Kansas" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0666)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-497. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Cairo, Illinois" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0726)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 11, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-498. A communication from the Management and Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Modification of Class D and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Hayward, California" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0766)) received

in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 9, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

S. Res. 70. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Anthony P. Angello and ending with Col. Michael T. Schultz, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nomination of Col. John M. Painter, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Bonnie Joy Bosler, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Michael A. Battle, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Mitchel Neurock, to be Major General.

* Army nomination of Lt. Gen. James E. Rainey, to be Lieutenant General.

* Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Maria R. Gervais, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Richard E. Angle and ending with Brig. Gen. Darren L. Werner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services 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.

Air Force nominations beginning with Travis D. Bellicchi and ending with Paul S. Smith, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nominations beginning with Joel R. Bischoff and ending with Wayne T. Sletten, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nominations beginning with John D. Caldwell and ending with Marion R. Wendall, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nominations beginning with Andrew C. Gordon and ending with Richard G. Wittmeyer III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Air Force nomination of Alexander O. Kirkpatrick, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jamila G. Evans and ending with Devan M.

Thompson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Army nomination of Terra L. Dawes, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Rachele A. Adkins and ending with Aaron G. Yee, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Army nomination of Clifton C. Kyle, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Dewayne L. Deener, to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Christopher L. Hardin, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Michael S. Dewey and ending with Paul M. Herle, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nomination of Jameel A. Ali, to be lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Timothy M. Landwerlen and ending with Long N. Vo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nomination of Jason M. Davis, to be Major.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Steven L. Ferwerda and ending with Weiguo R. Xu, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Benjamin D. Kastning and ending with Paul F. Thomas, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with David W. Dixon, Jr. and ending with Thomas R. Rice, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nomination of Aaron Mora, to be Major.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Mario J. Arellano and ending with Thomas B. White, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Kelly E. Dayton and ending with Richard L. Raines, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Ismael Alicea and ending with Alfredo Topete, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with James L. Biggers, Jr. and ending with Carl M. Ziegler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 6, 2021.

Navy nomination of Mondre X. Barnes, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Space Force nomination of Joshua D. King, to be Major.

*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.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 357. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a rule-making to consider establishing a process under which the Commission would maintain a list of numbers that a voice service provider cannot block, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 358. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to modify the distribution of funds under the tribal transportation program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 359. A bill to amend the Federal Crop Insurance Act to modify prevented planting coverage; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 360. A bill to amend title 51, United States Code, to modify the national space grant college and fellowship program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 361. A bill to establish a 90-day limit to file a petition for judicial review of a permit, license, or approval for a highway or public transportation project, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 362. A bill to amend the FAST Act to improve the Federal permitting process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 363. A bill to amend chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code, to increase the requirement for American-made content, to strengthen the waiver provisions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. DAINES, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 364. A bill to prohibit the use of funds to provide for the United States to become a party to the Paris Agreement; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 365. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to require a provider of a report to the CyberTipline related to online sexual exploitation of children to preserve the contents of such report for 180 days, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 366. A bill to remove all statues of individuals who voluntarily served the Confederate States of America from display in the United States Capitol; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 367. A bill to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Megellas, formerly of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and most recently of Colleyville, Texas, before his death on April 2, 2020, for

acts of valor on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. WICKER, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 368. 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; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 369. A bill to authorize and appropriate funding for grants to Amtrak for the restoration of long-distance routes and the rehiring of employees furloughed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 370. A bill to amend the Poultry Products Inspection Act and the Federal Meat Inspection Act to support small and very small meat and poultry processing establishments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 371. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to take certain land located in Pinal County, Arizona, into trust for the benefit of the Gila River Indian Community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. COONS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 372. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into a contract or other agreement with a third party to review appointees in the Veterans Health Administration who had a license terminated for cause by a State licensing board for care or services rendered at a non-Veterans Health Administration facility and to provide individuals treated by such an appointee with notice if it is determined that an episode of care or services that they received was below the standard of care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 373. A bill to strengthen the use of patient-experience data within the benefit-risk framework for approval of new drugs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. WARNOCK, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 374. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require the submission by issuers of data relating to diversity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. RUBIO, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 375. A bill to impose requirements on the payment of compensation to professional persons employed in voluntary cases commenced under title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight Management and Economic Stability Act (commonly known as "PROMESA"); to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 376. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on motor vehicle recalls, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 377. A bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 378. A bill to reauthorize the Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, the Lackawanna Valley National Heritage Area, the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, the Schuylkill River Valley National Heritage Area, and the Oil Region National Heritage Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. GRAMHAM, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 379. A bill to advance a diplomatic solution to the conflict in Libya and support the people of Libya; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 380. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve access to health care through expanded health savings accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 381. A bill to establish the National Ocean Mapping, Exploration, and Characterization Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 382. A bill to establish the Office of the Ombudsperson for Immigrant Children in Government Custody, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CARPER, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 383. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 384. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to encourage entrepreneurship training in after school programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 385. A bill to improve the full-service community school program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 386. A bill to establish a public health plan; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. KELLY):

S. 387. A bill to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and cultural heritage of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona, to provide for a study relating to the uranium stockpile in

the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 388. A bill to suspend certain United States assistance for the Government of Honduras until corruption, impunity, and human rights violations are no longer systemic, and the perpetrators of these crimes are being brought to justice; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 389. A bill to establish a Next Generation Entrepreneurship Corps program within the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BURR):

S. 390. A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to issue reports after activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System and to make improvement to network outage reporting; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 391. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 392. A bill to require Federal agencies to conduct a benefit-cost analysis on relocations involving the movement of employment positions to different areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 393. A bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 394. A bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require reporting to the Federal Election Commission and the Federal Bureau of Investigation of offers by foreign nationals to make prohibited contributions, donations, expenditures, or disbursements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 395. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain tax credits related to electric cars, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 396. A bill to promote registered apprenticeships, including registered apprenticeships within in-demand industry sectors, through the support of workforce intermediaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 397. A bill to amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to include an act of unregulated custody transfer in the definition of child abuse and neglect, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 398. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to clarify that utility line technicians qualify as emergency response providers; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 399. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from charging veterans co-payments for preventive services relating to COVID-19; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S.J. Res. 8. A joint resolution providing for the appointment of Barbara M. Barrett as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR:

S. Res. 70. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023; from the Committee on Rules and Administration; placed on the calendar.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 68

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 68, a bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

S. 85

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 85, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on the deduction for certain taxes, including State and local property and income taxes.

S. 89

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 89, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to secure medical opinions for veterans with service-connected disabilities who die from COVID-19 to determine whether their service-connected disabilities were the principal or contributory causes of death, and for other purposes.

S. 141

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 141, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny the deduction for advertising and promotional expenses for prescription drugs.

S. 152

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 152, a bill to allow States to approve the use of diagnostic tests during a public health emergency.

S. 153

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 153, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand and improve health savings accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 172

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 172, a bill to authorize the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

S. 193

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 193, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to update the modeling used for lifecycle greenhouse gas assessments for corn-based ethanol and biodiesel, and for other purposes.

S. 198

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 198, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to incorporate data on maternal health outcomes into its broadband health maps.

S. 209

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the

Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 209, a bill to provide for assistance to rural water, wastewater, and waste disposal systems affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

S. 218

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 218, 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. 221

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 221, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a grant program to increase cooperation on post-traumatic stress disorder research between the United States and Israel.

S. 225

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 225, a bill to reform the anti-trust laws to better protect competition in the American economy, to amend the Clayton Act to modify the standard for an unlawful acquisition, to deter anticompetitive exclusionary conduct that harms competition and consumers, to enhance the ability of the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission to enforce the antitrust laws, and for other purposes.

S. 251

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 251, a bill to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

S. 254

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 254, a bill to establish a Homeowner Assistance Fund at the Department of the Treasury.

S. 321

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the

Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 321, 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. RES. 33

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 33, a resolution supporting the contributions of Catholic schools.

S. RES. 34

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 34, a resolution recognizing the 200th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating democracy in Greece and the United States.

S. RES. 37

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 37, a resolution expressing solidarity with the San Isidro Movement in Cuba, condemning escalated attacks against artistic freedoms in Cuba, and calling for the repeal of laws that violate freedom of expression and the immediate release of arbitrarily detained artists, journalists, and activists.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CARPER, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 383. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding proprietary institutions of higher education in order to protect students and taxpayers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 383

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 “Protecting Our Students and Taxpayers Act of 2021” or “POST Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. 85/15 RULE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 102(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) meets the requirements of paragraph (2).”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) REVENUE SOURCES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In order to qualify as a proprietary institution of higher education under this subsection, an institution shall derive not less than 15 percent of the institution’s revenues from sources other than Federal education assistance funds, as calculated in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C).

“(B) FEDERAL EDUCATION ASSISTANCE FUNDS.—In this paragraph, the term ‘Federal education assistance funds’ means any Federal financial assistance provided, under this Act or any other Federal law, through a grant, contract, subsidy, loan, guarantee, insurance, or other means to a proprietary institution, including Federal financial assistance that is disbursed or delivered to an institution or on behalf of a student or to a student to be used to attend the institution, except that such term shall not include any monthly housing stipend provided under the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Program under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code.

“(C) IMPLEMENTATION OF NON-FEDERAL REVENUE REQUIREMENT.—In making calculations under subparagraph (A), an institution of higher education shall—

“(i) use the cash basis of accounting;

“(ii) consider as revenue only those funds generated by the institution from—

“(I) tuition, fees, and other institutional charges for students enrolled in programs eligible for assistance under title IV;

“(II) activities conducted by the institution that are necessary for the education and training of the institution’s students, if such activities are—

“(aa) conducted on campus or at a facility under the control of the institution;

“(bb) performed under the supervision of a member of the institution’s faculty; and

“(cc) required to be performed by all students in a specific educational program at the institution; and

“(III) a contractual arrangement with a Federal agency for the purpose of providing job training to low-income individuals who are in need of such training;

“(iii) presume that any Federal education assistance funds that are disbursed or delivered to an institution on behalf of a student or directly to a student will be used to pay the student’s tuition, fees, or other institutional charges, regardless of whether the institution credits such funds to the student’s account or pays such funds directly to the student, except to the extent that the student’s tuition, fees, or other institutional charges are satisfied by—

“(I) grant funds provided by an outside source that—

“(aa) has no affiliation with the institution; and

“(bb) shares no employees, executives, or board members with the institution; and

“(II) institutional scholarships described in clause (v);

“(iv) include no loans made by an institution of higher education as revenue to the school, except for payments made by students on such loans;

“(v) include a scholarship provided by the institution—

“(I) only if the scholarship is in the form of monetary aid based upon the academic achievements or financial need of students, disbursed to qualified student recipients during each fiscal year from an established restricted account; and

“(II) only to the extent that funds in that account represent designated funds, or income earned on such funds, from an outside source that—

“(aa) has no affiliation with the institution; and

“(bb) shares no employees, executives, or board members with the institution; and

“(vi) exclude from revenues—

“(I) the amount of funds the institution received under part C of title IV, unless the institution used those funds to pay a student’s institutional charges;

“(II) the amount of funds the institution received under subpart 4 of part A of title IV;

“(III) the amount of funds provided by the institution as matching funds for any Federal program;

“(IV) the amount of Federal education assistance funds provided to the institution to pay institutional charges for a student that were refunded or returned; and

“(V) the amount charged for books, supplies, and equipment, unless the institution includes that amount as tuition, fees, or other institutional charges.

“(D) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than July 1, 2021, and by July 1 of each succeeding year, the Secretary shall submit to the authorizing committees a report that contains, for each proprietary institution of higher education that receives assistance under title IV and as provided in the audited financial statements submitted to the Secretary by each institution pursuant to the requirements of section 487(c)—

“(i) the amount and percentage of such institution’s revenues received from Federal education assistance funds; and

“(ii) the amount and percentage of such institution’s revenues received from other sources.”.

(b) REPEAL OF EXISTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 487 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1094) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (24);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (25) through (29) as paragraphs (24) through (28), respectively;

(C) in paragraph (24)(A)(ii) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B)), by striking “subsection (e)” and inserting “subsection (d)”; and

(D) in paragraph (26) (as redesignated by subparagraph (B)), by striking “subsection (h)” and inserting “subsection (g)”; and

(2) by striking subsection (d);

(3) by redesignating subsections (e) through (j) as subsections (d) through (i), respectively;

(4) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) of subsection (d) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), by striking “(a)(25)” and inserting “(a)(24)”; and

(5) in subsection (f)(1) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), by striking “subsection (e)(2)” and inserting “subsection (d)(2)”; and

(6) in subsection (g)(1) (as redesignated by paragraph (3)), by striking “subsection (a)(27)” in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) and inserting “subsection (a)(26)”.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 152 (20 U.S.C. 1019a)—

(A) in subsection (a)(1)(A), by striking “subsections (a)(27) and (h) of section 487” and inserting “subsections (a)(26) and (g) of section 487”; and

(B) in subsection (b)(1)(B)(i)(I), by striking “section 487(e)” and inserting “section 487(d)”; and

(2) in section 153(c)(3) (20 U.S.C. 1019b(c)(3)), by striking “section 487(a)(25)” each place the term appears and inserting “section 487(a)(24)”; and

(3) in section 496(c)(3)(A) (20 U.S.C. 1099b(c)(3)(A)), by striking “section 487(f)” and inserting “section 487(e)”; and

(4) in section 498(k)(1) (20 U.S.C. 1099c(k)(1)), by striking “section 487(f)” and inserting “section 487(e)”.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. MANCHIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 391. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to reauthorize and expand the National Threat Assessment Center of the Department of Homeland Security; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I come to the floor to reintroduce a bill that didn’t get passed last Congress, a bill that deals with safety in our schools, a bill aimed at the disasters that come when schoolchildren are killed by shooters and to deal with this problem through a program that the Secret Service has had for decades and asking the Secret Service to see what they can do to apply the principles of that program to stop mass killings at our schools.

Three years ago, on February 14, 2018, an unspeakable tragedy occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL. In less than 4 minutes, 14 students and 3 staff members were killed, and, consequently, their families’ and friends’ lives were shattered forever by such a senseless act.

Today, along with my colleagues Senators RUBIO and SCOTT of Florida, Senators CORTEZ MASTO, COLLINS, MANCHIN, and HASSAN, I am proud to reintroduce legislation that will proactively mitigate threats of violence on school campuses by reauthorizing and expanding the U.S. Secret Service’s program called the National Threat Assessment Center.

The National Threat Assessment Center studies targeted violence and

develops best practices and training to identify and manage threats before they result in violence like we saw at that school 3 years ago.

The bill establishes a Safe School Initiative, a national program on school violence prevention, that will include expanded research on school violence. Most importantly, this legislation allows the Secret Service to directly equip communities and schools with training and best practices on recognizing and preventing school violence.

This bill, which I hope will help us to recognize the signs of a potential attack way long before such an attack occurs, carries the namesake of those it couldn't save, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School mascot, so this bill is called the EAGLES Act because that is the mascot of that school.

Two years ago, the Secret Service conducted a review of school shootings and made a very pivotal finding: All attackers exhibited concerning behaviors prior to engaging in an act of violence. In other words, it should be easy to identify these people, and, if identified, intervention is possible. So had these signs been recognized at an early enough stage, these attacks could have been stopped.

In the wake of the Parkland shooting in 2018, Congress took steps to protect schools and to prevent gun violence, including the passage of the Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing School Violence Act, which provided funding to schools to strengthen their infrastructure to make it more difficult for shooters to enter schools.

At that same time, we passed the Fix NICS Act, a law which penalizes Federal agencies that fail to comply with legal requirements to report dangerous individuals and violent criminals to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System so that if they are so reported, then they won't be able to purchase a gun. However, by passing the EAGLES Act, we are entering a vital third step in addition to those other two bills to protect our schools.

I would like to encourage all of my Senate colleagues to support this bipartisan and, I think, a very common-sense bill. I hope that we can focus on productive measures like these rather than unfocused efforts to undermine lawful gun ownership.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 70—AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES BY COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE FOR THE PERIODS MARCH 1, 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2021, OCTOBER 1, 2021 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2022, AND OCTOBER 1, 2022 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2023

Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted the following resolution; from the Committee on Rules and Administration; which was placed on the calendar:

S. RES. 70

Resolved,

SECTION 1. AGGREGATE AUTHORIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of carrying out the powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, and under the appropriate authorizing resolutions of the Senate, there is authorized for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, in the aggregate of \$69,459,540, for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, in the aggregate of \$119,122,957, and for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023, in the aggregate of \$49,634,958, in accordance with the provisions of this resolution, for standing committees of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Indian Affairs.

(b) AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS.—There are authorized to be paid from the appropriations account for “Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations” of the Senate such sums as may be necessary for agency contributions related to the compensation of employees of the committees for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023.

(c) EXPENSES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), expenses of each standing committee of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Indian Affairs under this resolution shall be paid from the contingent fund of the Senate upon vouchers approved by the chairman of the applicable committee.

(2) VOUCHERS NOT REQUIRED.—Vouchers shall not be required for—

(A) the disbursement of salaries of employees paid at an annual rate;

(B) the payment of telecommunications provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(C) the payment of stationery supplies purchased through the Keeper of the Stationery;

(D) payments to the Postmaster of the Senate;

(E) the payment of metered charges on copying equipment provided by the Office of the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper;

(F) the payment of Senate Recording and Photographic Services; or

(G) the payment of franked and mass mail costs by the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper.

SEC. 2. COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$3,172,421, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$5,438,436, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$2,266,015, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$200,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 3. COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Armed Services is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$4,786,564, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$35,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$11,667 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$8,205,538, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$60,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$3,418,947, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$8,333 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 4. COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$3,730,507, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$11,666 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$875 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$6,395,155, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$1,500 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$2,664,648, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$8,334 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$625 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 5. COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Budget is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$3,703,929, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$15,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$18,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$6,348,919, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$40,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$2,645,806, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 6. COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration,

use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$4,561,289, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$7,869,484, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$3,278,947, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 7. COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$3,515,718, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$17,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$8,750 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the

period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$6,026,946, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$15,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$2,511,227, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$12,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$6,250 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 8. COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$3,310,821, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$4,666 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$1,166 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$5,675,695, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$8,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$2,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$2,364,874, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$3,334 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual

consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$834 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 9. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Finance is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$5,527,337, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$17,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$5,833 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$9,475,434, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$3,948,098, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$12,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$4,166 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 10. COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$4,816,102, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$150,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$8,256,175, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$150,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$3,440,073, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$150,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 11. COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$6,085,953, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$10,433,063, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$4,347,110, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$25,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 12. COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate and S. Res. 445, agreed to October 9, 2004 (108th Congress), including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$6,430,401, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$11,023,545, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$4,593,144, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(e) INVESTIGATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, is authorized to study or investigate—

(A) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches of the Government including the possible existence of fraud, misfeasance, malfeasance, collusion, mismanagement, incompetence, corruption or unethical practices, waste, extravagance, conflicts of interest, and the improper expenditure of Government funds in transactions, contracts, and activities of the Government or of Government officials and employees and any and all such improper practices between Government personnel and corporations, individuals, companies, or persons affiliated therewith, doing business with the Government, and the compliance or noncompliance of such corporations, companies, or individuals or other entities with the rules, regulations, and laws governing the various governmental agencies and the Government's relationships with the public;

(B) the extent to which criminal or other improper practices or activities are, or have been, engaged in the field of labor-management relations or in groups or organizations of employees or employers, to the detriment of interests of the public, employers, or employees, and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect such interests against the occurrence of such practices or activities;

(C) organized criminal activity which may operate in or otherwise utilize the facilities of interstate or international commerce in furtherance of any transactions and the manner and extent to which, and the identity of the persons, firms, or corporations, or other entities by whom such utilization is being made, and further, to study and investigate the manner in which and the extent to which persons engaged in organized criminal activity have infiltrated lawful business enterprise, and to study the adequacy of Federal laws to prevent the operations of organized crime in interstate or international commerce, and to determine whether any changes are required in the laws of the United States in order to protect the public against such practices or activities;

(D) all other aspects of crime and lawlessness within the United States which have an impact upon or affect the national health, welfare, and safety, including investment fraud schemes, commodity and security fraud, computer fraud, and the use of offshore banking and corporate facilities to carry out criminal objectives;

(E) the efficiency and economy of operations of all branches and functions of the Government with particular reference to—

(i) the effectiveness of present national security methods, staffing, and processes as tested against the requirements imposed by the rapidly mounting complexity of national security problems;

(ii) the capacity of present national security staffing, methods, and processes to

make full use of the Nation's resources of knowledge and talents;

(iii) the adequacy of present intergovernmental relations between the United States and international organizations principally concerned with national security of which the United States is a member; and

(iv) legislative and other proposals to improve these methods, processes, and relationships;

(F) the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the Government involved in the control and management of energy shortages including their performance with respect to—

(i) the collection and dissemination of accurate statistics on fuel demand and supply;

(ii) the implementation of effective energy conservation measures;

(iii) the pricing of energy in all forms;

(iv) coordination of energy programs with State and local government;

(v) control of exports of scarce fuels;

(vi) the management of tax, import, pricing, and other policies affecting energy supplies;

(vii) maintenance of the independent sector of the petroleum industry as a strong competitive force;

(viii) the allocation of fuels in short supply by public and private entities;

(ix) the management of energy supplies owned or controlled by the Government;

(x) relations with other oil producing and consuming countries;

(xi) the monitoring of compliance by governments, corporations, or individuals with the laws and regulations governing the allocation, conservation, or pricing of energy supplies; and

(xii) research into the discovery and development of alternative energy supplies; and

(G) the efficiency and economy of all branches and functions of Government with particular references to the operations and management of Federal regulatory policies and programs.

(2) EXTENT OF INQUIRIES.—In carrying out the duties provided in paragraph (1), the inquiries of this committee or any subcommittee of the committee shall not be construed to be limited to the records, functions, and operations of any particular branch of the Government and may extend to the records and activities of any persons, corporation, or other entity.

(3) SPECIAL COMMITTEE AUTHORITY.—For the purposes of this subsection, the committee, or any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee, or its chairman, or any other member of the committee or subcommittee designated by the chairman is authorized, in its, his, her, or their discretion—

(A) to require by subpoena or otherwise the attendance of witnesses and production of correspondence, books, papers, and documents;

(B) to hold hearings;

(C) to sit and act at any time or place during the sessions, recess, and adjournment periods of the Senate;

(D) to administer oaths; and

(E) to take testimony, either orally or by sworn statement, or, in the case of staff members of the Committee and the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, by deposition in accordance with the Committee Rules of Procedure.

(4) AUTHORITY OF OTHER COMMITTEES.—Nothing contained in this subsection shall affect or impair the exercise of any other standing committee of the Senate of any power, or the discharge by such committee of any duty, conferred or imposed upon it by the Standing Rules of the Senate or by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946.

(5) SUBPOENA AUTHORITY.—All subpoenas and related legal processes of the committee and any duly authorized subcommittee of the committee authorized under S. Res. 70, agreed to February 27, 2019 (116th Congress) are authorized to continue.

SEC. 13. COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$6,908,656, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$100,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$11,843,410, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$125,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$15,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$4,934,754, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$80,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(e) ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE AUTHORITY.—For the purposes of carrying out its investigative powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate and in accordance with Committee Rules of Procedure, the committee is authorized to require by subpoena the attendance of witnesses at depositions of the committee, which may be conducted by designated staff.

SEC. 14. COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance

with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of such committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$1,827,361, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$43,750 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$7,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of such committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$3,132,620, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$75,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$12,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of such committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$1,305,258, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$31,250 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$5,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 15. COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the com-

mittee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$1,965,128, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$3,368,790, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$1,403,663, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 16. COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under the Standing Rules of the Senate, in accordance with its jurisdiction under rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by paragraphs 1 and 8 of rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$1,878,550, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$58,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$30,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$3,220,371, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$100,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof

(as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$50,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$1,341,821, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$42,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$22,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 17. SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions imposed by section 104 of S. Res. 4, agreed to February 4, 1977 (95th Congress), and in exercising the authority conferred on it by such section, the Special Committee on Aging is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$1,744,167, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$1,500 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$3,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$2,990,000, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$3,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$3,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$1,245,833, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$1,250 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$1,500 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 18. SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions under S.

Res. 400, agreed to May 19, 1976 (94th Congress), as amended by S. Res. 445, agreed to October 9, 2004 (108th Congress), in accordance with its jurisdiction under sections 3(a) and 17 of such S. Res. 400, including holding hearings, reporting such hearings, and making investigations as authorized by section 5 of such S. Res. 400, the Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$4,078,193, of which not to exceed \$10,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$6,991,188, of which not to exceed \$17,144 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$2,912,995, of which not to exceed \$7,143 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))).

SEC. 19. COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—In carrying out its powers, duties, and functions imposed by section 105 of S. Res. 4, agreed to February 4, 1977 (95th Congress), and in exercising the authority conferred on it by that section, the Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, in its discretion, to—

(1) make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(2) employ personnel; and

(3) with the prior consent of the Government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, use on a reimbursable, or nonreimbursable, basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2021.—The expenses of the committee for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 under this section shall not exceed \$1,416,443, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the training of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(c) EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 PERIOD.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 under this section shall not exceed \$2,428,188, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for training consultants of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

(d) EXPENSES FOR PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023.—The expenses of the committee for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 under this section shall not exceed \$1,011,745, of which amount—

(1) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for the procurement of the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof (as authorized by section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i))); and

(2) not to exceed \$20,000 may be expended for training consultants of the professional staff of such committee (under procedures specified by section 202(j) of that Act).

SEC. 20. SPECIAL RESERVE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Within the funds in the account "Expenses of Inquiries and Investigations", there is authorized to be established a special reserve to be available to any committee funded by this resolution as provided in subsection (b) of which amount—

(1) for the period March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, an amount shall be available, not to exceed 7 percent of the amount equal to seven twelfths of the appropriations for the account that are available for the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021;

(2) for the period October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, an amount shall be available, not to exceed 7 percent of the appropriations for the account that are available for that period; and

(3) for the period October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023, an amount shall be available, not to exceed 7 percent of the amount equal to five twelfths of the appropriations for the account that are available for the period October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—The special reserve authorized in subsection (a) shall be available to any committee—

(1) on the basis of special need to meet unpaid obligations incurred by that committee during the periods referred to in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a); and

(2) at the request of a Chairman and Ranking Member of that committee subject to the approval of the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Rules and Administration.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I have 9 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 ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to

meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

OFFICER EUGENE GOODMAN CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT

(On February 12, 2021, the Senate passed S. 35, as follows:)

S. 35

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 "Officer Eugene Goodman Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) On January 6, 2021, the United States Capitol Building was attacked by armed insurrectionists.

(2) Members of the United States Capitol Police force were overrun and insurrectionists breached the Capitol at multiple points.

(3) Around 2:14 in the afternoon, United States Capitol Police Officer Eugene Goodman confronted an angry group of insurrectionists who unlawfully entered the Capitol, according to video footage taken by Igor Bobic, a reporter with the Huffington Post.

(4) Officer Goodman, alone, delayed the mob's advance towards the United States Senate Chamber and alerted his fellow officers to the location of the insurrectionists.

(5) Upon reaching a second floor corridor, Officer Goodman noticed the entrance to the Senate Chamber was unguarded.

(6) As the mob approached, Officer Goodman intentionally diverted attention away from the Senate entrance and led the mob to an alternate location and additional awaiting officers.

(7) At 2:15 in the afternoon, a Washington Post reporter from inside the Senate Chamber noted "Senate sealed" with Senators, staff, and members of the press inside.

(8) Officer Eugene Goodman's selfless and quick-thinking actions doubtlessly saved lives and bought security personnel precious time to secure and ultimately evacuate the Senate before the armed mob breached the Chamber.

(9) Amidst a shocking, unpatriotic attack on the Capitol, Officer Goodman's heroism is recognized not only by Members of Congress and staff but also by the people of the United States they represent.

(10) By putting his own life on the line and successfully, single-handedly leading insurrectionists away from the floor of the Senate Chamber, Officer Eugene Goodman performed his duty to protect the Congress with distinction, and by his actions, Officer Goodman left an indelible mark on American history.

(11) Officer Goodman's actions exemplify the heroism of the many men and women who risked their lives to defend the Capitol on January 6, 2021.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) **PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.**—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of the Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design to Officer Eugene Goodman.

(b) **DESIGN AND STRIKING.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For the purposes of the presentation referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(2) **IMAGE AND NAME.**—The design shall bear an image of, and inscription of the name of, Officer Eugene Goodman.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3 under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) **NATIONAL MEDALS.**—The medals struck pursuant to this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) **NUMISMATIC ITEMS.**—For purposes of section 5134 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 24, 2021

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 12 noon, Wednesday, February 24; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; further, that upon conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of Jennifer Granholm to be Secretary of Energy; that the cloture motion with respect to the Granholm nomination ripen at 4 p.m.; that the mandatory quorum call be waived; finally, that the Senate recess from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. for the all-Senators briefing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW

Mr. CASEY. 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 6:51 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at 12 noon.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate February 23, 2021:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

THOMAS J. VILSACK, OF IOWA, TO BE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LINDA THOMAS-GREENFIELD, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF THE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY, AND THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

LINDA THOMAS-GREENFIELD, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS DURING HER TENURE OF SERVICE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BOBBY WITHROW

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the work and service of Bobby Withrow. His efforts on behalf of veterans and those in need reflect the very best of Texas values.

Since 2015, Bobby has coordinated and managed over 50 benefits and fundraisers for a host of community needs, ranging from supporting veterans and cancer patients to assisting those in their hour of need. For Bobby, there's no task too big or too small. Whether it's supporting those who've served, feeding thousands that are hungry, assisting non-profits with fundraising, or rolling up his sleeves to help families with home maintenance, Bobby's not afraid to take on the challenges of helping others.

Public servants like Bobby Withrow make Central Texas a place that residents are proud to call home. I salute his efforts and am forever grateful for his contributions to veterans and those in need.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FRANCIS G. NEWLANDS MEMORIAL REMOVAL ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the Francis G. Newlands Memorial Removal Act, which would remove the plaque and inscriptions bearing Francis G. Newlands' name from Chevy Chase Circle, a federal park located both in the District of Columbia and Maryland. I am pleased Representative JAMIE RASKIN of Maryland joins me in introducing this bill. This bill is part of a series of statue and memorial removal bills I am introducing during Black History Month.

Newlands was a U.S. senator from Nevada, a conservationist and the founder of the Chevy Chase Land Company, which developed the Chevy Chase neighborhood that touches D.C. and Maryland. Newlands was also a segregationist. He built Connecticut Avenue and ran a streetcar up the road to the newly built Chevy Chase Lake. However, homes on Connecticut Avenue were purposely priced to keep working families out, and covenants were later added to many of the property deeds in Chevy Chase explicitly prohibiting the land from ever being owned by African Americans or Jews. These covenants have since been declared void.

Newlands went further to keep Black and white Americans separate. In the late 1800s, he and Senator William Stewart secured 2,000 acres of land for Rock Creek Park. Estab-

lishing this park not only increased property values for landowners like Newlands and Stewart, but also kept white communities distinct from emerging Black communities on what they called the "wrong side of the park." Newlands' racist views went even further. In 1912, he called for the repeal the 15th amendment, which gave African American men the right to vote.

The fountain was established in 1932 by Congress. In 1990, the Chevy Chase Land Company also added the plaque next to the fountain. A resolution to remove Newlands' name from the fountain was first introduced by the D.C. Chevy Chase Advisory Neighborhood Commission in 2014. On July 27, 2020, the commission voted unanimously to ask the National Park Service to remove the bronze plaque bearing Newlands' name and to begin discussion on a new name for the fountain. This bill would remove Newlands' name from the fountain and remove the plaque entirely.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENDING CORPORAL PUNISHMENT IN SCHOOLS ACT OF 2021

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2021. Corporal punishment is a form of physical discipline where adults deliberately inflict pain on children in order to punish them. In schools, it typically involves the spanking or paddling of children by school officials.

Corporal punishment is harmful to long term child development. These practices are associated with physical abuse and ineffective. We as leaders should encourage our schools to adopt effective discipline strategies that will be supportive in reducing corporal punishment.

Schools must be a safe place where students are protected from harm, so that our children are able to thrive, grow, and learn. To date, corporal punishment in school is banned in 128 countries around the world. Sadly, 19 U.S. states still allow corporal punishments in their schools. Over 160,000 children in these states are subjected to corporal punishment in schools each year. This is abhorrent and unacceptable.

To end this cruel practice, the Ending Corporal Punishment in Schools Act of 2021 would prohibit any educational institution from receiving federal funding that allows school personnel to inflict corporal punishment on students and creates a new grant program to encourage improvements in school climate by promoting positive behaviors.

Madam Speaker, our schools must be a safe space for American children to learn. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting

this critically important bill, and hope to see its swift passage in the near future.

RECOGNIZING LINDA DAVIS

HON. YVETTE HERRELL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge this year's winner of the New Mexico Cattle Growers Association's Green from the Ground Up award, Linda Davis. The Cattle Growers Association awards this to individuals who display a lifetime of service to an in-sync ecosystem of land, water, wildlife, and livestock.

Linda and her husband Les have spent a lifetime tending to cattle on the Tequesquite and CS Ranch in New Mexico. Ranching has always been in her blood. Her great-grandfather established the Tequesquite Ranch in Albert, New Mexico in 1878, and she continues that legacy for future generations. Linda also remains active in her community, where she serves with the Cimarron Volunteer Ambulance Service as an Emergency Medical Technician.

This is not the first time Linda has been honored for her service. In 2000, she and her husband were inducted into the Hall of Great Westerners at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Additionally, she has received recognition from the Cattleman's Beef Board, the Beef Promotion Operating Committee, the American National Cattle Women organization, The New Mexico Cattle Growers Association, and the New Mexico Beef Council. These recognitions are a testament to her hard work and leadership, and I congratulate her on this most recent award.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. RICHARD FRANKLIN SHEPPARD

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Richard Franklin Sheppard, affectionately known as "Dick," who passed away on February 12, 2021.

Mr. Richard "Dick" Franklin Sheppard, born June 24, 1936, moved with his family from Oklahoma to California's Central Valley in the early 1930s. Living near Farmersville, Dick began working in the fields around the age of seven. He later began a career in broadcasting at KRDU Radio Station while attending high school in Dinuba.

Dick managed several radio stations throughout California during his career, returning to the Central Valley as the general sales manager of KJOY FM/KRDU AM in the 1990s

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

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

before joining the local Sanger newspaper as editor. He remained as editor for the Sanger Herald until his retirement in 2019. Dick also served his country in the U.S. Army Security Agency and the U.S. Navy Reserve in Dinuba. He enjoyed spending time with fellow veterans at the Sanger Post 7168 Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Sanger Post 98 AMVETS.

Renowned for his volunteer work and community involvement, Dick's legacy will not soon be forgotten. He organized an annual golf tournament fundraiser as a Golden Valley Girl Scout Council Board Member, conducted career preparation seminars for Workforce Connection, and served as a Family Self Sufficiency Board Member to help struggling families achieve economic independence. Dick was involved in several other organizations serving the Sanger and Fresno area communities: the Kiwanis Club of Dinuba, the Downtown Kiwanis Club of Fresno, the Rotary Club of the Fresno Airport, the Rotary Club in Sanger, the Sanger Unified School District Classified Employees Personnel Commission, the Sanger High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee, the Sanger Veterans Parade Committee, and the Fresno Radio Advisory Committee.

Dick was awarded several recognitions during his lifetime including the American Legion Medal for Character, the Sanger Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame, the Gold Seal award for community service presented by the Sanger Chamber of Commerce, and several journalism awards. Beloved by the Sanger community, Dick was also honored as the Grand Marshal for both the Sanger Veterans Parade and Sanger Christmas Parade in 2019.

Dick is survived by his wife Nadine; their children Mark, Cassandra and her husband Jack, and Christopher and his wife Petra; and stepson Michael and his wife Jessica. Dick is also survived by nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Mr. Richard "Dick" Franklin Sheppard. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

CHIEF GREEN 1 YEAR
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. BROWN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of the one-year anniversary of Chief Tiffany Green, Chief of Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department. In November 2018, County Executive Angela Alsobrooks made history as the first African American woman elected to lead a county government in Maryland. Upon Prince George's County's Fire Chief Benjamin Barksdale's announced retirement, County Executive Alsobrooks appointed Chief Green who became the First African American Woman to lead a fire department in the history of the State of Maryland and only the 9th African American Woman to hold the position of fire chief in the United States of America. She inherited a department with a call volume of 152,000, a total of 638 pieces of apparatus

(including command and support vehicles) with 266 specifically outfitted for fire suppression, rescue, or emergency transport.

Tiffany D. Green, a native Prince Georgian, began her career as a firefighter with the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department in March of 1999, after serving as a volunteer for the Oxon Hill Volunteer Fire Department for four years. As an almost 26-year fire services veteran, Tiffany holds dual bachelor's degrees in Public Safety and Biology and a master's degree in Emergency and Disaster Management. Climbing up the ranks, she has served in the following capacities prior to her role as a Command Staff member: Firefighter, Paramedic, Station Commander, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Chief Administrative Officer for Public Safety, Chief of Staff for the Director of Homeland Security, Special Events Coordinator and Stadium Commander for Fed Ex field.

As Deputy Fire Chief she was responsible for Human Resources, Fiscal Affairs, Information Management, Risk Management and the Office of Service Excellence, Accreditation & Research. As Director of the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Training and Leadership Academy, her primary responsibilities were training and professional development for over 900 sworn personnel and 1,200 volunteer members of the department. She also managed the High School Fire Science (Cadet) Program, a program for high school students who are interested in working in the Fire Services profession.

On January 15, 2020, Chief Green's nomination was unanimously approved following a review of her exemplary over 20 years of service, her impressive record and support from many public safety and government officials.

Chief Green made history as Prince George's County's first woman, first dual fire fighter/paramedic and youngest fire chief. County Executive Alsobrooks, in her nomination, made sure to emphasize Green's wealth of experience and high ranking on each and every promotional exam—the lieutenant's test, the captain's exam, and battalion chief's exam. According to County Executive Alsobrooks, Chief Green is far and away the most qualified person to lead the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department at this time.

According to Chief Green, her decision to serve her community as a volunteer fire fighter "changed the trajectory of [her] life." She recognizes the women whose shoulders she is standing on today. "Pioneers" like Maureen Hennessy, Angela Peden and the late Carla Blue who gave Chief Green their Keys to Success. And, Chief Green has vowed to "lead this department forward, to continue to be accountable, professional and community-centered."

Her leadership of the 1,062 Sworn and 1,500 volunteers has already proven to be a success on a national level. The Congressional Fire Services Institute and National Fallen Firefighters Foundation selected the Prince George's County Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department as the combination fire department recipient of the 2020 Senator Paul S. Sarbanes Fire Service Safety Leadership Award, named in honor of the late former Maryland Senator Paul Sarbanes. The award recognizes fire departments and organizations for leadership in advancing firefighter health and safety, who have developed important

health and safety programs for their personnel that are based on the 16 Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives established at the 2004 Tampa Summit.

Congratulations to Chief Green on this momentous occasion, and much appreciation to her husband Alfred, and daughter Talore, for sharing her with Prince Georges County.

EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE AND
STRENGTHEN MULTIEMPLOYER
PENSION PLANS

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I'd like to thank my colleague, Chairman RICHARD NEAL for his tireless work on the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act of 2021 and for providing retirement income security for pension recipients in endangered, critical or critical and declining status multiemployer pension plans.

In Kansas, thousands of retirees currently receive pensions through the Central States Plan and they face a crisis—a severe reduction in retirement income through no fault of their own.

Without the direct relief provided in this legislation, the Central States Pension Fund would have become insolvent in 2026 and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation would have to reduce 360,000 participants' pensions to pennies. This is unacceptable. As Chairman NEAL is all too aware, many of the participants of Central States are frontline workers who have served our country tirelessly and fearlessly in the face of the pandemic.

The present structure of these plans is unsustainable and in need of reform.

Without modernization of these plans and addressing employer liabilities, I am concerned that multiemployer pension plans and their retirees will certainly face similar circumstances in the future and require additional federal funds. This much needed relief to the plans is designed to forestall insolvency leaving important work that must follow. I believe we must seize this opportunity to reform these plans and take insolvency off the table.

I understand the Chairman is committed to working with me to modernize and strengthen multiemployer pension plans with the intent of bringing a reform package to the floor in this Congress. Could the Chairman confirm that is the case?

EFFORTS TO MODERNIZE AND
STRENGTHEN MULTIEMPLOYER
PENSION PLANS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, too many workers in this nation reach retirement age without the savings they need. The retirement crisis in America is real and will only worsen unless we make saving easier and do more to encourage workers to begin planning for retirement earlier. And that's why I've committed as the

Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee to addressing this crisis.

For example, about 50 percent of American workers work for an employer that does not offer a retirement plan at work. To make a significant dent in this coverage gap, it's critical that we enact legislation that requires employers that don't currently offer a retirement plan to at a minimum provide their employees with an auto IRA option.

I'm also pleased that the American Rescue Plan Act includes the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act of 2021, which would create a special financial assistance program under which cash payments would be made by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to financially troubled multiemployer pension plans to ensure that such plans can continue paying retirees' benefits for the next 30 years.

What we have here is a national emergency that we need to address immediately. If Congress doesn't act, the multiemployer pension system could collapse entirely, leaving retirees in poverty, businesses in bankruptcy, and communities in crisis.

Reform for both the multiemployer and single employer retirement plan system is a priority for the Ways and Means committee and we plan on addressing these issues this year.

I commit to working with Ms. DAVIDS on this as we move forward.

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT AS RELATED TO COVID-19

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, it has been over a year since we have seen continued COVID-19 related threats and attacks against the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. As millions across our nation continue to be impacted by the coronavirus, many continue to live in fear following the dramatic increase of threats and attacks against those of Asian descent. Recently, we have seen further escalation of horrific incidences of elderly AAPIs assaulted—resulting in even death.

Due to perpetuating anti-Asian rhetoric, misinformation, racism, discrimination, and unfounded blame for the spread of COVID-19, there has been over 3,000 reported incidents of anti-Asian hate crimes, including AAPIs being threatened, harassed, or assaulted, or having had their businesses vandalized. Just recently, in my district of Flushing, New York, a 52-year-old Asian woman was attacked and forcefully shoved while waiting in line outside of a bakery—resulting in her needing ten stitches on her head. Additionally, a 61-year-old Filipino man was viciously attacked and slashed across his face on a New York City subway.

It breaks my heart that, for over a year, in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, Asian Americans have been left fighting an additional front—that of hate and bigotry.

That is why I am reintroducing my resolution condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19. This resolution denounces the anti-Asian sentiment and recognizes the safety and well-being of all Americans during these unprecedented times.

Madam Speaker, I was proud that in the last Congress, the House passed this resolution 243 to 164. However, in light of the recent dramatic increase of anti-Asian hate incidents across our country, we must coalesce and renew our efforts to condemn all manifestations of racism, xenophobia, discrimination, and anti-Asian sentiment and scapegoating. We must denounce any and all anti-Asian sentiment of any form.

Madam Speaker, the House must remain strong, and stand against the sickening intolerance, bigotry, and violence that is leaving a terrible stain on our nation's history, especially during this moment of an unprecedented public health crisis. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to keep all Americans safe.

HONORING GARY CREED

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Gary Creed of Shawsville, Virginia, who passed away on January 28, 2021 at the age of 74. Gary was a member of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors for several terms who worked hard for the people of the county.

Gary was the son of Melvin Lewis and Ada Mae Moore Creed. He was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2001 as the representative of District C. He promoted the Meadowbrook Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library and the Meadowbrook Community Center, supported first responders, and successfully pushed to reduce the merchants capital tax, a move that eased a burden on local businesses without depriving the county of revenue. Gary served as Chairman of the Board in 2004. He retired in 2017. In the town of Elliston, part of District C, a park currently under construction has been named after him in honor of his service.

Gary was a longtime employee at the Shelor Motor Mile auto dealership and had also worked as an auctioneer and real estate developer. He loved the sport of basketball and coached Amateur Athletic Union girls basketball.

Gary is survived by his wife, Linda Creed; son Tim Creed and wife Barbara; daughter Niki Shumate and husband John; brothers Wilford Creed and Clyde Creed; sister Elizabeth Brammer; granddaughters Bridgette Bradley and husband James, Karalee Boggess and husband Mark, Karli Shumate, and Lauryn Shumate; and great-grandchildren Jaxon, Jacob, Holt, Boone, and Allie. I offer them my condolences on their loss. Our system of government depends on citizens such as Gary Creed, who take on the tasks of local government in order to improve their communities.

RECOGNIZING DINA CHACON-REITZEL

HON. YVETTE HERRELL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge this year's winner of the

New Mexico Cattle Growers Association's King Service award, Dina Chacon-Reitzel. This award is given to New Mexicans that have exhibited long standing dedication to the state's agricultural industry and those who work within it. Born into the agricultural life, Dina grew up on a cattle ranch that has been in her family for hundreds of years. She has spent most of her career with the New Mexico Beef Council, where she fought to protect the cattle industry and pioneered implementations of consumer information programs, as well as additional research within the beef industry.

Dina's advocacy spans from local entities, where she is involved with the New Mexico 4-H Foundation, all the way to the Federal government. She currently braves the Washington bureaucracy to advocate for the New Mexico State University College of ACES, where she serves as a citizen advocate for the USDA Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching.

This is not the first time Dina's efforts have been recognized. As a chairwoman on the New Mexico State University's Board of Regents she was awarded the New Mexico Outstanding Leadership Award for significant leadership towards agriculture. She was also given the Friend of Extension Award and was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award by the New Mexico State University. She was also recognized by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture with the Industry Partner Award.

Dina have exhibited the upmost dedication and leadership to the state of New Mexico and its agricultural industry, and I congratulate her on this award.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. MELVIN BANKS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and commemorate the life and works of Dr. Melvin Banks, the founder of Urban Ministries, Incorporated. A prodigious soul, by the age of 12, Dr. Banks was already spreading the word of the gospel throughout his native state of Alabama, sharing stories of the Bible with younger children. It was when he was preaching in Birmingham that Dr. Banks heard a verse from the Book of Hosea that would change his life "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Hearing this verse caused Dr. Banks to even further dedicate himself to spreading the gospel across the country and the world.

Dr. Banks' study of the Bible would take him to Chicago's Moody Bible Institute, where he was one of the institution's few Black students, graduating in 1955. However, Dr. Banks' education as a Christian in Chicago would not revolve solely around the classroom. At the urging of a chapel speaker, Dr. Banks visited a Brethren church on the city's South Side. This experience led him to the vital realization that he didn't need to diminish his blackness to live the fullest Christian life that he could. There, Dr. Banks would also meet and marry Olive Perkins, who would remain his partner throughout his life. He then continued his theological education in the Chicagoland area

at Wheaton College, earning a bachelor's degree in theology in 1958 and a master's degree in biblical studies in 1960.

When working for a Christian publishing company after completing his degrees at Wheaton College, Dr. Banks found that he often struggled to sell the company's Sunday School curriculum to Black churches. The material was written by white authors and told solely from a white perspective. Black churches believed that their students may not be able to relate to it. This realization led Dr. Banks to a truly visionary idea: why not create a Sunday School curriculum that would resonate with the Black experience? It was with this idea in mind that Dr. Banks launched Universal Ministries, Inc., with the mission of making the Bible more relatable to Black Sunday School students.

Beginning in his Chicago basement in 1970, Dr. Banks steadily grew Universal Ministries, Inc. to the point where it is today, with a customer base of over 40,000 for the company's Christian education resources. Thanks to the work of Universal Ministries, Inc., hundreds of thousands of Black Christians can see themselves and their experiences reflected in the texts of their faith. So titanic are the accomplishments of Universal Ministries, Inc., that the Evangelical Christian Publishers Association awarded Dr. Banks with their inaugural Kenneth N. Taylor Lifetime Achievement Award in 2017.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Banks passed away on February 13, 2021. His life's work continues through Universal Ministries, Inc., and the thousands of students who will benefit from the curriculums he assembled. He is survived by his wife Olive and three children, Melvin Jr., Patrice Lee, and Reginald. My deepest thoughts and prayers go out to Dr. Banks's friends, family, and all those who had the privilege to benefit, spiritually and emotionally, from his life's mission.

HONORING DELTA SIGMA THETA
SORORITY INC. KAPPA CHAPTER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Kappa Chapter on their Centennial anniversary.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. was founded in 1913 by 22 collegiate women at Howard University and is now an international sisterhood of over 350,000 predominantly Black, college educated women who are dedicated to providing public service through education, community outreach, and development in their communities across the globe.

On February 21, 1921, Kappa Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. was chartered. It became the first Black Greek-letter organization west of the Rocky Mountains. 100 years ago, during a time when universities across the country refused to admit Black students, seven dedicated and dauntless women from UC Berkeley, San Francisco State, and San Jose State came together to charter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Kappa Chapter. Vivian Osborne Marsh, Gladys Brown, Creola Cook, Elizabeth Gordon, Louise Thompson Patterson, Onilda Taylor, and Myrtle Price.

They remained a "city-wide" chapter until the 1960's.

The chapter's first President, Vivian Osborne Marsh, went on to become Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.'s 7th National President. Throughout her life she worked to promote literacy and provide opportunities for underprivileged teenagers and children. In honor of her service and their Centennial Kappa Chapter has created the "Vivian Osborne Marsh, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Kappa Chapter Endowed Scholarship Fund." This is the first endowed scholarship created by any Greek Letter Organization at UC Berkeley. The \$100,000 fund will generate scholarships for Black students at UC Berkeley for years to come.

Over the last 100 years Kappa Chapter and its members have continued a legacy of service to the Black community and to those in need. Current members have made exceptional efforts to promote health for women of color, social justice, professionalism, and the empowerment of Black women on campus in the greater community. Kappa Chapter has gone above and beyond to engage and inform the community by hosting programs that discuss important topics like COVID-19, Holistic Health, Black love, relationships, womanhood, empowerment, de-stigmatizing HIV/AIDS in the Black Community, and social justice.

Today we celebrate 100 years of commitment to change. From the legacy of Kappa Chapter's charter members to its current membership and newest initiates Karsyn Terry, Christine Harris, Symone Gilliam, and Robynne Oliver the legacy continues to grow.

On behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, I want to extend my sincere congratulations on this important milestone of 100 years. I thank Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Kappa Chapter for their commitment to sisterhood, scholarship, and service. Their history of empowering black women will forever be important to Black history and I look forward to witnessing the accomplishments that will define your next 100 years.

BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT TO THE
SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN
DELTA NATIONAL HERITAGE
AREA

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce legislation to adjust the Congressional designated boundary of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area.

In March 2019, Congress enacted into law (Public Law 116-9) my legislation with U.S. Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN designating California's first national heritage area. The Delta is a crown jewel of our state and an iconic working landscape, which my family has been fortunate to call home for over 40 years. It is the most productive watershed in the western United States and among the most ecologically important in the Western Hemisphere. Together, we must safeguard the Delta and the historic communities that make it such a special place.

The legislation I introduce today, at the request of the City of Rio Vista, would expand

the National Heritage Area's boundary to include approximately 62 acres of adjacent publicly owned land encompassing: the decommissioned United States Army Reserve Center (City of Rio Vista), U.S. Coast Guard Station Rio Vista, Beach Drive Wastewater Treatment Plant (City of Rio Vista), and Sandy Beach County Park (Solano County).

Two of these parcels—the decommissioned United States Army Reserve Center and Beach Drive Wastewater Treatment Plant—are owned by the City of Rio Vista but technically outside the city limits. As such, it appears that these parcels were omitted inadvertently when the National Park Service prepared the legislative map for the then-proposed Delta National Heritage Area in 2010.

I hope that Congress will enact my boundary adjustment before California's Delta Protection Commission completes the management plan for the National Heritage Area.

RECOGNIZING SATIA AUSTIN AS
CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize North San Diego County NAACP President Satia Austin, as my Constituent of the Month for February. Every February, we celebrate Black History Month, and this year, I am honored to highlight Satia as an incredible member of my community.

From an early age, Satia's parents stressed the importance of education, personal responsibility, and achievement. These values became her guiding principles as she pursued her passion through a career in youth advocacy and activism. As the current President of the North San Diego County NAACP, the State Advisor for the Youth and College Division for California and Hawaii, and the Adult Representative for Region I of the National NAACP Youth Works Committee, Satia uses her resources and platform to help guide young adults into the professional world. Instilling each of the same core values she was raised on, Satia's dedication to the betterment of local youth ensures African Americans and other people of color in the District aren't confined to their circumstances and can achieve success in their adult lives.

This past year, we experienced a nationwide awakening to systemic racism in America. We have much more work to do to confront inequality in our country, but I'm thankful for residents like Satia who are passionate about helping underserved youth succeed. As we continue to come together to address racial injustice, leaders like Satia bring me hope and inspiration. I am honored to recognize her as my Constituent of the Month.

RECOGNIZING THE 98TH BIRTHDAY
OF PAUL WOODS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the incredible life

and service of Paul Woods who celebrated his 98th birthday on February 20, 2021. Along with defying the average lifespan and despite segregation, Paul Woods fought for our democracy in the Pacific Theater of World War II. As we celebrate Black History Month, I think there's no better example of American courage than Buffalo's own Paul Woods.

Paul Woods was born in Alabama on February 20, 1923 in an era of racial oppression and segregation. When his father died, he and siblings were split at the gravesite among relatives. Paul Woods promised that he would raise his brother Sherman, and for the rest of his life "Daddy" has been taking care of people.

Paul Woods joined the segregated U.S. Army in 1941 when he was just 17 years old. He often says that "A bullet knows no race, rank, or status. We were all brothers on the battlefield." The bravery of Black units overseas belied their second-class status at home and helped lead to the abolition of racial segregation in the military in 1948 as well as the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

In 2012, Paul and 30 other World War II vets were flown to the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C. Five years later, Wish of a Lifetime sponsored a trip to Australia where he visited the exact location of his service during World War II and was thanked by the U.S. Consul General. Today he is the World War II Coordinator for the Jesse Clipper American Legion Post 430.

After helping to protect the Philippines, Paul Woods moved to the Buffalo region where he worked 16-hour days at Bethlehem Steel to feed his growing family. From Alabama to Australia, teenage recruit to war hero, and segregated soldier to seeing the first Black president, Paul Woods' life has spanned continents, a world war, and the fight for racial equality. The father of 15 turned 98 on February 20, 2021 having seen multiple children and grandchildren serve in the same military his bravery helped to desegregate.

Madam Speaker, I am thankful for the chance to honor Paul Woods, a longtime Western New York resident who helped free the Philippines despite enduring injustice at home. A proud member of Prince of Peace Church of God in Christ in Buffalo and husband to the late Mary T. Woods, Paul Woods' 6' 4" stature is dwarfed only by his impact on his family, community, and country.

IN RECOGNITION OF PHIL WEBB
AND THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF
WEBB CONCRETE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize Phil Webb and the 75th anniversary of Webb Concrete.

In 1946, Garth Webb started Farmers Supply Company in Heflin, Alabama. It began as a seed, fertilizer and hardware business and later a ready-mix concrete, sand and gravel company. In 1980, Phil bought the company from his father, Bobby. Since then, Phil has grown the company and added a flooring division in 2006. Today, the company offers mate-

rials to complete a project from the foundation to completion.

Webb Concrete serves East Central Alabama in six locations and has showrooms to give customers a first-hand look at everything Webb Concrete offers.

In addition to growing his family company, Phil is best known for his service to his community. He is involved on the board of directors for many organizations including Alabama Power, Greater Birmingham Association of Home Builders, also, serving as its Governmental Affairs Advocacy Vice-Chair, Calhoun County Home Builders Association, University of Alabama President's Cabinet and Capital Campaign Cabinet, JSU Foundation, JSU School of Business & Industry, Calhoun County Economic Development Council, NobleBank & Trust, The Donoho School, The Right Place and McClellan Development Authority, where he also serves as Chairman.

He is both a board member and past chairman of the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, YMCA of Calhoun County and Knox as well as a member of the Calhoun County Quarterback Club and Anniston Rotary Club. He previously served on the Habitat for Humanity board and has donated materials for a new Habitat home.

Phil serves as Finance Chairman for the Alabama Republican Party and a board member and past Chairman of the Board for the Greater Alabama Council Boy Scouts of America. He also serves on the board of directors for the Business Council of Alabama and ProgressPAC, the Alabama Workforce Council and Nick's Kids Foundation. He is currently a member of Leadership Alabama and on the Selection Committee for the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Phil for his service to the people of Alabama and join me in recognizing the 75th anniversary of Webb Concrete.

TRIBUTE TO BEN MONTGOMERY
"A GOOD MAN"

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a good man. Mr. Benny M. Montgomery. Benny was born and raised on the Westside of Chicago, graduated from Farragut High School with honors and attended Roosevelt University where he received a bachelor's degree in Public Administration. Benny was always interested in Public Affairs and started work with Congresswoman Cardiss Collins where he remained for 16 years until she retired. In 1997, Benny began work for and with Congressman DANNY K. DAVIS when he became a legend among social activists, health activist, and especially HIV-AIDS activists. Benny was as solid as a rock, had a very creative mind and used his talents to the utmost. He was a key organizer of the Westside Aids Task Force, worked with other HIV groups such as Howard Brown, the Ruth Rothstein Core Center, did training and Sunday afternoon forums at churches. Ben became the voice and face, the black leader of the fight against AIDS and HIV in the 7th District and citywide. Benny Montgomery,

Mark Loveless, and Michael O'Conner became known as the 3 musketeers in the fight against AIDS. Ben came up with the Red Ribbon Lottery Ticket as a way of raising money for HIV-AIDS awareness organizations whose budgets were 100,000 dollars or less. The first year it generated 1.4 million and the second year 2.4 million. Ben helped create and led the 7th CD Task Force on Fathers and Families. Today it is a full fledged 501 C3 Tax Exempt Organization under the leadership of Rev. Walter Jones. After 31 years of working for the U.S. House of Representatives, Ben retired at the age of 48, but kept working until the Lord ordered his steps to cease on December 13, 2020 at the age of 58, may he rest in peace.

The Bible says that the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord.

IN HONOR OF BILLIE HOLIDAY'S
LIFE AND LEGACY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary achievements in the life of Billie Holiday—a gifted vocalist, a dedicated activist, and a cultural icon.

Billie Holiday's story is one of perseverance and resiliency. Born into modest means and harsh circumstances, she suffered through a dark and difficult childhood in the face of poverty, parental absence, and trauma. But it was music—specifically, that of Louis Armstrong and Bessie Smith—that reignited her dimming spark. Through song, she found the uncanny ability to express her pain through her true voice. And what a voice it was.

Amid heightened racial tensions in the 1930s, Billie Holiday introduced a new genre of protest—melody. In her hit rendition of "Strange Fruit," she posed an unapologetic and uncensored challenge to the injustice of lynching of black Americans at one of the darkest moments of history in our nation. Burdened by the weight of the song's message and facing public backlash, she continued to perform and record it to reach a greater audience. Despite the vitriolic backlash, Strange Fruit quickly became the unofficial anthem of the anti-lynching movement and was an early mantra towards the success of the larger civil rights movement.

Madam Speaker, until her passing at only 44 years old, Billie Holiday had already established a legacy that would survive for generations to come. As she fortuitously predicted, her lyrics remain a main stay in modern pop culture. May we be confident in her everlasting influence, because "life dies but forever there will be music."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF
JUANITA VARNADO PIERCE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize

the life of Juanita Varnado Pierce. She passed on February 7, 2021 at the age 83.

Juanita (affectionately called Neat) was born to the late Howard and Maggie Lee Varnado and grew up in McComb, Mississippi. Her early education was at Pike County High School in McComb. She graduated high school at 15 and attended Henderson Business College in Memphis, Tennessee. She graduated from Tuskegee Institute, now Tuskegee University, in 1974 with a B.S. in Early Childhood Education and from Auburn University with a Master's in Early Childhood Education in 1975.

She started teaching 2nd grade at Dean Road Elementary School in Auburn, Alabama, in August of 1975 and taught 2nd grade for 17 years. After completing her Administration Certification from the University of Alabama, she was hired as the Assistant Principal at Dean Road Elementary in the Fall of 1992 and became Principal in Fall of 1996. She retired in the Fall of 1998. As a retired educator, she volunteered throughout Tuskegee in the local school system reading to young children. To ensure all children had access to books, she founded the Bookmobile which was a remade bread truck she purchased and drove it throughout Macon County giving free books to children. Continuing in her passion of educating and reading, Juanita established the S.M.A.R.T. (Science, Math, Art, Reading and Technology) Camp in 2005. Funded by grants and donations, this free two-week camp was started at Washington Chapel A.M.E. Church with approximately 40 students and today is held at George Washington Carver Elementary School due to the large size of participants.

Juanita was a devoted member of Washington Chapel A.M.E. Church. After joining in 1960, she started teaching the pre-school Sunday School class and remained the teacher for nearly 50 years. She served in the Cathedral and Gospel Choirs, the Stewardess Board and Steward Board.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 44 years, Booker T. Pierce, Sr.; her sisters Patricia Varnado and Artis Varnado; and a brother, Charles Varnado. Remaining to continue her legacy are her three children, Booker T. Pierce, Jr. (Nashville, TN); Vincent B. Pierce (St. Louis, MO) and Lisa (Bernard) P. Grant (Alexandria, VA); two grandchildren, Nicholas Bernard Grant (Newport News, VA) and Dominique Pierce (Pompano Beach, FL); her sister Lottie (Harrison) Varnado-Williams (Diamondhead, MS) and one brother Howard Varnado, Jr. (Milpitas, CA); two brothers-in-law, Fletcher (Sylvia) Pierce (McCormick, SC) and James Pierce (Montgomery, AL), two sisters-in-law, Cebell Miller (Griffin, GA) and Roxanne Pierce (Bessemer, AL); and a host of devoted cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Juanita's memory. She was a humble servant who gave willingly and unconditionally to everyone she encountered. She will be missed by her family, friends and the Tuskegee Community.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MARY ELLA HARRIS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation.

Whereas, the Almighty God has called to her eternal rest Mrs. Mary Ella Harris, a pioneer civic, community, social, religious and political activist in the North Lawndale Community of Chicago and its environs; and

Whereas, Mary Harris and her family were some of the very first blacks to move into and reside in what was then an all white community; and

Whereas, as the community changed and as Blacks poured in, many from the rural south, Mary's leadership shined like the bright light that she was; and

Whereas, Mary was not necessarily the loudest and most militant sounding person in the meetings she was always there and when she spoke, people listened and took action based upon what she said. For many years Carey Tercentenary AME Church was blessed to have four of its members known as leading activist and leaders in the Lawndale Community: Mrs. Nola Bright, Mrs. Jacqueline Ford, Mr. Theodis Leonard and Mrs. Mary Ella Harris.

Now, therefore be it Resolved that we cherish the life, work, contributions and legacy of Mrs. Mary Ella Harris and extend condolences to her family and friends, son, Reverend Walter Harris, daughters, Ms. Jeanetta Lee, Ms. Pamela Ella and son, James Leo Jr., grandchildren, great grandchildren and other relatives.

She served us well and now may she rest in peace.

MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS FOR THESPIAN TROUPE 3991 AT NEW JERSEY'S HIGHTSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to send my sincere congratulations and heartfelt thanks to the members of Thespian Troupe 3991 at Hightstown High School for their incredible efforts in collecting 84 pounds of food for Rise Food Pantry as part of New Jersey Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat. The dedication that they have shown to this program—from re-creating a national initiative at the state level so they can continue fighting childhood hunger, to achieving such tremendous feats in their 2020 food drive—is a true testament to the character and focus of their members.

Whether this drive is their last, their first, one of many, or the only one that they will participate in, I hope that they can feel the impact that they have had on the community they live in, and that they remember that they are always capable of such impact. I applaud them on this achievement, and I look forward to all that they will accomplish in their futures.

Again, Congratulations.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUDENE MCCOY'S 92ND BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention to recognize Mrs. Rudene McCoy. Mrs. McCoy turned 92 on December 21, 2020.

Rudene was born in Chambers County, the daughter of L. L. and Ruby Aaron. She was raised in Lanett and is a graduate of Lanett High School. Rudene earned her B.S. degree in nursing from the University of Georgia.

Rudene had a tremendous career as a registered nurse in the area of cardiology. She was mentored by renowned cardiologist, Dr. Robert Copeland, and served as his chief cardiac nurse for over 30 years. Based on her outstanding patient care, she was named Chambers County Nurse of the Year and received numerous accolades from the Georgia Heart Clinic.

In addition to her profession, Rudene was devout in her support of her family, church and the City of Lanett. She is a life-long member of the United Methodist Church of Lanett where she taught Sunday School, served on Administrative Board and was named Woman of the Year. Rudene also co-chaired the Centennial Committee that planned and prepared Lanett's 100-year celebration in 1995.

Rudene has been known as First Lady and First Mother of the City of Lanett. Her husband, Pete, was a longtime Councilman and Mayor for the City. Her son Kyle is the current Mayor of Lanett; her daughter Valerie is a registered nurse like Rudene; and her son Skip is the County Attorney for Chambers County.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Rudene for her service to the people of Lanett and Chambers County and join me in wishing her a very happy 92nd birthday.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DETECTIVE TYRONE P. JACKSON ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CHICAGO POLICE DEPARTMENT (STAR NUMBER 21175)

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, law enforcement can be one of the toughest careers, one of the most rewarding jobs and one of the areas from which one can derive a very high level of satisfaction.

Such has been the experiences of Detective Tyrone Jackson who grew up in Chicago, went to Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, returned home and joined the Chicago Police Department, and is now ready to enter a new phase of life.

During his 30-year tenure with the Chicago Police Department, Detective Jackson worked with several units, from Patrolman to Organized Crime, to the SAM Unit (Stop Alcohol to Minors), Prostitution, and FBI Operations in finding missing youth in Human Trafficking.

In addition to his police work, Detective Jackson is actively involved in his community. He has been an active member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity since 1977, a member of

the Evergreen Park Alumni Chapter and a affiliate with the Apostolic Faith Church in Chicago.

Congratulations Detective Jackson on an outstanding career.

He still has much more service to perform, and I am certain that he will do it well.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate confirmed the nomination of Thomas J. Vilsack, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S793–S831

Measures Introduced: Forty-three bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 357–399, S.J. Res. 8, and S. Res. 70. **Pages S821–22**

Measures Reported:

S. Res. 70, authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021, October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, and October 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023. **Page S820**

Cardona Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Miguel A. Cardona, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education. **Pages S799–S807**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy. **Page S799**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S799**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S799**

Granholm Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 12 noon, on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy; and that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination ripen at 4 p.m. **Page S831**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 78 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. EX. 61), Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of the Ambassador, and the Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations. **Pages S793–96**

By 92 yeas to 7 nays (Vote No. EX. 63), Thomas J. Vilsack, of Iowa, to be Secretary of Agriculture. **Pages S797–98**

By 78 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. EX. 64), Linda Thomas-Greenfield, of Louisiana, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations. **Pages S798–99**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 77 yeas to 20 nays (Vote No. EX. 62), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S797**

Executive Communications: **Pages S818–20**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S820–21**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S822–23**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S823–30**

Additional Statements: **Pages S815–18**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S830–31**

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—64) **Pages S796–99**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10:31 a.m. and adjourned at 6:51 p.m., until 12 noon on Wednesday, February 24, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S831.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine emerging technologies and their impact on national security, after receiving testimony from General Herbert J. Carlisle, USAF (Ret.), National Defense Industrial Association; Eric E. Schmidt, Schmidt Futures; and Brad L. Smith, Microsoft Corporation.

SEMIANNUAL MONETARY POLICY REPORT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to the Congress, after receiving testimony from Jerome H. Powell, Chair, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

NOMINATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee began hearings to examine the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Heinrich and Representative Young, testified and answered questions in her own behalf, but did not complete action thereon.

Hearing recessed subject to the call and will meet again at 10 a.m., on Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Adewale O. Adeyemo, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, after the nominee testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: On Monday, February 22, 2021, Committee ordered favorably reported an original resolution (S. Res. 64) authorizing expenditures by the Committee, and adopted its rules of procedure for the 117th Congress.

JANUARY 6 ATTACK ON THE CAPITOL

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and Committee on Rules and Administration: Committees concluded a joint hearing to examine the January 6, 2021 attack on the Capitol, after receiving testimony from Acting Chief Robert J. Contee, III, Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C.; Steven A. Sund, former Chief of the U.S. Cap-

itol Police; Michael C. Stenger, former Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper, U.S. Senate; and Paul D. Irving, former Sergeant at Arms, U.S. House of Representatives.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee announced the following subcommittee assignments for the 117th Congress:

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations: Senators Ossoff (Chair), Carper, Hassan, Padilla, Johnson, Paul, Lankford, and Scott (FL).

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight: Senators Hassan (Chair), Sinema, Rosen, Ossoff, Paul, Romney, Scott (FL), and Hawley.

Subcommittee on Government Operations and Border Management: Senators Sinema (Chair), Carper, Padilla, Ossoff, Lankford, Johnson, Romney, and Hawley.

Senators Peters and Portman are ex-officio members of each subcommittee.

NOMINATION

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senators Feinstein and Padilla, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Merrick Brian Garland, of Maryland, to be Attorney General, Department of Justice, after receiving testimony from Josh Blackman, South Texas College of Law, Houston; Donna Bucella, former Director, Executive Office for United States Attorneys and former U.S. Attorney for the Middle District of Florida, Irving, Texas; Wade Henderson, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and Andrea Tucker, both of Washington, D.C.; and Ken Starr, Waco, Texas.

HACK OF U.S. NETWORKS

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the hack of U.S. networks by a foreign adversary, after receiving testimony from Kevin Mandia, FireEye, Inc., Reston, Virginia; Sudhakar Ramakrishna, SolarWinds Inc., Austin, Texas; Brad Smith, Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, Washington; and George Kurtz, CrowdStrike, Sunnyvale, California.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 64 public bills, H.R. 1,210–1,273; and 7 resolutions, H. Res. 146, 148–153 were introduced. **Pages H584–87**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H589–90**

Report Filed: A report was filed today as follows:

H. Res. 147, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 803) to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes, and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–6). **Page H584**

Committee Elections: The House agreed to H. Res. 146, electing a Member to certain standing committees of the House of Representatives. **Page H551**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:11 p.m. and reconvened at 4 p.m. **Page H552**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures: Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the “Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building”: H.R. 264, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1101 Charlotte Street in Georgetown, South Carolina, as the “Joseph Hayne Rainey Memorial Post Office Building”; **Pages H552–54**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South in Wayzata, Minnesota, as the “Jim Ramstad Post Office”: H.R. 772, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 229 Minnetonka Avenue South in Wayzata, Minnesota, as the “Jim Ramstad Post Office”; **Pages H554–55**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the “Jose Hernandez Post Office Building”: H.R. 813, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1050 Sunset Road Southwest in Albuquerque, New Mexico, as the “Jose Hernandez Post Office Building”; and **Pages H555–56**

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the “Colonel Carlyle ‘Smitty’ Harris Post Office”: H.R. 208, to

designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Main Street, Suite 102 in Tupelo, Mississippi, as the “Colonel Carlyle ‘Smitty’ Harris Post Office”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 406 yeas to 15 nays, Roll No. 32.

Pages H556–57, H563–64

Recess: The House recessed at 5:25 p.m. and reconvened at 6:31 p.m. **Page H563**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Effective Assistance of Counsel in the Digital Era Act: H.R. 546, to regulate monitoring of electronic communications between an incarcerated person in a Bureau of Prisons facility and that person’s attorney or other legal representative; and **Pages H557–60**

Puerto Rico Recovery Accuracy in Disclosures Act of 2021: H.R. 1192, To impose requirements on the payment of compensation to professional persons employed in voluntary cases commenced under title III of the Puerto Rico Oversight Management and Economic Stability Act (commonly known as “PROMESA”). **Pages H560–63**

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yeas-and-nays vote developed during the proceedings of today and appeared on pages H563–64.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Committee Meetings

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held an oversight hearing on the Internal Revenue Service. Testimony was heard from Charles P. Rettig, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, Internal Revenue Service.

INNOVATION OPPORTUNITIES AND VISION FOR THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ENTERPRISE

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Cyber, Innovative Technologies, and Information Systems held a hearing entitled “Innovation Opportunities and Vision for the Science and Technology Enterprise”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NEAR-PEER ADVANCEMENTS IN SPACE AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces held a hearing entitled “Near-Peer Advancements in Space and Nuclear Weapons”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

PATHWAY TO PROTECTION: EXPANDING AVAILABILITY OF COVID-19 VACCINES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Pathway to Protection: Expanding Availability of COVID-19 Vaccines”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

REVITALIZING THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled “Revitalizing the Federal Workforce”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COLORADO WILDERNESS ACT OF 2021; EQUALITY ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 803, the “Colorado Wilderness Act of 2021”; and H.R. 5, the “Equality Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 7–4, a rule providing consideration of H.R. 803, the “Protecting America’s Wilderness and Public Lands Act”, and H.R. 5, the “Equality Act”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 803, the “Protecting America’s Wilderness and Public Lands Act”, under a structured rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–2, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted and the bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended. The rule provides that following debate, each further amendment printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier considered as part of amendments en bloc pursuant to section 3 shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before the question is put thereon, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. Section 3 of the rule provides

that at any time after debate the chair of the Committee on Natural Resources or his designee may offer amendments en bloc consisting of further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report not earlier disposed of Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question. The rule waives all points of order against the amendments printed in the Rules Committee report or amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 5, the “Equality Act”, under a closed rule. The rule provides 90 minutes of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit. Testimony was heard from Representatives Cicilline, Jordan, DeGette, Westerman, Plaskett, Boebert, Burgess, and Stauber.

BUILDING BACK BETTER: THE URGENT NEED FOR INVESTMENT IN AMERICA’S WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing entitled “Building Back Better: The Urgent Need for Investment in America’s Wastewater Infrastructure”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on the Budget: business meeting to consider the nomination of Neera Tanden, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Time to be announced, S–207, Capitol.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to continue hearings to examine the nomination of Debra Anne Haaland, of New Mexico, to be Secretary of the Interior, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine investing in transportation while addressing climate change, improving equity, and fostering economic growth and innovation, 10:15 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Xavier Becerra, of California, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services, 2 p.m., SD-106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider the nomination of Neera Tanden, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and committee rules of procedure for the 117th Congress, 10 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine native communities' priorities in focus for the 117th Congress, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: business meeting to consider the nomination of Isabella Casillas Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration, 2:30 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine vaccines for vets, focusing on ending the COVID-19 pandemic, 4 p.m., SD-G50.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of William Joseph Burns, of Maryland, to be Director of the Central Intelligence Agency; to be immediately followed by a closed hearing in SVC-217, 10 a.m., SR-301.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Defense, hearing entitled "Future Defense Spending", 9:30 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government, budget hearing on the Judiciary, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled "Ready or Not: U.S. Public Health Infrastructure", 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, hearing entitled "Health and Wellness of Employees and State of Damage

and Preservation as a Result of the January 6 Insurrection", 10 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, hearing entitled "Fanning the Flames: Disinformation and Extremism in the Media", 12:30 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Monetary Policy and the State of the Economy", 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "How Invidious Discrimination Works and Hurts: An Examination of Lending Discrimination and Its Long-term Economic Impacts on Borrowers of Color", 3 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled "America Forward: Restoring Diplomacy and Development in a Fracturing World", 1:30 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Confronting the Coronavirus: Perspectives on the COVID-19 Pandemic One Year Later", 9:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, hearing entitled "The Need for New Lower Court Judgeships, 30 Years in the Making", 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, hearing entitled "The Rise of Domestic Terrorism in America", 2 p.m., 2141 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled "Legislative Proposals to Put the Postal Service on Sustainable Financial Footing", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Regulations, hearing entitled "Perspectives from Main Street: Raising the Wage", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, hearing entitled "Examining Equity in Transportation Safety Enforcement", 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Webex.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Wednesday, February 24

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, February 24

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at 4 p.m.

(Senate will recess from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. for an all Senators briefing.)

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of H.R. 803—Colorado Wilderness Act of 2021 (Subject to a Rule). Consideration of H.R. 5—Equality Act (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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Congressional Record

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