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No. 81

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:

Almighty God, You have called us, and we are Yours. We pray this day that our lawmakers would respond to this calling with worthiness, keenly aware of the privilege that it is You who have sent them into the leadership of this country.

May they receive this mantle of responsibility with all humility, gentleness, and patience. May they demonstrate eagerness to maintain the unity of the spirit who binds this body together in peace, bearing with all others around them, in the manner of unconditional love You Yourself have revealed to Your sons and daughters.

Help us each to live into the occupations to which You have called us. In living out the lives You have given us and in interacting with those into whose company You have brought us, may we build one another up in faith and love. May words of truth and not evil spill from our mouths.

When we are angry, keep us from sinning one against the other. As Members of one body, may we show grace in our encounters and, when necessary, offer forgiveness even as You, in Your divine mercy, have forgiven us.

It is in Your merciful name we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to section 11(a) of House Resolution 188, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will take this occasion to update her policies of January 4, 2021, and December 15, 2020, regarding the requirement to wear masks in the Hall of the House during the coronavirus crisis.

Consistent with updated guidance from the Office of Attending Physician, the Chair wishes to inform Members that while masks continue to be required in the Hall of the House, Members are permitted to remove their masks temporarily while under recognition. To be clear, Members and staff must wear masks in the Hall of the House at all times except that a Member may remove their mask when recognized by the Chair. In addition, Members presiding as Chair may remove their masks when speaking.

This announcement is incorporated within the policy on conduct during a covered period of January 4, 2021, and the Sergeant-at-Arms is directed to enforce mask requirements consistent with this announcement.

The Chair appreciates the continued attention of all Members and staff to these health and safety protocols.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 6, 2021.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of the Certificate of Election received from the Honorable John Bel Edwards, the Governor of Louisiana, and the Honorable R. Kyle Ardoin, the Secretary of State of Louisiana, indicating that, at the Special Election held April 24, 2021, the Honorable Troy A. Carter was elected Representative to Congress for the Second Congressional District, State of Louisiana.

With best wishes, I am,
Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON.

SWEARING IN OF THE HONORABLE TROY CARTER, OF LOUISIANA, AS A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER. Will Representative-elect CARTER and Members of the Louisiana delegation present themselves in the well.

All Members will rise and the Representative-elect will please raise his right hand.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter, so help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations. You are now a Member of the 117th Congress.

□ 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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H2157

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE TROY CARTER OF LOUISIANA TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor on behalf of the entire Louisiana delegation that we welcome TROY CARTER into the congressional delegation. Of course, for TROY, this is not his first time in public service. In fact, he has committed his life to public service. He served in the State legislature in the House of Representatives, then served multiple terms on the New Orleans City Council, and then went back to the State legislature serving as a senator. In fact, until last week, he served with distinction in the Louisiana State Senate.

He is replacing, of course, our dear former colleague, Cedric Richmond, and we are proud to see Cedric make his way down Pennsylvania Avenue to come over here to the House to be a part of this special ceremony.

Speaking on behalf of the entire Louisiana delegation, Madam Speaker, we look forward to continuing that great tradition as Republicans and Democrats working together for the best interests of our great State of Louisiana as well as for the Nation.

We welcome TROY CARTER to the delegation and to the United States Congress.

Madam Speaker, I yield to Congressman TROY CARTER.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. SCALISE for his very kind words and wonderful introduction.

First, a very special thanks to my wife, Ana, who is behind me, my children, my family, my team, my friends, and all of my amazing supporters. No one runs for office alone, and they were all there with me every step of the way from the very beginning.

To God be the glory. From the Cut Off to the Congress, God is amazing.

My mother, who could not be with us here today, Pastor Eartha Fleming Carter, taught her children the importance of public service. I promise I will never forget those lessons. I will continue to listen to the concerns, the hopes, and the dreams of my district. I will work for and be the voice of the people.

Worldwide, my district is known for Mardi Gras, great food, our amazing culture bearers, and as the birthplace of jazz. Just as importantly, it has 3 of the top 10 ports in the U.S., a vibrant manufacturing base, renowned universities, rich agricultural production, and we are the gateway to space through the Michoud Assembly Facility in eastern New Orleans.

My district also has a lot of needs: COVID recovery, economic development, infrastructure investment, criminal justice reform, environmental justice, and education, to name a few.

I am here to serve my district, and I believe we can help all of our people reach their full potential.

I commit to working with everyone in the Congress and the White House to address those needs and to stand strong when those needs are not being addressed.

I am honored to have been given this opportunity to serve, and I will do so with every fiber of my very being.

I always seek God's guidance, and I will continue to do that as I serve the people of Louisiana and this great country. I will lead with honor and integrity.

May God continue to bless Louisiana and these United States of America.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. Under clause 5(d) of rule XX, the Chair announces to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) the whole number of the House is 431.

SUPPORTING OUR HEROES

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

Mr. BERA. Madam Speaker, today we will be considering the Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act, or the HERO Act.

This has been an unprecedented time of stress and pressure on our first responders: firefighters, police officers, and our frontline healthcare workers. This is a no-nonsense bill that will provide necessary resources to understand first responder suicide and pressure, but also to provide grants to provide peer-to-peer conversation and proactive reaching out to these first responders who are our heroes.

So, again, I urge all my colleagues to pass this bill unanimously. It has passed previously. It will make a difference, and it will help save lives and help treat these heroes as they have taken care of us.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, during National Police Week, it is my honor to pay tribute to all of the men and women who put their lives on the line to serve and protect all of our communities.

In Pennsylvania and around the country, including here in Congress, dedicated law enforcement officers show up for work every day and quietly do the job that we have entrusted to them. They uphold the law, they promote safety, and, most importantly, they preserve human life.

Far too often these officers, unfortunately, do not come home. Today I ask

that the American people join me in remembering our Nation's fallen police officers and honoring their service and their sacrifice.

More than a profession, law enforcement is truly a calling. Whether on the streets of Pennsylvania, on our borders, or across our great Nation, I thank our law enforcement officers for answering the call to serve the American people.

□ 1415

CHILD TAX CREDIT IN AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

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

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the exciting new child tax credit that is part of the American Rescue Plan. I know the words "exciting" and "tax credit" don't usually belong in the same sentence, but this is different.

With the child tax credit, families with children under the age of 17 will receive \$250 per child per month and \$300 per month for kids under 6. These monthly payments can help cover everyday child-rearing expenses—things like food, diapers, or shoes for the teenager who outgrows his every 6 weeks.

More than 119,000 children in my district will benefit from the new child tax credit, including thousands of children who will be lifted out of deep poverty.

Let's be clear: The child tax credit is a special refundable tax credit, so even families who don't earn enough to pay taxes will get the automatic payment. But it is important to file a tax return before the May 17 deadline so you can begin receiving payments as soon as possible.

I look forward to making the child tax credit permanent.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF EILEEN UCEKAY

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is a tremendous honor for me to recognize Eileen Ucekay, a hardworking and outstanding constituent of the 22nd Congressional District in New York. She retired on May 9 of this year after working 45 years as the village clerk and treasurer of West Winfield.

Eileen hails from the nearby city of Utica, where she grew up with her two sisters and attended high school there before moving to West Winfield.

Eileen married her late husband, Jack, and had three wonderful children in our community, all while continuing to work for the village.

In addition to her many decades of public service, Eileen serves the West Winfield community through her

church, the Greater West Winfield Historical Society, the Red Cross, and the Red Hat Society.

She is truly a role model for all. Her remarkable life, strong character, and deep dedication to public service have gained her the respect of everyone in our community.

We are grateful for Eileen Ucekay's service and her compassion for our community.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, this week is National Police Week. It is a time to honor the sacrifice and service our men and women in blue make every single day to protect our neighbors and our loved ones.

In my district today, unfortunately, we are off to a very sobering start. Last night, two Concho County officers were shot and killed in the line of duty. These officers died protecting their community to the very end, defending the freedoms, values, and safety our country holds so dear.

Though we are unable to thank them personally for their sacrifice, we will never stop honoring their legacy, the legacy of service and selflessness.

I would like to extend my deepest condolences to their families, friends, colleagues, and community members who are affected by this enormous tragedy and remind all of us of the danger that law enforcement officers put themselves in every single day, willingly, to help our communities.

It is time that we stand up and honor them, and thank them for what they do. As a country, I request that we all keep our law enforcement officers in our hearts, our thoughts, and our prayers and that we thank them for what they do.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, this week is National Police Week, and I rise to honor the brave men and women of law enforcement who gave their lives to protect our communities.

In 1962, National Police Week was established by President John F. Kennedy, a Democrat. But back then, honoring our fallen officers was a bipartisan issue, Madam Speaker. Today, many Democrats are so set on demonizing law enforcement they won't even use this week to honor those lives that have been lost in the line of duty. It is a shame that supporting law enforcement has become such a political non-starter for my colleagues across the aisle.

Police officers in our communities are cracking down on gangs, getting

drugs off the streets, and stopping crime before it happens. They are keeping all of us safe and deserve to know those who made the ultimate sacrifice will never be forgotten and will always be honored.

Law enforcement, particularly our local sheriff's offices and police departments in Tennessee's Second Congressional District, will always have my gratitude for the great work they do to keep us safe from bad folks.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL WEEK

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

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Charter School Week. This week, we honor the hope that charter schools deliver to millions of students nationwide, and we are reminded that education is about students, not politics. One such example is Piedmont Community Charter School in North Carolina's Fifth District.

Regardless of ZIP Code, all American families deserve to decide, free of government interference, which learning environment best suits their child's strengths.

For 30 years, charter schools have prepared underserved students for life-long success. Charter school alumni graduate from college at two to four times the national average for low-income families.

While Democrats dictate one-size-fits-all education requirements, Republicans are fighting to offer educational freedom and choice. Charter schools offer students from every walk of life the opportunity to learn in an environment that works for them so they can develop tools to thrive.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SERGEANT GERALD DIXON

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

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Sergeant Gerald Dixon of the Edmond Police Department.

Sergeant Dixon has faithfully served our community for 32 years, 13 of which he spent as a school resource officer.

In his time as an SRO, Sergeant Dixon has had a long-lasting impact on countless students in Edmond. Years after graduating, students still recall how much his presence meant to them. Looked up to as a great man and a fixture of school, Sergeant Dixon's commitment to his community is evident.

Not only has Sergeant Dixon's presence helped make school a safe place, but his leadership, warm spirit, and love for his job also made students comfortable. They confided their struggles in him, shared countless experiences, and are better off from having Sergeant Dixon serve in their school.

Madam Speaker, Sergeant Dixon has dedicated his life to the community and made countless sacrifices to ensure the safety of our students and the public at large. I am truly honored and humbled to recognize Mr. Dixon, and I am grateful for his service and the legacy he leaves behind. I wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Ms. Kaitlyn Roberts, one of his secretaries.

RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SCANLON) laid before the House the following resignation as a member of the Committee on Small Business:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 11, 2021.

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

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: I am writing to inform the House of Representatives that I am resigning my seat on the House Small Business Committee.

Sincerely,

SCOTT H. PETERS,
Member of Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the resignation is accepted. There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, May 11, 2021.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on May 11, 2021, at 11:40 a.m.:

Appointments:
Member of the Advisory Committee on the Records of Congress.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.

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.

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ADDICTION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 433) to establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 433

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 “Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.

Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 553. FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘family community organization’ means an independent nonprofit organization that—

“(A) mobilizes resources within and outside of the community of families with individuals living with addiction, to provide a support network, education, and evidence-informed tools for families and loved ones of individuals struggling with substance use disorders; and

“(B) is governed by experts in the field of addiction, which may include—

“(i) experts in evidence-informed interventions for family members;

“(ii) experts in the impact of addiction on family systems;

“(iii) families who have experience with substance use disorders and addiction; and

“(iv) other experts in the field of addiction; and

“(2) the term ‘family support services’ means resources or programs that support families that include an individual with substance use disorder.

“(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall award grants to family community organizations to enable such organizations to develop, expand, and enhance evidence-informed family support services.

“(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the costs of a program funded by a grant under this section may not exceed 85 percent.

“(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under subsection (b)—

“(1) shall be used to develop, expand, and enhance community and statewide evidence-informed family support services; and

“(2) may be used to—

“(A) build connections between family support networks, including providing technical assistance between family community organizations and peer support networks, and with other family support services, focused on enhancing knowledge of evidence-informed interventions for family members and loved ones of individuals living with substance use disorders and reducing harm by educating service providers on current evidence regarding addiction and the family, including—

“(i) behavioral health providers, including such providers focused specifically on family and couples therapy in the context of addiction;

“(ii) primary care providers;

“(iii) providers of foster care services or support services for grandparents, guardians,

and other extended family impacted by addiction; and

“(iv) other family support services that connect to community resources for individuals with substance use disorders, including non-clinical community services;

“(B) reduce stigma associated with the family of individuals with substance use disorders by improving knowledge about addiction and its treatment, providing compassionate support, and dispelling myths that perpetuate such stigma;

“(C) conduct outreach on issues relating to substance use disorders and family support, which may include education, training, and resources with respect to—

“(i) building a resilience- and strengths-based approach to prevention of, and living with, addiction in the family;

“(ii) identifying the signs of substance use disorder;

“(iii) adopting an approach that minimizes harm to all family members; and

“(iv) families of individuals with a substance use disorder, including with respect to—

“(I) navigating the treatment and recovery systems;

“(II) paying for addiction treatment;

“(III) education about substance use disorder; and

“(IV) avoiding predatory treatment programs; and

“(D) connect families to evidence-informed peer support programs.

“(e) DATA REPORTING AND PROGRAM OVERSIGHT.—With respect to a grant awarded under subsection (a), not later than 90 days after the end of the first year of the grant period, and annually thereafter for the duration of the grant period, the entity shall submit data, as appropriate and to the extent practicable, to the Secretary regarding—

“(1) the programs and activities funded by the grant;

“(2) health outcomes of the population of individuals with a substance use disorder who received services through programs supported by the grant, as evaluated by an independent program evaluator through the use of outcomes measures, as determined by the Secretary; and

“(3) any other information that the secretary may require for the purpose of ensuring that the grant recipient is complying with all the requirements of the grant.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 433.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 433, the Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2021.

Addiction and substance use disorder are complex, yet diagnosable, treatable diseases. Families can play a significant role in helping an individual find treatment. Yet, there isn't a one-size-fits-all approach to making sure that loved ones receive the care they need and deserve. This, of course, can be a challenge to more than just the individual; it is a challenge to families as well.

Madam Speaker, families across the United States are doing all they can to seek care for those they love. In fact, data from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration reminds us that nearly 20 million Americans live with a substance use disorder. Unfortunately, only a fraction of those Americans receives treatment.

H.R. 433, the Family Support Services for Addiction Act, builds upon congressional efforts, such as the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act, the 21st Century Cures Act, and the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act, to help close the treatment gap and get Americans on the road to recovery.

Part of paving a smooth road to recovery is providing evidence-based guidance for families and connecting them with other community support systems, which can dramatically influence an individual's trajectory. That is exactly what this bill sets out to do.

The bill would authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to family community organizations that would work to develop, expand, and enhance evidence-based family support services. These family community organizations would be able to use these grants to reduce stigma around substance use disorder and build connections between families and providers, and foster care services and other peer support services.

I commend the lead sponsors of this legislation, Representatives TRONE and MEUSER, and their staff, for advocating for additional support for families.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I hope the Senate will act on it swiftly.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 433, the Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2021, which was introduced by Representatives TRONE and MEUSER.

This legislation would establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide evidence-informed and family-based approaches to substance use and addiction management.

Family-based approaches have a record of success in substance use disorder recovery when compared with individual approaches, as they address several psychosocial dimensions of addiction and strengthen support networks for affected individuals.

This legislation would support family community organizations committed to pursuing evidence-driven interventions for substance use disorder, reducing the stigma of addiction and strengthening both families and communities through recovery.

I would like to thank Representatives TRONE and MEUSER for the hard work that they have done to put together and to bring this important bill to the floor.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE), the author of this bill.

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge a “yes” vote on H.R. 433, the Family Support Services and Addiction Services Act.

I introduced this bill with my friend and fellow businessman, DAN MEUSER, in order to show our support for the millions of families that are struggling to help their loved ones suffering from addiction.

□ 1430

In 2016, my nephew Ian lost his life to an overdose after years of struggling with addiction. But he didn’t fight this battle alone. My wife and I were with him every step of the way, working to support his recovery efforts. Getting him the help he needed was hard for us to do, even with the resources we had at our disposal.

Our story is not unique. For most families, it is nearly impossible to navigate our behavioral healthcare system, and COVID-19 has made it even harder.

While our country faced an addiction crisis prior to COVID-19, the pandemic has made this crisis a five-alarm fire. Last year, more Americans died from drug overdoses than ever before, nearly 90,000 Americans. That is a 29 percent increase in just one year. American families need help, and they need it now.

This bipartisan bill provides the funding for nonprofits working with families struggling with addiction. The bill will provide grants to reach more families, create a more tailored approach, and save lives.

I want to thank Congressman MEUSER for his support and partnership. He has been an absolute champion on this issue.

I also want to thank Chairman PALLONE, Chairwoman ESHOO, and Ranking Member RODGERS for their laser-like focus on this issue.

Madam Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kentucky, my good friend, Representative GUTHRIE; and my good friend from Maryland, DAVID TRONE, for their work on this bill.

Madam Speaker, the plight of addiction continues to affect communities

across the country and in our great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Substance use disorder, like any disease, doesn’t just affect the individual. Their family, spouse, children, and friends also suffer alongside them, hoping for recovery. The critical support system they comprise is a potent tool in combatting addiction and an effective partner we should aim to empower.

That is why this bill, the Family Support Services for Addiction Act, is so essential and why I am truly very proud to be working with my good friend, Representative DAVID TRONE, to see it become law. His commitment to this cause is impressive and honorable.

Our bill provides grants for community organizations, providing critical support to families trying to navigate the complex insurance coverage and treatment options.

Too often, this system overwhelms concerned families looking for the best option for their loved one. By passing this bill, we ensure more families will be connected to a lifesaving treatment option tailored to their needs.

Unfortunately, Madam Speaker, this crisis has only become more acute during the pandemic. According to the CDC, 81,000 drug overdose deaths occurred between May 2019 and May 2020, the highest number recorded in a 12-month period. To combat this epidemic of drug use, we must use every tool we have; and the network of support that families provide is an essential tool to overcoming addiction and restoring our communities.

I, again, want to thank Representative TRONE for his work on this bill, on this very important issue; and the committee leaders for moving this much-needed measure to the floor today.

Madam Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Madam Speaker, I really appreciate both the leaders of this bill and the entire House, as we have worked hard together in a bipartisan way over the years for the opioid abuse and other types of abuse and recovery efforts. This is an important bill and an additional step in that direction. We are fighting it, but we still have to continue the fight. This is an important bill. I support it, and I urge my colleagues to support it as well.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Madam Speaker, I am sure we will notice as we go through the suspension calendar today that we have a number of bills that deal with addiction and behavioral health issues. This is Mental Health Month that we are observing today, and this is one of the bills that is a very important part of this group.

Madam Speaker, I urge support on a bipartisan basis, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 433.

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. ROY. 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 are postponed.

PURSUING EQUITY IN MENTAL HEALTH ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1475) to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1475

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 “Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—HEALTH EQUITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Sec. 101. Integrated Health Care Demonstration Program.

Sec. 102. Addressing racial and ethnic minority mental health disparities research gaps.

Sec. 103. Health professions competencies to address racial and ethnic minority mental health disparities.

Sec. 104. Racial and ethnic minority behavioral and mental health outreach and education strategy.

Sec. 105. Additional funds for National Institutes of Health.

Sec. 106. Additional funds for National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities.

TITLE II—OTHER PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. Reauthorization of Minority Fellowship Program.

Sec. 202. Study on the Effects of Smartphone and Social Media Use on Adolescents.

Sec. 203. Technical correction.

TITLE I—HEALTH EQUITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

SEC. 101. INTEGRATED HEALTH CARE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 553 of such Act (as redesignated and moved by section 203 of this Act) the following:

“SEC. 554. INTERPROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE TEAMS FOR PROVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE IN PRIMARY CARE SETTINGS.

“(a) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities for the purpose of establishing interprofessional health care teams that provide behavioral health care.

“(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be a Federally qualified health center (as defined in section 1861(aa) of the Social Security Act), rural health clinic, or behavioral health program, serving a high proportion of individuals from racial and ethnic minority groups (as defined in section 1707(g)).

“(c) SCIENTIFICALLY BASED.—Integrated health care funded through this section shall be scientifically based, taking into consideration the results of the most recent peer-reviewed research available.

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for each of the first 5 fiscal years following the date of enactment of the Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act.”.

SEC. 102. ADDRESSING RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES RESEARCH GAPS.

Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the National Institutes of Health shall enter into an arrangement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (or, if the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine decline to enter into such an arrangement, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, or another appropriate entity)—

(1) to conduct a study with respect to mental health disparities in racial and ethnic minority groups (as defined in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–6(g))); and

(2) to submit to the Congress a report on the results of such study, including—

(A) a compilation of information on the dynamics of mental disorders in such racial and ethnic minority groups; and

(B) a compilation of information on the impact of exposure to community violence, adverse childhood experiences, structural racism, and other psychological traumas on mental disorders in such racial and minority groups.

SEC. 103. HEALTH PROFESSIONS COMPETENCIES TO ADDRESS RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH DISPARITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may award grants to qualified national organizations for the purposes of—

(1) developing, and disseminating to health professional educational programs best practices or core competencies addressing mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups for use in the training of students in the professions of social work, psychology, psychiatry, marriage and family therapy, mental health counseling, and substance misuse counseling; and

(2) certifying community health workers and peer wellness specialists with respect to such best practices and core competencies and integrating and expanding the use of such workers and specialists into health care to address mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups.

(b) BEST PRACTICES; CORE COMPETENCIES.—Organizations receiving funds under subsection (a) may use the funds to engage in the following activities related to the development and dissemination of best practices or core competencies described in subsection (a)(1):

(1) Formation of committees or working groups comprised of experts from accredited health professions schools to identify best practices and core competencies relating to mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups.

(2) Planning of workshops in national fora to allow for public input into the educational needs associated with mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups.

(3) Dissemination and promotion of the use of best practices or core competencies in undergraduate and graduate health professions training programs nationwide.

(4) Establishing external stakeholder advisory boards to provide meaningful input into policy and program development and best practices to reduce mental health disparities among racial and ethnic minority groups.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) QUALIFIED NATIONAL ORGANIZATION.—The term “qualified national organization” means a national organization that focuses on the education of students in one or more of the professions of social work, psychology, psychiatry, marriage and family therapy, mental health counseling, and substance misuse counseling.

(2) RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY GROUP.—The term “racial and ethnic minority group” has the meaning given to such term in section 1707(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u–6(g)).

SEC. 104. RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITY BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OUTREACH AND EDUCATION STRATEGY.

Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 554 of such Act, as added by section 101 of this Act, the following:

“SEC. 555. BEHAVIORAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OUTREACH AND EDUCATION STRATEGY.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, in consultation with advocacy and behavioral and mental health organizations serving racial and ethnic minority groups, develop and implement an outreach and education strategy to promote behavioral and mental health and reduce stigma associated with mental health conditions and substance abuse among racial and ethnic minority groups. Such strategy shall—

“(1) be designed to—

“(A) meet the diverse cultural and language needs of the various racial and ethnic minority groups; and

“(B) be developmentally and age-appropriate;

“(2) increase awareness of symptoms of mental illnesses common among such groups, taking into account differences within at-risk subgroups;

“(3) provide information on evidence-based, culturally and linguistically appropriate and adapted interventions and treatments;

“(4) ensure full participation of, and engage, both consumers and community members in the development and implementation of materials; and

“(5) seek to broaden the perspective among both individuals in these groups and stakeholders serving these groups to use a comprehensive public health approach to promoting behavioral health that addresses a holistic view of health by focusing on the intersection between behavioral and physical health.

“(b) REPORTS.—Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress, and make publicly available, a report on the extent to which the strategy developed and implemented under subsection (a) increased be-

havioral and mental health outcomes associated with mental health conditions and substance abuse among racial and ethnic minority groups.

“(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘racial and ethnic minority group’ has the meaning given to that term in section 1707(g).

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”.

SEC. 105. ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated to the National Institutes of Health, there is authorized to be appropriated to such Institutes \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026 to build relations with communities and conduct or support clinical research, including clinical research on racial or ethnic disparities in physical and mental health.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “clinical research” has the meaning given to such term in section 409 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284d).

SEC. 106. ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON MINORITY HEALTH AND HEALTH DISPARITIES.

In addition to amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated to the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities, there is authorized to be appropriated to such Institute \$650,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

TITLE II—OTHER PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. REAUTHORIZATION OF MINORITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM.

Section 597(c) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 29711(c)) is amended by striking “\$12,669,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022” and inserting “\$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026”.

SEC. 202. STUDY ON THE EFFECTS OF SMARTPHONE AND SOCIAL MEDIA USE ON ADOLESCENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall conduct or support research on—

(1) smartphone and social media use by adolescents; and

(2) the effects of such use on—

(A) emotional, behavioral, and physical health and development; and

(B) disparities in minority and underserved populations.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress, and make publicly available, a report on the findings of research described in this section.

SEC. 203. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290aa et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating the second section 550 (42 U.S.C. 290ee–10) (relating to Sobriety Treatment And Recovery Teams) as section 553; and

(2) by moving such section, as so redesignated, so as to appear after section 552 (42 U.S.C. 290ee–7).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 1475.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1475, the Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act.

We have long known that people of color experience inequities in healthcare in the United States. While we have made progress to close these gaps in recent years, including with the passage of the Affordable Care Act, people of color in America continue to experience inequities in care and worse health outcomes compared to White Americans.

These long-term trends are rooted in several social determinants that are often driven by structural discrimination and institutionalized racism, which has created systemic health inequity. The tragic result of these long-term trends is that people of color are more likely to suffer from underlying health conditions; have a much harder time getting access to care; and when they do, they are far more likely to experience bias, discrimination, and poor health outcomes.

The Congressional Black Caucus' Emergency Task Force on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health reiterated these points in a report last Congress that raised concern about the increasing rates of suicide and mental health trends among Black children.

The bill before us today, H.R. 1475, is aimed specifically at addressing equity in mental health. It is a comprehensive approach to address increasing suicide rates and mental health disorders amongst Black youth. The bill would invest resources into better understanding racial and ethnic minority mental health disparities, improve outreach and support for racial and ethnic minorities, and expand provider support for students of color entering the mental health workforce.

Madam Speaker, I am hopeful that this bill will help reduce the inequities in mental health.

Before I conclude, I would like to thank my colleague, Representative BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN, and her staff for leading this important legislation. She, of course, is in the district immediately next to me and a longtime supporter of these causes. So this is a bill that is significant, and I do want to thank the Congresswoman for being the sponsor.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1475, the Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act, sponsored by Representative WATSON COLEMAN.

This important bill helps address suicide and mental illness in youth from minority and underserved communities.

Despite improvements in health quality, disparities in mental healthcare persist. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality has reported that racial and ethnic minority groups in the U.S. are less likely to have access to mental health services, less likely to use community mental health services, more likely to use emergency departments, and more likely to receive lower quality care.

Poor mental healthcare access and quality ultimately contribute to poor outcomes, including suicide among these populations. These issues are especially acute in minority youth populations.

This bill would help address these disparities by authorizing grants targeted at high-poverty communities for culturally and linguistically appropriate mental health services, supporting mental health disparities research, studying the impact of smartphones and social media on adolescents, and reauthorizing the Minority Fellowship Program to support more students of color entering the mental health workforce.

Madam Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote for this important initiative, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, first, let me say that Congresswoman BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN has, for years both here and in the State legislature and beyond, gone after issues that many of us have neglected or been unwilling to address. Maybe because they are controversial or whatever. She is always out there looking to help those people who are distressed or don't have someone to look out for them.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN).

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from New Jersey for those kind words, and I thank my colleague from the other side of the aisle for supporting what I think is a very important piece of legislation.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to call on all of my colleagues to support the Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act.

Over the last several years, data has indicated an alarming increase in the suicide rates for Black children and teenagers, while a recent study has shown that suicide intervention programs—while successful among White, Asian, and Hispanic children—have done little to help African-American and Native-American youth.

Two years ago, I launched the Emergency Task Force on Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health, sponsored by the Congressional Black Caucus. The task force's report that inspired this bill is an urgent call to action.

Regardless of race, gender, and socioeconomic status, every individual should have access to mental health resources and treatment.

This bipartisan bill will provide much-needed grants for culturally competent mental health services, increase funding for the Minority Fellowship Program, and direct research and resources at Federal departments and agencies. I basically am echoing what my colleagues have already shared with you.

We must pursue this equity in mental health because the systems we have in place simply do not address the mental health needs of all communities.

Madam Speaker, I call upon all of my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Madam Speaker, again, this is a very important issue, and I am glad we are here today to address it. We need to address it. My hopes and prayers are, as we move forward with this piece of legislation, we get the help that communities needed.

I support this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I, too, urge my colleagues to support this very important 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 New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1475, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

SUICIDE TRAINING AND AWARENESS NATIONALLY DELIVERED FOR UNIVERSAL PREVENTION ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 586) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 586

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 “Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention Act of 2021” or the “STANDUP Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title V of the Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting after section 520A of such Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–32) the following:

“SEC. 520B. STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING POLICIES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—As a condition on receipt of funds under section 520A, each State educational agency, local educational agency, and Tribal educational agency that receives such funds, directly or through a State or Indian Tribe, for activities to be performed within secondary schools, including the Project AWARE State Education Agency Grant Program, shall—

“(1) establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy;

“(2) consult with stakeholders (including principals, teachers, parents, local Tribal officials, and other school leaders) in the development of the policy under subsection (a)(1); and

“(3) collect and report information in accordance with subsection (c).

“(b) SCHOOL-BASED STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING POLICY.—A school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy implemented pursuant to subsection (a)—

“(1) shall be evidence-based;

“(2) shall be culturally and linguistically appropriate;

“(3) shall provide evidence-based training to students in grades 6 through 12, in coordination with school-based mental health service providers as defined in section 4102(6) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, if applicable, regarding—

“(A) suicide education and awareness, including warning signs of self-harm or suicidal ideation;

“(B) methods that students can use to seek help for themselves and others; and

“(C) student resources for suicide awareness and prevention;

“(4) shall provide for retraining of such students every school year;

“(5) may last for such period as the State educational agency, local educational agency, or Tribal educational agency involved determines to be appropriate;

“(6) may be implemented through any delivery method, including in-person trainings, digital trainings, or train-the-trainer models; and

“(7) may include discussion of comorbidities or risk factors for suicidal ideation or self-harm, including substance misuse, sexual or physical abuse, mental illness, or other evidence-based comorbidities and risk factors.

“(c) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND REPORTING.—Each State educational agency, local educational agency, and Tribal educational agency that receives funds under section 520A shall, with respect to each school served by the agency, collect and report to the Secretary the following information:

“(1) The number of student trainings conducted.

“(2) The number of students trained, disaggregated by age and grade level.

“(3) The number of help-seeking reports made by students after implementation of such policy.

“(d) EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM LISTING.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall coordinate with the Secretary of Edu-

cation to make publicly available the policies established by State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and Tribal educational agencies pursuant to this section and the training that is available to students and teams pursuant to such policies, including identification of whether such training is available to trainees at no cost.

“(e) IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE.—A State educational agency, local educational agency, or Tribal educational agency shall establish and begin implementation of the policies required by subsection (a)(1) not later than the beginning of the third fiscal year following the date of enactment of this section for which the agency receives funds under section 520A.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section and section 520B–1:

“(1) The term ‘evidence-based’ has the meaning given to such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

“(2) The term ‘local educational agency’ has the meaning given to such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

“(3) The term ‘State educational agency’ has the meaning given to such term in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

“(4) The term ‘Tribal educational agency’ has the meaning given to the term ‘tribal educational agency’ in section 6132 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

“SEC. 520B–1. BEST PRACTICES FOR STUDENT SUICIDE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION TRAINING.

“The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Education and the Bureau of Indian Education, shall—

“(1) publish best practices for school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training, pursuant to section 520B, that are based on—

“(A) evidence-based practices; and

“(B) input from relevant Federal agencies, national organizations, Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations, and related stakeholders;

“(2) publish guidance, based on the best practices under paragraph (1), to provide State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and Tribal educational agencies with information on student suicide awareness and prevention best practices;

“(3) disseminate such best practices to State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and Tribal educational agencies; and

“(4) provide technical assistance to State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and Tribal educational agencies.”.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall only apply with respect to applications for assistance under section 520A of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb–32) that are submitted after the date of enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

□ 1445

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their re-

marks and include extraneous material on H.R. 586.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 586, the Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention Act of 2021, or the STANDUP Act.

For the last decade, suicide has been the second leading cause of death in the United States for young Americans between the ages of 10 and 24. Since 2007, the number of suicides for this group has nearly tripled.

We are witnessing notable disparities within this youth suicide crisis as well. Data tells us that young Black Americans, ages 5 to 12 years old, are twice as likely to die by suicide as compared to their White peers. Suicide rates for American Indian and Alaska Native teenagers between the ages of 15 and 19 are 60 percent higher than the national average for all teenagers. Additionally, among the more than 77,000 youth reporting suicidal ideations, over one-third of them are identified as LGBTQ.

This data makes clear that more must be done to help those struggling. We can and must act now to help equip students and the community around them to identify risk factors, because oftentimes, it is the students who are the true eyes and ears of each campus. We can help provide them with effective tools so they can play an active role in preventing suicide or self-harm.

H.R. 586 would encourage schools to expand evidence-based suicide awareness and prevention training to students. It would also require this training as a condition of receiving funds under the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Project AWARE grant program.

The STANDUP Act, Madam Speaker, would also support technical assistance resources for schools and encourage the collection and reporting of data to track implementation of these policies and practices.

Research shows that training students on suicide prevention makes an impact on student suicide rates and improves a student's willingness to seek help or help a peer. Much of this training is already taking place across thousands of schools nationwide, but STANDUP will help ensure that this good work is expanded to more schools across the country.

For these reasons, I stand up in support of the STANDUP Act. I thank the lead sponsors, Representatives PETERS and BILIRAKIS, and the many bipartisan supporters of this legislation for their work on this critical issue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill. I hope the Senate will act swiftly to pass it after we have taken action. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 586, the STANDUP Act of 2021, which was introduced by Representative SCOTT PETERS and includes the support of many Members of the House, including Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues BILIRAKIS, BLUNT ROCHESTER, UPTON, and TONKO.

This legislation helps promote suicide awareness and facilitates prevention training for students and young Americans. For the last decade, suicide has been the second leading cause of death for Americans ages 10 to 24, and the 10th leading cause of overall deaths in the United States. Tragically, this epidemic has only worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Suicide is preventable, and initiatives that empower students with knowledge of the warning signs and resources for prevention are critical in addressing these trends.

Through this bill, Project AWARE grantees will be empowered to establish school-based suicide awareness and prevention training programs, which will improve student awareness of mental health issues while connecting at-risk individuals to needed health services.

The pandemic has greatly impacted the mental health of all Americans, which is why it is critical that we continue addressing our Nation's challenges in preventing youth suicide and promoting the wellness of all.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers at this time.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), my good friend.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, we have all worked together on this very powerful bill. There is no higher priority than keeping our children safe. I think most people know that.

Since 2010, suicide has been the second leading cause of death for young Americans ages 10 through 24. From 2007 to 2015, the number of children and teens visiting the emergency room for suicide-related injuries doubled. In 2017, 517 Americans, aged 10 through 14, and 6,252, aged 15 through 24, committed suicide. Sadly, some communities in my district are among those with the highest suicide rates in Florida. I represent the Tampa Bay area, Madam Speaker.

Research has shown that most of these young Americans tell someone that they are contemplating suicide or school violence, and 68 percent of averted violence was stopped because a student reported concerns about a threat, a plot, or other concerning behavior involving a peer.

H.R. 586, the Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention Act, or the STANDUP Act, encourages States, Tribes, and schools to create policies for student suicide prevention training

utilizing SAMHSA-provided best practices, training, and technical assistance.

By providing high quality screening and prevention training to school staff and peers, threats can be identified before they materialize, and those who are at risk have an opportunity to get the mental health treatment they sorely need.

I have seen firsthand, Madam Speaker, the power of work like this through nonprofits like Sandy Hook Promise, and SAVE Promise Clubs at my children's school actually at Palm Harbor University High School, which is located in Palm Harbor, Florida, in my district. When properly equipped, students can be empowered to prevent violence in their schools.

I appreciate the bipartisan work of my colleagues, and, of course, we actually sponsored this bill with Congressman PETERS. I also want to thank the chairman for placing the bill on the agenda and working with us.

I urge my colleagues to join us in passing this critical legislation to help reverse the troubling trend of youth suicide and violence.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, as we were speaking before, this is an important issue. Suicide affects so many people. There are systems, there is the ability to become aware. It can be preventable if people know the right signs to look for. I think the American people absolutely want to work together to make this happen so we can prevent this.

I urge all my colleagues to support this piece of legislation. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I urge support on a bipartisan basis for this bill. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 586.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR STUDENTS ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 721) to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 721

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 "Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.

(a) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—The second part G (relating to services provided through religious organizations) of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290kk et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating such part as part J; and

(2) by redesignating sections 581 through 584 as sections 596 through 596C, respectively.

(b) SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH AND CHILDREN.—Section 581 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290hh) (relating to children and violence) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 581. SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH; CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, shall, through grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements awarded to eligible entities described in subsection (c), provide comprehensive school-based mental health services and supports to assist children in local communities and schools (including schools funded by the Bureau of Indian Education) dealing with traumatic experiences, grief, bereavement, risk of suicide, and violence. Such services and supports shall be—

"(1) developmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate;

"(2) trauma-informed; and

"(3) incorporate positive behavioral interventions and supports.

"(b) ACTIVITIES.—Grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements awarded under subsection (a), shall, as appropriate, be used for—

"(1) implementation of school and community-based mental health programs that—

"(A) build awareness of individual trauma and the intergenerational, continuum of impacts of trauma on populations;

"(B) train appropriate staff to identify, and screen for, signs of trauma exposure, mental health disorders, or risk of suicide; and

"(C) incorporate positive behavioral interventions, family engagement, student treatment, and multigenerational supports to foster the health and development of children, prevent mental health disorders, and ameliorate the impact of trauma;

"(2) technical assistance to local communities with respect to the development of programs described in paragraph (1);

"(3) facilitating community partnerships among families, students, law enforcement agencies, education agencies, mental health and substance use disorder service systems, family-based mental health service systems, child welfare agencies, health care providers (including primary care physicians, mental health professionals, and other professionals who specialize in children's mental health such as child and adolescent psychiatrists), institutions of higher education, faith-based programs, trauma networks, and other community-based systems to address child and adolescent trauma, mental health issues, and violence; and

"(4) establishing mechanisms for children and adolescents to report incidents of violence or plans by other children, adolescents, or adults to commit violence.

"(c) REQUIREMENTS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible for a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a), an entity shall be a partnership that includes—

“(A) a State educational agency, as defined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, in coordination with one or more local educational agencies, as defined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, or a consortium of any entities described in subparagraph (B), (C), (D), or (E) of section 8101(30) of such Act; and

“(B) at least 1 community-based mental health provider, including a public or private mental health entity, health care entity, family-based mental health entity, trauma network, or other community-based entity, as determined by the Secretary (and which may include additional entities such as a human services agency, law enforcement or juvenile justice entity, child welfare agency, agency, an institution of higher education, or another entity, as determined by the Secretary).

“(2) COMPLIANCE WITH HIPAA.—Any patient records developed by covered entities through activities under the grant shall meet the regulations promulgated under section 264(c) of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

“(3) COMPLIANCE WITH FERPA.—Section 444 of the General Education Provisions Act (commonly known as the ‘Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974’) shall apply to any entity that is a member of the partnership in the same manner that such section applies to an educational agency or institution (as that term is defined in such section).

“(d) GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary shall ensure that grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements under subsection (a) will be distributed equitably among the regions of the country and among urban and rural areas.

“(e) DURATION OF AWARDS.—With respect to a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under subsection (a), the period during which payments under such an award will be made to the recipient shall be 5 years, with options for renewal.

“(f) EVALUATION AND MEASURES OF OUTCOMES.—

“(1) DEVELOPMENT OF PROCESS.—The Assistant Secretary shall develop a fiscally appropriate process for evaluating activities carried out under this section. Such process shall include—

“(A) the development of guidelines for the submission of program data by grant, contract, or cooperative agreement recipients;

“(B) the development of measures of outcomes (in accordance with paragraph (2)) to be applied by such recipients in evaluating programs carried out under this section; and

“(C) the submission of annual reports by such recipients concerning the effectiveness of programs carried out under this section.

“(2) MEASURES OF OUTCOMES.—The Assistant Secretary shall develop measures of outcomes to be applied by recipients of assistance under this section to evaluate the effectiveness of programs carried out under this section, including outcomes related to the student, family, and local educational systems supported by this Act.

“(3) SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL DATA.—An eligible entity described in subsection (c) that receives a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under this section shall annually submit to the Assistant Secretary a report that includes data to evaluate the success of the program carried out by the entity based on whether such program is achieving the purposes of the program. Such reports shall utilize the measures of outcomes under paragraph (2) in a reasonable manner to demonstrate the progress of the program in achieving such purposes.

“(4) EVALUATION BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—Based on the data submitted under

paragraph (3), the Assistant Secretary shall annually submit to Congress a report concerning the results and effectiveness of the programs carried out with assistance received under this section.

“(5) LIMITATION.—An eligible entity shall use not more than 20 percent of amounts received under a grant under this section to carry out evaluation activities under this subsection.

“(g) INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.—The Secretary shall disseminate best practices based on the findings of the knowledge development and application under this section.

“(h) AMOUNT OF GRANTS AND AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

“(1) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—A grant under this section shall be in an amount that is not more than \$2,000,000 for each of the first 5 fiscal years following the date of enactment of the Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2021. The Secretary shall determine the amount of each such grant based on the population of children up to age 21 of the area to be served under the grant.

“(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, \$130,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2025.”

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Part G of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290hh et seq.), as amended by subsection (b), is further amended by striking the part designation and heading and inserting the following:

“PART G—SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 721.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 721, the Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2021.

Mental illness, Madam Speaker, affects millions of Americans. With youth in particular, research shows that half of all lifetime mental illness begins by the age of 14. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about three in four children between the ages of 3 and 17 suffer from depression and anxiety, and nearly half have behavioral problems. In fact, data from Mental Health America shows that youth between the ages of 11 and 17 are now at higher risk of moderate to severe anxiety and depression.

For many students, schools are a critical place to get mental health or behavioral health support, and now with added public health concerns, economic pressures, online learning, and the social isolation that comes with

these things, experts worry about the added repercussions we will see on the well-being of students across the country.

This data, and the effect of the pandemic, make clear that we must do more to invest in preventative mental and behavioral health services and training in schools to give our kids and teens a brighter future. The American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on School Health recognized the increasing mental health needs of children and adolescents when it said, “School-based mental health services offer the potential for prevention efforts as well as intervention strategies.”

Madam Speaker, H.R. 721 does just that. This bill would support comprehensive mental health programs at schools across the Nation by encouraging partnerships between State and local educational agencies and mental health providers. Funding would be made available through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. This funding would support prevention screening, treatment, and development of evidence-based programs for social, emotional, mental, and behavioral issues among students. H.R. 721 would also help us better understand the student, family, and educational outcomes of services provided to the students.

I want to thank the lead sponsors of this bill, Representatives NAPOLITANO and KATKO, for their leadership and tireless work.

Madam Speaker, it is critical that we support preventative mental and behavioral health services and training in schools for our kids and teens, particularly at a time when mental health risks are exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 721, the Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2021, spearheaded by Representative NAPOLITANO.

This bill authorizes the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Project AWARE grants. These grants support State educational agencies, in partnership with State mental health agencies, in increasing awareness of mental health issues among school-aged youth, providing training for school personnel to detect and respond to mental health issues and connecting students with behavioral health issues and their families to needed services.

By supporting partnerships between State and local systems to promote the healthy development of students, these grants increase access to mental health services for school-aged youth, ultimately reducing youth violence, substance use disorder, and suicide.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers at this time. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, as with all the other bills before us today, it is so important to reach out to our youth and to prevent suicide and violence as a result of mental health disorders. We all know, as young as we can reach them, the better.

I support this bill and ask my colleagues to do so. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, as my colleague from Kentucky points out, with these bills today, we are trying to reach out and deal with these mental and behavioral health problems in various settings. In this case, it is the school-based setting, which I think is one of the most effective.

So for that reason, I would ask my colleagues to support this legislation. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 721, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

□ 1500

BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION GUIDELINES ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2877) to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the establishment and use of behavioral intervention teams at schools, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2877

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 “Behavioral Intervention Guidelines Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. BEST PRACTICES FOR BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION TEAMS.

The Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting after section 520G of such Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-38) the following new section:

“SEC. 520H. BEST PRACTICES FOR BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION TEAMS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall identify and facilitate the development of best practices to assist elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education in establishing and using behavioral intervention teams.

“(b) ELEMENTS.—The best practices under subsection (a)(1) shall include guidance on the following:

“(1) How behavioral intervention teams can operate effectively from an evidence-based, objective perspective while protecting the constitutional and civil rights of individuals.

“(2) The use of behavioral intervention teams to identify concerning behaviors, implement interventions, and manage risk through the framework of the school’s or institution’s rules or code of conduct, as applicable.

“(3) How behavioral intervention teams can, when assessing an individual—

“(A) access training on evidence-based, threat-assessment rubrics;

“(B) ensure that such teams—

“(i) have trained, diverse stakeholders with varied expertise; and

“(ii) use cross validation by a wide-range of individual perspectives on the team; and

“(C) use violence risk assessment.

“(4) How behavioral intervention teams can help mitigate—

“(A) inappropriate use of a mental health assessment;

“(B) inappropriate limitations or restrictions on law enforcement’s jurisdiction over criminal matters;

“(C) attempts to substitute the behavioral intervention process in place of a criminal process, or impede a criminal process, when an individual’s behavior has potential criminal implications;

“(D) endangerment of an individual’s privacy by failing to ensure that all applicable Federal and State privacy laws are fully complied with; or

“(E) inappropriate referrals to, or involvement of, law enforcement when an individual’s behavior does not warrant a criminal response.

“(c) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall consult with—

“(1) the Secretary of Education;

“(2) the Director of the National Threat Assessment Center of the United States Secretary Service;

“(3) the Attorney General and the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance;

“(4) teachers and other educators, principals, school administrators, school board members, school psychologists, mental health professionals, and parents of students;

“(5) local law enforcement agencies and campus law enforcement administrators;

“(6) privacy experts; and

“(7) other education and mental health professionals as the Secretary deems appropriate.

“(d) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall publish the best practices under subsection (a)(1) on the internet website of the Department of Health and Human Services.

“(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to institutions of higher education, elementary schools, and secondary schools to assist such institutions and schools in implementing the best practices under subsection (a).

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘behavioral intervention team’ means a team of qualified individuals who—

“(A) are responsible for identifying and assessing individuals exhibiting concerning behaviors, experiencing distress, or who are at risk of harm to self or others;

“(B) develop and facilitate implementation of evidence-based interventions to mitigate the threat of harm to self or others posed by an individual and address the mental and behavioral health needs of individuals to reduce risk; and

“(C) provide information to students, parents, and school employees on recognizing behavior described in this subsection.

“(2) The terms ‘elementary school’, ‘parent’, and ‘secondary school’ have the meanings given to such terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

“(3) The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given to such term in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

“(4) The term ‘mental health assessment’ means an evaluation, primarily focused on diagnosis, determining the need for involuntary commitment, medication management, and on-going treatment recommendations.

“(5) The term ‘violence risk assessment’ means a broad determination of the potential risk of violence based on evidence-based literature.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2877.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 2877, the Behavioral Intervention Guidelines Act.

Madam Speaker, behavioral intervention teams are multidisciplinary teams that support students’ mental health and emotional well-being by detecting patterns, trends, and disturbances in behavior, and by conducting outreach to students who are unable to manage distress in healthy and constructive ways. These teams are already active in some educational settings, such as Wichita State University, Southern Connecticut State University, and Rochester Institute of Technology.

This bill requires the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration to develop best practices for schools that have or want to have behavioral intervention teams. These best practices would cover the proper use of these teams and how to intervene and avoid inappropriate use of mental health assessments and law enforcement. These best practices would then be required to be posted publicly on the Department of Health and Human Services website. HHS would also help to provide technical assistance to entities implementing these best practices.

We know that three in four children between the ages of 3 and 17 with depression also have anxiety. Anxiety and depression are the top two mental health concerns among college students as well. Unfortunately, recent

data found that over 80 percent of young people with mental health needs did not receive the care that they needed.

Young people in crisis should be able to access the care they need or be able to find support from peers who can direct them toward appropriate services. This bill helps bridge that gap.

The champions of this legislation, Representatives FERGUSON, PETERS, BURGESS, and PANETTA, worked together to help provide these behavioral health prevention tools to schools and colleges around the country, and I applaud them for their bipartisan effort.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2877, the Behavioral Intervention Guidelines Act of 2021 introduced by Representatives FERGUSON, BURGESS, PETERS, and PANETTA.

This important bill authorizes the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to develop best practices for establishing and using behavioral intervention teams in elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education.

Behavioral intervention teams are multidisciplinary teams that support students' mental health and wellness by identifying students experiencing stress, anxiety, or other behavioral disturbances, and conducting intervention and outreach to these students to help manage risk. These teams are already active in some educational settings, such as Texas Tech and the University of California, Los Angeles.

By acting in a proactive manner to assist students and connect them with needed resources, behavioral intervention teams help schools create a safe environment for their students and improve mental health outcomes in young people.

Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. FERGUSON).

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2877, the BIG Act.

Without question, we have all seen how the mental health issues in America have been growing, and they have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. The urgency to address this crisis has become more dire as we are seeing how fear, anxiety, financial problems, and particularly isolation have compounded these issues. We see this across the board but particularly with our young people.

We must tackle these issues head-on, and that is why I am honored to support the BIG Act.

This straightforward bill works to provide local communities and educational systems with the tools that they need to help identify mental health needs before it is too late.

As a healthcare provider, I can tell my colleagues that early intervention is vitally important, and putting teams together that recognize the needs and see the problems with students before it is too late is important. The last thing that we want to see our students go through is the process of dropping out of school because of issues or problems with behavior or with their classmates. Most importantly, we never want to see them do harm to themselves or to others.

This bill provides the resources and the best practices from around the country in one site where school districts and different organizations can come together to put together the programs that will work best for them.

Congress must step up to confront this challenge, but doing so successfully will require input from an awful lot of people. That is what this bill does.

This is a bipartisan, bicameral bill. It has widespread support from places like Texas A&M; as you mentioned, the University of California; and in my home district, Columbus State University. It has the support of mental health organizations, mental health providers, and other individuals across this country.

Together, we can and should increase the mental health well-being of our fellow Americans.

National Mental Health Awareness Month is going on, and it is so important that we act to improve access across our country to high-quality, evidence-based mental healthcare services. That is why I ask my colleagues to join in supporting the BIG Act.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, what we have talked about is that this creates a safe environment for students. I think all Americans want a safer environment for all of our students and to improve the mental health outcomes of young people.

Madam Speaker, that is what this bill focuses on, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I urge support for this bill. This is just another tool to help provide behavioral services—in this case, to schools and colleges around the country. I think it deserves our support.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2877.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. PALLONE. 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 are postponed.

BIPARTISAN SOLUTION TO CYCLICAL VIOLENCE ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1260) 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, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1260

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 “Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM SUPPORTING TRAUMA CENTER VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAMS.

Part P of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 399V-7. GRANT PROGRAM SUPPORTING TRAUMA CENTER VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAMS.

“(a) AUTHORITY ESTABLISHED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants to eligible entities to establish or expand violence intervention or prevention programs for services and research designed to reduce the incidence of reinjury and reincarceration caused by intentional violent trauma, excluding intimate partner violence.

“(2) FIRST AWARD.—Not later than 9 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall make the first award under paragraph (1).

“(3) GRANT DURATION.—Each grant awarded under paragraph (1) shall be for a period of three years.

“(4) GRANT AMOUNT.—The total amount of each grant awarded under paragraph (1) for the 3-year grant period shall be not less than \$250,000 and not more than \$500,000.

“(5) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—A grant awarded under paragraph (1) to an eligible entity with an existing program described in paragraph (1) shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, any other funds provided to such entity for such program.

“(b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under subsection (a)(1), an entity shall—

“(1) either be—

“(A) a State-designated trauma center, or a trauma center verified by the American College of Surgeons, that conducts or seeks to conduct a violence intervention or violence prevention program; or

“(B) a nonprofit entity that conducts or seeks to conduct a program described in subparagraph (A) in cooperation with a trauma center described in such subparagraph;

“(2) serve a community in which at least 100 incidents of intentional violent trauma occur annually; and

“(3) submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

“(c) SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENTS.—

“(1) GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY.—In selecting grant recipients under subsection (a)(1), the Secretary shall ensure that collectively grantees represent a diversity of geographic areas.

“(2) PRIORITY.—In selecting grant recipients under subsection (a)(1), the Secretary

shall prioritize applicants that serve one or more communities with high absolute numbers or high rates of intentional violent trauma.

“(3) HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS.—

“(A) ENCOURAGEMENT.—The Secretary shall encourage entities described in paragraphs (1) and (2) that are located in or serve a health professional shortage area to apply for grants under subsection (a)(1).

“(B) DEFINITION.—In subparagraph (A), the term ‘health professional shortage area’ means a health professional shortage area designated under section 332.

“(d) REPORTS.—

“(1) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An entity that receives a grant under subsection (a)(1) shall submit reports on the use of the grant funds to the Secretary, including progress reports, as required by the Secretary. Such reports shall include—

“(i) any findings of the program established, or expanded, by the entity through the grant; and

“(ii) if applicable, the manner in which the entity has incorporated such findings in the violence intervention or violence prevention program conducted by such entity.

“(B) OPTION FOR JOINT REPORT.—To the extent feasible and appropriate, an entity that receives a grant under subsection (a)(1) may elect to coordinate with one or more other entities that have received such a grant to submit a joint report that meets the requirements of subparagraph (A).

“(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than six years after the date of enactment of the Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act of 2021, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report—

“(A) on any findings resulting from reports submitted to the Secretary under paragraph (1);

“(B) on best practices developed by the Secretary under subsection (e); and

“(C) with recommendations for legislative action relating to intentional violent trauma prevention that the Secretary determines appropriate.

“(e) BEST PRACTICES.—Not later than six years after the date of enactment of the Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act of 2021, the Secretary shall—

“(1) develop, and post on a public website of the Department of Health and Human Services, best practices for intentional violent trauma prevention, based on any findings reported to the Secretary under subsection (d)(1); and

“(2) disseminate such best practices to stakeholders, as determined appropriate by the Secretary.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022 through 2025.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 1260.

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

There was no objection.

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

Trauma is a pressing public health epidemic. In 2016 alone, trauma accounted for more than 29 million emergency department visits and 39 million physician office visits in the United States.

Tragically, homicide is the leading cause of death for Black males between the ages of 1 and 24 and the second leading cause of death in Hispanic males in the same age group. Regardless of race, of the people who survive a single violent trauma, it is estimated that up to 45 percent will experience a second violent trauma.

This is where H.R. 1260 steps in to provide critical data-driven interventions. The Bipartisan Solution of Cyclical Violence Act directs the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a grant program for specified trauma centers and nonprofits to establish or expand intervention or prevention programs related to intentional violent trauma.

These programs, Madam Speaker, help identify patients at risk of repeat violent injury and connects them with hospital and community-based resources. The bill bridges tragedy with hospital-based violence intervention programs by providing intensive case management to people who have experienced at least one violent trauma. These programs have been shown to successfully reduce injury recidivism and help those at risk for violence live safer lives.

I commend my colleagues, Representatives RUPPERSBERGER and KINZINGER, for spearheading this initiative.

Again, I urge my colleagues to support this important bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1260, the Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act of 2021 introduced by Representative RUPPERSBERGER and fellow Energy and Commerce Committee member KINZINGER.

This important legislation would provide Federal grants to hospitals and trauma centers for intervention services to victims of violent crime.

Violence in America disproportionately impacts urban and underserved communities, where poor social determinants of health can contribute to structural violence.

Hospital-based intervention programs help reduce violence because they reach high-risk individuals recently admitted to a hospital for treatment of a serious violent injury. Hospitalization presents an opportunity when an individual may be open to help to break the cycle of violence by immediate intervention following the violent incident.

By supporting hospital-based violence intervention programs, this bill

will connect at-risk individuals with local resources that address underlying risk factors for violence.

I thank Representatives RUPPERSBERGER and KINZINGER for tackling this challenging issue and for putting forward a meaningful solution to help address violence in our communities.

Madam Speaker, it is important to break the cycle of violence. Having someone in a hospital setting who has just been a victim of violence is a great time to address that.

I think this is the right policy at the right time, and I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge my colleagues to support this bill. Again, this one, dealing with intervention for violent traumas, is part of this package today.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1260, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS FROM THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1205) to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, to award grants to implement innovative approaches to securing prompt access to appropriate follow-on care for individuals who experience an acute mental health episode and present for care in an emergency department, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1205

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 “Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. SECURING APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-ON CARE FOR ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH ILLNESS AFTER AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ENCOUNTER.

The Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting after section 520J of such Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-31) the following new section:

"SEC. 520J-1. SECURING APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-ON CARE FOR ACUTE MENTAL HEALTH ILLNESS AFTER AN EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ENCOUNTER.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants on a competitive basis to qualifying health providers to implement innovative approaches to securing prompt access to appropriate follow-on care for individuals who experience an acute mental health episode and present for care in an emergency department.

"(b) ELIGIBLE GRANT RECIPIENTS.—In this section, the term 'qualifying health provider' means a health care facility licensed under applicable law that—

"(1) has an emergency department;

"(2) is staffed by medical personnel (such as emergency physicians, psychiatrists, psychiatric registered nurses, mental health technicians, clinical social workers, psychologists, and therapists) capable of providing treatment focused on stabilizing acute mental health conditions and assisting patients to access resources to continue treatment in the least restrictive appropriate setting; and

"(3) has arrangements in place with other providers of care that can provide a full range of medically appropriate, evidence-based services for the treatment of acute mental health episodes.

"(c) USE OF FUNDS.—A qualifying health provider receiving funds under this section shall use such funds to create, support, or expand programs or projects intended to assist individuals who are treated at the provider's emergency department for acute mental health episodes and to expeditiously transition such individuals to an appropriate facility or setting for follow-on care. Such use of funds may support the following:

"(1) Expediting placement in appropriate facilities through activities such as expanded coordination with regional service providers, assessment, peer navigators, bed availability tracking and management, transfer protocol development, networking infrastructure development, and transportation services.

"(2) Increasing the supply of inpatient psychiatric beds and alternative care settings such as regional emergency psychiatric facilities.

"(3) Use of alternative approaches to providing psychiatric care in the emergency department setting, including through tele-psychiatric support and other remote psychiatric consultation, implementation of peak period crisis clinics, or creation of psychiatric emergency service units.

"(4) Use of approaches that include proactive followup such as telephone check-ins, telemedicine, or other technology-based outreach to individuals during the period of transition.

"(5) Such other activities as are determined by the Secretary to be appropriate, consistent with subsection (a).

"(d) APPLICATION.—A qualifying health provider desiring a grant under this section shall prepare and submit an application to the Secretary at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require. At a minimum, the application shall include the following:

"(1) A description of identified need for acute mental health services in the provider's service area.

"(2) A description of the existing efforts of the provider to meet the need for acute mental health services in the service area, and identified gaps in the provision of such services.

"(3) A description of the proposed use of funds to meet the need and gaps identified pursuant to paragraph (2).

"(4) A description of how the provider will coordinate efforts with Federal, State, local, and private entities within the service area.

"(5) A description of program objectives, how the objectives are proposed to be met, and how the provider will evaluate outcomes relative to objectives.

"(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

□ 1515

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 1205.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1205, the Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act.

I would like to begin by recognizing a member of our committee, Representative RUIZ, and his staff for their work on this important legislation. As an emergency room physician himself, Dr. RUIZ knows firsthand the needs of both the medical professional and patients in the ER.

Among those increasing needs is support for mental health services. Research has shown that one in every eight emergency department visits in the U.S. is related to a mental health issue. And since 2009, mental health emergency room visits have substantially increased, most of which is driven by adolescents and young adults. This is especially concerning given the recent report from the Government Accountability Office that found emergency department visits for suicide attempts from mid-March to mid-October 2020 were up 26 percent from 2019.

Now, this bill would help to provide increased access to care for people who report to an emergency department for acute mental health episodes. Under the bill, the Secretary of Health and Human Services is authorized to award grants to support innovative approaches for providing follow-on care for individuals treated in the emergency department for acute mental health issues. This includes increasing the number of inpatient psychiatric beds and alternative care settings, supporting a patient's transition to appropriate mental health services, or the use of tele-psychiatric support or other remote psychiatric consultation methods.

Madam Speaker, emergency departments can sometimes feel like a stressful place, especially for people in crisis. However, they are often the last remaining safety net in many communities. We know that follow-up care for people with mental illnesses is linked to fewer repeat emergency room visits and improved mental and physical health. So let's do our part to support the emergency room staff and patients in need by passing this bill today.

Madam Speaker, again, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1205, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1205, Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act of 2021, sponsored by Representative RUIZ.

This bill authorizes the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to award grants to emergency departments for the purpose of supporting follow-up services to patients that present in the emergency department in mental health crisis.

According to SAMHSA's National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care, there is a disconnect in the provision of follow-up services regarding what comes next for patients experiencing a mental health crisis in the emergency department.

If a patient comes in with appendicitis, the emergency room physician can call a surgeon. If the patient has a rash, the emergency department has a roster of dermatologists in clinics; and, in many cases, the physician can even make an appointment for the patient. These partnerships don't always exist for mental health illness.

By authorizing grants to support programs that help those treated at emergency departments expeditiously transition to follow-on care, this bill will remove barriers to care for those experiencing an acute mental health crisis, reduce stigma, and ultimately save lives.

Madam Speaker, one of the great things I have learned being a Member of the House of Representatives is that we have 435 people from all walks of life and they bring all their life experiences to us and create some important legislation.

Dr. RUIZ is an emergency room physician. He knows this firsthand. We are colleagues on the Committee on Energy and Commerce. I know he is passionate about it because it does save lives if we get people the assistance they need.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, again, we are trying with these series of bills today to address mental and behavioral health problems, and this one deals with the emergency room. So that is very important, and I would urge my colleagues to support it on a bipartisan basis.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1205.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

EFFECTIVE SUICIDE SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1324) to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in hospital emergency departments who are at risk of suicide, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1324

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 Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE CARE PROVIDED TO PATIENTS IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT WHO ARE AT RISK OF SUICIDE.

Part P of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 280g et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 399V-7. PROGRAM TO IMPROVE THE CARE PROVIDED TO PATIENTS IN THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT WHO ARE AT RISK OF SUICIDE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program (in this Act referred to as the ‘Program’) to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in emergency departments who are at risk for suicide, including by—

“(1) developing policies and procedures for identifying and assessing individuals who are at risk of suicide; and

“(2) enhancing the coordination of care for such individuals after discharge.

“(b) GRANT ESTABLISHMENT AND PARTICIPATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the Program, the Secretary shall award grants on a competitive basis to not more than 40 eligible health care sites described in paragraph (2).

“(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant under this section, a health care site shall—

“(A) submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may specify;

“(B) be a hospital (as defined in section 1861(e) of the Social Security Act);

“(C) have an emergency department; and

“(D) deploy onsite health care or social service professionals to help connect and integrate patients who are at risk of suicide with treatment and mental health support services.

“(3) PREFERENCE.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary may give preference to eligible health care sites described in paragraph (2) that meet at least one of the following criteria:

“(A) The eligible health care site is a critical access hospital (as defined in section 1861(mm)(1) of the Social Security Act).

“(B) The eligible health care site is a sole community hospital (as defined in section 1886(d)(5)(D)(iii) of the Social Security Act).

“(C) The eligible health care site is operated by the Indian Health Service, by an Indian Tribe or Tribal organization (as such terms are defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act), or by an urban Indian organization (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act).

“(D) The eligible health care site is located in a geographic area with a suicide rate that is higher than the national rate, as determined by the Secretary based on the most recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“(c) PERIOD OF GRANT.—A grant awarded to an eligible health care site under this section shall be for a period of at least 2 years.

“(d) GRANT USES.—

“(1) REQUIRED USES.—A grant awarded under this section to an eligible health care site shall be used for the following purposes:

“(A) To train emergency department health care professionals to identify, assess, and treat patients who are at risk of suicide.

“(B) To establish and implement policies and procedures for emergency departments to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of individuals who are at risk of suicide.

“(C) To establish and implement policies and procedures with respect to care coordination, integrated care models, or referral to evidence-based treatment to be used upon the discharge from the emergency department of patients who are at risk of suicide.

“(2) ADDITIONAL PERMISSIBLE USES.—In addition to the required uses listed in paragraph (1), a grant awarded under this section to an eligible health care site may be used for any of the following purposes:

“(A) To hire emergency department psychiatrists, psychologists, nurse practitioners, counselors, therapists, or other licensed health care and behavioral health professionals specializing in the treatment of individuals at risk of suicide.

“(B) To develop and implement best practices for the follow-up care and long-term treatment of individuals who are at risk of suicide.

“(C) To increase the availability of, and access to, evidence-based treatment for individuals who are at risk of suicide, including through telehealth services and strategies to reduce the boarding of these patients in emergency departments.

“(D) To offer consultation with and referral to other supportive services that provide evidence-based treatment and recovery for individuals who are at risk of suicide.

“(e) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) REPORTS BY GRANTEEES.—Each eligible health care site receiving a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary an annual report for each year for which the grant is received on the progress of the program funded through the grant. Each such report shall include information on—

“(A) the number of individuals screened in the site’s emergency department for being at risk of suicide;

“(B) the number of individuals identified in the site’s emergency department as being—

“(i) survivors of an attempted suicide; or

“(ii) are at risk of suicide;

“(C) the number of individuals who are identified in the site’s emergency department as being at risk of suicide by a health care or behavioral health professional hired pursuant to subsection (d)(2)(A);

“(D) the number of individuals referred by the site’s emergency department to other treatment facilities, the types of such other facilities, and the number of such individuals admitted to such other facilities pursuant to such referrals;

“(E) the effectiveness of programs and activities funded through the grant in preventing suicides and suicide attempts; and

“(F) any other relevant additional data regarding the programs and activities funded through the grant.

“(2) REPORT BY SECRETARY.—Not later than one year after the end of fiscal year 2026, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

“(A) findings on the Program;

“(B) overall patient outcomes achieved through the Program;

“(C) an evaluation of the effectiveness of having a trained health care or behavioral health professional onsite to identify, assess, and treat patients who are at risk of suicide; and

“(D) a compilation of policies, procedures, and best practices established, developed, or implemented by grantees under this section.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$20,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1324.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1324, the Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused tremendous suffering in our country over the past year and has negatively impacted the mental health of so many Americans. In fact, rates of mental health disorders, like depression and anxiety, that may lead to suicide have gone up almost fourfold.

According to the National Centers for Health Statistics, over 44,000 people died from suicide last year. However, these numbers may not fully reflect the deaths that occurred secondary to despair from the pandemic. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for people between the ages of 10 and 34, impacting children and people in the prime of their lives.

We also saw this during the pandemic with a spike in suicide deaths for first responders. For example, who can forget the story of Dr. Lorna Breen, an emergency room physician in New York, who dedicated herself to fighting the pandemic, but then tragically died from suicide after experiencing extreme burnout?

To counter these unnecessary deaths, we need to provide more resources to our providers on the front lines of emergency departments across the country. It is particularly important that we focus on those with limited resources, including Critical Access Hospitals, facilities serving Native Americans, and emergency departments in communities with high rates of suicide.

Resources for healthcare providers in the emergency department are important since they are often in the position of providing for patients at the highest risk for suicide with approximately 10 percent of emergency department patients presenting for treatment of suicidal ideations. Unfortunately, almost 40 percent of patients visiting an emergency department following a suicide attempt will go on to reattempt suicide within a year.

Madam Speaker, this bill will assist emergency departments by providing better training to emergency healthcare providers, establishing policies to improve identification and treatment of individuals at risk for suicide, employing additional behavioral health professionals, and improving access to care for patients.

I thank Representatives BILIRAKIS and SOTO and their staff for their tireless effort on this bill. Again, bipartisan.

Madam Speaker, suicide deaths are a preventable tragedy that negatively impact families and loved ones and rob us of young people in the prime of their lives. So whatever we can do to prevent this is going to be so important.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1324, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1324, the Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act of 2021, introduced by Representatives BILIRAKIS, SOTO, and BURGESS.

This legislation will authorize the grant program to improve the identification, screening, assessment, and treatment of patients in emergency departments who are at risk for suicide.

Consideration of this bill could not come at a more pressing time. The COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic downturn have impacted the mental health of many Americans. Due to the pandemic, tens of thousands of additional Americans have died from suicide or substance misuse.

Emergency departments are key locations to intervene and assist those who may be contemplating suicide.

Past research has identified one in every eight emergency department visits in the United States were related to a mental health or substance use disorder.

By creating grants for emergency departments to develop policies for screening those at risk of suicide, and enhancing their post-discharge care coordination, this bill will improve our frontline providers' ability to intervene when someone is in crisis, ultimately reducing deaths from despair during this difficult time.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), my friend.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, this is a real problem in this country. We have a mental health crisis, and, collectively, these bills address that. So I thank the chairman and the ranking member for bringing these bills to the floor. Let's get them through today, and then passed in the Senate and have the President sign because it will make a real difference in the lives of these people who are suffering with mental illness.

Madam Speaker, our Nation remains in the midst of a suicide crisis. Over the past several decades, the suicide rate has risen sharply, increasing by 31 percent since 2001, making suicide the 10th leading cause of death, and claiming an estimated 47,000 lives annually.

A 2016 study found that 11 percent of all emergency department patients exhibited suicidal ideation. However, only 3 percent of those patients were diagnosed by current screening tools. Furthermore, about 70 percent of patients who leave the emergency department after a suicide attempt never attend their first outpatient follow-up appointment. This is just reality, and we have got to do something about this.

The Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act creates a voluntary HHS grant program to assist emergency departments in developing protocols for identifying, assessing, and treating individuals at risk for suicide with preference given to either critical access hospitals or hospitals located in a geographic area with a suicide risk that is higher than the national average rate.

Grants last for 2 years and grantees must submit a report annually on their efforts to improve the identification, assessment, and discharge policies for individuals who are at risk for suicide. This proactive approach is vital because emergency departments often are the first—and, sadly, too often the only—point of contact within the healthcare system for those most at risk for suicide.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate, again, the bipartisan support of my colleague, and I worked on this with Congressman SOTO.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass H.R. 1324, the Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act, to further equip our health providers to recognize and assist these patients in crisis.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I would just say that these series of bills is so important in dealing with the suicide and prevention, in preventing this tragic epidemic from becoming a pandemic as well.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I also urge support for this bill. Again, this is dealing with trying to alert potential problems or potential for suicide in the emergency department, a very important part of this package.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1324.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

□ 1530

HELPING EMERGENCY RESPONDERS OVERCOME ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1480) to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues among public safety officers, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1480

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act" or the "HERO Act".

SEC. 2. DATA SYSTEM TO CAPTURE NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER SUICIDE INCIDENCE.

The Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting before section 318 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 247c) the following:

"SEC. 317V. DATA SYSTEM TO CAPTURE NATIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER SUICIDE INCIDENCE.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other

agencies as the Secretary determines appropriate, may—

“(1) develop and maintain a data system, to be known as the Public Safety Officer Suicide Reporting System, for the purposes of—

“(A) collecting data on the suicide incidence among public safety officers; and

“(B) facilitating the study of successful interventions to reduce suicide among public safety officers; and

“(2) integrate such system into the National Violent Death Reporting System, so long as the Secretary determines such integration to be consistent with the purposes described in paragraph (1).

“(b) DATA COLLECTION.—In collecting data for the Public Safety Officer Suicide Reporting System, the Secretary shall, at a minimum, collect the following information:

“(1) The total number of suicides in the United States among all public safety officers in a given calendar year.

“(2) Suicide rates for public safety officers in a given calendar year, disaggregated by—

“(A) age and gender of the public safety officer;

“(B) State;

“(C) occupation; including both the individual's role in their public safety agency and their primary occupation in the case of volunteer public safety officers;

“(D) where available, the status of the public safety officer as volunteer, paid-on-call, or career; and

“(E) status of the public safety officer as active or retired.

“(c) CONSULTATION DURING DEVELOPMENT.—In developing the Public Safety Officer Suicide Reporting System, the Secretary shall consult with non-Federal experts to determine the best means to collect data regarding suicide incidence in a safe, sensitive, anonymous, and effective manner. Such non-Federal experts shall include, as appropriate, the following:

“(1) Public health experts with experience in developing and maintaining suicide registries.

“(2) Organizations that track suicide among public safety officers.

“(3) Mental health experts with experience in studying suicide and other profession-related traumatic stress.

“(4) Clinicians with experience in diagnosing and treating mental health issues.

“(5) Active and retired volunteer, paid-on-call, and career public safety officers.

“(6) Relevant national police, and fire and emergency medical services, organizations.

“(d) DATA PRIVACY AND SECURITY.—In developing and maintaining the Public Safety Officer Suicide Reporting System, the Secretary shall ensure that all applicable Federal privacy and security protections are followed to ensure that—

“(1) the confidentiality and anonymity of suicide victims and their families are protected, including so as to ensure that data cannot be used to deny benefits; and

“(2) data is sufficiently secure to prevent unauthorized access.

“(e) REPORTING.—

“(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act, and biannually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on the suicide incidence among public safety officers. Each such report shall—

“(A) include the number and rate of such suicide incidence, disaggregated by age, gender, and State of employment;

“(B) identify characteristics and contributing circumstances for suicide among public safety officers;

“(C) disaggregate rates of suicide by—

“(i) occupation;

“(ii) status as volunteer, paid-on-call, or career; and

“(iii) status as active or retired;

“(D) include recommendations for further study regarding the suicide incidence among public safety officers;

“(E) specify in detail, if found, any obstacles in collecting suicide rates for volunteers and include recommended improvements to overcome such obstacles;

“(F) identify options for interventions to reduce suicide among public safety officers; and

“(G) describe procedures to ensure the confidentiality and anonymity of suicide victims and their families, as described in subsection (d)(1).

“(2) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Upon the submission of each report to the Congress under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall make the full report publicly available on the website of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“(f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘public safety officer’ means—

“(1) a public safety officer as defined in section 1204 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968; or

“(2) a public safety telecommunicator as described in detailed occupation 43-5031 in the Standard Occupational Classification Manual of the Office of Management and Budget (2018).

“(g) PROHIBITED USE OF INFORMATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if an individual is identified as deceased based on information contained in the Public Safety Officer Suicide Reporting System, such information may not be used to deny or rescind life insurance payments or other benefits to a survivor of the deceased individual.”

SEC. 3. PEER-SUPPORT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS WITHIN FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE AGENCIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 243 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 320C. PEER-SUPPORT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS WITHIN FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE AGENCIES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants to eligible entities for the purpose of establishing or enhancing peer-support behavioral health and wellness programs within fire departments and emergency medical services agencies.

“(b) PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.—A peer-support behavioral health and wellness program funded under this section shall—

“(1) use career and volunteer members of fire departments or emergency medical services agencies to serve as peer counselors;

“(2) provide training to members of career, volunteer, and combination fire departments or emergency medical service agencies to serve as such peer counselors;

“(3) purchase materials to be used exclusively to provide such training; and

“(4) disseminate such information and materials as are necessary to conduct the program.

“(c) DEFINITION.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘eligible entity’ means a nonprofit organization with expertise and experience with respect to the health and life safety of members of fire and emergency medical services agencies.

“(2) The term ‘member’—

“(A) with respect to an emergency medical services agency, means an employee, regardless of rank or whether the employee receives compensation (as defined in section

1204(7) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968); and

“(B) with respect to a fire department, means any employee, regardless of rank or whether the employee receives compensation, of a Federal, State, Tribal, or local fire department who is responsible for responding to calls for emergency service.”

(b) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Effective as if included in the enactment of the Children's Health Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-310), the amendment instruction in section 1603 of such Act is amended by striking “Part B of the Public Health Service Act” and inserting “Part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act”.

SEC. 4. HEALTH CARE PROVIDER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS.

Part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 243 et seq.), as amended by section 3, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 320D. HEALTH CARE PROVIDER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS PROGRAMS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award grants to eligible entities for the purpose of establishing or enhancing behavioral health and wellness programs for health care providers.

“(b) PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.—A behavioral health and wellness program funded under this section shall—

“(1) provide confidential support services for health care providers to help handle stressful or traumatic patient-related events, including counseling services and wellness seminars;

“(2) provide training to health care providers to serve as peer counselors to other health care providers;

“(3) purchase materials to be used exclusively to provide such training; and

“(4) disseminate such information and materials as are necessary to conduct such training and provide such peer counseling.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the term ‘eligible entity’ means a hospital, including a critical access hospital (as defined in section 1861(mm)(1) of the Social Security Act) or a disproportionate share hospital (as defined under section 1923(a)(1)(A) of such Act), a Federally-qualified health center (as defined in section 1905(1)(2)(B) of such Act), or any other health care facility.”

SEC. 5. DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES FOR EDUCATING MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ABOUT TREATING FIRE FIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the United States Fire Administration, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall develop and make publicly available resources that may be used by the Federal Government and other entities to educate mental health professionals about—

(1) the culture of Federal, State, Tribal, and local career, volunteer, and combination fire departments and emergency medical services agencies;

(2) the different stressors experienced by firefighters and emergency medical services personnel, supervisory firefighters and emergency medical services personnel, and chief officers of fire departments and emergency medical services agencies;

(3) challenges encountered by retired firefighters and emergency medical services personnel; and

(4) evidence-based therapies for mental health issues common to firefighters and emergency medical services personnel within such departments and agencies.

(b) CONSULTATION.—In developing resources under subsection (a), the Administrator of the United States Fire Administration and

the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall consult with national fire and emergency medical services organizations.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “firefighter” means any employee, regardless of rank or whether the employee receives compensation, of a Federal, State, Tribal, or local fire department who is responsible for responding to calls for emergency service.

(2) The term “emergency medical services personnel” means any employee, regardless of rank or whether the employee receives compensation, as defined in section 1204(7) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10284(7)).

(3) The term “chief officer” means any individual who is responsible for the overall operation of a fire department or an emergency medical services agency, irrespective of whether such individual also serves as a firefighter or emergency medical services personnel.

SEC. 6. BEST PRACTICES AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR ADDRESSING POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER IN PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS.

(a) DEVELOPMENT; UPDATES.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

(1) develop and assemble evidence-based best practices and other resources to identify, prevent, and treat posttraumatic stress disorder and co-occurring disorders in public safety officers; and

(2) reassess and update, as the Secretary determines necessary, such best practices and resources, including based upon the options for interventions to reduce suicide among public safety officers identified in the annual reports required by section 317W(e)(1)(F) of the Public Health Service Act, as added by section 2 of this Act.

(b) CONSULTATION.—In developing, assembling, and updating the best practices and resources under subsection (a), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall consult with, at a minimum, the following:

- (1) Public health experts.
- (2) Mental health experts with experience in studying suicide and other profession-related traumatic stress.
- (3) Clinicians with experience in diagnosing and treating mental health issues.
- (4) Relevant national police, fire, and emergency medical services organizations.

(c) AVAILABILITY.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall make the best practices and resources under subsection (a) available to Federal, State, and local fire, law enforcement, and emergency medical services agencies.

(d) FEDERAL TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall work with Federal departments and agencies, including the United States Fire Administration, to incorporate education and training on the best practices and resources under subsection (a) into Federal training and development programs for public safety officers.

(e) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “public safety officer” means—

- (1) a public safety officer as defined in section 1204 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10284); or
- (2) a public safety telecommunicator as described in detailed occupation 43-5031 in the Standard Occupational Classification Manual of the Office of Management and Budget (2018).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 1480.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act, or the HERO Act.

As we have learned over the past year, not all heroes wear capes. There are heroes in our communities working to save the lives of countless Americans, including our emergency responders, firefighters, healthcare workers, and hospital personnel, who, to this day, continue to battle COVID-19.

Unfortunately, despite their heroic efforts, evidence suggests that suicide, depression, and substance abuse disorder are significant issues facing public safety personnel and medical providers. Those on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic have witnessed previously unimaginable conditions that are traumatizing for even the most resilient public safety and medical personnel.

Madam Speaker, prior to COVID-19, it was estimated that 30 percent of first responders develop behavioral health conditions, including, but not limited to, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder, as compared with 20 percent of the general population. Tragically, a 2018 study found that public safety officers were more likely to die by suicide than professionals in other lines of duty.

So this bill will help inform and support prevention and treatment strategies for addressing behavioral and mental health issues among public safety officers. The legislation would require the development of a data system to capture the incidence of suicides among this population, while also facilitating the study of successful interventions to reduce suicide among these frontline health workers.

The bill also includes efforts to enhance behavioral health and wellness programs for healthcare providers, such as providing financial assistance to entities that establish behavioral health programs targeted to these populations. By utilizing the new data system, improved research, and programmatic findings, the Department of Health and Human Services will develop best practices and resources for addressing PTSD in these frontline workers.

I want to commend Representative BERA, I know he spoke before during the 1 minute Special Orders on this bill, and also Congressman FITZPATRICK, for putting forward this bipartisan legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to help those heroes by sup-

porting the HERO Act today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND
TECHNOLOGY,

Washington, DC, May 4, 2021.

Hon. FRANK PALLONE, JR.,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN PALLONE: I am writing you concerning H.R. 1480, the “Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act of 2019,” which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and then to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology (“Science Committee”) on March 2, 2021.

As a result of our consultation, I agree to work cooperatively on H.R. 1480 and in order to expedite consideration of the bill the Science Committee will waive formal consideration of this legislation. However, this is not a waiver of any future jurisdictional claims by the Science Committee over the subject matter contained in H.R. 1480 or similar legislation. I ask for your support of my request to name members of the Science Committee to any House-Senate conference that may consider this bill.

Additionally, thank you for your assurances to include a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter in the Congressional Record during floor consideration thereof.

Sincerely,

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,
Chairwoman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, May 7, 2021.

Hon. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,
Chairwoman, Committee on Science, Space, and
Technology, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN JOHNSON: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Energy and Commerce and agreeing to discharge H.R. 1480, the “Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act”, from further consideration, so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will ensure our letters on H.R. 1480 are entered into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

FRANK PALLONE, JR.,
Chairman.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1480, the Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act, or HERO Act, which was introduced by Representative BERA, and several Members of this Chamber, including Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues BURGESS, BLUNT ROCHESTER, KELLY, KUSTER, and TONKO.

This legislation would create a database at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to capture public safety officer suicide incidences, and studies successful interventions. It would

also authorize a grant program for peer support and wellness programs for frontline healthcare workers and fire and emergency medical service agencies. The bill also directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices and share resources for addressing post-traumatic stress in public safety officers.

This legislation is incredibly timely. Emergency workers and doctors and nurses have been under incredible strain throughout the pandemic. Losing those who keep us healthy and safe will only make the crisis worse.

We must ensure that all the heroes across America on the front lines of healthcare and in law enforcement and public safety have the support they need to continue working to keep us safe.

Madam Speaker, this being National Police Officer Week, I think it is Memorial week, it is an important time to do all we can for those in law enforcement, but also public safety, as this bill addresses, and those on the front lines in healthcare.

So I encourage us to be in support of those on the front lines, and I urge a "yes" vote. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, this one, of course, deals with trying to address behavioral mental health amongst public safety officers, and that is obviously a very important part of this package.

Madam Speaker, I would urge unanimous support for the 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 New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1480, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT SUICIDE ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2862) to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a national suicide prevention media campaign, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2862

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 "Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFE-LINE.

Section 520E-3(b)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-36c(b)(2)) is amended by inserting after "suicide prevention hotline" the following: " , under the universal telephone number designated under Section 251(e)(4) of the Communications Act of 1934,".

SEC. 3. NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MEDIA CAMPAIGN.

(a) NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MEDIA CAMPAIGN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date that is three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the "Secretary"), in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use (referred to in this section as the "Assistant Secretary") and the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this section as the "Director"), shall conduct a national suicide prevention media campaign (referred to in this section as the "national media campaign"), in accordance with the requirements of this section, for purposes of—

(A) preventing suicide in the United States;

(B) educating families, friends, and communities on how to address suicide and suicidal thoughts, including when to encourage individuals with suicidal risk to seek help; and

(C) increasing awareness of suicide prevention resources of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (including the suicide prevention hotline maintained under section 520E-3 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-36c)), any suicide prevention mobile application of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and other support resources determined appropriate by the Secretary.

(2) ADDITIONAL CONSULTATION.—In addition to consulting with the Assistant Secretary and the Director under this section, the Secretary shall consult with, as appropriate, State, local, Tribal, and territorial health departments, primary health care providers, hospitals with emergency departments, mental and behavioral health services providers, crisis response services providers, first responders, suicide prevention and mental health professionals, patient advocacy groups, survivors of suicide attempts, and representatives of television and social media platforms in planning the national media campaign to be conducted under paragraph (1).

(b) TARGET AUDIENCES.—

(1) TAILORING ADVERTISEMENTS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS.—In conducting the national media campaign under subsection (a)(1), the Secretary may tailor culturally competent advertisements and other communications of the campaign across all available media for a target audience (such as a particular geographic location or demographic) across the lifespan.

(2) TARGETING CERTAIN LOCAL AREAS.—The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, use amounts made available under subsection (f) for media that targets certain local areas or populations at disproportionate risk for suicide.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—

(1) REQUIRED USES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, if reasonably feasible with the funds made available under subsection (f), carry out the following, with respect to the national media campaign:

(i) Testing and evaluation of advertising.

(ii) Evaluation of the effectiveness of the national media campaign.

(iii) Operational and management expenses.

(iv) The creation of an educational toolkit for television and social media platforms to use in discussing suicide and raising awareness about how to prevent suicide.

(B) SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) TESTING AND EVALUATION OF ADVERTISING.—In testing and evaluating advertising under subparagraph (A)(i), the Secretary shall test all advertisements after use in the national media campaign to evaluate the extent to which such advertisements have been effective in carrying out the purposes of the national media campaign.

(ii) EVALUATION OF EFFECTIVENESS OF NATIONAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN.—In evaluating the effectiveness of the national media campaign under subparagraph (A)(ii), the Secretary shall take into account—

(I) the number of unique calls that are made to the suicide prevention hotline maintained under section 520E-3 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-36c) and assess whether there are any State and regional variations with respect to the capacity to answer such calls;

(II) the number of unique encounters with suicide prevention and support resources of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and assess engagement with such suicide prevention and support resources;

(III) whether the national media campaign has contributed to increased awareness that suicidal individuals should be engaged, rather than ignored; and

(IV) such other measures of evaluation as the Secretary determines are appropriate.

(2) OPTIONAL USES.—The Secretary may use amounts made available under subsection (f) for the following, with respect to the national media campaign:

(A) Partnerships with professional and civic groups, community-based organizations, including faith-based organizations, and Government or Tribal organizations that the Secretary determines have experience in suicide prevention, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(B) Entertainment industry outreach, interactive outreach, media projects and activities, public information, news media outreach, outreach through television programs, and corporate sponsorship and participation.

(d) PROHIBITIONS.—None of the amounts made available under subsection (f) may be obligated or expended for any of the following:

(1) To supplant current suicide prevention campaigns.

(2) For partisan political purposes, or to express advocacy in support of or to defeat any clearly identified candidate, clearly identified ballot initiative, or clearly identified legislative or regulatory proposal.

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 18 months after implementation of the national media campaign has begun, the Secretary, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary and the Director, shall, with respect to the first year of the national media campaign, submit to Congress a report that describes—

(1) the strategy of the national media campaign and whether specific objectives of such campaign were accomplished, including whether such campaign impacted the number of calls made to lifeline crisis centers and the capacity of such centers to manage such calls;

(2) steps taken to ensure that the national media campaign operates in an effective and efficient manner consistent with the overall strategy and focus of the national media campaign;

(3) plans to purchase advertising time and space;

(4) policies and practices implemented to ensure that Federal funds are used responsibly to purchase advertising time and space and eliminate the potential for waste, fraud, and abuse; and

(5) all contracts entered into with a corporation, a partnership, or an individual working on behalf of the national media campaign.

(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—For purposes of carrying out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2862.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2862, the Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act.

Suicide, Madam Speaker, continues to be one of the leading causes of death in the United States. Last year alone, we lost more than 44,000 people to suicide deaths, placing a heavy toll on the families and friends of victims, as well as on our communities.

To help prevent suicides, we have created a lifeline that people can call when they are in crisis to get the help they need. This suicide prevention hotline has been available since 2004 through funding we have provided to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and the call-in line has taken millions of calls since its inception.

Unfortunately, the call-in line was started as a 10-digit number that is hard to remember, and this could potentially be preventing essential access to support for those in crisis. In 2018, the National Suicide Hotline Improvement Act was passed with the goal of launching a new 3-digit number similar to 911 that is easy to remember during a time of crisis.

The Federal Communications Commission is now finalizing the process to launch this new 3-digit call-in line, 988, next year. Now we need to ensure people are aware of the new 3-digit number through a marketing of 988.

H.R. 2862 provides this essential next step in communicating the new lifeline number to the public, and will also

evaluate the effectiveness of the marketing to better understand how best to reach communities in need.

Madam Speaker, suicide deaths are a preventable tragedy, and this call-in line has the potential to help people in crisis and to save lives, but we need to educate people about this important resource.

Madam Speaker, I want to commend the lead sponsors of this legislation, Representatives BEYER and KINZINGER, and their staff, for their tireless work on this bill.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2862, the Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act, introduced by Representatives BEYER and KINZINGER.

This bill directs the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to conduct a national suicide prevention education campaign, this includes promotion of the new 988 number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

The bill also helps educate Americans on ways to engage people showing signs of suicidal behavior, in order to provide them with the support they need. The bill is desperately needed as we work as a nation to emerge from an unprecedented health and economic crisis.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to come together here today and advance this legislation.

Again, this is important in terms of having the 988 number, people can reach out and have intervention. We know intervention and prevention and recognition is key to preventing people from committing suicide.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate my friends, Mr. BEYER and Mr. KINZINGER, for bringing this forward. I urge its passage.

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

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, as my colleague from Kentucky explained, this is a very important piece of legislation to make people aware of this 988 number to prevent suicide.

Madam Speaker, I would urge my colleagues on a bipartisan basis 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 New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2862, as amended.

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 are postponed.

SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2981) to amend the Public Health Service Act to ensure the provision of high-quality service through the Suicide Prevention Lifeline, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2981

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 “Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE.

(a) **PLAN.**—Section 520E-3 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-36c) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (e); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) **PLAN.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of maintaining the suicide prevention hotline under subsection (b)(2), the Secretary shall develop and implement a plan to ensure the provision of high-quality service.

“(2) **CONTENTS.**—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

“(A) Quality assurance provisions, including—

“(i) clearly defined and measurable performance indicators and objectives to improve the responsiveness and performance of the hotline, including at backup call centers; and

“(ii) quantifiable timeframes to track the progress of the hotline in meeting such performance indicators and objectives.

“(B) Standards that crisis centers and backup centers must meet—

“(i) to participate in the network under subsection (b)(1); and

“(ii) to ensure that each telephone call, online chat message, and other communication received by the hotline, including at backup call centers, is answered in a timely manner by a person, consistent with the guidance established by the American Association of Suicidology or other guidance determined by the Secretary to be appropriate.

“(C) Guidelines for crisis centers and backup centers to implement evidence-based practices including with respect to followup and referral to other health and social services resources.

“(D) Guidelines to ensure that resources are available and distributed to individuals using the hotline who are not personally in a time of crisis but know of someone who is.

“(E) Guidelines to carry out periodic testing of the hotline, including at crisis centers and backup centers, during each fiscal year to identify and correct any problems in a timely manner.

“(F) Guidelines to operate in consultation with the State department of health, local governments, Indian tribes, and tribal organizations.

“(3) **INITIAL PLAN; UPDATES.**—The Secretary shall—

“(A) not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act of 2021, complete development of the initial version of the plan

required by paragraph (1), begin implementation of such plan, and make such plan publicly available; and

“(B) periodically thereafter, update such plan and make the updated plan publicly available.”.

(b) TRANSMISSION OF DATA TO CDC.—Section 520E-3 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-36c) is amended by inserting after subsection (c) of such section, as added by subsection (a) of this section, the following:

“(d) TRANSMISSION OF DATA TO CDC.—The Secretary shall formalize and strengthen agreements between the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline program and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to transmit any necessary epidemiological data from the program to the Centers, including local call center data, to assist the Centers in suicide prevention efforts.”.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Subsection (e) of section 520E-3 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-36c) is amended to read as follows:

“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—“(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2024.

“(2) ALLOCATION.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by paragraph (1) for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2024, at least 80 percent shall be made available to crisis centers.”.

SEC. 3. PILOT PROGRAM ON INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, shall carry out a pilot program to research, analyze, and employ various technologies and platforms of communication (including social media platforms, texting platforms, and email platforms) for suicide prevention in addition to the telephone and online chat service provided by the Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out paragraph (1), there is authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 24 months after the date on which the pilot program under subsection (a) commences, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, shall submit to the Congress a report on the pilot program. With respect to each platform of communication employed pursuant to the pilot program, the report shall include—

- (1) a full description of the program;
- (2) the number of individuals served by the program;
- (3) the average wait time for each individual to receive a response;
- (4) the cost of the program, including the cost per individual served; and
- (5) any other information the Secretary determines appropriate.

SEC. 4. HHS STUDY AND REPORT.

Not later than 24 months after the Secretary of Health and Human Services begins implementation of the plan required by section 520E-3(c) of the Public Health Service Act, as added by section 2(a)(2) of this Act, the Secretary shall—

- (1) complete a study on—
 - (A) the implementation of such plan, including the progress towards meeting the objectives identified pursuant to paragraph (2)(A)(i) of such section 520E-3(c) by the timeframes identified pursuant to paragraph (2)(A)(ii) of such section 520E-3(c); and
 - (B) in consultation with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,

options to expand data gathering from calls to the Suicide Prevention Lifeline in order to better track aspects of usage such as repeat calls, consistent with applicable Federal and State privacy laws; and

(2) submit a report to the Congress on the results of such study, including recommendations on whether additional legislation or appropriations are needed.

SEC. 5. GAO STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 24 months after the Secretary of Health and Human Services begins implementation of the plan required by section 520E-3(c) of the Public Health Service Act, as added by section 2(a)(2) of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) complete a study on the Suicide Prevention Lifeline; and

(2) submit a report to the Congress on the results of such study.

(b) ISSUES TO BE STUDIED.—The study required by subsection (a) shall address—

(1) the feasibility of geolocating callers to direct calls to the nearest crisis center;

(2) operation shortcomings of the Suicide Prevention Lifeline;

(3) geographic coverage of each crisis call center;

(4) the call answer rate of each crisis call center;

(5) the call wait time of each crisis call center;

(6) the hours of operation of each crisis call center;

(7) funding avenues of each crisis call center;

(8) the implementation of the plan under section 520E-3(c) of the Public Health Service Act, as added by section 2(a) of this Act, including the progress towards meeting the objectives identified pursuant to paragraph (2)(A)(i) of such section 520E-3(c) by the timeframes identified pursuant to paragraph (2)(A)(ii) of such section 520E-3(c); and

(9) service to individuals requesting a foreign language speaker, including—

(A) the number of calls or chats the Lifeline receives from individuals speaking a foreign language;

(B) the capacity of the Lifeline to handle these calls or chats; and

(C) the number of crisis centers with the capacity to serve foreign language speakers, in house.

(c) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include recommendations for improving the Suicide Prevention Lifeline, including recommendations for legislative and administrative actions.

SEC. 6. DEFINITION.

In this Act, the term “Suicide Prevention Lifeline” means the suicide prevention hotline maintained pursuant to section 520E-3 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-36c).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2981.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2981, the Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act.

We have spoken a lot about suicide prevention today and recognize that this is an issue we have to address to save the lives of Americans who are in the prime of their life. And we have tens of thousands of people dying every year from suicide, and millions of people struggling with mental health issues, many of which have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fortunately, the Federal Government provides dedicated funding for a lifeline that people can call when they are in crisis, and we have recently made major investments in improving this lifeline by changing it to a 3-digit number, 988. That change is in the works now, Madam Speaker.

□ 1545

This bill will increase support for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to ensure that those who make the call are able to get high quality crisis service. The lifeline's network has now over 170 local call centers that answer millions of calls every year. However, we need to provide additional funding so this lifeline can respond to increasing demands. The legislation will also enhance coordination of services as well as data sharing while extending the capacity for local communities to provide services.

This bill, Madam Speaker, will ensure that the lifeline has the sufficient level of resources needed to provide high quality services for people who are reaching out for help.

Again, I want to commend the lead sponsors of this bill, Representatives KATKO, BEYER, and NAPOLITANO, and their staff for their tireless work on this bill.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2981, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2981, the Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act of 2021, introduced by Representatives KATKO, NAPOLITANO, and BEYER. This legislation will increase the authorization of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline program to \$50 million a year and ensures funding is available for the continued operation of the suicide hotline.

When an individual in crisis calls the suicide hotline, they cannot get a busy signal. This is crucial in this time of economic distress and social isolation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. With more individuals in crisis, more calls will come. We must increase awareness of this critical resource and make it easier to remember the number. We must make sure the national suicide hotline is prepared to deal with those in crisis.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO).

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act. I was proud to introduce this legislation alongside my good friends and tremendous leaders on mental health issues, Congresswoman NAPOLITANO and Congressman BEYER.

Every year during Mental Health Awareness Month, I stand before this body to highlight the mental health crisis facing our Nation and the urgent need for action. This year, however, the issue is more critical than ever.

As the coronavirus pandemic impacted nearly every aspect of our society and daily lives, we saw devastating increases in the number of Americans suffering from mental health issues. One report by the Centers for Disease Control last June indicated that 40 percent of U.S. adults reported struggling with mental health or substance use, with nearly 11 percent of adults and over 25 percent of those aged 18 to 24 years old having seriously considered suicide. Those are stunning numbers. The threat of this pandemic was not solely a physical or financial one. It has taken a toll on the mental health of millions upon millions of Americans, and they need our support.

I am pleased that the bipartisan Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act takes important steps to provide individuals in crisis with lifesaving aid and resources by improving and strengthening the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Since its creation, the lifeline has been significantly underfunded and plagued with issues, like long call wait times and lack of consistency.

This bill increases the authorization from \$12 million to \$50 million, and dedicates 80 percent of that funding to local suicide crisis centers that are the backbone of the lifeline, like Contact Community Services in Syracuse, which literally saves lives every day.

The legislation also implements important quality assurance measures including the requirement to eliminate call wait times and implement evidence-based practices like follow-up and referrals to other health services that are required. For too long, the mental health and suicide crisis in our country has gone unspoken, underfunded and under-recognized. It is time we address this crisis as what it is: a crisis.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2981 and other important mental health bills on the floor today.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. In closing, Madam Speaker, I appreciate my colleagues for

working very hard on this bill and all the bills for suicide preservation.

Madam Speaker, I urge its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. In closing, Madam Speaker, this, again, is a bill to try to improve the lifeline and the use of the new 988 number. I urge its support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2981.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

SUICIDE PREVENTION ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2955) to authorize a pilot program to expand and intensify surveillance of self-harm in partnership with State and local public health departments, to establish a grant program to provide self-harm and suicide prevention services in hospital emergency departments, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2955

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 “Suicide Prevention Act”.

SEC. 2. SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE OF SELF-HARM BEHAVIORS PROGRAM.

Title III of the Public Health Service Act is amended by inserting after section 317U of such Act (42 U.S.C. 247b-23) the following:

“SEC. 317V. SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE OF SELF-HARM BEHAVIORS PROGRAM.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award grants to State, local, Tribal, and territorial public health departments for the expansion of surveillance of self-harm.

“(b) DATA SHARING BY GRANTEEES.—As a condition of receipt of such grant under subsection (a), each grantee shall agree to share with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in real time, to the extent feasible and as specified in the grant agreement, data on suicides and self-harm for purposes of—

“(1) tracking and monitoring self-harm to inform response activities to suicide clusters;

“(2) informing prevention programming for identified at-risk populations; and

“(3) conducting or supporting research.

“(c) DISAGGREGATION OF DATA.—The Secretary shall provide for the data collected through surveillance of self-harm under subsection (b) to be disaggregated by the following categories:

“(1) Nonfatal self-harm data of any intent.

“(2) Data on suicidal ideation.

“(3) Data on self-harm where there is no evidence, whether implicit or explicit, of suicidal intent.

“(4) Data on self-harm where there is evidence, whether implicit or explicit, of suicidal intent.

“(5) Data on self-harm where suicidal intent is unclear based on the available evidence.

“(d) PRIORITY.—In making awards under subsection (a), the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities that are—

“(1) located in a State with an age-adjusted rate of nonfatal suicidal behavior that is above the national rate of nonfatal suicidal behavior, as determined by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

“(2) serving an Indian Tribe (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act) with an age-adjusted rate of nonfatal suicidal behavior that is above the national rate of nonfatal suicidal behavior, as determined through appropriate mechanisms determined by the Secretary in consultation with Indian Tribes; or

“(3) located in a State with a high rate of coverage of statewide (or Tribal) emergency department visits, as determined by the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“(e) GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.—In making grants under this section, the Secretary shall make an effort to ensure geographic distribution, taking into account the unique needs of rural communities, including—

“(1) communities with an incidence of individuals with serious mental illness, demonstrated suicidal ideation or behavior, or suicide rates that are above the national average, as determined by the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use;

“(2) communities with a shortage of prevention and treatment services, as determined by the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use and the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration; and

“(3) other appropriate community-level factors and social determinants of health such as income, employment, and education.

“(f) PERIOD OF PARTICIPATION.—To be selected as a grant recipient under this section, a State, local, Tribal, or territorial public health department shall agree to participate in the program for a period of not less than 4 years.

“(g) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance and training to grantees for collecting and sharing the data under subsection (b).

“(h) DATA SHARING BY HHS.—Subject to subsection (b), the Secretary shall, with respect to data on self-harm that is collected pursuant to this section, share and integrate such data through—

“(1) the National Syndromic Surveillance Program’s Early Notification of Community Epidemics (ESSENCE) platform (or any successor platform);

“(2) the National Violent Death Reporting System, as appropriate; or

“(3) another appropriate surveillance program, including such a program that collects data on suicides and self-harm among special populations, such as members of the military and veterans.

“(i) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING APPLICABILITY OF PRIVACY PROTECTIONS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit or alter the application of Federal or State law relating to the privacy of information to data or information that is collected or created under this section.

“(j) REPORT.—

“(1) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the

Secretary shall evaluate the suicide and self-harm syndromic surveillance systems at the Federal, State, and local levels and submit a report to Congress on the data collected under subsections (b) and (c) in a manner that prevents the disclosure of individually identifiable information, at a minimum, consistent with all applicable privacy laws and regulations.

“(2) CONTENTS.—In addition to the data collected under subsections (b) and (c), the report under paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) challenges and gaps in data collection and reporting;

“(B) recommendations to address such gaps and challenges; and

“(C) a description of any public health responses initiated at the Federal, State, or local level in response to the data collected.

“(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”.

SEC. 3. GRANTS TO PROVIDE SELF-HARM AND SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES.

Part B of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290aa et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 520N. GRANTS TO PROVIDE SELF-HARM AND SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall award grants to hospital emergency departments to provide self-harm and suicide prevention services.

“(b) ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A hospital emergency department awarded a grant under subsection (a) shall use amounts under the grant to implement a program or protocol to better prevent suicide attempts among hospital patients after discharge, which may include—

“(A) screening patients for self-harm and suicide in accordance with the standards of practice described in subsection (e)(1) and standards of care established by appropriate medical and advocacy organizations;

“(B) providing patients short-term self-harm and suicide prevention services in accordance with the results of the screenings described in subparagraph (A); and

“(C) referring patients, as appropriate, to a health care facility or provider for purposes of receiving long-term self-harm and suicide prevention services, and providing any additional follow up services and care identified as appropriate as a result of the screenings and short-term self-harm and suicide prevention services described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

“(2) USE OF FUNDS TO HIRE AND TRAIN STAFF.—Amounts awarded under subsection (a) may be used to hire clinical social workers, mental and behavioral health care professionals, and support staff as appropriate, and to train existing staff and newly hired staff to carry out the activities described in paragraph (1).

“(c) GRANT TERMS.—A grant awarded under subsection (a)—

“(1) shall be for a period of 3 years; and

“(2) may be renewed subject to the requirements of this section.

“(d) APPLICATIONS.—A hospital emergency department seeking a grant under subsection (a) shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may require.

“(e) STANDARDS OF PRACTICE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall develop standards of practice for screening patients for self-harm and suicide for purposes of carrying out subsection (b)(1)(C).

“(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall develop the standards of practice described

in paragraph (1) in consultation with individuals and entities with expertise in self-harm and suicide prevention, including public, private, and non-profit entities.

“(f) REPORTING.—

“(1) REPORTS TO THE SECRETARY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A hospital emergency department awarded a grant under subsection (a) shall, at least quarterly for the duration of the grant, submit to the Secretary a report evaluating the activities supported by the grant.

“(B) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall include—

“(i) the number of patients receiving—

“(I) screenings carried out at the hospital emergency department;

“(II) short-term self-harm and suicide prevention services at the hospital emergency department; and

“(III) referrals to health care facilities for the purposes of receiving long-term self-harm and suicide prevention;

“(ii) information on the adherence of the hospital emergency department to the standards of practice described in subsection (f)(1); and

“(iii) other information as the Secretary determines appropriate to evaluate the use of grant funds.

“(2) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Suicide Prevention Act, and biennially thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report on the grant program under this section, including—

“(A) a summary of reports received by the Secretary under paragraph (1); and

“(B) an evaluation of the program by the Secretary.

“(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 2955.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2955, the Suicide Prevention Act. This is among several bills being considered today that is specifically aimed at suicide prevention. The reason for these legislative efforts is that suicide is a devastating and preventable tragedy that strikes far too many Americans; and there is legitimate reason for us to be concerned that this preventable cause of death may become worse as we fully uncover the impact of the pandemic on American lives. We know that more people

than ever are suffering from mental health issues, and suicide is unfortunately a devastating consequence of untreated mental illness.

So we have to act now to better understand the risk factors for suicide and self-harm, train providers on how to better manage patients, and improve our ability to detect suicide deaths and self-harm in our communities. This bill does each of these things.

The Suicide Prevention Act, introduced by Representatives STEWART and MATSUI, will enhance collection and sharing of important data while also providing funding for programs that train and equip emergency department personnel in how to prevent suicide.

The bill also enables surveillance of self-harm to inform better health strategies aimed at prevention, Madam Speaker. It also supports emergency departments to better screen and treat high-risk patients, and it also calls for development and deployment of best practices in suicide prevention for all healthcare providers.

So, in closing, we know that suicide is one of the leading causes of preventable death in the United States—particularly for young people—and we have to act. I commend the work of the sponsors of this bill, Representatives STEWART and MATSUI, in creating this important bill. I look forward to passing the bill today, and I hope that the Senate will act on it swiftly.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2955, the Suicide Prevention Act, spearheaded by Representatives STEWART and MATSUI.

This legislation establishes two grant programs to prevent self-harm and suicide. The first grant program would train emergency room personnel in suicide prevention strategies and screening. The bill also establishes a grant program to enhance data collection and sharing of suicide information to help save lives.

I thank my colleagues for bringing forward this important legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this important initiative.

Madam Speaker, seeing no additional speakers, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. In closing, Madam Speaker, again, this bill is part of our strategy in prevention. I urge my colleagues to support it on a bipartisan basis, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2955.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

BLOCK, REPORT, AND SUSPEND SUSPICIOUS SHIPMENTS ACT OF 2021

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 768) to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify the process for registrants to exercise due diligence upon discovering a suspicious order, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 768

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 “Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION OF PROCESS FOR REGISTRANTS TO EXERCISE DUE DILIGENCE UPON DISCOVERING A SUSPICIOUS ORDER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 312(a) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 832(a)) is amended to read as follows:

“(3) upon discovering a suspicious order or series of orders—

“(A) exercise due diligence;

“(B) establish and maintain (for not less than a period to be determined by the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration) a record of the due diligence that was performed;

“(C) decline to fill the order or series of orders if the due diligence fails to resolve all of the indicators that gave rise to the suspicion that filling the order or series of orders would cause a violation of this title by the registrant or the prospective purchaser; and

“(D) notify the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Special Agent in Charge of the Division Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration for the area in which the registrant is located or conducts business of—

“(i) each suspicious order or series of orders discovered by the registrant; and

“(ii) the indicators giving rise to the suspicion that filling the order or series of orders would cause a violation of this title by the registrant or the prospective purchaser.”.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, for purposes of section 312(a)(3) of the Controlled Substances Act, as amended by subsection (a), the Attorney General of the United States shall promulgate a final regulation specifying the indicators that give rise to a suspicion that filling an order or series of orders would cause a violation of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) by a registrant or a prospective purchaser.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—Section 312(a)(3) of the Controlled Substances Act, as amended by subsection (a), shall apply beginning on the day that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act. Until such day, section 312(a)(3) of the Controlled Substances Act shall apply as such section 312(a)(3) was in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 768.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 768, the Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2021.

Since 1999, more than 841,000 Americans have died from a drug overdose. In the early years of this epidemic, many of these deaths involved prescription opioids. Then in 2010 we began seeing dramatic increases from heroin-involved deaths, and now we are seeing a third wave, Madam Speaker, involving synthetic opioids like illicitly manufactured fentanyl.

In those earlier years, Americans across the country became addicted to opioids. Many of those opioids were prescribed to patients to treat pain. However, throughout the years, we have discovered that many of these opioids were diverted through a system meant to prevent diversion.

The Drug Enforcement Administration requires entities that manufacture or distribute controlled substances to register and report their activities through ARCOS, a system meant to track the manufacture, distribution, and dispensing of these substances. In this system, registrants are also expected to disclose suspicious orders of controlled substances such as orders of unusual size, orders deviating from a normal pattern, or orders of an unusual frequency.

H.R. 768 will improve reporting and action on suspicious orders by clarifying the responsibilities of drug manufacturers and distributors when discovering a suspicious order. The legislation also requires that this discovery be reported to DEA, which will help all entities to better identify suspicious activity and root out bad actors.

This is a commonsense bill that will make clear the responsibilities for all

entities in our supply chain, and hopefully help to deter opioid diversion and trafficking.

I commend the lead sponsors of this legislation, Representatives DINGELL and MCKINLEY, and their staff, for their work on this bill.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,

Washington, DC, May 5, 2021.

Hon. FRANK PALLONE, JR.,

Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN PALLONE: This is to advise you that the Committee on the Judiciary has now had an opportunity to review the provisions in H.R. 768, the “Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2021,” that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. I appreciate your consulting with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee has no objection to your including them in the bill for consideration on the House floor, and to expedite that consideration is willing to forgo action on H.R. 768, with the understanding that we do not thereby waive any future jurisdictional claim over those provisions or their subject matters.

In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, the Judiciary Committee reserves the right to request an appropriate number of conferees to address any concerns with these or similar provisions that may arise in conference.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our committees.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,

Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,

Washington, DC, May 7, 2021.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,

Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,

Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Energy and Commerce and agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 768, the “Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2021,” so that the bill may proceed expeditiously to the House floor.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of your committee or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees from your committee to any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 768 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

FRANK PALLONE, JR.,

Chairman.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 768, the Block, Report, And Suspend Shipments Act of 2021, which was led by my

Energy and Commerce Committee colleagues, MCKINLEY and DINGELL.

This bill addresses an alarming problem that was identified in the Energy and Commerce Committee's 2018 bipartisan investigation into the distribution of prescription opioids by wholesale drug distributors.

The committee found that when millions of prescription opioids were dumped into communities large and small across the country, the distributors flagged the orders for the DEA, but shipped the orders anyway—even after notifying the authorities that the orders were suspicious.

□ 1600

This bill places additional obligations on drug manufacturers and distributors that discover a controlled substance suspicious order.

In addition to reporting the suspicious order to the DEA, H.R. 768 requires the manufacturer or distributor to exercise due diligence, decline to fill the order, and provide information to the DEA on the indicators that led to the belief that filling the order would violate the Controlled Substances Act.

All stakeholders have important roles to play in preventing substance use disorders, and it is critical that our pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors step up in stopping pill dumping.

I urge a “yes” vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL), who is the author of this bill and oftentimes presents to the House commonsense action plans on important issues.

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for being a very good and fair chairman.

I rise in support of the Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act. This bipartisan legislation would implement safeguards against pill dumping and other abusive practices to address the ongoing opioid epidemic, which remains one of the most pressing public health threats facing our country.

Last year, over 88,000 Americans lost their lives as a result of the opioid crisis, including 2,650 individuals in my home State of Michigan. Communities across the country are hurting, and new tools to address pill dumping and other dodgy practices that have exacerbated the opioid crisis are needed now more than ever.

The Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act will strengthen oversight and integrity of the opioid supply chain by requiring that drug manufacturers and distributors exercise due diligence when they receive a suspicious order for controlled substances. This includes blocking or declining to fill the suspicious order and providing DEA additional data and background on the indicators of the order in question.

This legislation's commonsense protection will save lives in Michigan and all around this country by making distributors and manufacturers active partners in curbing these abuses.

I would like to recognize my colleague, Congressman MCKINLEY, for his record of leadership, concern, empathy, compassion, and working to address this longstanding issue that has helped perpetuate the opioid crisis.

I would also like to thank Chairman PALLONE and Ranking Member RODGERS, as well as the Democratic and Republican committee staff, for their hard work to build consensus and advance this important bipartisan priority.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

My good friend from Michigan thanked the Republican and Democratic staff. We have gone through a series of bills and have another one to go, most dealing with substance use disorders, mental health, and suicide prevention, and all of them brought to the floor in a bipartisan way. That happens with Members working together, but it also happens with staff working long hours together. We certainly appreciate all of them who are here with us on the floor or not on the floor this afternoon.

This is important. We did an oversight investigation. We did a committee investigation and saw what seemed to us obvious quantities of pills being distributed that should be raised to the attention of people.

I think my friend from Michigan said it best when she said this is common sense, so we want to make sure we clarify the role of pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors.

This is a good bill, and I urge its support.

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

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

I appreciate my colleague from Kentucky referencing the investigation that was done that led to this bill and other legislation. Many times, I think the public doesn't realize that our committees do a lot of investigative work that leads to important legislation. This is certainly an example.

Again, I thank Mrs. DINGELL, in particular, because this is something that I think will help us with the supply chain and, hopefully, deter opioid diversion and trafficking.

Madam Speaker, I urge bipartisan support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 768.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. ROY. 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 are postponed.

FAIRNESS IN ORPHAN DRUG EXCLUSIVITY ACT

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1629) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of orphan drugs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1629

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act”.

SEC. 2. LIMITATIONS ON EXCLUSIVE APPROVAL OR LICENSURE OF ORPHAN DRUGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 527 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360cc) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “Except as provided in subsection (b)” and inserting “Except as provided in subsection (b) or (f)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(f) LIMITATIONS ON EXCLUSIVE APPROVAL, CERTIFICATION, OR LICENSE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For a drug designated under section 526 for a rare disease or condition pursuant to the criteria set forth in subsection (a)(2)(B) of such section, the Secretary shall not grant, recognize, or apply exclusive approval or licensure under subsection (a), and, if such exclusive approval or licensure has been granted, recognized, or applied, shall revoke such exclusive approval or licensure, unless the sponsor of the application for such drug demonstrates—

“(A) with respect to an application approved or a license issued after the date of enactment of this subsection, upon such approval or issuance, that there is no reasonable expectation at the time of such approval or issuance that the cost of developing and making available in the United States such drug for such disease or condition will be recovered from sales in the United States of such drug, taking into account all sales made or reasonably expected to be made within 12 years of first marketing the drug; or

“(B) with respect to an application approved or a license issued on or prior to the date of enactment of this subsection, not later than 60 days after such date of enactment, that there was no reasonable expectation at the time of such approval or issuance that the cost of developing and making available in the United States such drug for such disease or condition would be recovered from sales in the United States of such drug, taking into account all sales made or reasonably expected to be made within 12 years of first marketing the drug.

“(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—For purposes of subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1), the Secretary and the sponsor of the application for the drug designated for a rare disease or condition described in such paragraph shall consider sales from all drugs that—

“(A) are developed or marketed by the same sponsor or manufacturer of the drug

(or a licensor, predecessor in interest, or other related entity to the sponsor or manufacturer); and

“(B) are covered by the same designation under section 526.

“(3) CRITERIA.—No drug designated under section 526 for a rare disease or condition pursuant to the criteria set forth in subsection (a)(2)(B) of such section shall be eligible for exclusive approval or licensure under this section unless it met such criteria under such subsection on the date on which the drug was approved or licensed.”.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The amendments made in subsection (a) shall apply to any drug that has been or is hereafter designated under section 526 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360bb) for a rare disease or condition pursuant to the criteria under subsection (a)(2)(B) of such section regardless of—

(1) the date on which such drug is designated or becomes the subject of a designation request under such section;

(2) the date on which such drug is approved under section 505 of such Act (21 U.S.C. 355) or licensed under section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262) or becomes the subject of an application for such approval or licensure; and

(3) the date on which such drug is granted exclusive approval or licensure under section 527 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 360cc) or becomes the subject of a request for such exclusive approval or licensure.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PALLONE. 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 H.R. 1629.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise in support of H.R. 1629, the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act. The legislation will close a loophole in the orphan drug program to ensure generic drugs can come to market and are not unfairly blocked by their brand competitors.

This bill, which passed the House by a voice vote last Congress, takes steps to address two crises: one, the soaring cost of prescription drugs; and, two, the ongoing opioid crisis. It deserves our bipartisan support once again today.

The Orphan Drug Act has been successful in driving research and discovery of new therapies to treat and even cure rare diseases. The law incentivizes the development of these therapies, including by awarding 7 years of market exclusivity and two pathways for manufacturers to receive these incentives.

Under the first pathway, orphan drug status may be awarded when manufacturers develop drugs approved to treat diseases with patient populations of 200,000 or fewer. Under the second pathway, through the rarely used cost recovery pathway, they may receive orphan drug status if drug research and development costs are not expected to be recouped by sales of the underlying drug.

Now, under certain circumstances, a manufacturer may also get additional rounds of exclusivity for additional drugs in their portfolio if they treat the same condition and have the same active ingredient, even if the second drug does not meet the orphan drug qualifications. This provision has allowed some manufacturers to circumvent the original intent of the Orphan Drug Act, which was to incentivize the creation of novel drugs for small populations.

Because of this loophole, some manufacturers have been able to market widely used drugs to large populations, all while retaining exclusivity and blocking generic competition from coming to market.

An example of this recently occurred when a formulation of bupe, a drug to treat opioid use disorder, was approved in 2017 and was allowed to carry the orphan drug designation granted to its manufacturer's original bupe drug more than 20 years earlier in 1994.

When the original 1994 orphan drug designation was granted, it was expected that this drug would not be prescribed frequently. However, as the opioid crisis worsened, and our response to the crisis evolved, millions were eventually prescribed the treatment, generating billions in sales.

Clearly, we knew in 2017 that bupe was not an orphan drug. Nevertheless, the drug was granted orphan drug status and exclusivity, and that delayed additional forms of generic competition.

While the FDA eventually recognized this issue with this particular drug and revoked its orphan drug designation, its exclusivity delayed generic competition that otherwise would have been on the market.

We need, Madam Speaker, every tool available to us to combat the opioid epidemic, including low-cost, affordable medication treatments, and loopholes like this one should not be allowed to limit access to low-cost drugs.

H.R. 1629 would stop this from happening again in the future. It requires drug manufacturers to demonstrate in their application to the FDA that each drug application considered under the cost recovery pathway would fail to re-

coup development costs. The legislation would also ensure that these rules apply to drugs already on the market.

This bill is a narrowly tailored fix for a narrow but very real loophole in the law. I thank Representative DEAN from Pennsylvania for introducing this bill. It passed the House on a bipartisan basis, by voice vote, and without opposition last Congress. I look forward to it passing with bipartisan support again today and getting it through the Senate and to President Biden's desk so it can become law. I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act.

The Orphan Drug Act was enacted to incentivize the development of drugs for rare diseases by giving products that receive an orphan drug designation 7 years of market exclusivity, meaning a drug produced by another manufacturer that contains the same active ingredient to treat the same condition is barred from entering the market during this time.

One way a drug can receive an orphan designation and, subsequently, market exclusivity is by the manufacturer's demonstration that there is no reasonable expectation that the cost of developing the drug will be recovered. However, we have seen in recent years that some drug manufacturers, in an effort to block competitors from the market, have tried to take advantage of a loophole in the law. Existing law allows an orphan drug designation and market exclusivity to carry forward to future versions of the same drug without requiring the manufacturer to demonstrate that the drug has not been, and remains unlikely to be, profitable.

This legislation will close that loophole, requiring manufacturers to show there is no reasonable expectation that the cost of research and development will be covered for each successor drug, while still preserving incentives for orphan drug development.

We must preserve incentives to innovate while preventing bad actors from exploiting those incentives to benefit from a national crisis, as we saw during the opioid epidemic.

While no drug currently benefits from market exclusivity awarded through this mechanism, I remain concerned about including language that allows for the retroactive revocation of an incentive through legislation.

Legislation that sets a precedent of revoking a benefit awarded prior to enactment creates a slippery slope and could chill innovation if adopted elsewhere in statute. While this bill itself is narrowly tailored, we do not want uncertainty caused by Congress retroactively legislating to discourage truly innovative drugs from coming to the

market, especially for the rare disease community.

However, I will support this bill as it moves forward today as I believe it is important to prevent the abuse of this program in the future. I look forward to continuing discussions to come to a resolution on this outstanding concern as we work with the Senate to get this bill to the President's desk.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN), the author of this legislation, which is important because whenever we can encourage generics and make drugs more affordable, it is certainly to the benefit of the American people.

□ 1615

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative GUTHRIE and Chairman PALLONE for their support of this critical legislation.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1629, the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act.

This crucial legislation would close a loophole in the current law that can be used to block competition in the pharmaceutical marketplace.

The Orphan Drug Act of 1983 provided incentives for prescription drug manufacturers to develop products to treat rare diseases. This includes an exclusive 7-year marketing right for therapies that receive an orphan drug designation.

For a drug to qualify, it must either be a treatment for a disease or a condition that affects fewer than 200,000 people in the United States, or is a drug intended for diseases that there is no reasonable expectation to recoup research and development costs.

This legislation focuses on the drugs intended for diseases that there is no reasonable expectation to recoup research and development costs. It would require all drug manufacturers who obtain orphan drug status to prove that they have no reasonable expectation that they will recover their research and development costs and efforts.

This legislation works to prevent companies from continuing to use orphan drug exclusivity status for a newly approved drug, with an identical ingredient to the former version, without having to prove the inability to recoup costs.

This exact circumstance happened when a manufacturer of a buprenorphine product updated an older product that received orphan drug status and subsequently was given a renewed orphan drug exclusivity. Buprenorphine is used as a treatment for opioid use disorder to help those recovering from addiction. Unfortunately, at the time, the opioid epidemic was raging. It was, by no means, a rare disease, and the drug was not a market loser.

Closing this loophole will ensure that products do not receive an unfair mar-

ket advantage and, therefore, remains consistent with the spirit and intent of the Orphan Drug Act. We must work to ensure people can gain access to newer therapies and medically assisted treatments that are potentially blocked due to orphan designation.

Madam Speaker, I thank Representative MARC VEASEY for introducing this legislation along with me. I thank my colleagues in the House for passing this bill without objection on a voice vote just 6 months ago in the 116th Congress.

Again, I thank Chairman PALLONE for bringing this bill forward and for his leadership on substance use disorder and behavioral health issues more broadly.

Madam Speaker, I urge Members to support this bill.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Madam Speaker, it is so important that we have the Orphan Drug Act. We have so many people who have rare diseases come to our offices and visit us on Capitol Hill, as they should. Hopefully we will be able to do that again soon. It just touches your heart. Many of these diseases have so few people affected by it; but if it is you or your child or somebody in your family, it is devastating.

We have all seen the power of the private marketplace to come in and produce these pharmaceuticals that make a difference. So we have to have provisions to allow these drugs to come into the marketplace and incentivize that private innovation moving forward.

But when people use that in order to move forward, this loophole has to be closed. I am glad that it is here, and it is these things that we need to work on. It is really not specifically here; it is just maybe a slippery slope in other places as we move forward.

I thank my friend from Pennsylvania for bringing this forward, and the Energy and Commerce Committee for addressing this, because we have to preserve orphan drug status for those afflicted by the rarest and the most devastating diseases. We also need to bring lower drug prices to Americans, and we can do that working together.

Madam Speaker, I appreciate this being brought forward. I urge my colleagues to support this piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Madam Speaker, I thank Representative GUTHRIE for his remarks about trying to work together to lower the cost of prescription drugs. I thank Congresswoman DEAN because this is a part of that effort.

As you will note, today, we had a whole package dealing with mental health, behavioral health, and other drug activities. It is very important that we move this whole package and

try to get it passed in the Senate as quickly as possible.

Madam Speaker, I urge support for this legislation on a bipartisan basis, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1629.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. GUTHRIE. 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 are postponed.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO YEMEN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 117-37)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, with respect to Yemen is to continue in effect beyond May 16, 2021.

The actions and policies of certain former members of the Government of Yemen and others continue to threaten Yemen's peace, security, and stability. These actions include obstructing the political process in Yemen and the implementation of the agreement of November 23, 2011, between the Government of Yemen and those in opposition to it, which provided for a peaceful transition of power that meets the legitimate demands and aspirations of the Yemeni people. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 with respect to Yemen.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 11, 2021.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SECURING THE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES SUPPLY CHAIN—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 117-38)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date.

In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13873 of May 15, 2019, with respect to securing the information and communications technology and services supply chain, is to continue in effect beyond May 15, 2021.

The unrestricted acquisition or use in the United States of information and communications technology or services designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned by, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of foreign adversaries augments the ability of these foreign adversaries to create and exploit vulnerabilities in information and communications technology or services, with potentially catastrophic effects. This threat continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13873 with respect to securing the information and communications technology and services supply chain.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 11, 2021.

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 4 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. DINGELL) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

FAIRNESS IN ORPHAN DRUG EXCLUSIVITY ACT

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. 1629) to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive approval or licensure of orphan drugs, and for other purposes, 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 New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 250, nays 168, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 134]
YEAS—250

Adams	Fitzpatrick	Mace
Aguilar	Fletcher	Malinowski
Allred	Poster	Malliotakis
Auchincloss	Frankel, Lois	Maloney,
Axne	Gallego	Carolyn B.
Barragán	Garamendi	Maloney, Sean
Bass	Garbarino	Manning
Beatty	Garcia (CA)	Massie
Bera	Garcia (IL)	Matsui
Beyer	Garcia (TX)	McBath
Bishop (GA)	Gomez	McCaul
Blumenauer	Gonzales, Tony	McClintock
Blunt Rochester	Gonzalez (OH)	McCollum
Bonamici	Gonzalez,	McEachin
Bost	Vicente	McGovern
Bourdeaux	Gottheimer	McNerney
Bowman	Green, Al (TX)	Meeks
Boyle, Brendan	Grijalva	Meijer
F.	Harder (CA)	Meng
Brown	Hartzler	Mfume
Brownley	Hayes	Moore (WI)
Burchett	Herrera Beutler	Morelle
Bush	Higgins (NY)	Moulton
Bustos	Himes	Mrvan
Carbajal	Hollingsworth	Murphy (FL)
Cárdenas	Horsford	Nadler
Carson	Houlahan	Napolitano
Carter (LA)	Hoyer	Neguse
Cartwright	Huffman	Newhouse
Case	Jackson Lee	Newman
Casten	Jacobs (CA)	Norcross
Castor (FL)	Jacobs (NY)	O'Halleran
Castro (TX)	Jayapal	Ocasio-Cortez
Cawthorn	Jeffries	Omar
Chu	Johnson (GA)	Pallone
Cicilline	Johnson (SD)	Panetta
Clark (MA)	Johnson (TX)	Pappas
Clarke (NY)	Jones	Pascarelli
Cleaver	Kahele	Payne
Clyburn	Kaptur	Perlmutter
Cohen	Katko	Peters
Connolly	Keating	Phillips
Cooper	Kelly (IL)	Pingree
Correa	Khanna	Pocan
Costa	Kildee	Porter
Courtney	Kilmer	Pressley
Craig	Kim (CA)	Price (NC)
Crist	Kim (NJ)	Quigley
Crow	Kind	Raskin
Cuellar	Kinzinger	Rice (NY)
Davids (KS)	Kirkpatrick	Ross
Davidson	Krishnamoorthi	Roybal-Allard
Davis, Danny K.	Kuster	Ruiz
Dean	Lamb	Ruppersberger
DeGette	Langevin	Rush
DeLauro	Larsen (WA)	Ryan
DelBene	Larson (CT)	Salazar
Delgado	Lawrence	Sánchez
Demings	Lawson (FL)	Sarbanes
DeSaulnier	Lee (CA)	Scanlon
Deutch	Lee (NV)	Schakowsky
Dingell	Leger Fernandez	Schiff
Doggett	Levin (CA)	Schneider
Doyle, Michael	Levin (MI)	Schrader
F.	Lieu	Schrier
Escobar	Lofgren	Scott (VA)
Eshoo	Lowenthal	Scott, David
Españolat	Luria	Sewell
Evans	Lynch	Sherman

Sherrill	Taylor	Vargas
Sires	Tenney	Veasey
Slotkin	Thompson (CA)	Vela
Smith (NJ)	Thompson (MS)	Velázquez
Smith (WA)	Titus	Wagner
Soto	Tlaib	Walorski
Spanberger	Tonko	Wasserman
Speier	Torres (CA)	Schultz
Stanton	Torres (NY)	Waters
Steel	Trahan	Watson Coleman
Stevens	Trone	Welch
Stivers	Underwood	Wexton
Strickland	Upton	Wild
Suozzi	Valadao	Williams (GA)
Swalwell	Van Drew	Wilson (FL)
Takano	Van Duyne	Yarmuth

NAYS—168

Aderholt	Gallagher	Miller (WV)
Allen	Gibbs	Miller-Meeks
Amodei	Gimenez	Moolenaar
Armstrong	Gohmert	Mooney
Arrington	Good (VA)	Moore (UT)
Babin	Gooden (TX)	Mullin
Bacon	Gosar	Murphy (NC)
Baird	Granger	Nehls
Balderson	Graves (LA)	Norman
Banks	Graves (MO)	Nunes
Barr	Green (TN)	Oberholte
Bentz	Greene (GA)	Palazzo
Bergman	Griffith	Palmer
Bice (OK)	Grothman	Pence
Biggs	Guest	Perry
Bilirakis	Guthrie	Pfluger
Bishop (NC)	Hagedorn	Posey
Boebert	Harris	Reed
Brady	Harshbarger	Reschenthaler
Brooks	Hern	Rice (SC)
Buchanan	Herrell	Rodgers (WA)
Buck	Hice (GA)	Rogers (AL)
Bucshon	Higgins (LA)	Rogers (KY)
Budd	Hill	Rose
Calvert	Hinson	Rosendale
Cammack	Hudson	Rouzer
Carl	Huizenga	Roy
Carter (GA)	Issa	Rutherford
Carter (TX)	Jackson	Scalise
Chabot	Johnson (LA)	Schweikert
Cheney	Johnson (OH)	Scott, Austin
Cline	Jordan	Simpson
Cloud	Joyce (OH)	Smith (MO)
Clyde	Joyce (PA)	Smith (NE)
Cole	Keller	Smucker
Comer	Kelly (MS)	Spartz
Crawford	Kelly (PA)	Stauber
Crenshaw	Kustoff	Stefanik
Curtis	LaHood	Steil
DesJarlais	LaMalfa	Steube
Diaz-Balart	Lamborn	Stewart
Donalds	Latta	Tiffany
Duncan	LaTurner	Timmons
Emmer	Lesko	Turner
Estes	Letlow	Walberg
Fallon	Long	Waltz
Feenstra	Loudermilk	Weber (TX)
Ferguson	Lucas	Wenstrup
Fischbach	Luetkemeyer	Westerman
Fitzgerald	Mann	Williams (TX)
Fleischmann	Mast	Wilson (SC)
Fortenberry	McCarthy	Wittman
Fox	McClain	Womack
Franklin, C.	McHenry	Young
Scott	McKinley	Zeldin
Fulcher	Meuser	
Gaetz	Miller (IL)	

NOT VOTING—12

Burgess	Dunn	Owens
Butterfield	Golden	Sessions
Davis, Rodney	Moore (AL)	Thompson (PA)
DeFazio	Neal	Webster (FL)

□ 1905

Messrs. STEWART, GALLAGHER, Ms. LETLOW, and Mr. GROTHMAN changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Mses. MACE and TENNEY changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds not being in the affirmative) the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE
RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Stevens)	Lieu (Beyer)	Ruppersberger
Cárdenas	Lofgren (Jeffries)	(Raskin)
(Gallego)	Lowenthal	Rush
Crenshaw	(Beyer)	(Underwood)
(Pfluger)	Maloney,	Sewell (Del
Doggett (Raskin)	Carolyn B.	Bene)
Eshco	(Velázquez)	Strickland (Del
(Thompson	McEachin	Bene)
(CA))	(Wexton)	Titus (Connolly)
Fallon (Joyce	Meng (Clark	Torres (NY)
(OH))	(MA))	(Auchincloss)
Grijalva (Garcia	Mfume	Van Dyne (Bice
(IL))	(Connolly)	(OK))
Johnson (TX)	Moore (WI)	Walorski
(Jeffries)	(Beyer)	(Wagner)
Kind (Connolly)	Napolitano	Wilson (FL)
Kirkpatrick	(Correa)	(Hayes)
(Stanton)	Payne (Pallone)	
Lawson (FL)	Porter (Wexton)	
(Evans)	Ruiz (Aguilar)	

NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH
AWARENESS MONTH

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as May marks National Mental Health Awareness month, a time when Americans recommit themselves to building better futures for those struggling with a mental health condition, erasing the stigma around those seeking help, and elevating barriers to high quality and timely mental health care.

According to a 2020 report released by Congress' Joint Economic Committee, over 40 percent of adults surveyed reported a negative mental or behavioral health condition exacerbated by the coronavirus. Ending the mental health and addiction crises is a mission that can unite all of our communities because, just like mine in northern Ohio, there isn't a single community that hasn't struggled with both.

I commend my colleagues with legislation on the floor today, including Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN's bill to reauthorize the Minority Fellowship Program to support more students of color entering the mental health workforce, who are dedicated to addressing mental health disparities among underserved populations.

It is time, and over time, for Congress to take meaningful action, targeting provider shortages, reimbursement parity, housing support, treatment, and more Federal funding to push the bounds of Federal research.

We have strong allies in the administration who care about these issues. I look forward to rolling up my sleeves to work with them, and across the aisle. We are only getting started.

RECOGNIZING LINDSEY WILSON
COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lindsey Wilson College football team of Columbia, Kentucky, for winning the 2020 NAIA National Football Championship.

The Lindsey Wilson football team finished their undefeated season as national champs Monday night, beating Northwestern College from Iowa 45-13, adding another championship to their season after already winning the Mid-South Conference. Even more impressively, the Blue Raiders dominated opponents every game during the regular season, outscoring them by an average of 32 points a game.

Lindsey Wilson College did not have a football team from 1935 to 2009. Football was reintroduced to campus in 2010, after an 86-year absence, and it has not taken long for the Blue Raiders to reach the pinnacle of NAIA football.

I commend Athletic Director Willis Pooler and Head Coach Chris Oliver for building a championship-caliber program in just over a decade. This accomplishment is also a testament to every player's hard work and dedication during an unprecedented year.

Once again, congratulations to the national champion Lindsey Wilson College football team on this outstanding achievement.

□ 1915

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Mental Health Month and to acknowledge as I presided today on the floor the number of mental health bills that were passed today ready to be approved by the Senate and as well to be signed by the President.

Mr. Speaker, I worked closely with my constituents during COVID-19 and really worked with the city of Houston to use CARES money to develop a call center for the stressed people in my community.

Mental health is real. Mental health issues are real, and it is imperative that we continue on the Federal level to provide the resources to help our families, to educate our families, to provide counseling for our families, and, yes, to provide an opportunity for them to call locally and nationally in a stressful situation. COVID-19 was stressful, and many, I believe, lives were saved by the lifeline that we opened in the city of Houston that was on 7 days a week.

I want to thank all of those providers, including Dr. Janice Dill, and again, the city of Houston who worked with us in Harris County to save lives. We must know that mental health is a medical issue, and we need to save lives, end the stigma, and recognize all of those who are embracing those who are sick and need help with respect to mental health.

VINCE DOOLEY

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the

House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a Georgia legend on his induction into the Georgia Military Veterans Hall of Fame Class of 2020.

Coach Vince Dooley was inducted for his military service and his lifetime of selfless service to others. After graduating from college, Coach Dooley served his country in the Marine Corps for 2 years. It is without question that Coach Dooley has had a positive impact on the University of Georgia as well as communities across the country.

During his 25 years as head football coach of the University of Georgia, the Bulldogs won six SEC titles and a national championship. Coach Dooley's service did not stop on the field and has carried over into the community. His community service has extended to organizations such as the Heart Fund, Multiple Sclerosis, Juvenile Diabetes, Boy Scouts, Salvation Army, and Georgia Easter Seals Society.

He has also traveled abroad and led missions to provide spiritual and physical healing to those in need.

I want to thank Coach Dooley for his selfless commitment to improving the lives of others, and I want to congratulate him on his induction.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RAMON
RAMIREZ OF ALLENTOWN, PENN-
SYLVANIA

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

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Ramon Ramirez of Allentown, Pennsylvania, who tragically lost his life to a senseless rampage of gun violence on April 21 while he was filling up his work truck at a gas station in the wee hours of the morning.

He was 31 years old. He was a husband of 12 years and a father of three children. People remember him as a loving family man and a hard worker. He was someone who—as one of his neighbors put it—was always looking to make things better for those around him. That same neighbor remarked that lately she often heard Ramon and his son play basketball in front of their house.

The horrific toll of gun violence across our country is puncturing the American Dream. It has stolen the hopes and lives of so many families.

Mr. Speaker, I am not up here to advocate for any particular bill. I am up here to ask, beg, and plead that somebody on the other side of the aisle come to me with their suggestions of what we can do to stop these random acts of gun violence.

I want to work with my colleagues. We have to end this. I ask that all of my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Ramon Ramirez and standing in solidarity with his family.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during National Police Week to recognize the law enforcement officers serving on the front lines. Without them our streets would erupt into chaos, and the law and order our society relies on would crumble. We have seen this happen already too much in this country.

Our law enforcement officers have already incredibly difficult and dangerous jobs. That is why recent attacks on law enforcement by extreme elements wanting to upend our society deeply sadden millions of Americans, myself included, who support the police. Instead of providing the resources to assist our police, these radicals want to defund our police departments altogether.

This is insanity. We should ask ourselves how we can help police do their jobs more safely and effectively, not vilify them.

I am proud to back the blue. The majority of Americans who recognize their security and well-being depend upon the police to back the blue too.

All our law enforcement officers who serve us so faithfully should know that they have our sincere thanks and appreciation, not only during Police Appreciation Week, but always.

ELECTION INTEGRITY

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

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great concern that I report to the House that the Civil Rights Division of the Biden Justice Department is actually working against the civil rights and the voting rights of our citizens.

Brave patriots in Arizona have undertaken an election audit to ensure that an actual human being is attached to a vote that was cast. This will inform better public policy prospectively. But Pamela Karlan, the head of the Civil Rights Division of the Biden Justice Department, has worked to stop that endeavor, and we know Dr. Karlan from her testimony in the Judiciary Committee where she made fun of President Trump's son's name and where she said that conservative Republicans didn't want to even live around one another because apparently we are so repulsive.

This is deeply unfortunate. This person should not even have a job at the Justice Department, and she certainly should not be working to perpetuate the true big lie and that is that there is not a tremendous amount of work left to be done on election integrity.

CANCEL CULTURE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KAHELE). Under the Speaker's an-

nounced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. BUCK) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, cancel culture is a dangerous phenomenon, the total silencing and erasing of people and truths the progressives dislike.

Americans are beginning to see what cancel culture is really about. A recent survey found that 64 percent of Americans now believe cancel culture is a threat to freedom.

Cancel culture aims not only to cancel certain elements of society but to replace them. Consider the following: for years, the political left has attempted to erase parts of our American history, especially our founding and the story of 1776.

Why?

Because their goal is replacement. In place of America's true history, the progressives want to push the 1619 Project. This false narrative presents students with an alternate history and an alternate reality that our Nation was founded not on the principles outlined in the Declaration of Independence but instead on a racist pursuit of expanding slavery. Canceling 1776 makes sense only in the broader context of this effort to advance a false narrative.

Other areas of curriculum are being canceled in favor of critical race theory. Just last week, the Biden administration announced that it will use taxpayer funds to push critical race theory in public schools across the Nation. Critical race theory is the backdoor way to teach Marxism to students and adults in this country under the guise of pushing equity.

In my State of Colorado, the oil and gas industry is being canceled.

The goal?

Replace it with Green New Deal objectives.

Schools named after our Founders must be renamed after liberal icons according to the left. Professors and journalists who will not kowtow to the progressive agenda find themselves replaced in their jobs.

Our list of examples could go on.

I am joined tonight by my colleagues who wish to help expose cancel culture. The examples we will highlight touch on all aspects of cancel culture, but they all have one thing in common: in each instance, progressives seek to cancel, cut, censor, and silence so they can move to the next phase: replacement culture.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS), who is my good friend.

Mr. BIGGS. Cancel culture is eroding the very foundation of who we are as

an American people. Rowan Atkinson, the star of the British TV series "Maigret" said that it is like a medieval mob coming to burn witches. That is what the cancel culture is all about.

How about taking an analogy from George Orwell's "Nineteen Eighty-Four" novel where they take history and they throw it into the chute. They revise history constantly, and you can't even control what you think anymore, Mr. Speaker. That is what cancel culture is becoming.

How about from a book called "The Girl With Seven Names" about a courageous young woman who escaped from North Korea and she tells us how North Korea did the same thing?

How about China under the Chinese Communist Party as reported in "The Hundred-Year Marathon" by Mr. Pillsbury who wrote that book?

That is what we see happening, this attempt to erase who we are as individuals and then replace them with something else.

Let me give you some other examples. Pepe Le Pew is no longer tolerated by the left and by the woke mob. Miss Piggy is canceled. Dr. Seuss books are canceled.

Here are some others. How about this one: Goya Foods, because this guy had the temerity, Robert Unanue, who is the CEO of Goya Foods, had the temerity to support President Trump so people attempted to boycott and cancel his business. Senator JOSH HAWLEY wrote a book. He is canceled because he says that he wants election integrity.

How about Washington, Lincoln, and Jefferson?

San Francisco erases those schools named after Washington, Lincoln, or Jefferson.

Matthew Yglesias, the liberal opinion writer who resigned from Vox, a company that he cofounded, because his woke staff says he is too center right.

How about Tucker Carlson, Sean Hannity, and Laura Ingraham?

They were all attacked for being conservative voices.

The attack is to silence conservatives' voices. The new rule is we will only be tolerant if you are accepting of our views—not just accepting—if you comply—not just comply—you bow to the tyrannical rules of the left.

Gina Carano, the "Mandalorian" actress, was fired by Disney because she says that being a Republican in 2021 is like being a Jew in Nazi, Germany. So she has got to go. They canceled the action figure named after her.

Adam Rubenstein, a former New York Times reporter and editor, has got to go because he lets TOM COTTON's piece get published in The New York Times. Oops. We can't have that.

J. K. Rowling, the very successful author of the Harry Potter series, is canceled because she has the temerity to suggest that transgender rights might endanger women's rights. You can't have any conflicting view out there, Mr. Speaker. No, you can't do that.

Then Mike Lindell, you know him, he is the My Pillow guy. He is on TV all

the time advertising. You can't have him because he is a friend and supporter of Donald Trump and questions the election results.

We have reached the point in our society where the left says that if you do not bow your knee to what we say is the new norm—and the only acceptable dogma—if you are a heterodox in any way, Mr. Speaker, we will cancel you, we will dock you, and we will erase you. That cannot stand, and it will not stand.

This group and the gentleman from Colorado will continue to fight. I thank the gentleman for yielding. We will continue to fight this outrageous attack on who we are as American people.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for a slightly different purpose. She will tell us about a very sad circumstance in her home State of North Carolina.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding tonight for a very short but very serious and solemn set of comments.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two members of the Watauga County Sheriff's Office who lost their lives in the line of duty on April 28.

Sergeant Chris Ward, an 8-year law enforcement officer, and K-9 Deputy Logan Fox, a former deputy of the Ashe County Sheriff's Office, left an indelible mark on Watauga County.

This is a tremendous loss not only for Watauga County, but also for law enforcement across the State and country. These two fallen heroes dedicated their lives to law enforcement, and many who knew them recognized that their passion for serving the community they were proud to call home was second to none.

This Monday, a Community Day of Remembrance in Boone, North Carolina, was held in their honor.

Businesses, organizations, and proud citizens of Watauga County came together to show their overwhelming support for law enforcement and for first responders.

Mr. Speaker, across America law enforcement officers like Sergeant Ward and Deputy Fox wake up every day with one important goal in mind: fulfilling their duty to uphold law and order. These proud men and women leave for work knowing that they may not come home to their families, but still, they answer the call to serve without a moment's hesitation. That level of commitment to one's duty and community is truly awe-inspiring, and I firmly believe that we owe law enforcement a profound debt of gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, I will always support law enforcement across this country. They are true gatekeepers of law and order, and they must be respected.

Calls to defund the police from the left are egregious and divisive. That rhetoric is profoundly dangerous and is

an insult to the men and women who work around the clock to protect us.

God bless the countless law enforcement officers across this country and their families. We are forever grateful for the sacrifices you continue to make.

□ 1930

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for her comments, and I assure her that our thoughts and prayers are with her and the families of those who have fallen.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado for organizing this important topic of conversation.

I thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for recognizing the law enforcement officers in her home State, much like the rest of our States, who put their lives on the line every single day to defend us, to protect our communities.

This is an important week, obviously, for law enforcement. I think it is germane to the point that my friend from Colorado is making about canceling because this whole notion of canceling isn't just about corporations; it is not just about technology; it is not just about Amazon; it is not just about Twitter and Facebook. It is about canceling the very people who are, like our friend from North Carolina was just talking about, these law enforcement officers—canceling police officers, canceling law enforcement, canceling those who are standing up and defending us every single day.

We hear it. I had a little girl in my home district in Austin who wrote a project for her school in which she was outlining how she was upset about how her father, her dad, who is a police officer, was being treated and how, when he would come home, he was despondent a little bit about the day because our law enforcement officers are being harassed, targeted, criticized, mocked, defunded.

This is purposeful. This is happening every single day. We are literally working to cancel law enforcement.

In Austin, Texas, they defunded police \$150 million. Now, we have seen a 50 percent spike in homicides. There are homeless encampments all across the streets. We have 1999 levels of funding for the police department for a city that has grown by leaps and bounds since then.

This canceling of law enforcement leaves us at risk, and it undermines the very security of our communities. But it is real, and it is happening in real-time.

Twenty major cities have cut police budgets. \$1.7 billion has been cut from police departments nationwide.

But it is not just law enforcement. We are talking about that here because of my friend from North Carolina. But it is about corporations. We are sitting

here in the people's House, in front of the American flag, and our Nation right now is increasingly run by corporations more than the men and women who are in this body.

I mean, think about it. We hardly ever meet. We never amend. We never debate. We never do any actual give-and-take here on the floor. We get up and speechify a little bit.

Meanwhile, corporations are deciding who gets to get their voice heard. Corporations are deciding, by the way, what election laws are warranted in Georgia or Texas, venerable corporations like Coca-Cola, Delta Air Lines, Major League Baseball.

In the United States of America, baseball has been politicized. I can't even watch baseball with my son without having to figure out and worry about how he is going to be viewing America because Major League Baseball has decided it is more important to be woke and move the All-Star Game from 50 percent Black Atlanta to 10 percent Black Denver. Why? So they can go around patting themselves on the back in Colorado while they say: Hey, look at me. I am driving my Subaru, and I have an Apple sticker on my car.

No offense to the gentleman from Colorado.

Is that woke?

Hank Aaron passed away this year. We could have celebrated his life with an All-Star Game in Atlanta, Georgia, and woke corporate Major League Baseball decides it is more important to make a statement about election laws in Georgia, which, by the way, the proposed laws differ very little from the laws in Colorado, as my friend from Colorado knows.

But they wanted to make a statement through their corporate power and their woke corporate boards that are packed with all these elite Harvard Business School and Yale school of business types that are going into these corporate boardrooms and trying to tell us how to live our lives in little ole Texas or Georgia or Colorado. That is what we face with these corporations that are trying to tell us how to live.

I appreciate my friend from Colorado giving us the time to focus on this important issue tonight. We have to reclaim our ability to live free in this country, and we ought to ask ourselves that question more and more: Are we truly free with wide-open borders and half a million apprehensions, \$30 trillion in debt, and corporations telling us how to live our lives? Are we truly free in this country? I think we ought to ask that question over and over and over.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas, and I appreciate the points that he made.

I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN).

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, before I jump into my remarks, I would like to echo what my colleague from Texas said.

The interesting thing about the Major League Baseball decision is, only 2 days before they decided that voter ID was too tough for them, they signed a deal with Tencent in China, where there are no elections whatsoever and where they are committing cultural genocide against the Uighurs.

That wasn't good enough in Georgia, but they signed a deal for millions of dollars to support what is going on in China.

Mr. Speaker, as a physician, I recognize that cancel culture is a sickness in our society. It is easy to diagnose, but we have to admit it is going to be difficult to cure because we are fighting the woke media and the woke left.

The left is using cancel culture to tear our country apart in its quest for their version of a utopia. They demonize conservatives as an enemy of a nation that we love and hold dear. But no one is safe from cancel culture, not even the liberals themselves.

Who has advanced progressivism more than Barack Obama during his 8 years as President? No one. Yet, leftists today are canceling Barack Obama, who was, until recently, their self-proclaimed hero. In his home State of Illinois, Thomas Jefferson Middle School was supposed to be renamed the Barack and Michelle Obama Middle School; that is, until the far radical left protested that Obama followed the laws in some instances by deporting illegal immigrants.

God forbid that a President, tasked in the Constitution to enforce the law, actually enforces the law.

So, please, my colleagues on the left, tell me how my colleagues on the right are safe from cancel culture when your side of the aisle isn't even safe. Iconic figures on the left are being canceled.

Just the other week, the famed atheist Richard Dawkins, who many fellow Christians and I find incredibly offensive for his bigoted attacks on our faith, was just canceled. Dawkins was stripped of his Humanist of the Year Award that he received back in 1996. Of what was he found guilty? He believed that a civil discussion on what constitutes gender was legitimate. Canceled.

A professor even canceled lecturing on the writings of James Baldwin, known for his participation in the civil rights and gay liberation movements, because his students said it made them "re-live intergenerational trauma."

Matthew Yglesias, the founder of the liberal news website Vox, has been canceled simply because he didn't want to defund the police. Canceled.

Again, my colleagues on the left, tell me how cancel culture doesn't exist, and tell me that conservatives aren't being attacked.

Who are these conservatives getting canceled?

Well, the left tried unsuccessfully, as was mentioned earlier, to cancel Goya Foods executive Robert Unanue because he supported Donald Trump.

President Abraham Lincoln, who ended the Democrat Party's institution of slavery, is being canceled.

Lincoln's general, President Ulysses S. Grant: Canceled.

Covington Catholic children—yes, I said children—were completely slandered with lies by the left-wing media simply because they happened to be wearing MAGA hats.

Senate Democrats tried to cancel Justice Amy Coney Barrett because she actually believes what her Catholic faith teaches.

Vice President KAMALA HARRIS tried to cancel a lower court appointee just 3 years ago because he was a member of the Catholic charitable group Knights of Columbus. Apparently, they hold the controversial view that we shouldn't terminate the lives of innocent, unborn children.

Enough is enough. If we want our country to continue to prosper, we need to stop seeing each other as political enemies and candidates for cancellation. We need to remember the motto on the great seal above my head as I speak: *E pluribus unum*, out of many, one.

We are a nation of many different States, localities, ethnicities, religions, backgrounds, and political beliefs. We need to stop focusing on our differences and start seeing each other as Americans, once again, regardless of what we believe.

Cancel culture is anti-American and, for the sake of our Nation, it needs to end now. I urge my Democrat colleagues to join us in this. Your own icons are being canceled. You will be the next victim. You will be assimilated.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his impassioned remarks and great research. We could all learn a lot from that. I appreciate it very much.

I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD).

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado for organizing this. This is an essential topic in this essential time that we find ourselves.

We have a unique foundation, in that our Nation rests on the understanding that our inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are not a grant from this government but, rather, a gift from God.

Among these inalienable rights enshrined in our First Amendment is the freedom of speech. Indeed, the peace and tranquility of our entire Republic rest on the understanding that the people have a right to have their voice heard.

But we have entered into a most troubling time in our Nation. For all the talk of unity by this current administration, this government has sought only conformity.

In this Chamber, we have witnessed the unilateral march of the extreme-left legislation designed not to protect our liberties but, rather, force the American people to conform to their extreme ideas of government-mandated social engineering and the restruc-

turing of an economy from the most successful model in history to one of socialism, which has failed everywhere it has been tried.

Then there is Big Tech. These companies that arose to prominence in an environment that only economic freedom and opportunity provide have now embraced authoritarianism, fostering a world that is worse than the one they hoped to correct.

They have selectively canceled conservative voices while allowing leftist members, even in this body, to repeatedly call for unrest in our streets and violence against dissenting voices.

They have allowed their platforms to raise money to bail out violent rioters, these true insurrectionists who have called for an end to America, that have burned our flags and literally taken over city blocks, declaring them autonomous to the United States.

Yes, these Big Tech platforms continue to provide a platform for Communist China, for terrorist groups, and others to spew their propaganda.

Then there are the multinational corporations that have bought into this diabolical movement. They are either ignorant to history or simply care more about their quarterly earnings report than the liberty, opportunity, or personal prosperity of their neighbors, the American people.

They would rather cozy up to the powerful to gain access to crush their competition and to protect corporate profits than stand up for the very principles and economic opportunity that enabled their own success. They do a disservice to the people of this Nation. The hypocrisy is not overlooked.

To some in our Nation who have experienced the relative peace and security that comes with being heirs of these blessings of liberty, these trends could seem novel or perhaps part of the natural ebb and flow of politics in a free society.

Sometimes it is harder for us born here to see the signs, but some of the most compelling voices sounding the alarm right now are the immigrants who come here. I have spoken to many from Cuba, Ecuador, Iran, and Venezuela. They see the signs in a way that many of us do not, and they are fearful, angered, and heartbroken.

□ 1945

Venezuela, just a few short years ago, was the economic jewel of South America. Today, it is a wasteland fraught with poverty, conflict, and oppression.

A couple in my district came from Iran. They are terrified by what they are now seeing here. One of them liked a post about the killing of Soleimani and found her account temporarily halted on the platform. The irony is too rich.

I spoke to a lady from Ecuador. She had come to this country at about 18 years of age with her family. Under severe persecution, she had fled the country to come here. She didn't refer to this as the United States of America.

She said: "I come to freedom country. We have to do everything we can to protect freedom country." Those were her words.

So we know that while the terminology and the methods may be new, the cancel culture movement is hardly new to history. Despot regimes have worked to silence dissent for millennia.

What is different about this moment is the broad embrace of the movement by those in positions of power within the United States of America in order to consolidate political power or perhaps preserve their personal status quo, all at the sake of the liberties of their fellow citizens.

Ronald Reagan reminded us that freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like to live in the United States where men were free.

It is time to restore power to the American people. It is time for people across this Nation to stand up in boardrooms and classrooms and houses of worship and in this hallowed Chamber, to stand up with courage to this evil movement.

God forbid we be the generation that allows this precious and unique experiment in self-government, this imperfect but beautiful Republic, to sink, enveloped by the undertow of the forces of envy, strife, and division. Let us not let that happen.

Let us be that generation, like generations before, that work toward that more perfect union, one that protects and preserves our beloved freedom country.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY).

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I surely thank my good friend, the gentleman from Colorado, for the opportunity to speak and the importance of this subject.

Ladies and gentlemen, in the thirties and forties, they banned and burned books. That was just what they had at the time. They weren't really banning the book; they were banning and burning the idea—the ideas, the differences of opinion. I submit to you that that fascist regime then did what this cancel culture is doing right now.

We have already talked about Major League Baseball canceling the All-Star Game in Atlanta and acting like we don't know that there are more restrictive States elsewhere, including the State that it went to. It is absolutely ridiculous.

Facebook canceled the Great Barrington Declaration, a declaration of medical professionals and scientists who declared that lockdowns had adverse effects on physical and mental health and we would be better served by focusing on the protection of people

who face a high risk of mortality should they become infected.

How dare they. How dare they not accept the narrative, the dogma, the groupthink. Who do they think they are?

Google fired employee Kevin Cernke for the crime—what was his crime? He held conservative views.

How about OSU Coach Mike Gundy? What was his crime? Wearing the wrong T-shirt while fishing.

That is how absurd this gets. And it just keeps on going, ladies and gentlemen. It doesn't stop.

Of course, President Trump, the President of the United States, was canceled by big tech, banned from Twitter, likely permanently banned from Facebook and, as has already been stated, by the same companies doing business with and helping the Communist Chinese Government oppress its citizens, the same companies that allow the Ayatollah to freely transmit over their platform. No problem there. And it just keeps on going.

I mean, the President talked about hydroxychloroquine in the early stages of the pandemic as a potential solution or treatment. Man, who knows? I mean, it has been around since the 1940s. How dare he. And how dare the doctors who believe in him and believe the same thing. Who do they think they are when the press and the cancel culture says no way?

Of course, the worst of it, a Representative right here in this body, the gentlewoman from Missouri, and 54 of her colleagues sought to cancel 140 Members of Congress for objecting to the electors in several States due to the election irregularities and constitutional infractions in these States, including my home State of Pennsylvania. They introduced H. Res. 25, calling for the removal of those Members from the House of Representatives. They don't bother telling you that they themselves objected to more States in 2016 than the Republicans did in 2020. Let's cancel them. Free speech has been canceled.

If you want to protest and burn your city down, protest is great. Violence and rioting is not accepted, except when it is. But think you are going to the church in the same town? Canceled.

Your right to protest. You can riot, yes. But come to the Capitol and address your grievances with your elected representatives, no.

Ladies and gentlemen, cancel culture is a synonym for fascism; and the sooner we recognize it, the better off we are going to be at dealing with it.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for not naming my home State as he was talking about the All-Star Game.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. TIFFANY), and I thank him for joining us in this Special Order hour.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Speaker:

I do not like the cancel mob.

I do not like the groupthink blob.

We should not censor our own speech.

That's not a habit we should teach.

This isn't China or Iran.

Free speech belongs to every man.

This right belongs to women, too.

To teachers, students, me and you.

Don't let them tell you what to say.

Or what to think or how to pray.

America's for you and me.

For Dr. Seuss—not Jack Dorsey.

I thank the Speaker for the time.

And hope you liked my free speech rhyme.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman, and I suggest he is in the wrong line of work. That was great. I thank him very much for that.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE).

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Colorado for hosting this Special Order on this very important and increasingly pervasive issue in our society: Cancel culture.

I hold very deep concerns about how this ugly movement is corrupting our youth and stands to seriously threaten the many core values shared by those in my district, those from north Georgia: altruism, patriotism, faith, and integrity, just to name a few.

While calling people out on their actions and/or behaviors is nothing new in our society, there is something inherently dangerous about fringe groups of people moving in a calculated manner to strip people of jobs, to strip businesses of revenue, and shutting down entire thought groups altogether, without a fair and just consideration being afforded to the targeted party.

Each of us has an understanding of what is right and wrong, just as we, as lawmakers, have our own ideas for what is good policy and what is not. We can debate and defend our personal opinions and sincerely held beliefs all we want, but when rights enshrined by the Constitution are at risk, I believe we have a duty to step up and defend those rights.

Whether we are talking about standing up for God-given, unalienable religious liberties, Second Amendment rights or First Amendment protections, I wholeheartedly believe that we should also be pointing to the truth within the Constitution.

It is easy to point to the Constitution as a blanketed rationale for countless issues. Both sides do it, and I find it does the public a disservice at large on two fronts, especially when one side just doesn't tell the truth.

For one, I believe blanketed statements pointing to enumerated rights inadvertently desensitizes Americans, especially our youth, to the importance of the Constitution.

Secondly, we are not challenging ourselves to push beyond the emotional sphere of these issues and to think critically and analytically to find the truth.

So we, as conservatives, need to stand up to cancel culture in two ways.

First, the Constitution has provided the basis for which the canceled individual and the "cancelor" engage in debate to begin with.

Second, we should be putting truth behind our decision to stand up in defense of those being targeted.

For example, I stand here today to oppose the progressive push to cancel biological genders, to cancel religious liberties, and to cancel the Second Amendment. Probably the most bold example of cancel culture that I have ever seen is that of Facebook and Twitter trying to cancel the sitting President of the United States, Donald Trump.

I stand in defense of biological genders because the truth is that women are biologically different from men. Young men should not have to compete against self-identified transgenders who are biological men. Moreover, the truth is that women are the bearers of life, and only women can give birth. Call them what they are. Moms are moms, not birthing people.

How ridiculous is that term, "birthing people"?

How about H.R. 5, the Equality Act. That was another brazen attempt by progressives to cancel biological sex by normalizing transgender equality.

As I have said before and will say again, transgender medical treatment for children is child abuse, and any effort to normalize such treatments is a serious violation of the welfare and bodily integrity of our children. Allowing children to undergo life-changing alterations to their bodies should be a violation of the law, and the child abuser should be criminally prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

I oppose efforts by progressives to cancel religious liberties in their entirety. While I could speak at length about the various targets of cancel culture that fall under religious liberties, there is no better example than the Democrats' bill on the floor this week, H.R. 1065, that blatantly and knowingly leaves out protections for religious entities, as prescribed under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Under this act, a religious employer could have to consider allowing an employee to take paid time off to have an abortion procedure. While religious liberty protections are the center of this cancellation attempt, the truth is that an unborn child is a living, human child, and we must protect it as such.

I stand strong against the Democrats' all-out attack on the Second Amendment, because it is no secret they are trying to cancel Americans' right to keep and bear arms in a piecemeal manner. The truth is that law-abiding gun owners are not the perpetrators of violent crimes. However, law-abiding gun owners will bear the brunt of the impact from this ploy. The facts are on the side of the law-abiding gun owners.

The Democrats know that and they just can't stand it. That is why Democrats are rolling out rules to ban guns piece by piece so that guns in the homes of Americans, as we speak, become outlawed over time. They do this under the guise of abolishing firearms

made at home by individuals by calling them ghost guns.

The truth is that we see through this thinly veiled facade, and we will not sit by and allow them to cancel our rights.

Finally, I challenge all of my colleagues to not just stand up to the cancel culture in the name of the Constitution, but to do so by adding truth to the dialogue.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DONALDS).

Mr. DONALDS. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from Colorado for hosting the Special Order.

I will also tell you, Mr. Speaker, it is actually good to be able to talk in this Chamber without that thing on my face. It is messing up the enunciations.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues have talked at length about all of the examples and all of the damaging aspects of cancel culture, and I don't want to go through and reiterate those points.

I think the purpose—what I want to take this time to do, Mr. Speaker, is to actually have a pleading with the people of our country.

You see, if you look at the history of world governments, even go before our own Government, the ability to speak has been sacrosanct in order for the ability to be free.

You see, there was a time, under the brutality of European kings, where you could dare not speak a word against the Crown. If you did, you were slaughtered, you were maimed, you were put into chains, you were put into slavery.

The very idea of freedom of speech canonized in our Constitution just wasn't created by our Framers; it is something our Framers understood and they studied from their view of world history. And that very protection is the one thing, the most paramount thing, that the Members of this body, whether they be in our House, the Senate, or the person who occupies the White House at any point in time in American history, can never abridge or infringe.

The reason for that is very simple: Because the thoughts that roll around in your mind are yours alone. They are your thoughts. They were given by God. They were given by your own intellect. And your ability to express them should never be taken away or shamed by a government or by a sect or a substructure of any society, let alone American society.

□ 2000

You see, Mr. Speaker, we have come to a very dangerous point in our politics. This has nothing to do with Social Security and Medicare which, by the way, for the American people, are going to go insolvent in somewhere between 5 and 7 years.

This isn't about our issues talking about guns and supporting the Second Amendment. This isn't about if you want to talk about green technology or embracing fossil fuels or actually embracing nuclear power, which is what

we should be doing as a country. This isn't our views on what we do with respect to foreign policy and who our adversary might be.

This goes to the very core of our country. It goes to the very core of our culture. It goes to the very core of whether our society will have the ability to sustain itself for another 200 years into the future.

But I will promise you this, Mr. Speaker, it will not be possible if we have one group of Americans telling another group of Americans that what they say should no longer be heard simply because they don't agree or even if they are offended or even if what somebody says is so vile that unilaterally every American finds it to be distasteful and doesn't want to hear it.

You see, the very thought of any individual must be protected at all times. It is what separates our country from the other countries of the world today and the other societies on our Earth in years past. It is what creates the very foundation of a republic of people to be able to grow, to see, to do, to be their best, because they are free, and there is no government that can oppress them.

The only example I am going to cite tonight is the example of somebody who is actually not on my side of the political aisle. She is a reporter, Alexi McCammond. And Alexi, just so you know, I am not bringing your situation up to make a political point. Far from it. You see, she was a journalist. She was on MSNBC and an NBC contributor. I don't think she would probably like my politics too much. But because of something she said when she was a freshman in college on social media, she was targeted. She was canceled. She had reached a pinnacle in her career through her hard work. I don't even know her, but I know that she was able to accomplish something. But because somebody in her company, because of somebody at Teen Vogue decided they didn't like what she had said, she became the new target.

Mr. Speaker, and frankly, my fellow Americans, we cannot continue as a society if we are quick to shut each other down before we actually decide to open up our ears and listen. There are so many debates on this very floor that are going to take place, not just in this Congress, but in many Congresses to come. There are going to be disagreements in our society, whether you are talking about policing or racism or the past or the future, but the one thing that must remain in our Republic is tolerance.

You see, Mr. Speaker, we have to adopt a standard; not a subjective one, but an objective one. But here is the truth: We already have had that standard. We have already adopted it. It is the objective standard that you are free to speak in the United States of America. And whether it is Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram or YouTube or Snapchat or TikTok, or The Washington Post or The Washington Times, whether you want to talk about The

New York Times or you want to talk about redstate.com, you want to talk about MSNBC or FOX News, Morning Joe or Sean Hannity, we must be free to speak at all times because the battlefield of ideas is the only thing that is going to propel our Republic forward. It is the only thing that is going to allow young kids to grow and actually increase their intellect and to be able to transform our economy in ways that none of us in this Capitol today can even fathom. It is the very basis of what makes our Nation the greatest nation. It is what makes us unique. It is what allows us to be able to fight it out every day on this floor, verbally, of course, Mr. Speaker.

My fellow Americans, we are all in this together. Mr. Speaker, we are in this together. We can't cancel each other. We can't move people out of the public square because we find their ideas even vile or distasteful. I may not like what you have to say, Mr. Speaker. We may disagree on votes on this very floor, but the one thing I will always respect, the one thing I will always defend is your ability to say it and your ability to vote that way. My only ask is that you do the same for people on my side of the political aisle.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his profound remarks. I now yield to the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. CHENEY), my friend and my neighbor to the north.

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank very much my friend, colleague, Mr. BUCK, for yielding me time this evening.

I know the topic, Mr. Speaker, is cancel culture. I have some thoughts about that. But tonight I rise to discuss freedom and our constitutional duty to protect it.

Mr. Speaker, I have been privileged to see firsthand how powerful and how fragile freedom is. Twenty-eight years ago, I stood outside a polling place, a schoolhouse in western Kenya. Soldiers had chased away people who were lined up to vote. A few hours later, they came streaming back in, risking further attack, undaunted in their determination to exercise their right to vote.

In 1992, I sat across the table from a young mayor in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. I listened to him talk of his dream of liberating his nation from communism. Years later, for his dedication to the cause of freedom, Boris Nemtsov was assassinated by Vladimir Putin's thugs.

In Warsaw in 1990, I listened to a young Polish woman tell me that her greatest fear was that people would forget; they would forget what it was like to live under Soviet domination, that they would forget the price of freedom.

Three men—an immigrant who escaped Castro's totalitarian regime, a young man who grew up behind the Iron Curtain and became his country's minister of defense, and a dissident who spent years in the Soviet gulag—

have all told me it was the miracle of America, captured in the words of President Ronald Reagan that inspired them.

I have seen the power of faith and freedom. I listened to Pope John Paul II speak to thousands in Nairobi in 1985, and 19 years later, I watched that same Pope take my father's hands, look in his eyes, and say, "God bless America."

God has blessed America, Mr. Speaker, but our freedom only survives if we protect it, if we honor our oath, taken before God in this Chamber, to support and defend the Constitution, if we recognize threats to freedom when they arise.

Today, we face a threat America has never seen before. A former President, who provoked a violent attack on this Capitol in an effort to steal the election, has resumed his aggressive effort to convince Americans that the election was stolen from him. He risks inciting further violence.

Millions of Americans have been misled by the former President. They have heard only his words but not the truth, as he continues to undermine our democratic process, sowing seeds of doubt about whether democracy really works at all.

I am a conservative Republican, and the most conservative of conservative principles is reverence for the rule of law. The electoral college has voted. More than 60 State and Federal courts, including multiple judges the former President appointed, have rejected his claims. The Trump Department of Justice investigated the former President's claims of widespread fraud and found no evidence to support them. The election is over. That is the rule of law. That is our constitutional process. Those who refuse to accept the rulings of our courts are at war with the Constitution.

Our duty is clear. Every one of us who has sworn the oath must act to prevent the unraveling of our democracy. This is not about policy. This is not about partisanship. This is about our duty as Americans. Remaining silent and ignoring the lie emboldens the liar.

I will not participate in that. I will not sit back and watch in silence while others lead our party down a path that abandons the rule of law and joins the former President's crusade to undermine our democracy.

As the party of Reagan, Republicans have championed democracy, won the Cold War, and defeated the Soviet Communists. Today, America is on the cusp of another Cold War. This time with Communist China. Attacks against our democratic process and the rule of law empower our adversaries and feed Communist propaganda that American democracy is a failure. We must speak the truth. Our election was not stolen, and America has not failed.

I received a message last week from a Gold Star father who said, "Standing up for the truth honors all who gave

all." We must all strive to be worthy of the sacrifice of those who have died for our freedom. They are the patriots Katharine Lee Bates described in the words of "America the Beautiful" when she wrote, Oh beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self, their country loved and mercy more than life.

Ultimately, Mr. Speaker, this is at the heart of what our oath requires: That we love our country more, that we love her so much that we will stand above politics to defend her, that we will do everything in our power to protect our Constitution and our freedom that has been paid for by the blood of so many. We must love America so much that we will never yield in her defense. That is our duty.

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman, and I inform the Speaker that we have no further speakers. I yield back the balance of my time.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

OATH OF OFFICE MEMBERS, RESIDENT COMMISSIONER, AND DELEGATES

The oath of office required by the sixth article of the Constitution of the United States, and as provided by section 2 of the act of May 13, 1884 (23 Stat. 22), to be administered to Members, Resident Commissioner, and Delegates of the House of Representatives, the text of which is carried in 5 U.S.C. 3331:

"I, AB, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. So help me God."

has been subscribed to in person and filed in duplicate with the Clerk of the House of Representatives by the following Member of the 117th Congress, pursuant to the provisions of 2 U.S.C. 25:

TROY A. CARTER, of Louisiana.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote

on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 768, the Block, Report, And Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2021, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 1629, the Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-1070. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Thomas A. Horlander, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1071. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing Brigadier Generals James J. Gallivan, Scott A. Jackson, and Allan M. Pepin, United States Army, to wear the insignia of the grade of major general, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777(b)(3)(B); Public Law 104-106, Sec. 503(a)(1) (as added by Public Law 108-136, Sec. 509(a)(3)); (117 Stat. 1458); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1072. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Medical Devices; Medical Device Classification Regulations to Conform to Medical Software Provisions in the 21st Century Cures Act [Docket No.: FDA-2018-N-1440] (RIN: 0910-AH67) received April 28, 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-1073. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Arkansas; Arkansas Regional Haze and Visibility Transport State Implementation Plan Revisions; Correction [EPA-R06-OAR-2015-0189; FRL-10022-74-Region 6] received April 28, 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-1074. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Illinois; Public Participation in the Permit Program [EPA-R05-OAR-2020-0467; FRL-10022-84-Region 5] received April 28, 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-1075. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Ohio; NSR Program Administrative Rules [EPA-R05-OAR-2020-0126; FRL-10022-85-Region 5] received April 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-1076. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Flupyradifurone; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [EPA-HQ-OPP-2020-0478; FRL-10020-49] received April 28, 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-1077. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; California; Feather River Air Quality Management District [EPA-R09-OAR-2020-0523; FRL-10022-35-Region 9] received April 28, 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-1078. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; New Hampshire; Sulfur Content Limitations for Fuels [EPA-R01-OAR-2020-0209; FRL-10022-62-Region-1] received April 28, 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-1079. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances (20-3.B) [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2020-0094; FRL-10016-30] (RIN: 2070-AB27) received April 28, 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-1080. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Georgia: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revisions [EPA-R04-RCRA-2021-0229; FRL-10021-97-Region 4] received April 28, 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-1081. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 24-52, "District Government Family Bereavement Leave Temporary Amendment Act of 2021", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-1082. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 24-62, "Coronavirus Support Temporary Amendment Act of 2021", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-1083. A letter from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting D.C. Act 24-78, "New Convention Center Hotel Omnibus Financing and Development Temporary Amendment Act of 2021", pursuant to Public Law 93-198, Sec. 602(c)(1); (87 Stat. 814); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-1084. A letter from the Chief Human Capital Officer, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, transmitting a notification of a vacancy, a designation of acting officer, and a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-1085. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting the Authority's FY 2020 No FEAR Act

Report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-1086. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of Defense, International Security Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting the section 1209(d) and CTEF Consolidated Quarterly Reports, pursuant to Public Law 115-232, Sec. 1231(d); (132 Stat. 2034) and Public Law 113-291, Sec. 1209(d); (128 Stat. 3542); jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Foreign Affairs.

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. LOFGREN: Committee on House Administration. House Resolution 379. Resolution dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Fourteenth Congressional District of Illinois (Rept. 117-28). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. PERLMUTTER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 380. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2547) to expand and enhance consumer, student, servicemember, and small business protections with respect to debt collection practices, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1065) to eliminate discrimination and promote womens health accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition; and for other purposes (Rept. 117-29). 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. HUFFMAN (for himself and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana):

H.R. 3075. A bill to address seafood slavery and combat illegal, unreported, or unregulated fishing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. FOXX, and Mr. COMER):

H.R. 3076. A bill to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and 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 Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. LYNCH, and Mrs. LAWRENCE):

H.R. 3077. A bill to require mail-in ballots to use the United States Postal Service barcode service, to provide paid parental leave to officers and employees of the Postal Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. UPTON (for himself, Mr. RUSH, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, and Mr. PALLONE):

H.R. 3078. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out a program relating to physical security and cybersecurity for pipelines and liquefied natural gas facilities; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RUTHERFORD (for himself and Mr. GOTTHEIMER):

H.R. 3079. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to punish criminal offenses targeting law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BACON (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. CARL, Mr. LATTI, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. AMODEI):

H.R. 3080. A bill to protect law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ARMSTRONG:

H.R. 3081. A bill to make certain irrigation districts eligible for Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program pumping power, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 3082. A bill to amend the FAST Act to add activities relating to the extraction, recovery, or processing of certain materials to the definition of a critical project, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. BACON, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Mr. MULLIN):

H.R. 3083. A bill to support the establishment or expansion and operation of programs using a network of public and private community entities to provide mentoring for children and youth with experience in foster care; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BERA (for himself, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CASE, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. TAYLOR):

H.R. 3084. A bill to establish the Taiwan Fellowship Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Ms. WATERS):

H.R. 3085. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the diversity of participants in research on Alzheimer's disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 3086. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to limit the number of local wage areas allowable within a General Schedule pay locality; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. DOGGETT, and Ms. SCANLON):

H.R. 3087. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage for custom fabricated breast prostheses following a mastectomy; 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. CICILLINE (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. TRONE, Ms. TITUS, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. COOPER, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. MENG, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CARSON, Ms. BROWNLEY,

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. DEAN, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. JONES, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. EVANS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. SWALWELL, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. LIEU, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. HIMES, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. KILDEE):

H.R. 3088. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to ensure that all firearms are traceable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts (for herself and Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER):

H.R. 3089. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 3090. A bill to establish a grant program to support interstate rail compacts and improve the safety, efficiency, or reliability of passenger and freight rail transportation systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 3091. A bill to support clarity and consistency with regard to the exercise of criminal jurisdiction and authority in Indian country, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, 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. CRAIG:

H.R. 3092. A bill to adjust the applicability of certain amendments to the Truth in Lending Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CRIST:

H.R. 3093. A bill to provide assistance to the hotel industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DEAN (for herself and Mr. STEIL):

H.R. 3094. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to designate a Coordinator for Human Trafficking Issues within the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and 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. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. LAMB, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. BACON, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio):

H.R. 3095. A bill to ensure that authorizations issued by the Secretary of Transportation to foreign air carriers do not undermine labor rights or standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mrs. DEMINGS (for herself and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 3096. A bill to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. CHU, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. NADLER, Mr. POCAN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. TITUS, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 3097. A bill to amend titles 23 and 49, United States Code, to require metropolitan planning organizations to consider greenhouse gas emissions in long-range transportation plans and transportation improvement programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. STAUBER, and Mr. LAMB):

H.R. 3098. A bill to prohibit a jurisdiction that defunds the police from receiving grants under certain Economic Development Assistance Programs and the Community Development Block Grant Program; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. MOONEY, and Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas):

H.R. 3099. A bill to amend the Financial Stability Act of 2010 to include the State insurance commissioner as a voting member of the Financial Stability Oversight Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. HAYES (for herself, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, and Mrs. TORRES of California):

H.R. 3100. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the eligibility of students to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, establish college student food insecurity demonstration programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. HINSON (for herself, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Ms. HERRELL, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. ROSENDALE, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. OWENS, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. PERRY, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. GALLAGHER, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. KELLER, Mr. BUDD, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. HUDSON, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. FEENSTRA, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. BABIN, Ms. STEFANK, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. MELJER, Mr. MANN, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr.

KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. CAWTHORN, and Mr. WEBSTER of Florida):

H.R. 3101. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the firearm transfer tax, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 3102. A bill to allow certain retiree beneficiaries to reenroll in, and establish monthly enrollment fee payment for, TRICARE Select at any time during 2021, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ISSA:

H.R. 3103. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to permit a veterans service organization to use the parking lot at the Pentagon for an annual veteran-led remembrance motorcycle ride; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. STEUBE, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. BURCHETT, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. GIBBS, and Mr. ROUZER):

H.R. 3104. A bill to shorten the extension, and the amount, of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation in order to get Americans back to work; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

H.R. 3105. A bill to limit the application of Federal laws to the distribution and consumption of marihuana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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 Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 3106. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:

H.R. 3107. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. KELLY of Illinois (for herself and Mr. UPTON):

H.R. 3108. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the availability of medical nutrition therapy services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KIND (for himself, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Ms. SEWELL, and Mr. LAHOOD):

H.R. 3109. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain amounts paid for physical activity, fitness, and exercise as amounts paid for medical care; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. ADAMS, and Ms. UNDERWOOD):

H.R. 3110. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to expand access to breastfeeding accommodations in the workplace, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MCGOVERN (for himself and Ms. PRESSLEY):

H.R. 3111. A bill to provide grants to owners of intergenerational dwelling units, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. PANETTA, and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 3112. A bill to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize certain recycled water projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MOORE of Utah (for himself, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. NEGUSE, and Ms. SCHRIER):

H.R. 3113. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works to digitize and make publicly available geographic information system mapping data relating to public access to Federal land and waters for outdoor recreation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MRVAN (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Virginia):

H.R. 3114. A bill to provide benefits authorized under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act to maritime workers who contract COVID-19, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. OMAR (for herself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. BUSH, Mr. CARSON, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CORREA, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Ms. MENG, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. SUOZZI, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H.R. 3115. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 and the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make breakfasts and lunches free for all children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Science, Space, and Technology, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SRES, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CICILLINE, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. MCEACHIN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. JONES, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. CASE, Mr. CRIST, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Ms. ROSS):

H.R. 3116. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, North Atlantic, and Straits

of Florida planning areas; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. PRESSLEY (for herself, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. OMAR, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN):

H.R. 3117. A bill to require Federal law enforcement and prison officials to obtain or provide immediate medical attention to individuals in custody who display medical distress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 3118. A bill to require the disclosure of certain visitor access records; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. RUSH (for himself and Mr. WALBERG):

H.R. 3119. A bill to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act with respect to functions assigned to Assistant Secretaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. FORTENBERRY, and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 3120. A bill to require notification of a Governor of a State if an unaccompanied alien child is placed for custody and care in the State; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASE, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. KAHLE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PORTER, Ms. ROSS, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TURNER, Mr. VELA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Ms. WILD):

H.R. 3121. A bill to expand child care opportunities for members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. KATKO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. MOULTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. NORTON, Ms. PORTER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. ROSS, Mr. RYAN, Ms. SHERRILL, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TURNER, Mr. VELA, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. WILD, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. YOUNG):

H.R. 3122. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to expand parental leave for members of the Armed Forces, to reduce the service commitment required for participation in the career intermission program of a military department, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. SUOZZI (for himself and Mr. LAHOOD):

H.R. 3123. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide the same treatment to publicly offered, non traded Real Estate Investment Trusts as is provided to exchange traded Real Estate Investment Trusts under the Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act of 1980; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 3124. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the application of Medicare secondary payer rules to certain workers' compensation settlement agreements and qualified Medicare set-aside provisions; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on

Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. VARGAS (for himself and Mr. HILL):

H.R. 3125. A bill to enhance authorities under the Defense Production Act of 1950 to respond to the COVID-19 emergency, to provide additional oversight of such authorities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN (for herself, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CARSON, Ms. CHU, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FOSTER, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. JONES, Mr. KILMER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. ROSS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. SHERRILL, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. CASTOR of Florida):

H.R. 3126. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a special enrollment period for pregnant women, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, and Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. WILD (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 3127. A bill to provide grants to enable nonprofit disability organizations to develop training programs that support safe interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with disabilities and older individuals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mrs. RADEWAGEN):

H.R. 3128. A bill to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Mr. BACON, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. TITUS, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. COHEN, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. KILDEE, Miss RICE of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. RUSH, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. STRICKLAND, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois):

H. Res. 381. A resolution recognizing National Foster Care Month as an opportunity to raise awareness about the challenges of children in the foster care system, and encouraging Congress to implement policy to improve the lives of children in the foster care system; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KIND (for himself, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. FERGUSON):

H. Res. 382. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States should reaffirm its commitment as a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and work with other WTO members to achieve reforms at the WTO that improve the speed and predictability of dispute settlement, address longstanding concerns with the WTO's Appellate Body, increase transparency at the WTO, ensure that WTO members invoke special and differential treatment reserved for developing countries only in fair and appropriate circumstances, and update the WTO rules to address the needs of the United States and other free and open economies in the 21st century; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MOOLENAAR (for himself and Mrs. BUSTOS):

H. Res. 383. A resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the National Association of Chemical Distributors; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 3075.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 3076.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section I, Clause 18 (Necessary and Proper Clause)

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 3077.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section I, Clause 18 (Necessary and Proper Clause)

By Mr. UPTON:

H.R. 3078.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: Congress shall have power to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. RUTHERFORD:

H.R. 3079.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 3080.

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. ARMSTRONG:

H.R. 3081.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 clause 18 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. BARR:

H.R. 3082.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1

By Ms. BASS:

H.R. 3083.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 1 of the United States Constitution, providing—"All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

By Mr. BERA:

H.R. 3084.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8: Powers of the Congress

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER:

H.R. 3085.

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. 3086.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I; Section 8; Clause 1 of the Constitution states The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . .

By Ms. CHU:

H.R. 3087.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. CICILLINE:

H.R. 3088.

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. CLARK of Massachusetts:

H.R. 3089.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. COHEN:

H.R. 3090.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. COLE:

H.R. 3091.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Article I, Section 8 which grants Congress the power to regulate Commerce with the Indian Tribes.

By Ms. CRAIG:

H.R. 3092.

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. CRIST:

H.R. 3093.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. DEAN:

H.R. 3094.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. DEFazio:

H.R. 3095.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1, Clause 3, and Clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mrs. DEMINGS:
H.R. 3096.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 3
By Mr. DOGGETT:
H.R. 3097.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution
By Mr. FITZPATRICK:
H.R. 3098.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section VIII
By Mr. GARAMENDI:
H.R. 3099.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clauses 5 and 18 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mrs. HAYES:
H.R. 3100.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8
By Mrs. HINSON:
H.R. 3101.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Amendment II
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
By Mr. ISSA:
H.R. 3102.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution.
By Mr. ISSA:
H.R. 3103.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution.
By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:
H.R. 3104.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3
By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:
H.R. 3105.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.
By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:
H.R. 3106.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause I of the Constitution of the United States.
By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:
H.R. 3107.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause I of the Constitution of the United States.
By Ms. KELLY of Illinois:
H.R. 3108.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 18 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the Constitution
By Mr. KIND:
H.R. 3109.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:
H.R. 3110.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under 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. McGOVERN:
H.R. 3111.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. McNERNEY:
H.R. 3112.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States grants Congress the authority to enact this bill.
By Mr. MOORE of Utah:
H.R. 3113.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. MRVAN:
H.R. 3114.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I and Clause 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. OMAR:
H.R. 3115.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. PALLONE:
H.R. 3116.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Pursuant to clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds the authority for this legislation in article I, section 8 of the Constitution.
By Ms. PRESSLEY:
H.R. 8117.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
By Mr. QUIGLEY:
H.R. 3118.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8. Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution
By Mr. RUSH:
H.R. 3119.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
By Mr. SMITH of Nebraska:
H.R. 3120.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the Constitution provides that Congress shall have power "To establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization."
By Ms. SPEIER:
H.R. 3121.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. SPEIER:
H.R. 3122.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. SUOZZI:
H.R. 3123.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.
By Mr. THOMPSON of California:
H.R. 3124.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I
By Mr. VARGAS:
H.R. 3125.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
(1) To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes, as enumerated in Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution;
(2) To make all laws necessary and proper for executing powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.
By Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN:
H.R. 3126.
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 Ms. WILD:
H.R. 3127.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section VIII
By Mr. YOUNG:
H.R. 3128.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:
H.R. 19: Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. SCALISE, and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 40: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 49: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Ms. CRAIG, Mr. JONES, and Ms. SANCHEZ.
H.R. 151: Mr. PANETTA and Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 197: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 249: Mr. FOSTER.
H.R. 255: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 261: Mr. McCAUL and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 262: Mr. MEIJER and Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 263: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. CRIST, and Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 310: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 322: Mr. McCAUL.
H.R. 377: Ms. TENNEY and Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
H.R. 378: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
H.R. 392: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H.R. 425: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 433: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. TAYLOR, and Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 463: Mr. DESAULNIER and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 471: Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 475: Mr. RYAN, Ms. ROSS, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 477: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 508: Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 542: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 556: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 581: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 586: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. TAYLOR.
H.R. 604: Ms. STRICKLAND and Ms. BUSH.
H.R. 620: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 623: Mrs. DINGELL and Mr. MCEACHIN.
H.R. 628: Ms. MACE and Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 707: Mr. JACKSON, Ms. PORTER, and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 721: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Ms. GARCIA of Texas.

- H.R. 735: Mr. MCCARTHY.
H.R. 748: Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. GALLEGO, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 794: Ms. BUSH.
H.R. 824: Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H.R. 825: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 841: Ms. MACE and Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 849: Mr. SOTO, Mr. LAWSON of Florida, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. CRAIG, Ms. OMAR, and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 859: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 869: Ms. TLAIB, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. JACOBS of California, and Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 890: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. ROUZER, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. CRIST, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. THOMPSON of California, and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 892: Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma.
H.R. 903: Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. BASS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. PORTER, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. PANNETTA, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 909: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 921: Mr. TIMMONS and Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 922: Mr. HUDSON.
H.R. 928: Mr. SWALWELL.
H.R. 938: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 958: Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 959: Ms. MENG, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 962: Mr. FERGUSON, Mrs. LURIA, Mr. ALLRED, and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 977: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 986: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 1004: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS.
H.R. 1012: Mr. SARBANES, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. MANN, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1022: Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. KILMER, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mr. PENCE, and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
H.R. 1057: Mr. WOMACK, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas.
H.R. 1062: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 1069: Mr. CAWTHORN.
H.R. 1155: Ms. ESHOO and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 1183: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 1205: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1219: Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. CARSON, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H.R. 1227: Ms. WEXTON.
H.R. 1228: Mr. SHERMAN and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 1235: Ms. TENNEY and Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 1259: Mr. CARL.
H.R. 1273: Mr. GRIJALVA and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1275: Mr. COMER.
H.R. 1283: Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. ROUZER, Ms. ROSS, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1297: Mr. KATKO, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 1299: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 1304: Mr. KILDEE, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. RYAN, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. REED, and Mr. STEIL.
H.R. 1321: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. DAVIDSON.
H.R. 1324: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 1346: Mr. TURNER, Mr. GIMENEZ, Ms. PLASKETT, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. MCHENRY.
H.R. 1348: Ms. WILSON of Florida and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 1362: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 1379: Mr. COHEN and Ms. SLOTKIN.
H.R. 1391: Mr. JONES, Mr. NEGUSE, and Ms. WILD.
H.R. 1393: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 1407: Mr. YOUNG.
H.R. 1442: Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. TRONE, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. SMUCKER, and Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 1448: Mr. MANN, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, and Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 1453: Mr. COMER.
H.R. 1457: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 1480: Mr. DESAULNIER and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 1484: Mr. JONES and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 1551: Mr. COHEN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. PETERS, Ms. ROSS, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CRIST, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. YARMUTH, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 1585: Mr. MAST.
H.R. 1587: Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER.
H.R. 1611: Mr. CÁRDENAS and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska.
H.R. 1623: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 1624: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 1629: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 1630: Mr. MOULTON, Mr. LIEU, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. BASS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 1633: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 1644: Mr. COHEN, Ms. JAYAPAL, and Mrs. LAWRENCE.
H.R. 1676: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 1688: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 1693: Mr. COLE.
H.R. 1695: Ms. STRICKLAND.
H.R. 1703: Mr. WITTMAN.
H.R. 1704: Ms. BOURDEAUX and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 1730: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois and Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 1735: Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. DEUTCH, Mrs. MCBATH, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 1745: Mr. ROUZER, Mr. WOMACK, Mr. NEHLS, Mrs. WALORSKI, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. BARR, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. MAST, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. BACON, Mr. EMMER, and Mrs. FISCHBACH.
H.R. 1785: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 1790: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 1800: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 1808: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 1819: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 1833: Mr. PFLUGER.
H.R. 1843: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 1860: Mr. KATKO.
H.R. 1902: Mr. CAWTHORN.
H.R. 1905: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 1911: Mr. CICILLINE and Ms. MENG.
H.R. 1930: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 1931: Mr. JONES, Mr. CORREA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 1937: Mr. KELLER and Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 1946: Mr. MULLIN, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. PENCE, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.
H.R. 1948: Mrs. AXNE, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. JONES, Ms. MENG, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 1972: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 1978: Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 1983: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 1986: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 2012: Ms. BROWNLEY and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 2021: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 2035: Mr. CASE and Ms. BLUNT ROCH-ESTER.
H.R. 2067: Ms. DEAN and Ms. SPANBERGER.
H.R. 2073: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 2079: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 2085: Mr. STAUBER, Mr. KILMER, and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 2099: Mr. YOUNG.
H.R. 2102: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. NORTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. SHERMAN, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 2119: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 2120: Mr. BROWN.
H.R. 2121: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 2125: Ms. NORTON and Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 2126: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2130: Mr. HARDER of California.
H.R. 2163: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 2166: Mr. SMUCKER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, and Mr. COLE.
H.R. 2188: Mr. GIMENEZ and Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 2192: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 2193: Mr. RUIZ and Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 2198: Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. DEAN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Mr. GOMEZ.
H.R. 2208: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 2214: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 2222: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 2225: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 2226: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.
H.R. 2234: Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. SWALWELL, and Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 2249: Mrs. BUSTOS, Mrs. AXNE, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 2256: Mr. SIRES, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. CRIST, Mr. JACOBS of New York, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. TURNER, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CASE, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. RUTHERFORD, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Ms. SALAZAR, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. AGUILAR, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. ESCOBAR, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, and Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 2289: Ms. GRANGER.
H.R. 2294: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 2295: Ms. NORTON, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 2297: Ms. DEAN.
H.R. 2307: Ms. ROSS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. COOPER, Mr. NEGUSE, and Ms. DEAN.
H.R. 2316: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 2337: Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ, Mr. YARMUTH, Ms. WEXTON, Mr. COOPER, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. ROSS, and Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 2339: Mr. LEE of California, Mr. LAMB, and Mr. TRONE.
H.R. 2361: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 2363: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.
H.R. 2368: Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 2373: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 2376: Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 2385: Ms. CHU, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. TITUS, Mr. TRONE, and Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 2389: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 2392: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 2399: Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H.R. 2409: Mr. WALTZ, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. ZELDIN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 2449: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 2454: Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. SOTO, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 2455: Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms.

JACKSON LEE, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. HILL, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. ARRINGTON.

H.R. 2476: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 2480: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 2485: Mr. MOULTON.

H.R. 2486: Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. DESJARLAIS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. PERRY, and Mr. FLEISCHMANN.

H.R. 2491: Mr. MCHENRY.

H.R. 2502: Ms. TITUS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. NORTON, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MOULTON, and Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 2503: Ms. STRICKLAND and Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 2513: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 2514: Ms. PINGREE.

H.R. 2517: Mr. COLE and Ms. WATERS.

H.R. 2535: Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 2539: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2541: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2558: Mr. KELLER, Mr. CLINE, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. STEIL, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. OBERNOLTE, and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 2570: Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. PHILLIPS, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, and Ms. PRESSLEY.

H.R. 2591: Mr. BUCHANAN.

H.R. 2594: Ms. SPANBERGER.

H.R. 2601: Mrs. LESKO.

H.R. 2616: Mr. HARDER of California.

H.R. 2639: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. MOOLENAAR.

H.R. 2642: Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. COLE, and Mr. FOSTER.

H.R. 2654: Ms. SEWELL, Ms. MENG, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, and Ms. HOULAHAN.

H.R. 2661: Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 2664: Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. WELCH, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. BUSH, Ms. MENG, Mr. DEFazio, and Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2705: Mr. CARL.

H.R. 2709: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 2717: Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. ALLEN, and Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 2718: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee and Mr. BILIRAKIS.

H.R. 2721: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, and Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 2724: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. LEVIN of California, and Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 2729: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas and Mr. CARL.

H.R. 2735: Mr. KHANNA.

H.R. 2748: Mr. VAN DREW, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. CASE, Ms. MACE, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. MOORE of Utah, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. BACON, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. DEAN, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. KILMER, Mr. OWENS, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 2766: Mr. DESAULNIER.

H.R. 2767: Mr. TRONE.

H.R. 2806: Mr. LEVIN of California.

H.R. 2811: Mr. RICE of South Carolina.

H.R. 2813: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.

H.R. 2814: Ms. MENG, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. LEE of California, and Mr. CASTEN.

H.R. 2833: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.

H.R. 2840: Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. KIM of New Jersey, Ms. JACOBS of California, and Mr. SMITH of Washington.

H.R. 2847: Mrs. MCBATH.

H.R. 2848: Mr. BUCHANAN and Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 2859: Mr. JEFFRIES and Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.

H.R. 2869: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER.

H.R. 2893: Ms. LEE of California and Mr. BLUMENAUER.

H.R. 2901: Ms. PORTER.

H.R. 2925: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 2926: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.

H.R. 2929: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. ROSS, and Ms. SHERRILL.

H.R. 2936: Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. SUOZZI, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 2939: Mr. WEBER of Texas.

H.R. 2955: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.

H.R. 2964: Mr. BUDD, Mr. HICE of Georgia, and Mr. STEUBE.

H.R. 2967: Mr. BACON.

H.R. 2968: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TITUS, and Mrs. KIRKPATRICK.

H.R. 2974: Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. KILMER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. SWALWELL, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Ms. CRAIG, and Mr. VELA.

H.R. 2976: Mr. GRIJALVA.

H.R. 2996: Mr. NORMAN and Mr. PERRY.

H.R. 2997: Mr. BUCSHON.

H.R. 2999: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 3007: Mr. BEYER.

H.R. 3013: Mr. GALLEGO.

H.R. 3014: Mr. CARL.

H.R. 3030: Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H.R. 3035: Mr. ROY.

H.R. 3055: Mr. MAST.

H.R. 3056: Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 3064: Mr. HICE of Georgia.

H. J. Res. 1: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. GOLDEN, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, and Mrs. TRAHAN.

H. J. Res. 11: Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. FERGUSON.

H. J. Res. 33: Mr. DESAULNIER and Mr. BROWN.

H. J. Res. 35: Mr. GRIJALVA and Ms. NORTON.

H. J. Res. 38: Mr. BEYER, Mr. COHEN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. KILMER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. JAYAPAL.

H. Con. Res. 19: Mrs. TORRES of California.

H. Con. Res. 33: Mrs. LURIA, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CUELLAR, and Mr. CARL.

H. Res. 32: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, and Mr. MCNERNEY.

H. Res. 64: Mr. QUIGLEY.

H. Res. 117: Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. COSTA, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BACON, and Mrs. WALORSKI.

H. Res. 118: Mr. SMUCKER and Mr. CUELLAR.

H. Res. 119: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.

H. Res. 121: Mr. TRONE.

H. Res. 157: Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. DESJARLAIS.

H. Res. 231: Mr. LOWENTHAL and Ms. BROWNLEY.

H. Res. 240: Mr. TRONE, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. BOURDEAUX.

H. Res. 268: Mr. PENCE, Mr. JACOBS of New York, Mr. ARMSTRONG, and Mrs. CAMMACK.

H. Res. 289: Mr. TRONE, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Ms. TENNEY, Mrs. DEMINGS, Ms. STEVENS, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. BROWN, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. STEIL, and Mr. REED.

H. Res. 290: Ms. WEXTON.

H. Res. 305: Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mrs. MCCLAIN, and Ms. GRANGER.

H. Res. 317: Mr. VARGAS.

H. Res. 341: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. KILMER.

H. Res. 348: Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. OMAR, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. ISSA, Mr. BERA, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. KEATING.

H. Res. 352: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas and Mr. HUDSON.

H. Res. 358: Ms. CHU.

H. Res. 361: Mr. BROWN.

H. Res. 362: Mr. CROW.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 167

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021

No. 81

Senate

The Senate met at 10 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, thank You for the joy You give us when we follow Your guidance. Lord, You have provided us with Your Holy Word as a light to illuminate life's journey, and Your precepts inspire us with confidence and delight.

As our lawmakers daily receive Your wisdom from devotional time with You, permit Your peace that exceeds anything we can understand to guard their hearts, even during turbulent seasons. Lord, use our Senators for Your glory, empowering them to stay productive throughout the days of their lives.

We pray in Your merciful 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, May 11, 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.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to legislative session.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican whip.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, "infrastructure," "court packing," "crisis," "Jim Crow," "bipartisan"—all words that we recognize, all words with fixed, long-established meanings, and all words whose meanings are currently being twisted unrecognizably.

In the brave new world of the Biden administration, the Democratic Congress, the plain meaning of language is no longer so plain.

Take the term "infrastructure." Ask anybody what they think of when they think of infrastructure, and I can guarantee what they will tell you: roads, bridges, waterways, maybe airports. I can also tell you what they won't think of: Medicaid expansion, support for Big Labor, free community college.

Why? Because none of those things has ever been part of the definition of "infrastructure," until now. Now Democrats are claiming that infrastructure is pretty much whatever they want it to be.

One Democratic Senator tweeted:

Paid leave is infrastructure. Childcare is infrastructure. Caregiving is infrastructure.

Well, actually, no, they are not. Those are policy proposals—proposals that could be discussed, but they are not infrastructure. Saying something is infrastructure doesn't make it so.

And, unfortunately, Democrats' redefinition of infrastructure, as Orwellian as it is, is actually less alarming than some of Democrats' other attempts at linguistic redefinition.

Take court packing. Everyone who has ever sat through an American history class knows exactly what court packing refers to—expanding the number of Justices on the Supreme Court so that you can get the Supreme Court decisions that you want.

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt proposed it in the 1930s, and it was defeated by a bipartisan majority of Senators. And most thought the idea had been consigned to the ash heap of history, until Democrats resurrected it during the Trump administration.

Upset by the Court's current makeup and worried that the Court might not rubberstamp Democratic policies, a growing number of Democrats are getting behind the idea of court packing.

But, of course, they are eager to escape the negative connotations of the

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



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term. After all, President Roosevelt's Court-packing attempt is not exactly regarded as a shining moment of his Presidency. And so in a move worthy of Orwell's "Nineteen Eighty-Four," Democrats are asking us to accept the fantastical notion that Republicans packed the Court—indeed, packed the entire judiciary—and that Democrats are merely seeking to restore balance.

Yes, in the Democrats' brave new world, the President performing his constitutional duty to nominate judges and Justices, and a Senate duly confirming them, is now defined as a nakedly partisan power grab akin to President Roosevelt's attempt to secure a favorable outcome for his policies from the Supreme Court.

I should say a Republican President fulfilling his constitutional duty and a Republican Senate confirming his nominees because we all know—we all know that if it were President Biden who had filled multiple seats on the Supreme Court and succeeded in having a lot of judges confirmed, his actions would not be regarded as Court packing; they would be regarded correctly as business as usual. That is what we do around here. They would be regarded correctly as a President doing his job and performing his constitutional duty.

Then there is Jim Crow. Americans know what "Jim Crow" means. It refers to the reprehensible period of segregation, when Black Americans were forced to live as second-class citizens and denied the equal protection of the laws.

"Jim Crow" is one of the great stains on our country's history, and it is a term that should not be used lightly, but that is exactly what Democrats are doing.

They decided that it suits their purposes to call to mind the history of this word, and so they have applied the term to an ordinary, mainstream election reform bill in Georgia.

In fact, the President went so far as to call the Georgia law "Jim Crow on steroids," as if it would not only bring us back to the era of segregation but return us to something even worse.

And all this for an election law that is squarely in the mainstream when it comes to State election laws and in some ways is more permissive than election laws in presumably utopian Democratic-led States like New York.

I could go on.

There are Democrats' attempts to redefine "bipartisan" from something that is supported by both parties in Congress to something that is maybe—maybe—supported by some Republican voters in some poll, no matter how dubious its reliability.

Or there is the White House's contorted refusal to call the situation at our southern border a crisis, as if by refusing to use the word they could somehow change the reality of the situation.

But let me ask a question. Why is the plain meaning of language under as-

sault by the Democratic Party? Why are Democrats dramatically redefining ordinary words and concepts?

Well, maybe it is because reality isn't so pretty. Take court packing. The truth is that Democrats are afraid that the current Supreme Court is not going to rule the way Democrats want in cases they care about. So they want to expand the Supreme Court and let President Biden nominate new Justices so they can guarantee the outcomes that they want.

But saying that doesn't sound so great. In fact, it sounds more autocratic than democratic. So Democrats are attempting to disguise the real reason behind their partisan court-packing plan by applying the word "Court packing" not to their own attempts to pack the Court but to the ordinary work of the President and the Congress.

Or take infrastructure. Pretty much everybody supports infrastructure. You would be hard-pressed to find anyone who doesn't thinking the government should maintain our roads and bridges.

It would be a lot easier, on the other hand, to find people who think that maybe government shouldn't be in the business of substantially increasing spending or expanding into new areas of Americans' lives.

So Democrats have chosen to disguise their plans for massive government spending and government expansion under the heading of "infrastructure." After all, everybody supports infrastructure.

So if they can sell their plans for government expansion as infrastructure, then they might be able to implement a lot of proposals that otherwise might not make it through Congress.

Or take Jim Crow. With H.R. 1 and S. 1, Democrats are pushing to pass an election law that would federalize elections, inject a massive dose of partisanship into our election system, and give Democrats what they hope will be a permanent advantage in elections going forward, but obviously they can't say that. They can't suggest that we pass H.R. 1 to improve Democrats' electoral chances so they have had to find another reason to push Americans to pass this bill.

And so they have manufactured a crisis—States are passing dangerous election laws that harken back to Jim Crow, and we need the Democrats' election bill to save the day.

Sometimes I wonder when the President is bashing the Georgia election law if he remembers that the legislature that passed that law was elected by the same voters who gave him the victory in Georgia and sent two Democrats to the U.S. Senate. Does he really want to call those voters racist?

Ultimately, Democrats' assault on language is about power. Change the language, and you can change the outcome and secure your political control.

It is no coincidence that oppressive regimes have cracked down on speech and redefined it to suit their purposes

or that they manufacture crises to keep the people in need of government.

The problem for Democrats is that there is no mandate for Democrats' far-left agenda. Democrats' radical socialist candidates couldn't even make it through the Democratic primary, let alone the general election. President Biden won the Democrat primary and the election in large part because he campaigned, perhaps disingenuously, as a moderate. And as for Congress, Democrats lost seats in the House and have a paper-thin majority in both Chambers. If there was any mandate to be gathered from November, it was a mandate for moderation.

But Democrats aren't interested in moderation. They are increasingly enthralled with the far-left wing of their party, and they have a radical agenda to push and possibly a very limited window to push it. And since there is no mandate for that agenda, they have to create one.

That is why you see Democrats redefining the very plain meaning of common words. Say that you don't like the makeup of the Supreme Court, and most Americans would say: Tough, that is the way the ball bounces sometimes in our democracy.

Claim that Republicans engaged in court packing, on the other hand, and all of a sudden Democrats' radically partisan Supreme Court power grab seems a lot more acceptable.

I get Democrats' passion for their politics. I feel pretty strongly about my political principles. But their manipulation of language to advance their politics is deeply disturbing. Instead of trying to pursue a radical agenda cloaked in misleading language, I suggest Democrats turn their efforts to bipartisan cooperation. As the November election made clear, that is what the American people are looking for.

I yield the floor.

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

INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I listened carefully to the statement by my friend from South Dakota about radical socialism—radical socialism. I think what he is categorizing as radical socialism is the suggestion by the President of the United States, Joe Biden, that we should really care about providing safe, affordable, quality daycare for women who want to go to work. Radical socialism?

I am concerned about some trends that we are noting. The census reports that the birth rate in America is going down. Fewer children are being born in this country. I ask a basic question: What does that say about our country and about our future?

What it tells me is that raising a family for many is a struggle. They have to work to bring money home, and they want to have the peace of mind when they go to work that their kids are safe. That is not a radical suggestion, and the solution isn't socialism.

The solution is just caring. What do you care about? President Joe Biden does, and he has suggested, as part of his plan for American families, that the wage earners don't have more than 7 or 8 percent of their income dedicated to daycare. I don't think that is radical. I think it is realistic. It says they have some skin in the game, some investment on their own part, but they have affordable daycare affordable to them.

Republicans say they are all about infrastructure. We want to build the best highways—I do, too—the best bridges and best airports and such so that Americans in business can move from one place to another. Sign me up. That is basic infrastructure, and I agree with it. But, if I have the best highway from my home to a good place of employment and still can't find affordable daycare, many people—especially women who are out of work—can't buy into this infrastructure investment. That is not radical. Socialism, to give a mother a helping hand so that she has a safe place to leave her child during the course of the day?

And how about the other suggestions of President Biden? Is it radical socialism to suggest that we have available for all families in America—all families in America—2 additional years of training and education for children before kindergarten? I don't think it is radical.

I have the best little granddaughter in the world, who is going to be 2 years old in just a few days. She started her school experience already. We are proud of her, and I think it is going to help her to socialize with other children, learn in a classroom atmosphere, and I am glad she is there. I wish every family in the city of Chicago and the State of Illinois had the same option. But many cannot.

President Biden thinks that is a good idea. So do I.

Who would characterize that as radical socialism—2 additional years for children before kindergarten?

Here is another thing he suggests. Let's have 2 additional years after the 12th grade. The President said 2 years of community college. Is that radical socialism, to expand the offering of education an additional 2 years? If you visit community colleges and see what is going on there, you realize that many young people are making really life-changing decisions about their careers and their future.

Radical socialism? I don't think so. I think most families would say it is just common sense. It is not radical, and it is not socialism if government gives a helping hand. We have done that since the 1950s when it came to college loans. We do that today when it comes to helping school districts across this Nation. Not radical, not socialism, just common sense commitment to the American family.

So they can make the speeches all they wish, but that is the reality.

There has been an awful lot of talk on the Senate floor about infrastruc-

ture, as I mentioned. Many of my colleagues across the aisle think it is just roads and bridges and nothing more. I think that is a priority, but I don't think that is the entire challenge.

When we consider infrastructure, we ought to look to the future. We should ask important challenging questions. What kind of infrastructure investment will help us for decades to come? What does the next-generation economy in America need? What tools will our children and grandchildren need to lead healthy, productive, satisfying lives?

Tough questions, but President Biden's American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan face these questions honestly. Broadband, education, clean energy, paid family leave, electric vehicles, daycare—the President's plan envisions all of these things and more as the future of infrastructure.

What does that future look like in practice? I had a visit last week which was amazing. I wanted to share just a little bit of my visit with you. Last Thursday, I visited a town in central Illinois called Normal. During my visit, I toured a new manufacturing plant, the Rivian plant, where production will begin in a few weeks on brand-new electric trucks, SUVs, and delivery vans. This is not a small-scale operation. Amazon has already placed an order for 100,000 emission-free delivery vans—100,000.

Not long ago, 6 years ago, in fact, another car company, Mitsubishi, occupied a plant where Rivian is today, and they left town, putting 1,000 people out of work in the process. We were pretty down on our luck at that point and despondent about the future of that facility. It sits out by Interstate 55.

Guess what happened. A year later, thanks to the leadership of many people, including my friend the mayor of Normal, IL, Chris Koos, who found a buyer for the old Mitsubishi plant. By the end of 2021, that plant will be back in business full scale with more than 2,500 employees producing the next generation of electric vehicles.

It is a manufacturing jobs boom in Normal, IL. I couldn't be more excited or happy for the people who live nearby. It was made possible by leaders and investors who refused to hang on to the past. Here was this young CEO who decided that electric vehicles were our future. He came up with that idea 5 years ago, and he has created a large class of believers.

Folks in this town will tell you infrastructure is about more than roads and bridges. For them it is about taking transportation in America to the next generation, and the President of the United States, Joe Biden, understands that.

His American Jobs Plan includes a \$174 billion investment in electric vehicles and charging stations. Is this some big radical socialist government idea? No. Listen to the major producers of automobiles in America today talk

about where they think the market is headed. Every one of them is talking about electric vehicles. The funds that President Biden proposes would support the growth of companies like Rivian and accelerate the installation of charging stations across the country.

I went from Normal, IL, to a multimodal facility—Amtrak, cars, buses. They all gathered downtown in a building which I helped to build. And we went to several levels of parking in this facility. At each level there were electric charging stations. That is the future.

Imagine the future where you drive from Normal to Chicago or St. Louis, or anywhere in this country, without burning a drop of gasoline? This is the new normal, a place where hard-working Illinoisans produce next-generation vehicles, and companies come together with local leaders to move us toward a cleaner, stronger economy.

Normal, IL, is stepping up to the plate to ensure the United States continues to lead in the global economy, even as competitors like China ramp up their own electric vehicle production.

Make no mistake. If we follow the lead of the Republicans and step away from investing in electric vehicles and the training and the other elements that are necessary to develop it, the Chinese are not going to drop out of the competition. They are going to unfortunately be very successful at our expense.

Normal isn't going it alone. All around my State, I am proud to say, we see efforts to create this electric vehicle future. Last week, Governor Pritzker and Lion Electric announced plans to open a new electric vehicle manufacturing plant in Joliet, IL—a \$70 million investment that will create 700 new jobs.

Beginning in 2022, the plant will produce 20,000 zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. That means electric school buses and trucks built right in my home State.

A Netherlands-based manufacturer of charging stations, EVBox, set up its U.S. headquarters in Libertyville, IL, this past summer. They have plans to produce more than 200 fast-charging stations a week.

The electric transportation industry and its surrounding infrastructure already employs more than 5,000 people in my State of Illinois. One recent report projects that electric transportation employment in Illinois will grow to more than 9,500 workers by 2024. That is an 83-percent jump in 3 years.

Illinois is poised to have a nationally important role in the development of electric vehicles. Why are the companies coming to Illinois? I have a theory. Illinois has been setting the stage for this electric vehicle revolution for years.

Look at our labs—Federal labs. Scientists and engineers in our national

labs have pushed the boundaries of vehicle and battery technology for decades, always looking ahead. Today, their pioneering work will produce batteries that will last longer, charge faster, and can be recycled safely.

Look at our universities. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign produces some of the best engineers in America. In Normal, you can find Illinois State University and Heartland Community College, which produce a direct pipeline of new talent to companies like Rivian.

Illinois recognizes that science and research are the backbone for the economy. Our labs and universities prove it time and again. This research drives the electric vehicle industry forward, and companies want to be right in the middle of that environment.

Beyond batteries, Illinois leads the way in research in clean energy technology, quantum computing, artificial intelligence, and many of the other technologies we need to be part of the economy of the 21st century.

President Biden understands that we need research, too. His American Jobs Plan proposes \$180 billion in investment in research and development for things just like electric vehicles. We have the opportunity to not only electrify but to supercharge our future.

Federal funding that matches the President's bold plan could transform more towns like Normal or Joliet into powerhouses of American manufacturing.

I listen to Republicans on the other side say: We shouldn't spend so much. We shouldn't spend it on so many things that might affect our future. Take it easy. Take it slow. Wait and see what happens.

I couldn't disagree more.

The Republican plan is a solid strategy for second place in the world. I don't want to be part of an effort to bring the United States second in any competition in the world. We may not always be first, but we should always strive to be first. Stepping away from President Biden's plan for manufacturing and jobs and families is, unfortunately, an easily predicted outcome. We will not be able to succeed and create the jobs of the future.

I will continue to support robust, sustained funding for electric vehicle infrastructure and innovation. I hope that both parties will. I hope my colleagues will join me in thinking in a big way about the future of America when it comes to the economy and infrastructure. I have seen the future it can create in Normal, IL, last week, and it is a bright one.

LIABILITY IMMUNITY

Mr. President, the American Rescue Plan was the Biden threshold initiative to bring to America what it desperately needed after this President was sworn in on January 20 of this year. Unfortunately, we didn't have a single Republican to support it—not one. Not a single Republican Senator or House Member would support the

American Rescue Plan of President Joe Biden.

What did the plan do? Well, it bought more vaccines. It invested dramatically in the distribution of these vaccines across America. It turned around and kept the President Trump promise of the cash payment of \$1,400 for each individual. It extended unemployment benefits so that people could continue to keep food on the table and pay their rent and mortgage payments until they found good jobs. And it basically said to small businesses: We are not giving up on you. We are going to help you, whether it is the restaurant industry or other businesses. We want you to be back in business. We invested that money as a nation, and it was a critical time to do it.

President Biden believed, and all the Democrats supported him in this belief, that we should move forward now or run the risk of falling behind in developing our economy. The American Rescue Plan was successful. It has given assistance across the board to families and businesses and delivered resources where they were needed the most. It really matched the crisis with an initiative that was significant in scope.

But if my Republican colleagues had had their way, the American Rescue Plan would have looked a lot more like a giant corporate giveaway because all throughout 2020, they were clamoring for massive handouts to big businesses in the form of liability immunity. I am glad that my colleague from Texas is on the floor because it is an issue that he has been interested in and has spoken on the floor many times.

All last year, we heard from the other side of the aisle that Congress needed to give sweeping Federal liability immunity to corporations when it came to their conduct during the pandemic. Well, we heard some dire warnings about the number of lawsuits that were going to be filed because of COVID-19. It was called a tsunami of lawsuits by the Republican leader of the Senate.

One year ago today, on May 11, 2020, Senator McCONNELL spoke on the Senate floor and raised fears of "a second job-killing epidemic of frivolous lawsuits." The next day, he came to the floor and kept the attack on, and he warned of "a tidal wave of medical malpractice lawsuits." That is from Senator McCONNELL on the floor of the Senate.

Senate Republicans rallied behind a bill introduced by Senator CORNYN that would give corporations immunity from accountability both in court and from regulators for conduct that could be considered negligent under current law. I argued against these corporate immunity proposals. Granting corporations legal immunity gives them an incentive to cut costs and cut corners when it comes to the health and safety of workers and consumers. It gives a pass to unreasonable and irresponsible behavior and puts people at greater risk. I don't think that is the right approach.

As I kept pointing out to my Republican colleagues, they couldn't show statistically why this was necessary. The data never justified their proposals. That tsunami of lawsuits never arrived. We are now over a year into this pandemic. Over 32 million Americans, sadly, have been infected, and nearly 600,000, tragically, have died. So how many lawsuits have been generated by all these terrible outcomes?

Well, there is a law firm, Hunton Andrews Kurth, that has tracked all of the lawsuits filed in the United States over COVID-19. I checked the totals over the weekend. You may be asking: Well, how many medical malpractice cases have been filed in the United States over the last year related to COVID-19? The number: 20—20. And how many cases alleging personal injury from exposure to COVID-19 in a public place have been filed? The number is 60 in the entire United States. That is not a flood. That is not a tsunami. It is a trickle.

In fact, the main litigation we have seen involving COVID has been one business suing another business. For example, there are 1,831 lawsuits involving insurance disputes, 640 lawsuits involving business closures and stay-at-home orders, and 772 lawsuits involving contract disputes. It was not what was predicted on the floor over and over again by Senators from the other side of the aisle.

I am always troubled how the Republican immunity proposals try to block infected workers and families from suing corporations for negligence, but let corporations continue to file their own COVID-related lawsuits by the hundreds whenever they feel like it. How is that fair?

I believe Americans deserve a chance to have a day in court when these families believe their loved ones have been harmed due to negligence or misconduct. For example, if a senior citizen dies because a nursing home refused to share what it knew about the virus's spread, I believe the families of those victims deserve a chance to go to court and seek justice.

Those types of cases are traditionally governed by State law. States can and do adjust their State liability law to fit the circumstances. As it turns out, more than half the States have changed their liability laws, either through legislation or executive action, in response to COVID. In my view, some of the States went too far, to be honest with you, in shielding negligent behavior by corporations, but that was their call to make since this is a State law issue.

I find it surprising that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle want Congress to step in and impose sweeping Federal corporate immunity that would override the laws of all 50 States. There was no justification for doing so, and I am glad we didn't. It would have made us less safe.

I hope the next time we hear calls for sweeping Federal liability immunity

during a national crisis, we remember this experience and how the dire predictions of tsunamis and floods of lawsuits never came to pass. Let's continue to address this virus with targeted relief much like the American Rescue Plan did. And as we emerge from the pandemic, let's invest in the areas that actually need support. That is why Democrats support President Biden again with the American Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan, targeting investments that help the American economy.

Like President Biden said last month, we have got to build our economy from the bottom up and the middle out and not from the top down. Giant corporations don't need another handout like immunity. They already have all the help they need. I hope we can work together to deliver real relief to the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President I ask unanimous consent to be able to complete my remarks before the vote occurs.

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, listening to my friend, the Democratic whip, reminds me that there is one type of business that my Democratic friends always support, and that is the lawsuit business. As he pointed out, about half of the States have taken steps to protect their citizens from frivolous litigation and other litigation that would arise out of their good-faith following of the guidelines laid down by the CDC, the Centers for Disease Control. That is what we proposed here in the Senate.

And my friend's, the Senator from Illinois's view did prevail because I found out that there is one—the most powerful lobby here in Washington, DC, is the trial bar, and, unfortunately, it is not just big corporations. I am sure big companies can take care of themselves. They have got lawyers; they have got compliance officers; and they have got people who can help them figure out how to deal with the pandemic. It is the mom-and-pop businesses, the music venues, the houses of worship, the schools, and the universities—those were the ones that were reluctant to reopen, even complying with the CDC guidelines, because they were afraid of being sued into oblivion.

So my colleague's views did prevail here in the Senate, unfortunately, but, thankfully, States like mine—Texas is currently in legislative session taking appropriate steps to avoid this sort of frivolous litigation, which will be like a wet blanket on our economic recovery and on job creation. Again, this is not a get-out-of-jail free card. These are citizens—American citizens—trying to do the best they can under very difficult circumstances who have, in good faith, complied with the Centers for Disease Control guidelines.

I would like to rewind just a little bit to 2019, before the pandemic hit, and

recall that the American people were reaping the benefits of one of the strongest economies in American history. The driving force behind that economic boom, I think, was, in significant part, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which we passed in 2017, which sought to help American families and the economy thrive by keeping more of what they earned and turning over less to the Federal Government. In my opinion, there is no question that it was one of the biggest contributors to our booming economy.

Our national unemployment rate had reached a 50-year low, and we saw record unemployment rates for Hispanics, African Americans, and Asian Americans. Unemployment among women fell to the lowest rate since the early 1950s. That was prepandemic.

The benefits did not stop there, though. Wages were on the rise. The poverty rate hit an alltime low, and millions of new jobs were being added to our economy. Families were bringing home more of their hard-earned paychecks, and median household income reached a record high.

But then the pandemic hit, as we know, and things took a very sharp turn downward. Businesses closed their doors; workers lost their jobs; and the unemployment rate skyrocketed from 3.5 percent to nearly 15 percent in April.

Fortunately, this dark economic picture is gradually brightening. Thanks to the investment we have made in therapeutics and vaccines in a historically short period of time, thanks to the ingenuity and perseverance of workers and business owners, combined with the assistance that Congress has given them and, like I said, advancements in modern science, we have made steady progress.

The unemployment rate has steadily declined over the last year, reaching 6 percent in March, but the new data from April is a cause for concern. The unemployment rate increased by a tenth of a percentage point. It didn't go down. It went up. It is a bump that wouldn't have raised any red flags before the pandemic. But this single data point is not the only indication of how our economy is faring. Last month, only 266,000 new jobs were added to the economy. That is a quarter—25 percent—of what economists had predicted. Now, again, 266,000 new jobs would not have been a bad jobs report before the pandemic because we were literally at nearly full employment, but we aren't currently in a build mode. We are currently digging our way out of a hole, a recession, to be specific.

We are still missing 8 million jobs that existed prior to the pandemic. I don't think anyone expected all those jobs to come back overnight, but we did expect to be faring far better than this. As I said, the economists said this is a quarter of what they anticipated.

Well, this is the first full month of data since our Democratic colleagues

passed their \$2 trillion so-called rescue plan on top of the trillions of dollars that we spent in 2020. If things continue to go the rate we are on now, we are in for an extremely long recovery. In other words, sometimes policies that emanate from Washington actually make the recovery harder, not easier.

Unfortunately, the administration is doing more to slow down the recovery than they are to solve it. Last year, Republicans and Democrats worked together to provide unprecedented assistance to workers and their families hit by this economic downturn. Bolstered unemployment benefits were intended to provide laid-off workers with the money they needed to support their families until they could return to work, and over the last year, many of those workers have, fortunately, gotten back on the job.

These benefits were a lifeline for millions of families and, today, there are still workers unable to find a new job. But there are, unfortunately, also people abusing the system, the generosity of the American people, the American taxpayer. The partisan relief bill our Democratic colleagues pushed through earlier this year extended supplemental unemployment benefits through September of this year, far beyond the amount of time anyone would have expected that those benefits, the supplemental benefits to the State unemployment benefits, would be needed.

Even as vaccinations were on the rise, our Democratic colleagues insisted on extending these benefits through September, and many of us predicted the outcome. Last spring, workers couldn't find jobs. Now, businesses can't find workers.

Between bolstered unemployment benefits and a steady stream of stimulus checks, many people who lost their jobs can't be convinced to return to the workforce. One restaurant owner in Texas said he had had plenty of applicants; people just won't show up for the interviews. One day, when he had scheduled eight interviews for potential employment, only one applicant showed up. The next day, the same thing happened—five scheduled interviews; one person showed up. He said: It makes you wonder, are they just filling these applications out to collect unemployment? Because, of course, most unemployment benefits require you to apply for work and accept it if it is offered. But apparently here, whatever the incentives are, they are simply persuading some people to fill out applications but then not to seriously pursue work.

In a year's time, we have gone from the strongest economy in a generation to the government paying people to stay home. This reminds me of the discussion we had a couple of years ago when the Green New Deal was launched. An overview of the bill was listed on the website of one of its authors and said that the government would foot the bill for any person who is "unable or unwilling to work." "Unable or unwilling to work," that the

government would foot the bill—that was the proposal initially when the Green New Deal was rolled out. “Unwilling to work.” Don’t like the job? Don’t want to get out of bed in the morning? Don’t worry; hard-working Americans who are getting up and going to work every day will foot the bill so you can stay home. I am sure it comes as no surprise that this received a great deal of criticism and even ridicule 2 years ago.

Unfortunately for the taxpayers who actually do get up every morning and go to work, we are seeing this play out in real time. Folks who lost their jobs and who are now able but unwilling to return to work can continue to reap the bolstered unemployment benefits that our Democratic colleagues provided for them through September.

Another restaurant owner in Texas said that between the stimulus checks and the enhanced unemployment benefits, it is tough to find people who want to work at all. He said:

I believe our biggest competition in the job market is the government.

This isn’t an isolated problem. In Texas, the average unemployment benefits equal more than \$36,000 a year. In Washington State, you can receive \$39,000 a year in unemployment benefits. In Massachusetts, it is \$41,000 a year.

A few Governors have said their States will stop offering the bolstered benefits because it is a disincentive for workers to get back on the job. If you are able to stay home and bring in as much money or maybe even more than you were earning while you were actually working, what is the incentive to go back?

This poor job report isn’t a surprise to anyone who has spoken to employers, as I have, who have said repeatedly that no one wants to return to work when they can get paid to stay home.

Another factor that has likely contributed to the slow recovery is the slow reopening of schools. Despite the fact that in many States, teachers are among the first individuals to get vaccinated, the return to classrooms has been incredibly slow. Less than half the school districts throughout the country are operating fully in person.

The nearly \$2 trillion that our Democratic colleagues rammed through Congress in March did little to get us back on track. It sent more than \$120 billion more to K–12 schools that were already flush with cash but attached no requirement that the money be used to actually get children back in the classroom, where we know they will learn best.

If at least one parent has to be home with their children for even part of the week, that makes it incredibly difficult for them to return to work. For single parents, it is virtually impossible.

If we are ever going to get our economy back on track, we need to get our children safely back in school. We need to get people who are able but who are currently unwilling to work to get

back on the job. And we need to supply the businesses that managed to survive this past year with a reliable workforce.

Right now, the biggest hurdle to our economic recovery is the government itself. That needs to change. If you asked the President or a number of our Democratic colleagues in the Senate, they would say the solution is easy—the American Jobs Plan. Let’s spend more money.

This proposal is part social safety net, part infrastructure, and part taxpayer-funded spending spree. It is really designed to transform America into Europe—a social safety net economy.

It spends more than \$2.5 trillion on things like electric vehicle chargers and home healthcare, which we are happy to debate in any other context, but what we really need is a jobs plan to get America back to work, not another Trojan horse like we saw passed earlier this year and is currently being advertised, for example, under the guise of being an infrastructure bill.

In order to finance this plan, along with the President’s American Families Plan, our Democratic colleagues want to enact the largest tax hike in a generation. So contrary to what we did in 2017 by lowering the tax burden and giving people more of what they earned—and we have seen those tremendous economic results as a consequence—our Democratic colleagues want to, while we are still at 6 percent unemployment, raise taxes, which will further retard the economic recovery.

So to recap, the plan for economic recovery is to make it more expensive for businesses to operate and nearly impossible for them to find workers. No wonder the economy isn’t rebounding like we had hoped. That is what happened to the million jobs that were projected to be in the latest jobs report, but it was unfortunately a disappointing 25 percent of those million jobs.

So instead of building on the successes of 2017 and the prepandemic economy, the administration wants to double down on the old, tired belief that America can tax and spend and regulate itself to prosperity. We don’t need dramatic tax increases for sweeping social safety programs to get our economy back on track. We need to replicate the same factors that led to our banner prepandemic recovery. We need to get our children safely back in the classroom so their parents can return to the workforce. We need to stop paying workers to sit on the sidelines, and we need to give the job creators the ability to drive our economy forward.

Democrats don’t have an “American Something Plan” for every problem. Sometimes all the government has to do is get out of the way.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON PALM NOMINATION

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

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

Mr. DURBIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) are necessarily absent.

The result was announced—yeas 61, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 180 Ex.]

YEAS—61

Baldwin	Graham	Reed
Bennet	Grassley	Romney
Blumenthal	Hassan	Rosen
Blunt	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Burr	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Capito	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cardin	Lujan	Smith
Carper	Manchin	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Sullivan
Collins	Menendez	Tester
Coons	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cornyn	Murkowski	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warnock
Crapo	Murray	Warren
Duckworth	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Durbin	Padilla	Wyden
Feinstein	Peters	
Gillibrand	Portman	

NAYS—37

Barrasso	Hoeven	Rubio
Blackburn	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Boozman	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Braun	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Lee	Tillis
Cruz	Lummis	Toomey
Daines	Marshall	Tuberville
Ernst	McConnell	Wicker
Fischer	Moran	Young
Hagerty	Paul	
Hawley	Risch	

NOT VOTING—2

Heinrich Leahy

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN.) 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.

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 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. 65, Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Education.

Charles E. Schumer, Patty Murray, Michael F. Bennet, Jack Reed, Jeanne Shaheen, Patrick J. Leahy, Martin Heinrich, Catherine Cortez Masto, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Christopher Murphy, Christopher A. Coons, Tammy

Baldwin, Tammy Duckworth, Chris Van Hollen, Tim Kaine, Thomas R. Carper, Amy Klobuchar, Margaret Wood Hassan.

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 Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Education, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 181 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Grassley	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Portman
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blunt	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Burr	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Lujan	Sinema
Carper	Manchin	Smith
Casey	Markey	Stabenow
Collins	Menendez	Tester
Coons	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden

NAYS—44

Barrasso	Hagerty	Romney
Blackburn	Hawley	Rounds
Boozman	Hoeven	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Young
Graham	Risch	

NOT VOTING—2

Heinrich Leahy

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 54, the nays are 44.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The bill clerk read the nomination of Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Education.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:57 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 Senator from North Carolina.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, this week is National Police Week, and I rise today in honor of the service and sacrifice of law enforcement across this country.

In North Carolina, we lost 10 law enforcement officers in 2020, and we tragically lost 6, so far, in 2021. Some of these officers were victims of COVID, others were involved in car accidents, and some made the ultimate sacrifice being killed in the line of duty.

Recent tragedies in Cabarrus, Gaston, Henderson, and Watauga Counties in my State of North Carolina have been met with an outpouring of gratitude, appreciation, and love from the residents for the communities they help keep safe.

Last September, we lost Deputy Ryan Hendrix of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office after he was shot and killed responding to a break-in. Officer Hendrix was only 35 years old. He had two young children and was set to be married to his fiancée the following month.

Last December, Tyler Herndon of the Mount Holly Police Department was tragically killed in the line of duty just days before his 26th birthday.

In December, Officer Jason Shuping of the Concord Police Department was shot and killed while responding to an attempted carjacking. Officer Shuping was only 25 years old. He left behind his wife Haylee, a high school sweetheart whom he had been in love with for years and married for 2. Last week, I had the honor—the sad honor—of joining Cabarrus County to commemorate Law Enforcement Day and to honor Officer Shuping's service.

Most recently, on April 28, North Carolina tragically lost two more law enforcement officers: Sergeant Chris Ward and K-9 Deputy Logan Fox of the Watauga County Sheriff's Office. They were conducting a welfare check that turned into a deadly, hours-long standoff. Sergeant Ward was only 36 years old. He was an 8-year law enforcement veteran. He leaves behind a wife, who was also his high school sweetheart, and two daughters. Deputy Fox was only 25 years old. He was a 2-year veteran of the Watauga Sheriff's Office, and he was a partner with a K-9 named "Raven." He was engaged and soon to be married.

The people of North Carolina came together to pay their final respects to these brave officers just a little over a week ago. During the procession from Winston-Salem back to Boone, many stood on the side of the road to salute the officers and proudly wave American flags.

I told the audience and the police officers present last week in Concord that you need to know that the majority of Americans still greatly appreciate your service to law enforcement.

They recognize the vast majority of men and women serving in law enforcement are good people who put their uniforms on every day, willing to sacrifice their own lives to protect us.

Being a law enforcement officer is not an easy job, and it is certainly not safe. We saw that on Capitol Hill on January 6. But being an officer is becoming harder and harder as they handle more stress, more pressure, and more responsibilities than ever before. If their jobs weren't hard enough already, there are some people, including people on Capitol Hill, who are actively demonizing all of law enforcement, arguing that they are unworthy of taxpayer funding and the people's respect.

It is no wonder why many law enforcement officers across the Nation—officers across the Nation—have low morale. We are seeing the real-world consequences: a decrease in applications to go in academies, early exits, and more retirements. It has gotten to dangerous levels in several cities across the country.

The demonization of law enforcement will have lasting consequences, and it will ultimately make all of us less safe. This is why Congress must do everything we can to support law enforcement and to stop efforts to demean and demonize them. The best way to do that is to recognize law enforcement for their remarkable service and the dangers they face to protect us.

That is why I recently reintroduced the Protect and Serve Act. This legislation would make it a Federal crime to intentionally assault a law enforcement officer. It ensures prosecutors have every tool available to punish those who attack and target them. In 2018, the Protect and Serve Act passed the House by a vote of 382 to 35, and it had the support of every current Member of the House Democratic leadership.

If President Biden is serious about unity, I can think of no better bill for him to support. This week, I will be reintroducing another important piece of legislation, the Probation Officer Protection Act. This bill would give probation officers the arrest authority they need to fully enforce the law and protect public safety. I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will cosponsor this bill and work with me to send it to the President's desk, along with the Protect and Serve Act.

I know every Member of Congress has seen the heroism of law enforcement firsthand. I did too. We all saw it on January 6, when Capitol Police and DC Police risked their lives to ensure our safety. We ultimately lost two Capitol Police officers, and we lost another since then. More than 440 of our Capitol Police and DC Police were injured in the events of January 6.

I hope the respect and appreciation we show to law enforcement this week can be sustained year-round. Let us commit ourselves to doing all we can to support the men and women in blue who protect and serve us every single day.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

Mr. CASSIDY. Madam President, I rise today in recognition of National Police Week, where we honor, remember, and support public servants who dedicate their lives to keeping our communities safe.

Today, I specifically recognize Louisiana law enforcement officers who lost their lives in 2020 performing their duty. We should all thank God for law enforcement officers and their willingness to put their lives between us and danger, knowing that they may have to sacrifice their lives, as 15 did in Louisiana this past year.

To the families, wives, husbands, and children of these fallen Louisiana police officers, we share your pain, and we share your pride for he or she who was here for us all.

These are the officers in Louisiana who died this past year in the line of service: Deputy Constable Levi Kelling Arnold, New Orleans First City Court; Trooper George Bowman Baker, Louisiana State Police; SRO/Dare Officer Kejuane Artez Bates, Vidalia Police Department; Reserve Captain Raymond Andrew Boseman, New Orleans Police Department; Probation and Parole Officer Kaitlin Marie Cowley, Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections; Captain Steven Michael Gaudet, Jr., Pearl River Police Department; Deputy Sheriff Claude Winston Guillory, Jefferson Davis Parish Sheriff's Office; Senior Police Officer Mark Albert Hall, Sr., New Orleans Police Department; Lieutenant Glenn Dale Hutto, Jr., Baton Rouge Police Department; Correctional Deputy Kietrell Michael Pitts, Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff's Office; Deputy Sheriff Donna Michelle Richardson-Below, DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office; Captain Kevin Paul Trahan, Church Point Police Department; Captain Randy Michael Vallot, Richland Parish Sheriff's Office; Officer Marshall Lee Waters, Jr., Mangham Police Department; and Senior Police Officer Sharon M. Williams, New Orleans Police Department.

Their passing—each of theirs—was felt throughout our States, and they are tragic reminders of the danger law enforcement officers face every day when they report for duty. And they know it; they accept the risk; their families accept the risk; and their spouse and their children. We must honor their sacrifice.

I ask that we all join in prayer for the families of these fallen officers and that we keep in prayer those who protect us during the day. It is a difficult time, but knowing our country supports them can make all the difference.

Just last week, the Audubon Zoo canceled the annual Blue at the Zoo event that seeks to promote and foster positive, interactive experiences with the New Orleans Police Department. The New Orleans Police Department superintendent, Shaun Ferguson, said he was "disheartened as a result of that decision."

Any opportunity for a positive conversation is an opportunity to improve relationships between law enforcement and communities. We need more events, not fewer. We have much work to do.

But today, let's acknowledge those who put their lives on the line every day they put on a uniform. Let's remember those we have lost too soon. Let's honor the work they do to keep us safe.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Idaho.

VOTE ON MARTEN NOMINATION

Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that we begin the vote now, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

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

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 Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 54, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 182 Ex.]

YEAS—54

Baldwin	Grassley	Peters
Bennet	Hassan	Portman
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Reed
Blunt	Hirono	Rosen
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	Kelly	Schatz
Burr	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Lujan	Sinema
Carper	Manchin	Smith
Casey	Markey	Stabenow
Collins	Menendez	Tester
Cools	Merkley	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Murkowski	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden

NAYS—44

Barrasso	Hagerty	Romney
Blackburn	Hawley	Rounds
Boozman	Hoey	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tillis
Cruz	Marshall	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Tuberville
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Fischer	Paul	Young
Graham	Risch	

NOT VOTING—2

Heinrich	Leahy
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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.

The Senator from Maryland.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF CURRENCY RELATING TO "NATIONAL BANKS AND FEDERAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATIONS AS LENDERS"—Motion to Proceed

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session.

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

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. I move to proceed to Calendar No. 57, S.J. Res. 15.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 57, S.J. Res. 15, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of Currency relating to "National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is not debatable.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL UNDER CHAPTER 8 OF TITLE 5, UNITED STATES CODE, OF THE RULE SUBMITTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF CURRENCY RELATING TO "NATIONAL BANKS AND FEDERAL SAVINGS ASSOCIATIONS AS LENDERS"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res 15) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of Currency relating to "National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the provisions of 5 USC 802, there will now be up to 10 hours of debate equally divided.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I will be back a little later to debate the resolution.

For the information of my colleagues, we expect a vote on passage of the joint resolution of disapproval around 5:30 p.m. today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. TOOMEY. Madam President, I rise in opposition to S.J. Res. 15.

This is a misguided resolution. It would overturn an important banking

resolution, the OCC's true lender rule. That is a rule that helps give consumers more access to credit.

Overturning the true lender rule is a bad idea. It would reduce access to credit for consumers, especially those who have the most difficulty obtaining credit. It would stifle innovation, and it would inhibit the functioning of our markets, our Nation's banking and credit markets.

Let me explain why preserving this rule is so important. In the last decade, we have seen financial technology companies, often referred to as fintechs, use technology to revolutionize financial services.

Community and mid-sized banks that often lack the resources to develop banking technology in-house are partnering with these fintechs to compete more effectively and to offer their customers terrific services at ever-better prices. That is what these partnerships do. They help consumers because they increase competition in lending markets, they lower the price of financial products, they improve credit options, and they expand consumer choice.

Unfortunately, a patchwork of different legal tests in different courts had made it difficult to predict whether the bank or the fintech partner, when they have teamed up, would be considered legally responsible for a given loan they would make together. So last year, the OCC issued its true lender rule to provide the needed regulatory clarity. The rule—a simple version of this is, it simply holds that a national bank will be responsible for a loan if it is named in the loan agreement or if it funds the loan, which banks often do when they team up with fintechs in these ways.

Some of our Democratic colleagues have claimed that the rule, the true lender rule, allows unaccountable “rent-a-charter” arrangements, as they call them, but in fact, the true lender rule prevents the rent-a-charter scheme, and it does so because it ensures that the national banks are accountable for the loans they issue through these lending partnerships, and it requires the OCC to supervise those loans for compliance with consumer protection and anti-discrimination laws.

Other colleagues have expressed concerns that the rule will “trap” consumers in arrangements with high interest rates and a principal balance that can never be paid back, but actually that is not possible with these OCC-chartered banks, which are the only ones affected by this rule. That is because a bank is required under the OCC resolution to assess a borrower's ability to repay before making the loan. If a bank is systemically approving loans by this fintech partnership to consumers who can't repay the debt, they will face serious consequences from their regulator, and that is a lot more protection than what would otherwise exist for consumers.

Some of my Democratic colleagues claim that the true lender law fundamentally changes existing laws around interest rates. In fact, it preserves existing law. For over four decades, Federal law has allowed banks to essentially export the State law governing interest rates from the home State where the bank is based. So this allows the bank to comply with 1 law of the bank's home State rather than have to try to comply with 50 different laws of the 50 States in which its customers may reside. Having this single standard allows for a competitive national credit market.

The true lender rule simply allows fintechs that partner with banks to get the same treatment. It is really not very different from what happens today with credit cards. And may I remind everyone, credit cards can often have high interest rates.

So if you believe that bank-fintech providers shouldn't be able to “export” interest rates from the State in which the bank is headquartered, then I suppose you ought to be in favor of eliminating credit cards for all Americans.

Well, that would be a terrible policy. It would be a bad policy to get rid of the true lender rule as well. Now, I have heard the argument that the true lender rule somehow harms low-income consumers. In fact, the true lender rule benefits low-income consumers most by preserving their access to well-regulated, bank-issued credit.

Absent the rule, uncertainty about which partner, whether it is the bank or the fintech company, is the true lender means there would be uncertainty about what laws to apply to the transaction and whether or not the loan would be considered valid. Well, without the rule, without that certainty, the secondary market for these loans would be disrupted, and, again, that disproportionately harms lower income borrowers.

Why is that? Well, it is because banks frequently sell these loans after they are made so that they free up the capital to make the next loan. Banks can issue far fewer loans if they can't reliably sell the ones that they have into the secondary market. Uncertainty, as we would have in the absence of the true lender rule, diminishes their ability to sell into the secondary market, and that means fewer loans are going to get booked altogether. Those that are are going to be more expensive, and they will be limited to people of higher credit ratings.

And this isn't just my opinion. Forty-seven leading financial economists from Harvard, Stanford, and other leading universities made exactly these points in an amicus brief supporting the existing rule.

And we have empirical proof. Studies show that after a 2015 court ruling created uncertainty about the ability to export interest rates to New York, it became significantly harder for higher risk borrowers to get loans in New York.

This is not surprising. This is exactly what you would expect. This is what will happen nationally if this CRA is successful in repealing the true lender rule.

Now, some of my colleagues want to overturn the true lender rule because doing so would subject more loans to State interest rate caps, they say. But, in fact, the more likely effect is that the loans will just never get made in the first place, and that is terrible for the low-income consumer for whom that loan is the best available option.

The true lender rule preserves access to well-regulated, bank-offered credit.

At end of the day, we need to remember, if the CRA is successful and the true lender rule is repealed, demand for credit won't disappear. The need for credit doesn't go away because we get rid of a good rule. You simply make it harder for people who need loans to get them, and you will drive consumers to unregulated alternatives.

Voting in favor of the CRA, which would kill this rule, is also a direct assault on fintech. It will make it harder for Congress to legislate in this area. It will make it harder for regulators to issue guidance and rules to promote the healthy competition that fintechs represent. Courts will see this as Congress buying into this completely false notion that fintechs are somehow inherently “predatory”—they are not—and it will scare away State legislators from promoting fintech.

If you believe financial innovation and competition are good things for consumers, as I do, then you should oppose this CRA.

For all these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against S.J. Res. 15.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Indiana.

ALS CAUCUS AND AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. BRAUN. Madam President, today I am proud to join my colleague Senator COONS in relaunching the bipartisan Senate ALS Caucus.

Currently, there are no effective treatments or cures available to stop or slow the disease, and we still do not know what really causes ALS.

More than 5,000 Americans are diagnosed each year. Yet there is no ALS survivor community. Individuals diagnosed with ALS and their loved ones rely on their elected officials to advocate on their behalf.

That is why the mission of the Senate ALS Caucus is to raise awareness about the difficulties faced by ALS patients and their families and to advance policies that improve their quality of life to advocate for meaningful research.

May also marks ALS Awareness Month. Last Congress, Senator COONS and I introduced and passed a resolution to designate May 2020 as ALS Awareness Month. This effort, like the ALS Caucus, will raise awareness about the impact of ALS on those who are diagnosed, their loved ones, and their caregivers.

I look forward to reintroducing again here in May 2021 the awareness month for ALS, and I hope my colleagues will help to pass this resolution again this year.

There is more to be done, though, in really battling ALS. Promising therapies that have demonstrated clinical safety and efficacy are on the horizon for those with ALS. Failure to approve those promising treatments means the difference between life and premature death for these patients, and, sadly, the paradigm of the past has been to not be erring on the side, when there is a promising treatment, to push it through the system. Sadly, it has been indicative of what happens often in this place, and that is that you belabor it, you stretch it out, and, in this case, it has a much different consequence.

Patients with ALS have been very clear that they are willing to take a higher degree of risk to have access to these treatments at an earlier point in time.

In September 2019, the FDA issued new guidance on developing drugs for ALS, which touted regulatory flexibility when applying the standard of safety and efficacy to drugs or diseases with serious, unmet medical needs. FDA guidance has been an empty promise, and patients with ALS lack flexible regulatory pathways to promising treatments as a result.

Indicative, in a way, of what I mentioned earlier, where we seem to always be aware of those kinds of issues, we tell the Agencies that might be involved, and then there is that natural tendency toward inertia.

For example, Amylyx, a pharmaceutical company focused on developing ALS treatments, announced clinical trial results of a promising treatment that slowed the progression of the disease and increased survival by 6 months. It may not seem like a long time, but when you take into consideration from the point of diagnosis to the point of dying from ALS, that is a lot of time, and the benefit of the doubt, when you have a promising clinical trial, needs to be given to the patient so that they have some hope.

Europeans and Canadians have put a dynamic into place that would be quicker footed than our own FDA's. We need to take that as some guidance.

Unfortunately, the FDA has expressed the need for additional clinical trials before allowing patients to access these drugs in the United States. This means Americans with ALS will not receive access when they can see others in Canada and Europe being able to.

We need to get with it, and when you have the condition of no effective treatment and it is working in other places, we need to give the benefit of the doubt.

It is failing to use its flexibility, and we have just seen—and I witnessed, all of us did, with the coronavirus—FDA, CDC squabbling out of the gate about what to do with coronavirus.

Thank goodness we did do something that was going to change that dynamic. We would still be wrestling over a vaccine if it had been business as usual.

So it is clear here, for even a better reason, that nothing is out there that is working, promising things on the horizon. We need to do better. That is why I will be reintroducing the Promising Pathway Act, the legislative solution to give those struggling with life-threatening illnesses, like ALS, a fighting chance of access to timely, meaningful treatments, especially when they are overwhelmingly wanting it, willing to take the risk.

The Promising Pathway Act would require the FDA—require the FDA—to establish a rolling, realtime priority review to evaluate the progress and not make it subjective, the way it is now, to where they can do what they have been doing, and that is dragging their feet.

Under this pathway, provisional approval would be granted by the FDA to drugs demonstrating substantial evidence of safety and relevant evidence of positive therapeutic outcomes, like those demonstrated in Amylyx's clinical trials.

It is right here. We just need to do it, and you are going to be doing what ALS patients would prefer.

This also encourages further research and clinical trials in not only ALS, but this, of course, should apply to other diseases that are similar where we are still wrestling, in clinical trials, with the ability to get these across the finish line. But it does strengthen the FDA's postmarket surveillance, which is another important thing for patient safety, and grants access to promising treatments covered by insurance.

To my colleagues, it is time to roll up our sleeves and to work to advance policies that improve the quality of ALS patients. I encourage every Member to lean in on this, to be a part of it, so that we can help people that have no other hope.

It is up to us to speak for those who can no longer speak, to stand up for those who can no longer stand.

I am grateful to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who are returning members of the ALS Caucus, and I welcome those who are new to the caucus this Congress.

As the ALS Caucus continues to grow its membership, our commitment to the mission of the ALS Caucus and the ALS community is strengthened along the way.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. GRASSLEY. 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.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, this is National Police Week, and yesterday

I spoke about the importance of police in our activities, our daily life. I come to the floor now to address my colleagues about a piece of legislation I am putting in.

I recently reintroduced the Protecting America's First Responders Act, a bipartisan bill cosponsored by 11 of my colleagues. This bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent in the last Congress.

In this new Congress, it is time that we once again turn our attention to the public service officers across our Nation who steadfastly serve and protect fellow Americans. These great men and women fulfill some of our most vital and irreplaceable needs. Their duties affect every part of our communities. We have seen that clearly—very clearly—over the past year as their services have been instrumental in keeping our communities safe during the pandemic.

Our firefighters dedicate themselves to braving harrowing fires. Our police officers rush headlong into danger to protect the innocent. Emergency first responders dutifully come to the aid of the injured, no matter the threat. Despite these vast responsibilities, their purpose is very much the same: to serve and protect their communities.

We know this call to service comes with great risk. We, in Congress, will forever be indebted to the Capitol Police officers who suffered substantial injuries and even gave their lives on these very grounds.

There is no way for us to truly comprehend or repay the sacrifices made by these officers and their loved ones left behind. Yet, knowing this, our public safety officers willingly accept the responsibilities of injury and, if need be, lay down their lives to fulfill their duties and their oaths.

We owe our firefighters, law enforcement, and all of our first responders a great deal, and we don't say thank you enough. They don't hesitate to take action when we need them to, and we must be equally steadfast in coming to their aid by ensuring that those officers, disabled or killed—killed in the line of duty—receive what they are due.

They must receive what we, in Congress, first promised now four and a half decades ago through the law that is called the Public Safety Officers' Benefit Program. So the original PSOB Program was created in 1976. Yet, since that time, it has been plagued with unclear and out-of-date regulations, forcing families of our fallen heroes to continually suffer through technical interpretations and drawn-out claim processes. This cannot continue.

This bill that 11 of us have introduced, the Protecting America's First Responders Act, ensures that disability claims are consistent with Congress's original intent for the PSOB Program. It received wide bipartisan support here in the U.S. Senate in the last Congress. Unfortunately, the bill stalled in the House.

Over the last year, I worked closely with Congressman PASCRELL to alleviate opposition and work through amendments that can pass the House. I am confident that with these changes, it will reach the President's desk very quickly.

The 117th Congress has a fresh opportunity to make this bill law, and there are many waiting for us to do exactly that. I introduce this bill with strong support from organizations, including the Fraternal Order of Police, the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, and the National Association of Police Organizations. I urge my colleagues to, once again, vote for the Protecting America's First Responders Act, thereby fulfilling the original promise to honor those whose lives were forever altered by their service.

RUSSIA INVESTIGATION

Mr. President, on another subject, I come to the floor probably to explain to my colleagues something I have done on three or four different occasions, and nobody ever seems to get it right. So I am back here again trying to explain something so we don't have to deal with it again.

So here we go again. While I was traveling throughout Iowa meeting with constituents, I kept my eyes on news reporting out of Washington, DC. I have seen a lot of bad reporting in my time. The events that occurred starting on April 30 are there at the top of bad reporting.

The Washington Post, the New York Times, and NBC all had to retract their reporting about Russian disinformation warnings given to Rudy Giuliani. I am not here to talk about Rudy Giuliani. I am talking about how this report affects me and Senator JOHNSON because, unfortunately, in the Washington Post article, my and Senator JOHNSON's investigations into the Biden family's financial dealings was tethered, once again, to Russian disinformation attempts, and that tethering is what I have been here on the floor of the Senate, over the last maybe more than a year now, trying to explain that that just is a big hoax.

The report was based on anonymous current and former U.S. officials. Apparently, the Washington Post still hasn't figured out how to read a Senate report. My staff also spent many hours talking with the Post the day before the story ran in order to help them understand. And I presume they called us; we didn't call them.

I am going to quote from my staff's emailing them the following, which, in the end, the Post completely ignored in their article. So here is a long email:

Sen. Grassley's report with Sen. Johnson relied on Obama-era U.S. government records and information from a Democrat-aligned U.S. lobby shop, which employed Telizhenko while representing the corrupt Ukrainian gas company Burisma.

The email goes on:

Sen. Grassley never received a defensive briefing related to his oversight of the Biden family's foreign business ventures. Discus-

sions with the FBI and the Intelligence Community were initiated by requests from Democrats, as is detailed in Section Ten of the report.

The FBI and members of the Intelligence Community indicated last year that there was no reason for the committee's investigation to be halted, even with knowledge of Telizhenko's limited involvement (see report page 59).

This is what the email says to the Post. Continuing to read from my staff's email to them:

The report and its underlying transcripts further reveal that Telizhenko had deep and longstanding relationships with Obama State Department officials, National Security Council staff and left-wing lobbyists. The transcripts also illustrate that material created by Derkach was introduced by Democrats, not Republicans, and it was quickly rejected by an expert witness as disinformation.

And then in parenthesis, it says: "[S]ee Minority Exhibit J and George Kent's response to Minority staff regarding that exhibit."

Continuing to report from the email to the Post:

Following a classified letter authored by Democratic leadership, portions of which were later leaked and reportedly referenced Derkach, Democrats again sought an FBI and Intelligence Community briefing, which was provided in August of 2020. At that briefing, the FBI stated that it's not attempting to—

And these are the words that the FBI used—

"quash, curtail, or interfere" in the investigation in any way.

And then in parenthesis it says: "[S]ee report, page 59."

That's not the sort of direction provided at defensive briefings.

This is what my staff's email says to the Post.

Obviously, we didn't rely on any of this for the report's findings on Hunter Biden's and James Biden's extensive financial entanglements with questionable foreign nationals, including some connected to the communist Chinese government. Subsequent to the report, the public has also learned that Hunter Biden is under criminal investigation relating to his financial entanglements.

Given Telizheko's longstanding ties to Blue Star Strategies and Obama administration officials, are you similarly asking them whether they played into some Russian-pushed narrative?

I am going to go back because that question needs to be repeated. It is not repeated in the email I am reading to you.

Given Telizheko's longstanding ties to Blue Star Strategies and Obama administration officials, are you—

Meaning the Post—

similarly asking them whether they played into some Russian-pushed narrative?

Given that Democrats introduced Derkach material, are you similarly asking them whether they played into some Russian-pushed narrative?

Now, that is the end of the quote, and I think those last two questions indicate—because, obviously, the newspaper article doesn't say that they asked these questions that I repeated one twice and then the other question.

They aren't really interested in getting to the bottom of this.

Now, after all this information and long phone conversations, the Washington Post opted for unnamed sources rather than on-the-record comments from my staff. So they had an opportunity to quote Grassley and explain all this stuff, and what do they do? They used an anonymous source. Maybe the Post should work on putting more investigation into so-called investigative reporting instead of focusing on false Russian disinformation narratives; for example, maybe spend some time investigating the Biden family's ties to Chinese nationals connected to the Communist regime's military and intelligence services.

I have addressed these Russian disinformation issues at length in my committee report with Senator JOHNSON, as well as right here on the floor of the Senate three or four times over the course of many months, maybe stretching into more than a year. I am going to do this again even though I have better things to do. If you want every detail, read section 10 in our September 23, 2020, report.

On July 13, 2020, then-Minority Leader SCHUMER, Senator WARNER, Speaker PELOSI, and Representative SCHIFF sent a letter with a classified attachment to the FBI to express a purported belief that Congress was the subject of a foreign disinformation campaign. The classified attachment included unclassified elements that attempted and failed to tie our work to Andrii Derkach, a Russian agent. This document falsely accused us of potentially receiving material from Derkach. It was pure speculative nonsense that the liberal media ran with as what they would call or want you to believe was the truth. Do you know what it was? It was garbage. Those unclassified elements were leaked to the press to support a false campaign accusing us of using Russian disinformation.

Then, during the course of our investigation, we ran a transcribed interview of George Kent. Before that interview, the Democrats acquired Derkach's materials. During that interview, they asked the witness about it. He stated:

What you're asking me to interpret is a master chart of disinformation and malign influence.

At that interview, the Democrats introduced known disinformation into the investigative record as an exhibit. Now, more precisely, the Democrats relied upon and disseminated known disinformation from a foreign source who the intelligence community warned was actively seeking to influence U.S. politics.

But there is yet more. On July 16, then-Ranking Member WYDEN and Senator PETERS wrote a letter to me and Senator JOHNSON asking for a briefing from the intelligence community on matters relating to our investigation.

On July 28, 2020, Senator JOHNSON and I reminded those two Senators

that the FBI and relevant members of the intelligence community had already briefed the committee in March 2020 and assured us that there was no reason to discontinue the investigation we were involved in.

In August 2020, subsequent to these Democrat-led letters, Senator JOHNSON and I had a briefing from the FBI on behalf of the intelligence community. However, in that briefing, the FBI discussed matters that were already known and completely irrelevant to the substance of our investigation. The FBI also made clear that it was not attempting to—and these are the FBI's words—"quash, curtail, or interfere" in the investigation in any way.

Any talk about an FBI briefing warning us that our investigation into the Biden family's financial and business associations was connected to Russian disinformation is complete nonsense. No such briefing ever happened. Our investigation was based on Obama administration government records and records from a Democrat-aligned lobby shop, Blue Star Strategies. If those records amount to Russian disinformation, then that means the Obama administration dealt in disinformation every day, which brings me to the ultimate point I want to bring to attention today.

The FBI assured me that the August 2020 briefing, which was a pointless briefing that shouldn't have happened, would remain confidential. That is what the FBI told us, that it would be confidential. However, I was concerned that the substance of this briefing or at least elements relating to it would leak, and I knew that once it did, the briefing would be misreported and used to paint our investigation in a false light. That is exactly what happened last week.

Although the Washington Post failed, the Wall Street Journal got it right in its May 4 editorial titled "The FBI's Dubious Briefing."

I ask unanimous consent to have that editorial printed in the RECORD.

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

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

[May 4, 2021]

THE FBI'S DUBIOUS BRIEFING

(By the Editorial Board)

Did the FBI set up two Members of Congress for political attack under the guise of a "defensive briefing"? It's possible, and Senators Ron Johnson and Chuck Grassley are rightly demanding answers.

On Monday the Republicans sent a letter to FBI Director Christopher Wray and Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines asking how the Washington Post came to know about an FBI briefing to both Senators on Aug. 6, 2020. A Post story last week used the info to smear Mr. Johnson and his report on Hunter Biden's foreign business dealings, suggesting that he'd ignored FBI warnings and thus may have been manipulated by the Kremlin. The newspaper cited only anonymous "current and former U.S. officials."

In their letter the Senators note that the briefing came after "pressure from Demo-

cratic Leadership." In July 2020, the Democratic Members of the Gang of Eight—senior Members with access to intelligence secrets—had sent a letter and classified addendum to Mr. Wray specifically citing the Johnson-Grassley probe into Hunter Biden as reason for an urgent briefing for Congress about foreign "disinformation." That news was then leaked, in what was an obvious attempt to tar the work of the two Republicans.

The two Senators became more concerned when the ensuing briefing by the FBI turned out to be what they described as "not specific" as well as "unconnected to our investigation." (Their report was based on U.S. government documents.) They specifically expressed to the FBI during the briefing their concerns that it would be "subject to a leak" for partisan gain. Which is exactly what happened last week, despite the FBI's promise to the Senators of confidentiality.

After the August briefing, Messrs. Johnson and Grassley sent a letter demanding that Mr. Wray and the intelligence community disclose the reason for it. They never received the answer. In light of last week's leak, they are renewing their demand to know who recommended the briefing, and the intelligence that supposedly supported it.

Whether the FBI was pressured, duped, or actively political, the bureau has again landed in the center of a partisan fight. Mr. Wray might ask how that keeps happening.

Mr. GRASSLEY. The editorial began this way:

Did the FBI set up two Members of Congress for political attack under the guise of a "defensive briefing"? It's possible, and Senators Ron Johnson and Chuck Grassley are rightly demanding answers.

On May 3, Senator JOHNSON and I wrote to FBI Director Christopher Wray and Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines, asking to meet with them to discuss the August 20 briefing. We need answers, and we need answers now. Why did the FBI and the intelligence community brief us? Who made that decision? At the briefing, the FBI didn't even show us what intelligence product formed the basis for the briefing.

I will tell you this, even without seeing any paperwork, we were already aware of everything they talked about that very day, and it was unconnected to the substance of our investigation.

I asked the FBI whether they had any new intelligence to share because we hadn't heard anything new, and they didn't give us a single new item. So, as far as I am concerned, the briefing was totally unnecessary.

Based on the timeline of events, it appears the briefing was done because the Democrats wanted it done, which means it was a political decision.

The Wall Street Journal ended its piece by saying this:

Whether the FBI was pressured, duped, or actively political, the bureau has again landed in the center of a partisan fight. Mr. Wray might [want to] ask how that keeps happening.

That is exactly right. The FBI and the intelligence community have lots of explaining to do.

We already know that under Comey, the FBI used intelligence briefings as surveillance operations against Trump

and his team. Did the FBI and the intelligence community also misuse briefing processes against congressional Members? Only Director Wray and Director Haines can answer that question, and so far, they have failed to answer those questions. Their credibility and, more importantly, their professionalism are on the line.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

The Senator is recognized.

SOFTWOOD LUMBER

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, we have seen across many sectors of our economy the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences. It has dramatically shifted the supply and demand for lots of products in unexpected ways.

I am on the floor today to speak about the price of lumber and the impact the soaring costs are having on homebuilders and on home buyers.

Nationwide, construction for new homes is up 37 percent over the last year and up 87 percent in the Midwest region, where I come from. Rising demand for new home construction, as well as an upturn in do-it-yourself home projects during the pandemic, have rapidly driven up the cost of lumber. As a result, since last April, overall lumber prices are up over 300 percent.

Lumber and wood products account for roughly 15 percent of the construction costs for a single-family home. We all work to see that that single-family home is something that is available to Americans. It is the American dream. But lumber accounts for the second largest overall cost of building a new home, only behind the cost of the land the home sits on. These increases have resulted in a \$36,000 increase in the price of a typical single-family home and a \$13,000 increase in the market value of a multifamily unit.

The reality is that record-high lumber prices are putting the American dream of home ownership out of reach for hundreds of thousands of potential home buyers and disproportionately harming middle- and low-income families across our Nation.

At a time when residential homebuilding is booming, it is essential that homebuilders and consumers have access to the materials they need at competitive prices.

Historically, Canada has been the largest foreign supplier of softwood lumber in the United States. These imports are vital to support the ongoing housing boom but have been declining. These imports have been declining over the past 4 years.

In April 2017, the U.S. Department of Commerce announced countervailing

duties averaging 20 percent on softwood lumber products from certain Canadian producers. In December of 2020, the average tariff was reduced to 9 percent. While a reduction in tariffs for some Canadian producers is a step in the right direction, the complete elimination of these tariffs is necessary to provide additional relief for rising lumber prices.

At a recent Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Subcommittee hearing, I raised this topic with U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai and urged her to engage with her Canadian counterpart to reach a long-term agreement on softwood lumber trade. It is American home buyers, not Canadian lumber producers, who end up paying the cost of these trade restrictions.

In addition to working to resolve this trade dispute, we should also work to boost the domestic production of the types of lumber used in home construction. Additional lumber can and should be sustainably harvested from public lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. Adding to the existing lumber supply and ensuring that domestic sawmills are operating at full capacity will help soften lumber prices.

It is important for Kansans to have the opportunity and economic means to own their own homes. Unfortunately, the current lumber prices are making that dream unattainable for way too many families.

Resolving the longstanding trade dispute with Canada on softwood lumber and better managing our public lands to increase lumber production will both help alleviate the problems facing homebuilders and home buyers.

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

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

CHINA

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, in December of 2019, as a new virus was emerging on the opposite side of the world, I spoke at the National Defense University, and the title of the speech I gave was called "American Industrial Policy and the Rise of China."

The reaction of many people to that at the time was skepticism—from Wall Street investors who, frankly, saw no problem with the status quo on China; from these think-tank experts who mocked my claim at the time that our country relied too much on China economically in our supply chain; and from tech giants in Silicon Valley obsessed with access to the Chinese marketplace.

But the problem I pointed to at that time in that speech, almost 2 years ago—a year and a half ago—was that

for over a quarter century, our economic policies have been mostly about one thing: how American investors and companies can make money by doing business with China. In that vein, it didn't matter if making money meant allowing China to steal our intellectual property, it didn't matter if making money meant stable American jobs kept disappearing, and it didn't matter if making money meant investing in Chinese companies developing technologies to help defeat our country in a future war.

Finally, Americans are waking up to what a mistake that was. It was a bipartisan consensus that was flawed.

The 21st century will be defined by the relationship between China and the United States. Frankly, I believe that this is our last chance to make sure that it is a balanced relationship.

What we do not have time for are China bills or a China bill that is a collection of half-measures and studies. Instead, an actually meaningful China bill is what we need. I believe most Members here want it, and I believe we can get to it in a bipartisan way. But, to do so, I think it has to have six things. If you want a meaningful bill on China, it must touch on six things.

The first is like I said in December of 2019: We need to identify industries which are critical for our future, and we must spur investment in these key industries. We have to remember that we are not in a strategic competition with foreign Chinese companies. We are in a strategic competition with the world's largest and second wealthiest nation-state.

There is no way to compete with China by relying only, solely on private investment, not while the Chinese Communist Party subsidizes and cheats to boost its favorite companies. From industrial corporate giants to small businesses that make up our supply chain, the private sector is the most important area of this competition. We can encourage them to step up, just like we did for semiconductors with the CHIPS Act.

Frankly, the way we developed the vaccine with Operation Warp Speed is an example of a targeted industrial policy in which government partners with the private sector to solve a big problem. You can say what you want about America's response to COVID, but we have done vaccines better than anyone else in the world—not even close—and it is due to that partnership.

But an essential part of our strategy has to be, as a result, to build a strong foundation through targeted and sustained Federal funding for American research and development. The bipartisan Endless Frontier Act is a nod in that direction. Right now, that bill makes the National Science Foundation the lead Agency in directing \$100 billion in government investment. The problem is that is the same Agency that, time and again, has had the research we fund stolen by professors and graduate students who are on the payroll for China.

DARPA and other advanced research Agencies within government have a much better record of protecting research and, I believe, would be a far better choice to administer these investments, instead.

The second thing a real China bill must do is communicate that while we do not seek an armed confrontation with China, we will confront any military aggression, we will maintain our defense commitments with our allies, and we will win any conflict China starts.

We must never do anything that leads Beijing to doubt our commitment to Taiwan, and we must never accept the Chinese Communist Party's illegitimate claims on the world's most important shipping lanes in the South and East China Seas. The Strategic Competition Act we recently passed out of the Foreign Relations Committee is largely silent on this topic, but Chairman MENENDEZ has pledged to work with me to include my South China Sea and East China Sea Sanctions Act in any final bill that we take up here on the floor.

The third thing a real China bill must do is fix broken international and domestic trade laws. The World Trade Organization is failing miserably, and it must be reformed. And China's flagrant intellectual property theft, industrial espionage, and massive subsidies to Chinese companies can no longer be ignored and they must be addressed. My Fair Trade with China Enforcement Act would help protect critical industries in America from Chinese influence and possession and recover the lost value of secrets and technologies that they have stolen.

The fourth area of focus of any real China bill must be making sure China doesn't control our medicines and/or our medical technology and patient data. Last year, panic over masks and ventilators was a wake-up call for our medical dependence on Beijing.

From blood thinners to acetaminophen, which is the ingredient in Tylenol, we have allowed China to dominate the pharmaceutical manufacturing market. It is dangerous leverage over America and Americans. We should be able to make medicines here. This will not only make us safer; it will create well-paying, stable jobs for American workers. My Medical Manufacturing, Economic Development, and Sustainability Act would do exactly that and should be included in any real China bill.

As I said in September of 2019, we must immediately enact stricter guidelines to make sure that public funding never contributes to Chinese genomics efforts and beats them in that R&D race. If we allow China to dominate genetic data and that field of medicine, Americans will one day find themselves begging Chinese companies, and even the Chinese Communist Party, for access to future lifesaving treatments.

The fifth area a real China bill must address is our capital markets. Our

stock market is the most open, liquid, and profitable in the world, and it is being used by the Chinese Communist Party to fund its military and to fund their companies. Any meaningful China bill must cut off the tap and prohibit American money from being invested in communist China's military companies.

We need to start requiring more transparency from Wall Street when it comes to investing in China and Chinese Government-controlled companies. My American Financial Markets Integrity and Security Act needs to be part of the solution.

How can we claim to be dealing with Chinese manipulation of our capital markets if we don't ban Chinese companies exploiting our own stock market to hurt us? Beijing long ago figured out how to get rich and powerful Americans to use their influence in American politics.

Allowing Wall Street and Big Finance to enrich themselves by hurting Americans may make a lot of money in the short term for those individuals, but it is hurting America in the long run. It is national economic suicide.

The sixth area any real China bill must address is genocide. Today, in China, nationless corporations, cooperating with the Chinese Communist Party, force Uighur Muslims to make clothing and shoes and even solar panels. Sadly, without knowing it, you may have very well purchased a product made partially or entirely by slave labor in Xinjiang.

These companies partnering with China are complicit in these crimes. The Chinese Communist Party's reduced labor costs mean increased profits for these corporations. While they lecture us about social justice in America, these companies are making billions off of slavery in China.

My bipartisan Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act has almost half the Senate as cosponsors. We must take it up and pass it out of the Foreign Relations Committee as soon as possible.

Last year, we saw companies like Nike, Apple, Coca-Cola, and even the U.S. Chamber of Commerce lobbying against this bill. Well, soon we are going to find out what holds more power in our country: corporations making billions off genocide and slavery or our basic sense of right and wrong.

The good news is that, today, we have finally awoken to the reality of how wrong the old consensus on China was. But we woke up almost too late. We don't have time for half-measures. We must address the dangerous growing imbalance between America and China comprehensively, decisively, and swiftly, or we will live to see a future in which the world's most powerful nation is a totalitarian, genocidal, communist dictatorship and our country is relegated to the role of a once-great nation in decline.

No part of our lives will go unaffected in a world like that. We can see

the shadows of it even today. American movies today are free to portray their own country here, the United States, as racist, as bigoted, anything they want, but they automatically self-censor their own movies to make sure they meet China's standards so they can show those films there.

American corporations threaten States whose democratically elected leaders pass laws they object to. They have every right in our democracy to object, but they will fire American employees and ban messages that risk getting their corporation kicked out of the Chinese market.

And American teenagers are already turning over valuable personal data to the Chinese Government on an hourly basis in exchange for the ability to watch what I will admit are clever videos on TikTok.

Yet, this is nothing compared to the world that awaits if we do not take action, and on this the lessons of history could not be clearer.

Athens emerged from the second Persian war a great power, but their greatness made them decadent and complacent. They thought nothing would ever change, that they could ignore important problems, that they could focus on the trivial. So when conflict finally came, initially they used their superior navy to attack Sparta and retreat behind the safety of the city's walls.

That worked for a little while. Then a plague decimated the city, and more enemies of theirs sensed their weakness and joined the fight against them. Then Athens fell.

Like Rome and Britain later, the end of Athens' golden age came as it always does for a great power. It doesn't come from the outside in; it always comes from the inside out.

Now, from across the centuries, the lessons of history cry out for our attention. Our politics are broken. We fight over the trivial because we think the past is irrelevant, because we think our place in the world will never change, and because we think the future will always belong to us automatically. We hide behind our own version of the walls, two vast oceans, believing, ultimately, we are safe from everything outside.

We should not repeat the errors of the great powers of the past. My friends, we don't have time for studies and strategy statements. We need big changes and decisive action. We need to prove that our democracy can work again, that our system of government can function, and that it can solve big problems in big ways.

If we succeed, I truly believe a new American century lies ahead. If we fail, it is a century of humiliation that awaits us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

S.J. RES. 15

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I am on the floor to urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the

resolution that we will be voting on shortly. This is a resolution to protect all of our constituents against predatory lenders—people who lend others money at loan shark rates and often in deceptive language that can be very confusing to consumers until they get the phone call, and they are told they owe unaffordable amounts on loans.

And States have been working very hard to protect consumers. In fact, 45 States—States with Republican Governors and Democratic Governors, Republican attorneys general and Democratic attorneys general—45 States and the District of Columbia have passed laws to protect their constituents, their consumers from these loan shark-type loans, from these predatory lending practices.

But we have seen these predatory lenders find a way around these State efforts to protect their consumers. And the tactic they used has come to be known as "rent-a-bank." And the way it works is that national banks can make loans into any State, even if they are not chartered in that State. And so what has happened is, some of these lenders then go to a national bank and essentially just borrow their name, buy the rights to their name and, using that mechanism, then can make loans into all 50 States, in violation of the State law protections against these usurious loans. That is what is happening now.

Now, when this whole problem began to emerge, we saw the Federal Governor take action. In fact, the minute the OCC and the FDIC and State governments caught wind of this new trick in the loan shark playbook, they took action. In fact, under President George W. Bush, the OCC—the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency—called these "rent-a-bank" schemes "an abuse of the national bank charter." And President Bush's Comptroller of the Currency explained that the OCC was "greatly concerned with arrangements in which national banks essentially rent out their charters."

And that stance and that position was echoed by State legislatures—again, legislatures from both parties, Governors from both parties who then worked to pass laws, State laws, to limit the amount that people could charge as interest rates on loans.

In fact, just last year, in the State of Nebraska, voters passed a ballot initiative with more than 70 percent support to cap interest rates at 36 percent on consumer loans. That is the same cap we have in my State of Maryland and the same cap that more and more States are adopting across the country. So States are taking measures to protect their constituents, their consumers, against these end-runs around their laws designed to prohibit these predatory practices.

But last October, in the middle of the pandemic, when many working families were plunged into economic uncertainty and turmoil, the former administration—the Trump administration—

gave these “rent-a-bank” schemes a free pass to exploit these loopholes again, to create an end-run around those State protections for their consumers.

In the last administration—the Trump administration—the OCC unveiled what they called the true lender rule. Well, it is a nice-sounding name, an innocent name, but the consequence of that is to unleash the full force of predatory lending on working families. And it reneges on and reverses decades of both State and Federal government policy to prevent this end-run on usury caps.

What we have seen is predatory lenders move quickly into the space when the Trump administration opened the door to it. One online lender recently told its investors that it was going to get around California’s new interest rate cap by making loans through “bank sponsors that are not subject to the same proposed State level rate limitations.”

So what you do is you go to a national bank, and you essentially rent their name. And by doing that, you create a loophole that allows you to avoid the State laws that have been put in place to protect against this kind of predatory lending. And we are seeing that now emerge like wildfire around the country.

I do want to be clear, there are many innovative fintech partnerships. These are lenders who use the internet. There are many who are not exhibiting these kind of predatory behaviors. And we should craft a rule that allows legitimate lending consistent with State laws through those fintech practices.

But the way this rule was written during the Trump administration, it opens the door to all the bad actors. It opens the door wide to the predatory lenders to exploit this loophole.

And that is why we are on the floor today, because this resolution is designed to stop the predatory lending practices that were unleashed by the OCC rule. It is to shut the door on that Trump administration OCC rule that now has allowed predatory lenders to rush through it.

And what we are seeing now are rates of 100 percent, 200 percent—whatever they want. I mean, the sky is the limit. Some of these interest rates would make loan sharks blush.

So we just saw, in fact, one OCC-regulated bank that has been helping a short-term lending company pilot an online “rent-a-bank” installment loan program that runs at 179-percent APR. And the OCC rule is being litigated in court right now to defend a \$67,000 loan to a restaurant owner at a 268-percent APR rate that violates the State law where that restaurant is.

So this is a perfect example of where a small restaurant owner took out a loan—\$67,000—deceptively portrayed, only to discover that it was 268 percent APR. And when the restaurant owner says, “Wait a minute, I thought the limit in our State was 36 percent,” all

of a sudden they discover that the Trump OCC opened the door to this end-run against their State law protections.

That is why we have State attorneys general from red States and blue States, from Nebraska and North Carolina, who have called these “rent-a-bank” schemes a “sham” and urged us to act. They wrote to us here in the Senate, saying:

The most efficient course to prevent unrestrained abuse and avert immediate and ongoing consumer harm would be for Congress to invalidate the [True Lender] Rule pursuant to its remedial oversight powers under the Congressional Review Act.

That is what we will be voting on soon. North Carolina’s attorney general, Josh Stein, just also said in a separate statement:

We need every tool at our disposal to uphold state law and stop [predatory lenders] from coming back into our state[s].

I hope that we will act right now to stop what is a rush by many of these predatory lenders to exploit the opening created by the Trump administration’s OCC. Then let’s take a pause. Let’s take time to craft a proper rule that allows legitimate lenders to make loans in ways that do not violate the State protections for the consumers and do not, at the end of the day, wreak havoc with families who get sucked into unsuspecting terms through deceptive practices. So I urge the U.S. Senate to vote to pass this resolution to protect consumers around the country.

I yield the floor.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, if I could just actually say one more thing, this has been something that the Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee has been working on. We held a number of hearings on this. And I do just want to thank my friend and colleague, the chairman of that committee, Senator BROWN from Ohio, who has been a stalwart in protecting consumers. I don’t know if he has been to the floor yet, but I just wanted to thank him and other members of the committee for their efforts and also thank the Biden administration, which just sent down a statement of administration support for overturning the OCC rule and for voting in favor of this resolution.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. President, when I joined the Senate Banking Committee last February, I pledged to fairly examine every issue that came before us, with an eye for detail and a fresh perspective—promoting innovation, free markets, and our dual banking system.

I support the policy goals of the true lender rule in promoting access to credit for underserved communities. I also recognize how vital it is to provide legal clarity to financial technology innovators during this time of change. I support all banks’ powers, both State and national, to export interest rates

across State lines and to make unassigned loans with clear regulatory certainty. Again, this promotes access to credit.

The issues raised by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency’s true lender rule and S.J. Res. 15, however, are not limited to ensuring access to credit or protecting consumers from predatory lending and have much larger implications for our banking system.

State-chartered banks have existed since the founding of our Republic. After the passage of the National Bank Act of 1864, our country fostered a dual banking system, and our country is all the stronger for it. The United States is the leader of the global financial system because we have a banking system that is based on competitive equality, flexibility, and innovation.

Under the Federal laws that protect our dual banking system, State and nationally chartered depository institutions have nearly identical powers to carry out the business of banking across State lines with legal clarity. This is because of State parity and the so-called State wild card laws, the Riegle-Neal Act, and subsequent amendments over the years. The Federal Reserve and the FDIC have broadly supported these policies as well, adopting rules that promote equality for State banks vis-a-vis national banks.

Esther George, President of the Kansas City Fed, noted in a 2012 speech that “the dual banking system has provided and continues to offer significant benefits to our financial system and economy . . . multiple options for state and federal charters have led to considerable innovation and improvement in banking services.”

So Congress and our Federal bank supervisors, on a roundly bipartisan basis, have always been committed to maintaining parity between State and nationally chartered institutions.

This brings us to today’s vote. The problem with the true lender rule before us is that it has the potential to upend parity between State and national banks. In a nutshell, the OCC true lender rule determines which banks or other financial institutions actually make a consumer loan. Many States have different legal standards for determining this. Ultimately, this would allow national banks to make and assign loans more easily than State-chartered banks, giving them a distinct advantage in the lending business.

The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation did not adopt companions to the OCC true lender rule. It is likely those Agencies do not have the legal authority to adopt a similar rule for State banks. The FDIC confirmed this during public remarks in December 2020. Consequently, we are left with a scenario where national banks and Federal savings associations have a great deal of legal clarity about marketplace lending and State-chartered banks do not.

Why does this matter? There are approximately 3,954 State-chartered banks in our country as of December. There are approximately 1,062 national banks and Federal savings associations that are depository institutions. That means that of the approximately 5,016 commercial banks in our dual banking system, about 79 percent are State banks and 21 percent are national banks and Federal savings institutions. The OCC true lender rule applies to only 21 percent of the banks in our country. Does a rule that applies to only 21 percent of the banks really promote parity between State and nationally chartered institutions? This chart shows plain as day that it does not.

Moreover, State-chartered banks are the primary banks currently engaged in the kind of marketplace lending envisioned by the OCC true lender rule. Many State banks have innovative and thriving partnerships with nonbank lenders today. The OCC true lender rule will cause those partnerships to shift to national banks. Why would a nonbank lender choose to partner with a State bank that lacks the legal clarity of a national bank or savings association and the preemption that follows Federal law? I do not believe they will. There would be a great deal of legal uncertainty for them because of State consumer protection laws. Many of the State bank partnerships we see today in the marketplace lending arena may disappear as the nonbank lenders naturally gravitate towards the greater legal clarity of national banks.

This rule, in effect, would make these innovative partnerships the domain of national banks, rendering State-chartered banks to be more like second-class institutions. That has not been the will of Congress in the past, and I don't believe it is today.

A prominent law firm noted in January of this year that "for institutions that participate in marketplace lending, most of which are state-chartered banks, the lack of an FDIC rule creates a significant exception to the federal support for the marketplace lending model and appears to largely leave the issue to the states."

Many wonder why States cannot adopt their own true lender rules on a State-by-State basis or adopt some kind of uniform law. This likely will not work for a number of reasons.

First, were a State like Wyoming to adopt its own true lender rule for its own banks, what would require another State to respect the Wyoming true lender rule and set aside its own consumer protection laws that conflict with the Wyoming law? It likely would not, and that State would likely require a Wyoming bank without a branch in that State to abide by its own consumer protection laws in doing business there. This is a basic tenet of States maintaining sovereignty within their own borders, limited only by the U.S. Constitution and Federal law.

Secondly, a uniform law adopted at the State level would likely take 3 to 5

years, and by that time, marketplace lending would firmly be the province of nationally chartered institutions. There would then be no need for the law.

So where does that leave our dual banking system? The OCC true lender rule clarifies a thorny legal question and restricts the application of State consumer protection laws, providing legal clarity in marketplace lending to 21 percent of the banks in this country, while essentially telling the other 79 percent that they should convert to a national charter or risk being left behind. That is the kind of choice Congress has rejected in the past.

Many question the value of using the Congressional Review Act against the true lender rule since it will prevent the OCC from adopting a similar rule in the future. However, again, both the FDIC and the Federal Reserve likely do not have the requisite statutory authority to adopt their own true lender rule anyway. As a result, there is no rule or Agency-based solution that fixes this problem in a satisfactory way.

For the true lender rule to apply equally to all State and national banks, Congress must act. Leaving the OCC true lender rule in place would reduce the likelihood of Congress fixing the issue. Disapproving this rule will ensure that this issue remains top-of-mind for many and can be fixed in a lasting way that ensures a level playing field. This is a classic example of an issue crying out for a uniform national standard enacted by Congress, which applies to all banks.

The United States is the leader of the global financial system for many reasons, but one of those is surely the innovation, competition, and diversity of thought brought about by our dual banking system. This is a privilege, not a right, however, and one must work hard to maintain that for future generations.

I am proud to be a vocal advocate of financial innovation in this Chamber, and I will continue to work hard towards modernizing our financial system in a responsible manner. However, for innovation to be truly lasting, it has to be built on a solid foundation and not pick winners and losers between national banks and State banks.

Only Congress can truly fix this issue. I look forward to working with my colleagues to accomplish this. In the coming days, I will be introducing legislation to do just that. Until this is fixed, the current "valid when made" rule will continue to provide legal clarity to Federal and State banks.

I urge my colleagues to thoughtfully consider the potential impact of the OCC true lender rule on State-chartered banks.

In order to preserve our dual banking system and Congress's past actions to ensure parity between State and nationally chartered banks, I do not have any other option but to support S.J. Res. 15.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Ohio.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, this is National Police Week. It is a time every year when we stop to pay tribute to our law enforcement officers around the country, the men and women in blue who serve us every day in my State of Ohio and every State represented in this Chamber.

We also remember the brave law enforcement officers who tragically died in the line of duty. We can never forget this is a dangerous profession. The National Law Enforcement Memorial and Museum reported that 2020 was the deadliest year for law enforcement in decades. In Ohio alone, we sadly lost six brave law enforcement officers over the past year. Here in the Capitol, of course, we lost three officers over the past year, including on January 6. In the course of our Nation's history, more than 24,000 officers have died in the line of duty.

I was proud to join colleagues in March in sponsoring legislation called the Protect and Serve Act, which would create Federal penalties on those who would attempt to harm or kill a police officer. I believe Protect and Serve would send a strong message to help deter these crimes. Ultimately, I think it would make our men and women in blue safer and help save lives.

This week, I urge my colleagues to join me in standing with the families of our fallen police officers and thanking them and thanking law enforcement for what they do every day to protect us. One way to express our gratitude is passing laws that will assist them in their critical work to keep us safe.

OPIOID EPIDEMIC

With that in mind, I am also on the floor today to call on my colleagues to support our law enforcement by taking decisive action to help them to keep some of the deadliest drugs in the world from coming into our communities. It is not an overstatement to say that this is a matter of life or death.

Overdose deaths in the United States have sadly reached a record high during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to recent data from the Centers for Disease Control, 87,000 Americans died during the 12-month period between September 2019 and September 2020, the most recent data we have. This can be directly attributed to the circumstances surrounding the pandemic. So many families are feeling the pain of these losses. Sadly, based on the current trends, we expect calendar year 2020 in full to be even worse.

What is the main driver of these overdoses and overdose deaths? Synthetic opioids, most notably fentanyl. Fentanyl is 50 times more powerful than heroin, relatively inexpensive, deadly, and incredibly addictive. For years, this has been coming to our shores from China, first predominantly

through our mail system, and with our new legislation in place to prevent that from happening, much of it is now coming in through Mexico. In 2019, there were 70,630 deaths from opioids and other drugs, and more than half of those—36,359—involved fentanyl, sometimes mixed with other drugs like cocaine and crystal meth or heroin.

Again, of all the poisons, fentanyl is the most deadly. It does have a medical purpose and can be used to treat patients in severe pain the same way morphine is used.

Both fentanyl and morphine are classified under schedule II by the drug enforcement authorities. In order to avoid prosecution under that scheduling order, drug traffickers started making slight modifications to fentanyl, creating what we call fentanyl analogs or fentanyl-related substances, essentially copycat fentanyl.

Evil scientists in places like China, Mexico, and India, working in unregulated pharmaceutical plants, will make a slight modification to fentanyl, sometimes adjusting a single molecule, to create what are, essentially, these fentanyl copycats.

While these copycats may have the same narcotic properties as fentanyl, these tiny variations allow these traffickers to evade prosecution.

Oftentimes, by the way, these fentanyl-related substitutes, these copycats, are even more powerful than fentanyl itself. Take, for example, carfentanil.

These fentanyl-related substances are the reason I am on the floor today. In 2018–2018—in recognition of the growing threat these copycats posed to our public health, the DEA temporarily scheduled fentanyl-related substances as schedule I, the highest designation they can give.

Since then, we have passed two temporary extensions of that designation. Most recently, Congress passed a 5-month extension just ahead of the previous deadline of May 6, just a couple weeks ago, and President Biden signed that legislation into law last week.

I supported that temporary extension because the alternative was worse. The only alternative was to let these substances become legal. But I don't think kicking the can down the road for another 5 months is nearly enough to safeguard against the threat of copycat fentanyl. We need to do much more between now and when this temporary scheduling extension expires in October.

Law enforcement needs certainty, and the drug cartels and those evil scientists need to know we are serious in addressing this problem, that there will be consequences.

We need a permanent solution. Specifically, let's pass bipartisan legislation I introduced with my colleague Senator MANCHIN called FIGHT Fentanyl, which simply says: Let's not allow these illicitly manufactured and deadly synthetic opioids to suddenly

become legal again. That is what law enforcement wants. That is what our communities demand. That is what we deserve to give them. It is long overdue that we make this designation permanent.

I know some of my colleagues oppose permanent scheduling of these fentanyl drugs because they are concerned about mandatory minimum sentences, and also that it could hinder research into future medications to treat addiction. Let me address both of those quickly.

First, there is this concern about the harsh punishments that don't fit the nature of the crime. I share that concern. That is why our legislation ensures that mandatory minimum sentences are not automatically imposed in any criminal case. We want the judge to look at the severity of the crime and consider all relevant factors in sentencing. So that issue has been addressed in our bipartisan legislation.

There has been a great deal of conversation about the impact of prosecutions and incarcerations on specific populations, including minority communities. What is often lost in this debate, I will say, is the growing impact of fatal overdoses in those same communities. Since 2016, while White fatalities have decreased through the period of 2019, the data we have shows that overdoses from opioids among Black Americans, particularly Black men, have actually gotten worse, not better.

From 2011 to 2016, that same time period, when White overdoses and deaths were reduced, Black Americans had the highest increase in synthetic opioid-involved overdose deaths, compared to all populations.

And while in 2017 to 2018 overall opioid-involved overdose fatalities decreased by just over 4 percent, rates among Black and Hispanic Americans actually increased. This is an issue we must address here.

Another issue my colleagues have raised, again, is concern that permanently scheduling fentanyl and its analogues somehow hinders research into treating addiction. First of all, I agree we need this research. We need it badly. One example of this is coming up with naloxone, a miracle drug based on heroin that actually reverses the effects of an overdose.

I spoke to the scientist, Roger Crystal, just last week, who developed the nasal version of this naloxone. It is a miracle. I have seen it work, and it saves lives.

Researchers have told me there are barriers to being approved to legally research schedule I substances. There is also a stigma to conducting this kind of research, even though we know that it could lead to the development of new treatments. But this is something we can easily address by allowing qualified researchers the ability to study fentanyl analogues under schedule II as opposed to schedule I. So we can address that issue.

I am open to working with my colleagues to address these barriers, and I believe that we can do that through the legislation creating flexibility in the registration system for scientists.

But I would urge my colleagues that we need to use the next 5 months to do the hard work of finding a permanent solution to this crisis before we have to once again run the risk of letting these drugs become legal and the message that that sends and the deaths that would occur as a result. The U.S. Senate can take the lead and permanently classify these dangerous narcotics that are literally killing tens of thousands of our fellow citizens every year. Instead of kicking the can down the road again for 5 months from now, let's make it permanent. The House and the Biden administration should support this effort. Lives are at stake.

It is important that we continue to focus this body, as we have, on the demand side of this equation—prevention, treatment, longer term recovery for fentanyl and for other substances.

But it is also important that we not allow these substances to come on the streets at lower and lower costs and at greater and greater volumes. That is what would happen if we do not move as a Congress to ensure that these fentanyl copycats and fentanyl itself remain illicit drugs, as they are.

Let's do the right thing for our community. Let's do the right thing for law enforcement. Let's be sure they have the predictability and certainty in law enforcement to know that these criminals can be prosecuted, these traffickers.

We need to act now to address the threat of these deadly fentanyl drugs coming into our communities. I urge the Senate to pass the FIGHT Fentanyl bill. Join us in this effort so we can better work to reverse the tragic rise in overdose deaths around the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

S.J. RES. 15

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today in support of the Congressional Review Act resolution to rescind the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency's "True Lender Rule." This rule was rushed through by the previous administration with complete disregard to the harm it would cause already struggling working Americans.

The true lender rule undercuts important consumer protections at the State level and greenlights high-cost "rent-a-bank" schemes. These schemes let predatory lenders evade State interest rate caps by funneling high-interest loans—loans that are illegal under State law—through national banks.

We know these lenders prey upon those struggling to make ends meet and are more likely to operate in areas with higher concentrations of poverty. And they offer complicated loans that are designed to trap consumers in an endless cycle of debilitating debt.

What is especially troubling is that this rule was finalized in November of

last year at a time when so many were reeling from an unprecedented public health and economic crisis. And while so many American families struggle to put food on the table and make their rent or mortgage payments, the OCC's rule makes it easier for predatory lenders to prey on those most vulnerable, exacerbating the economic hardship of millions.

Currently, 45 States and the District of Columbia have instituted interest rate caps on installment loans to protect consumers. Earlier this year, my home State of Illinois passed into law a 36-percent cap on interest rates for consumer loans. These protections are essential to ensuring that hard-working Americans are not exploited.

The true lender rule would allow predatory lenders to evade these important State-level consumer protections. Twenty-five State attorneys general, including Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul, recently wrote to me and my colleagues to underscore the dangers of the OCC's true lending rule. They say in their letter, "The OCC's Rule would be exploited by lenders seeking to circumvent these state interest-rate caps and invite, indeed welcome, predatory consumer-lending partnerships . . ."

I agree with the concerns raised by Attorney General Raoul and his counterparts. The Federal Government should be doing more to protect the financial security of Americans, not less.

Congress needs to take action—now more than ever—to protect working families from predatory lending practices. We must rescind this harmful true lender rule. However, addressing the harm of this rule is not enough. More must be done to protect vulnerable American consumers. For more than a decade, I have pushed for a Federal interest rate cap of 36 percent on all consumer loans. This standard is not radical or new. The Federal Government already affords similar protections to military servicemembers and their families. We should expand those protections to all Americans.

COVID-19 has devastated the lives of millions of Americans and brought significant economic challenges to so many households. We need to be protecting the most vulnerable populations who are just trying to get back to normal and get a fair shot at the American dream.

Let's come together on a common goal: to protect American consumers from predatory lending practices. Passing today's CRA resolution would bring us one step closer to that goal.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, the vote we are about to take on this Van Hollen resolution, S.J. Res. 15, is a bipartisan opportunity for us to show people whom we serve that we are on their side.

States all over the country—red and blue States, States in the South and Midwest, on both coasts—have all rec-

ognized that people need protections from predatory lenders. That is why nearly every State and the District of Columbia have passed laws to limit, to cap the interest—the amount of interest—that can be charged on payday and other loans.

In the late 1990s, payday lenders were desperate to find a way to evade State laws that limited them from charging exorbitant interest rates that trap people in a cycle of debt they can't get out of, no matter how hard they work. They came up with what the Comptroller of the Currency called "rent-a-charter"—what we now know as a "rent-a-bank" scheme.

Because banks are generally not subject to these State laws, payday lenders funneled their loans through a small number of willing banks. It looked like the banks were making the loans, when it was really the payday lenders.

Federal regulators in both parties—Republicans and Democrats—saw through this very obvious ruse that hurt low-income people who were forced to get credit any way they could. Federal regulators cracked down. Under both President Bush and President Obama, the Office of Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation—OCC and FDIC—shut down a series of these schemes by payday lenders and banks.

States from across the country also stepped in to protect their residents. Georgia, West Virginia, my State of Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, Montana, South Dakota, Colorado, Illinois, Virginia, and Nebraska all passed new laws and regulations either to stop these schemes or to cap interest rates on payday loans at 36 percent—still a very, very high number that most of us never pay, but that people who can only get credit that way end up paying, unfortunately. It is still a high number that, obviously, will make any company making these loans plenty of money.

Several other States, including California and Ohio, also passed laws to limit the interest that can be charged on consumer loans. These new laws passed with overwhelming bipartisan support.

Now, get this: More than 75 percent of voters in Nebraska and South Dakota supported the ballot initiatives to cap interest rates on payday loans. So three-fourths of the voters going to the polls in a popular vote wanted to cap interest rates on payday loans in those two States.

In recent years, new financial technology companies emerged that partner with banks to offer responsible small-dollar loans at more affordable rates.

But we also have a separate group of online payday lenders resurrecting the same old rent-a-bank scheme to offer abusive, high-interest loans. They are not even attempting to hide it.

One online lender told its investors it would get around California's new law

by making loans—these were their words, this lender's—through "bank sponsors . . . not subject to the same proposed state level rate limitations."

So he or she is even acknowledging that States—voters or State legislatures or both—are saying: We want to cap those interest rates so people don't take out a small loan and end up paying 200, 300 percent after these payday lenders put that on them.

Another lender said: "There is no reason why we wouldn't be able to replace our California business with a bank program."

So they know what they have to do. They know they are going against the intent of the legislature and the intent of the voters.

Given the broad bipartisan support for these laws, we had hoped that the Trump OCC would take action and crack down on these schemes, the same way that Bush and Obama had done—schemes that have been rejected by voters and legislatures over and over, in State after State after State.

But last year, the OCC issued what is known as the true lender rule, overruling voters of both parties, giving essentially a free pass to these abusive rent-a-bank schemes.

Now, to fight back on behalf of low-income people and on behalf of fair play, a broad bipartisan coalition is asking Congress to overturn the OCC's harmful true lender rule.

That support includes credit unions, State bank regulators—Republicans and Democrats alike—and State attorneys general of both parties. One of the most outspoken has been the Republican attorney general of Nebraska, because his State passed—his State's voters passed—a limit, 75 percent of them, to keep interest rates down.

There is support from small business groups, support from the Military Officers Association of America.

We know that payday lenders especially prey on young members of the military. One of them may be off in a foreign country while the spouse stays back at the base or stays back in a community and is struggling with just having the resources to get by. They are preyed upon so often.

Other groups are the National Association of Evangelicals, the Southern Baptist Convention, and other members of the Faith in Just Lending Coalition.

That coalition wrote to Congress:

Predatory payday and auto title lenders are notorious for exploiting loopholes in order to offer debt-trap loans to families struggling to make ends meet. The OCC's "True Lender" rule creates a loophole big enough to drive a truck through.

That came from this coalition—the coalition of attorneys general, the Military Officers Association, the National Association of Evangelicals, and the Southern Baptist Convention. They are saying the OCC's true lender rule creates a loophole big enough to drive a truck through.

We know why these commonsense laws that our States passed are popular. We know why they enjoy bipartisan support in States across the country. People don't want abusive lenders to prey on them, their loved ones or their neighbors.

Some issues that come before the Senate are complicated. They divide people. There are thorny nuances to consider. This isn't one of them. It is simple. Let's protect the people whom we serve. They have clearly cried out for us to do this. We should protect those people.

I urge my colleagues to support S.J. Res. 15 to overturn this rule.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. First, let me thank our chair of the Banking Committee, someone who has fought against the abuses in the financial services industry throughout his career, Senator BROWN. Let me also thank Senator VAN HOLLEN, who, again, has been one of those leaders doing great things to help people who are often taken advantage of.

Now, for millions of working Americans, one of the most dangerous things that can happen is falling victim to predatory lenders. Unscrupulous actors have always promised quick cash or credit to people with unexpected expenses or financial difficulties, only to trap them with crippling interest rates that can erase a person's life savings or even claim their homes. They are in trouble. They reach out to the lifeline, and the lifeline is a trap. Often they are trapped for years and even some for their whole lives.

That is why more than 40 States have passed laws that prohibit this behavior and placed limits on interest rates made by nonbank lenders. It runs the gamut from liberal California to conservative Texas.

Inexplicably—inexplicably—the Trump administration decided to give these predatory lenders a massive loophole to circumvent State law and once again prey on low-income Americans. Under the Trump administration's rule, so long as payday lenders found a bank to provide the cash upfront and attach their name to the transaction, interest rates in the triple digits were suddenly OK, even if the States explicitly banned it.

It is despicable and so typical of the Trump administration not caring about average folks at all and just listening to the special interests. It had devastating consequences for working families and for small businesses.

In New York, the owner of a southern food restaurant in Harlem took out a \$67,000 loan from a fraudulent lender to make renovations to their restaurant. They fell behind on payments and tried to work with their lender when COVID hit and realized that their loan had an APR of 268 percent. Rather than work toward a solution, the lender went to the bank to try and foreclose on their

property—their property in which they had put blood and sweat and tears—stating that the Trump rule gave them the grounds to do so. It mattered little that New York State law had a 268-percent interest rate as blatantly illegal.

So today's vote is simple. It would revoke the Trump administration's so-called true lender rule that permits predatory lenders to exploit small businesses and working Americans. In the middle of a pandemic, the last thing we should be doing is perpetrating a rule that makes it easier for payday lenders to scam working people and business owners.

With today's vote, the Senate stands up for working families and small businesses all across the country by repealing this terrible, essentially Scrooge-like rule pushed by former President Trump and his allies.

And one final point for those who say elections don't make a difference. Just look at this. Here was a rule protecting people—States protected people. The Trump administration comes in and rips away those protections, leaving so many people bare and defenseless because they were desperate; they need the money.

Elections occur. A new Democratic President, a Democratic Senate, and this horrible, horrible rule change by the Trump administration is undone. We go back to giving some help and protection to working families and small business people.

This story could be repeated not just with CRAs but up and down the line—up and down the line. Elections do make a difference, and today's vote shows one of many examples.

VOTE ON S.J. RES. 15

I yield the floor and, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all remaining time be yielded back.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The joint resolution having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the joint resolution pass?

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 183 Leg.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Hirono	Rosen
Bennet	Kaine	Rubio
Blumenthal	Kelly	Sanders
Booker	King	Schatz
Brown	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cantwell	Leahy	Shaheen
Cardin	Lujan	Sinema
Carper	Lummis	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Collins	Markey	Tester
Coons	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murphy	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Feinstein	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Padilla	Wyden
Hassan	Peters	
Hickenlooper	Reed	

NAYS—47

Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blunt	Hagerty	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeben	Sasse
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Johnson	Shelby
Cornyn	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Lee	Tillis
Crapo	Marshall	Toomey
Cruz	McConnell	Tuberville
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Ernst	Murkowski	Young
Fischer	Paul	

NOT VOTING—1

Heinrich

The joint resolution (S.J. Res 15) was passed, as follows:

S.J. RES. 15

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of Currency relating to "National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders" (85 Fed. Reg. 68742 (October 30, 2020)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

Mr. SCHUMER. Let me first commend my colleague from Ohio for the excellent work, not only moving this forward but the vote counting that he did, which worked with a little bit of margin of error.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session.

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

MOTION TO DISCHARGE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, pursuant to S. Res. 27, the Finance Committee being tied on the question of reporting, I move to discharge the Senate Finance Committee from further consideration of the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the provisions of S. Res. 27, there will now be up to 4 hours of debate on the motion, equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, with no point of order, motions, or amendments in order.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, we expect a vote on the motion to discharge to occur around noon tomorrow, Wednesday, May 12.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

S.J. RES. 15

Mr. BROWN. I thank my colleagues for their vote on this resolution, which was so important to protect people from being abused by payday lenders. S.J. Res. 15 will be a big deal, saving a lot of money for a lot of low-income people who have been fleeced far too many times.

I thank the leader. I thank, in my office, Laura Swanson and Jan Singelmann for their terrific work in making sure that everybody was here and everybody was learned on this issue so well and how important that was for our State and for our country. I thank them.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

Mr. President, each year during Police Week, we honor the law enforcement officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their communities.

This year, we add the names of four Ohioans to the National Law Enforcement Memorial who laid down their lives last year: Corporal Adam McMillan of Hamilton County Sheriff's Office, Detective James Michael Skernivitz of Cleveland, Patrolman Anthony Hussein Dia of Toledo, and Officer Kaia Grant of Springdale.

Sadly, we already know of two names who will be added to the memorial next year: Officer Brandon Stalker of the Toledo Police Department and Jason Lagore, who worked for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Each one of these losses is a tragedy for a family, for a community, and for their fellow officers.

Ms. Grant's mother, I know, and I talked to her about how tragic this is for her, for her family, and for the families of all of these officers who gave their lives in service to others.

Over the past year, we have had many reminders of the work that must be done to reform and reimagine public safety and to rebuild trust between law enforcement and communities. These Ohioans' lives are a reminder of the ideals we should strive for—officers who are true public servants in the best sense of the word, people who gave themselves to their communities. And these Ohioans gave so much.

Officer Anthony Dia was the father of two young sons. He married his high school sweetheart. In a letter he wrote to his family during Ramadan, the devout Muslim wrote:

Every day I put on the uniform, it is with the intention to protect the innocent and the weak in my community.

The imam who spoke at his memorial service said:

When you think of Islam, think of this man who gave his life on the Fourth of July to defend the values of the United States.

Detective James Skernivitz served my city of Cleveland. He served in neighborhood policing districts, and in 2013, he joined the Gang Impact Unit, working to reduce violence in Cleveland. He was a devoted father and played softball for many years, traveling to tournaments with the Steel City Enforcers.

Corporal Adam McMillan spent 19 years serving the public at the sheriff's office in Hamilton County, Cincinnati. So many in his community spoke about his kindness. His pastor said at the memorial service that "he was the kind of guy who asked the person in the drive-thru window how their day was going." His generous spirit will live on. Corporal McMillan was an organ donor, and his loss is giving new life to someone else.

Kaia Grant was in the Reserve Officer Training Corps in college. After graduating and working with at-risk kids in Cincinnati, she joined the Springdale Police Department. Her coworker said:

Instead of going into the military and then going into politics, like many do, she wanted to serve the community.

Another colleague related a story about how she saved a woman's life. The department got a call about a person considering taking her own life, and they searched and searched but found no one. They were close to giving up, but Officer Grant didn't. She found the woman in a parking garage in time to save her life.

As part of her dedication to our country, Officer Grant interned for a U.S. Senator while she was in college. That Senator's name was Joe Biden. Earlier this year, on his first trip to Ohio as President, Joe Biden met with Officer Grant's mother, Gina Mobley, to thank her for her daughter's service to him, to our country, and to her community.

We can't begin to repay the debt we owe Ms. Mobley and all these families. We can work to reform our systems to protect more officers and the communities they swear an oath to protect.

This week, I am introducing legislation, the Law Enforcement Training for Mental Health Crisis Response Act, with Senator INHOFE of Oklahoma. We have seen too many Americans, both officers and those they serve, hurt or killed when law enforcement responds to people in their communities suffering a mental health crisis. This bill would invest in training to help families resolve those situations safely for themselves and for their communities. They help officers resolve these situations safely for themselves and for the communities they serve.

Law enforcement officers, reformers, and advocates all agree we pushed too many problems onto the criminal justice system, expecting officers to be social workers and crisis responders and family mediators without the proper training to fill those roles.

We need to actually invest in mental health and education and other social support. We need to give officers the

training and resources they need to help when they are called on to respond to these situations.

This Police Week, let's offer—many of us come to the floor to do this—more than empty words. Let's honor the memory of these women and men who have laid down their lives in service of their community by getting their fellow officers the tools and the training they need to do their jobs and to build trust with the communities they have sworn to protect.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASEY). The Senator from Ohio.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for 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.

CENTENNIAL OF MILLS, WYOMING

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of Mills, WY.

On Saturday, June 12, 2021, the town of Mills will honor this milestone with a 100th Anniversary Summer Fest Celebration. The event will host a parade, concerts, and other festivities throughout the day. It is an excellent opportunity for the people of Natrona County and Wyoming to gather and commend the strong, lasting character of this community.

Mills was established in May of 1921 at a location near the Fort Caspar site along the northern banks of the North Platte River. Many pioneers traversed this area along the Oregon Trail before oil was discovered in the Salt Creek Field. In 1919, with the growth of the oil and gas industry, brothers James, William, and Thomas Mills and their Mills Construction Company purchased a homestead owned by Charles M. Hawks. Company employees and their families began to settle in the surrounding land. By 1921, over 500 people lived in the quickly developing area. A need for local organization resulted in Mills' incorporation as a town, becoming the third in Natrona County.

The story of Mills is a microcosm of the story of Natrona County and Central Wyoming. The town has navigated through the booms and busts of the oil industry throughout its century and continues to navigate its unique place across the river from Casper. Industry has always played a large role in the development of the community. From its beginnings with the Mills Construction Company, Mills now hosts a wide range of manufacturing, fabrication, heavy machinery, and oil and gas businesses. Yet, Mills still maintains its

quaint charm with Oregon Trail historic sites, river recreational opportunities, and local watering holes.

Mills held its first election on May 10, 1921. The first mayor was George E. Boyle, who was elected alongside new Councilmen Fred Hunter, Fred Shackleford, G.W. Lindsley, and Michael Kennedy. A century later, Mills is served by Mayor Seth Coleman with Councilmembers James Hollander, Darla Ives, Sara McCarthy, and Brad Neumiller. They continue their tradition of public service and stewardship.

From its incorporation as a town with a population of 500, Mills entered 1990 with over 1,500 residents. Today it boasts a population of over 4,000 people and is one of the fastest growing communities in Wyoming. On August 4, 2020, Governor Mark Gordon signed a proclamation declaring Mills a "First-Class City." This is another milestone to add to the summer celebration.

It is my honor to commemorate this historic milestone for the city of Mills. Their centennial celebration is a tribute to generations of determination and community. Bobbi joins me and everyone in Wyoming in our appreciation of everything the people of Mills have contributed to our great State and Nation. We extend our congratulations as we look forward to the next 100 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING DR. SAUL HERTZ

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize Dr. Saul Hertz, a pioneer for medical uses of radioiodine, RAI.

The son of Jewish immigrants from Poland, Dr. Hertz graduated from Harvard Medical School in 1929. While serving as director of the Massachusetts General Hospital's thyroid unit, he attended a presentation about the use of physics in medicine. Inspired by the concept, Dr. Hertz worked alongside Massachusetts Institute of Technology physicist Dr. Arthur Roberts to discover the potential for iodine radioisotopes in thyroid disease diagnosis and treatment.

On March 31, 1941, after years of experiments, Dr. Hertz administered the first therapeutic use of radioiodine to a human patient. Never before had humans been successfully treated with an artificially produced radioactive material. In 1946, Dr. Hertz was the lead author of the May issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, which featured a 5-year study following 29 patients he treated through this method. Today, medical uses of RAI remain the gold standard of targeted precision oncology.

Dr. Hertz made a number of other outstanding contributions to the medical field. Notably, his research played an essential role in the developing field of nuclear medicine, which was critical during World War II and beyond. In 1949, he established the first Nuclear

Medicine Department at the Massachusetts Women's Hospital.

Dr. Hertz passed away on July 28, 1950, but his legacy is enduring. Not only does his work continue to support extraordinary medical work, but his memory also encourages other researchers through the Saul Hertz, MD, Award. Bestowed by the Society for Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Engineering, this eponymous award honors individuals who make phenomenal strides in the radionuclide therapy field.

Dr. Hertz's archives are kept in Greenwich, CT, offering a rich history of research in this critical field and a testament to his brilliant, lifesaving work. This year, Greenwich, CT, First Selectman Fred Camillo issued a proclamation, naming March 31 "Dr. Saul Hertz Nuclear Medicine/Radio Pharmaceutical Day." This recognition is a tribute to Dr. Hertz's remarkable legacy and the impact he will forever have on this field.

I applaud his many accomplishments and hope my colleagues will join me in remembering Dr. Saul Hertz. •

TRIBUTE TO RETA HAMILTON

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a prominent conservative leader, Reta Hamilton, for her long-standing commitment to serving and strengthening the Republican Party in Arkansas and nationwide.

Mrs. Hamilton launched her political activism career in 1987. In the decades since, she has made numerous contributions to mobilize the conservative cause—and with great success. Nicknamed "the Road Warrior" since her early days, she has driven nearly every highway in Arkansas, supporting, encouraging, and building county committees and Republican Women clubs. She is a longtime Tusk Club member, which denotes her dedication to GOP candidates and ideas.

Mrs. Hamilton's commitment and impact have been widely felt at the local level. She served as president of the Washington County Republican Women in 1989 and more than doubled its membership, for which she received a newly-created award from the Arkansas Federation of Republican Women as well as recognition from the National Federation of Republican Women. The Washington County Republican Committee honored her as Republican of the Year at its 1989 Lincoln Dinner, with Congressman John Paul Hammer-schmidt participating in the presentation. That year, she was also elected as AFRW third vice-president.

Mrs. Hamilton eventually moved to Benton County and in 1994 was elected secretary of the Benton County Republican Party. She later served as a State committeewoman and was honored at the 1996 Lincoln Dinner as Republican of the Year in Rogers, AR. Mrs. Hamilton was elected one of six electors to serve both in the 2008 and 2012 electoral college.

During her years of involvement in the Republican Party of Arkansas, she became second vice chair and was appointed to the Arkansas Governor's Appointments Committee, as well as a serving a record 14 continuous years on the Executive Committee of the Arkansas GOP.

Mrs. Hamilton was appointed by the State chairman to serve over 10 years on the RPA Rules Committee. A pinnacle of her political career came in 2003, when she was elevated to the position of RPA State chairman. During this time, she was able to refocus the State party and set it on a course to majority leadership. Mrs. Hamilton was elected Arkansas Republican National Committeewoman in 2005 and served until term-limited in 2012. She also served on the RNC Rules Committee from 2010 through 2012.

She was also elected by RPA delegates to serve on the RNC Rules Committee from 1996 to 2016. Mrs. Hamilton was an elected delegate to every Republican National Convention from 1992 through 2020, serving as a Trump delegate in 2016 and 2020.

At the Reagan Rockefeller Dinner in 2016, the RPA awarded Mrs. Hamilton the "Hi, I'm Frank White" Award for making significant contributions to build the State party.

Having been involved with the National Federation of Republican Women since 1983, Mrs. Hamilton was appointed to serve as a nonvoting member of the NFRW Board of Directors in 2000 and served until 2020 as a regent and capital regent. She has attended nearly every NFRW biennial convention since 1987. Mrs. Hamilton was honored with an appointment and election to fill the vacancy of national committeewoman from December 2020 to June 5, 2021.

I am honored to call Reta Hamilton my friend, and I am incredibly proud of her efforts to elevate and expand the Republican Party in Arkansas. Her conservative influence on the Arkansas GOP and this Nation has made a difference. The direction of our State and growth of the Republican Party into the majority party demonstrates the power that passion and commitment to one's ideals can have. I hope her example will serve as a lesson to future generations of Arkansans and Republican leaders. •

TRIBUTE TO RYAN TUCKER

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of Iowans across our State to recognize the distinguished career, dedication, and lifelong hard work of Mr. Ryan G. Tucker as he concludes his time as president of the Iowa Funeral Directors Association, IFDA.

As many who know him will tell you, Ryan grew up with a spirited commitment to his community, his family, and to others. A native of Sumner, it did not take long for Ryan to begin working in the trade. As a student at North Iowa Area Community College,

Ryan started as an employee at Fullerton Family Funeral Home in Mason City. He would go on to study at Worsham College of Mortuary Science, earning an internship in Fort Dodge under a former IFDA president, Scott Graham.

His experiences early on in his career have led him to where he is today, as co-owner of Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly, Readlyn, Shell Rock, and Denver, serving Iowa families with his critical work.

Ryan assumed his role as president of the IFDA at a time unlike any other, as the COVID-19 pandemic tragically took hold early last year, but, in the face of enormous challenges and uncertainty, Ryan displayed steadfast leadership for his colleagues that surely allowed for countless families to find comfort in such difficult times.

Ryan guided the IFDA through the pandemic, being especially focused on ensuring the hard work of our State's funeral directors could continue with safety top of mind. At the pandemic's start, Ryan issued daily briefings to IFDA members that became vital. He provided information about best practices, updates on policies and proclamations by the Governor and State government, and materials to make sure that Iowa funeral directors could continue to serve families while adhering to public health limitations.

Ryan's lifetime of work, his dedication to his craft, and his leadership in a uniquely challenging time have all undoubtedly made a positive impact on the lives of countless Iowans. As he takes the next step in his distinguished career and steps down as president of the Iowa Funeral Directors Association, we wish him, his wife Kayla, and his two sons, Colby and Griffin, all the best, and we thank Ryan for everything that he has done for our State and our communities.●

TRIBUTE TO KEN POTTS

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, today I offer my recognition of Mr. Ken Potts for his heroic service to our country and congratulate him on his 100th birthday.

Ken was born on April 15, 1921, in Honey Bend, IL. His childhood was spent on the family farm during the difficult years of the Great Depression. Despite the difficulty of the times, the Potts family worked earnestly and happily to make ends meet. In fact, Ken has fond memories of time in his boyhood spent hunting small game with his slingshot.

At the onset of WWII, when Ken was just 18 years of age, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. Two short years later, he was stationed in the South Pacific working as a crane operator on the largest ship in the Navy's fleet, the USS *Arizona*. The work ethic he learned as a child, on the family farm, earned him great success during his military service.

On December 7, 1941, the *Pennsylvania*-class battleship was docked at

Pearl Harbor along with the rest of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. Ken was working that morning shuttling supplies to the *Arizona* when Japanese torpedo bombers descended from the sky. One of the 797-kilogram armor-piercing bombs dropped by the bombers exploded through the decks of near a supply staging area at the front the ship. Thinking quickly, Ken risked his life in a small boat to pick up dozens of sailors stranded in the burning water, dropping them off at nearby Ford Island. His heroism saved many. Of the survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor, Ken is one of two still alive today.

Ken was undeterred by the harrowing experiences of the attack on Pearl Harbor. He remained in the Navy and served his country honorably until 1945. After the war, Ken returned to the States and moved to Provo, UT, here he has lived with his wife for 54 years.

Ken Potts embodies the very best attributes of the "greatest generation". He is a living testament to American bravery, honor, and dignity in defense of the American way. I wish him a very happy 100th birthday. It is my humble privilege to honor him today.●

RECOGNIZING SPACE TANGO

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Space Tango of Lexington, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Growing up on a family farm outside Bardstown, Twyman Clements loved building and launching model rockets with his three brothers. His passion for innovation and engineering led him to the University of Kentucky, UK, where he earned a BS and MS in mechanical engineering. As a graduate student at UK, Twyman worked with Kentucky Space, a nonprofit consortium of universities and public and private groups supporting space entrepreneurship. At the time, Kentucky Space was using miniature satellites called cubesats to conduct experiments on the International Space Station. Realizing the need to simplify and reduce the cost of spacebased research and development, R&D, Twyman founded Space Tango in 2015.

Today, Space Tango is a thriving small business enabling R&D and manufacturing in zero gravity. Since 2017, thanks to a National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA, Space Act Agreement, Space Tango provides facilities on the International Space Station U.S. National Laboratory. Their CubeLabs generate scalable and efficient research and manufacturing in microgravity. Space Tango has worked with several commercial partners, including Anheuser-Busch and LambaVision. They regularly partner with educational institutions such as

the University of Florida, University of Pennsylvania, and Boston University.

Over the years, local and national organizations have recognized Space Tango's groundbreaking work. Twyman was inducted into the Kentucky Entrepreneur Hall of Fame in 2017, and ranked No. 25 on Fast Company's list of the 100 Most Creative People in Business in 2018. Jim Bridenstine, former NASA Administrator, visited Space Tango in 2020, commending their biomedical research and manufacturing capabilities. In addition to working on projects for various Federal agencies, Space Tango won three NASA Utilization Awards for Low Earth Orbit of Biomedical Applications. Looking forward, Space Tango is developing ST-42, an autonomous manufacturing facility for advanced materials and biomedical devices located in Earth's orbit.

Notably, Space Tango is committed to investing in the next generation of innovators, scientists, and entrepreneurs. Twyman and his colleagues regularly host and present at educational events at Kentucky schools, universities, and scientific institutions. Space Tango's robust internship program includes students from Kentucky's universities and colleges across the country, with several former interns joining their team.

Space Tango is a testament to Kentucky innovation, ingenuity, and industry. Small businesses like Space Tango form a critical part of American's domestic manufacturing base and play a unique role educating the next generation of Kentucky engineers and entrepreneurs. Congratulations to Twyman and the entire team at Space Tango. I wish them the best of luck and look forward to watching their continued growth and success in Kentucky and beyond.●

TRIBUTE TO FATHER MICHAEL J. GRAHAM

● Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize my friend, Father Michael J. Graham, on his retirement as the 34th president of Xavier University in my hometown of Cincinnati, OH, and to thank him for his more than 34 years of service at Xavier helping to cultivate young leaders and developing Musketeer students with the Jesuit values of becoming "men and women for others."

Father Graham started at Xavier in 1984 as an assistant history professor. After pursuing his master of divinity from the Weston School of Theology, he returned to Xavier in 1989. He was appointed vice president for university relations in 1994 and was inaugurated president of Xavier University on September 8, 2001.

Father Graham is the longest serving president in Xavier University's history, and over the past 20 years, he has had an incredible impact on the university, the Cincinnati community, and the more than 30,000 students who have

graduated from Xavier University during his tenure. He has helped raise over \$500 million to fund scholarships, advance the academic experience, support community projects, and advance the development of the university.

In the community, Father Graham's passion to connect and collaborate with local and regional communities inspired him to establish the Community Building Institute as well as the Eigel Center for Community Engagement at Xavier. In 2017, Father Graham was asked to chair the Cincinnati Preschool Promise Board of Directors, a voter-approved initiative to ensure that quality preschool is available and affordable to all children living within the Cincinnati school district. It is one of many ways he has extended his and Xavier's reach into critical issues that impact the Cincinnati community.

Since Father Graham began his presidency, U.S. News & World Report has consistently listed Xavier among the Nation's top 10 Midwest universities. Under his leadership, the university has expanded to offer master's programs in coaching education and athlete development, health economic and clinical outcomes research, customer analytics, and others. The impact of President Graham's academic and community-based vision for Xavier is far reaching. Father Mike will be missed, but his legacy will be felt for generations to come.●

TRIBUTE TO JIM CAMERON

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Jim Cameron, who served Volusia County and its residents, as the senior vice president of government relations at the Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce. After 38 years of service, I thank Jim for his years of work and wish him well as he retires.

In its 101-year history, Jim holds the longest tenure at the Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce. As Vice president of government relations, he understood local, State, and Federal economic issues facing Volusia County. Throughout his tenure, Jim's professional relationships with some of Florida's most influential political and business leaders bettered his community.

In 1985, Jim's was working to receive approval from the State legislature to utilize hotel bed tax revenues towards financing a county-run convention center. After a span of 5 years, Volusia County opened the Ocean Center Convention Center in Daytona Beach Center due in part to his efforts. This is just one of many career highlights that Jim is proud of.

Jim's more recent community accomplishments include advocating for SunRail's extension in Volusia County, helping the Hard Rock Hotel establish a resort in Daytona Beach, and working with Space Florida to recruit aerospace manufacturing to Volusia County. Simultaneously, he was also instrumental in important State legislative

matters and advocating for pro-job policies.

Jim is fond of the professional relationships he has formed throughout his career, with many evolving into close friendships. His personalized approach to government relations is best seen on his guarantee to pay \$1,000 if he does not return your call within eight business hours.

Jim grew up in Montgomery, AL, graduating with a double major in history and political science from the University of Alabama. After graduation, he was appointed to the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce in Anniston, AL, to oversee industrial and public affairs. He later moved to Daytona Beach, where he began working at the Daytona Regional Chamber in 1983.

I am grateful for Jim's decades of faithful and dedicated service to our State and for his work with my office. I extend my best wishes to Jim, his wife Rita, and to his family on a well-earned retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO LISA MORRIS

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Lisa Morris, New Hampshire's director of public health at the State department of health and human services, for her years of service to the Granite State. Throughout her career, first serving the people of New Hampshire's Lakes Region at the Partnership for Public Health and later the entire State at the New Hampshire Division of Public Health, Lisa has made it her mission to improve the health and well-being of the New Hampshire public. I am grateful for her service to our State, especially her work to address the COVID-19 pandemic over the past year.

Prior to her time as the New Hampshire director of public health, Lisa served for over a decade as the executive director of the Partnership for Public Health in Laconia, providing invaluable public health information and services to the people of the Lakes Region. In this role, Lisa was a leading voice in advocating for resources to meet the health needs of the region and solve the most pressing public health concerns. During her time as executive director, the Partnership for Public Health was able to provide the region with invaluable services such as a community emergency response team, an immigration welcome center, flu vaccine clinics, and other community health education programs. I especially commend Lisa for her attention to the substance misuse crisis during her time as executive director.

Lisa has served as the director of public health for the State of New Hampshire since 2016 and has provided essential leadership through several public health challenges. In 2014, contamination from per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances—PFAS—was first discovered in New Hampshire at the site of the former Pease Air Force Base. In the time since, more

contamination has been found throughout our State, including in the town of Merrimack and at the Coakley Landfill in North Hampton. While information about the toxicity and human health impacts of PFAS was only just emerging as the contamination was discovered, Lisa and her team worked diligently to keep the public and physicians updated with necessary information. The division of public health, which Lisa led, conducted PFAS blood testing for more than 1,800 individuals who reported exposure from contaminated drinking water while living, working, or attending childcare on or near the campus of the Pease International Tradeport. This information has been invaluable for those individuals worried about their health, and I thank Lisa for her leadership to provide this information to families.

I also commend Lisa for her leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic. As we all know, a once-in-a-lifetime pandemic has been difficult for us all, but Lisa's leadership has been an incredible asset to the State of New Hampshire. From New Hampshire's announcement of the first case of COVID-19 in March 2020 to the present, the New Hampshire Division of Public Health has been a reliable resource, providing daily reports on the number of COVID-19 cases and positivity rates, which have been an important source of data for State leaders, businesses, and the general public. With her leadership, New Hampshire was able to establish partnerships with the New Hampshire National Guard to stand up testing sites and vaccine distribution sites throughout our State. New Hampshire's vaccine distribution rollout has been recognized as one of the best in the Nation and the most efficient in reaching the public with shots in arms. These achievements can only happen with competent and forward-thinking leaders like Lisa.

On behalf of all the people of New Hampshire, I ask my colleagues and all Americans to join me in thanking Lisa for her years of service, advocacy, and leadership. I wish her well in her retirement and the years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT CAMPBELL

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert Campbell, of Mobile, AL, who will soon step down as regional manager at Lamar Advertising.

Robert Campbell joined Lamar Advertising in 1972 as a posting manager in Mobile. Robert rose through the ranks of sales manager and general manager before being appointed regional manager in 1983. Throughout his tenure, Robert oversaw the integration of numerous meaningful acquisitions and hired and trained dozens in the company. He has served on the national legislative committee for the Outdoor Advertising Association of America, OAAA, for over two decades, and in 2007 he was inducted into the OAAA Hall of Fame.

Further, Robert is a longtime supporter of the University of Alabama and its football program. His enthusiasm for Alabama is unwavering, even though the corporate headquarters of his company is based in Baton Rouge.

Robert is an effective legislative advocate, and I appreciate his hard work throughout the years. It is with great pleasure that I join his friends, family, and colleagues in recognizing his commitment. I congratulate him on his retirement, and I wish him all the best as he transitions into a new chapter of his life.●

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MAY 10, 2021

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Ms. STABENOW for the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

*Jewel Hairston Bronaugh, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture.

*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.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DE- CLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13873 OF MAY 15, 2019, WITH RE- SPECT TO SECURING THE INFOR- MATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES SUPPLY CHAIN—PM 9

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13873 of May 15, 2019, with respect to securing the information and communications technology and services

supply chain, is to continue in effect beyond May 15, 2021.

The unrestricted acquisition or use in the United States of information and communications technology or services designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned by, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction or direction of foreign adversaries augments the ability of these foreign adversaries to create and exploit vulnerabilities in information and communications technology or services, with potentially catastrophic effects. This threat continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13873 with respect to securing the information and communications technology and services supply chain.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 11, 2021.

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DE- CLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13611 OF MAY 16, 2012, WITH RE- SPECT TO YEMEN—PM 10

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, with respect to Yemen is to continue in effect beyond May 16, 2021.

The actions and policies of certain former members of the Government of Yemen and others continue to threaten Yemen's peace, security, and stability. These actions include obstructing the political process in Yemen and the implementation of the agreement of November 23, 2011, between the Government of Yemen and those in opposition to it, which provided for a peaceful transition of power that meets the legitimate demands and aspirations of the Yemeni people. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13611 with respect to Yemen.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 11, 2021.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 2406(b)(3) of Public Law 116-9, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Adams Memorial Commission: Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. CHABOT of Ohio, and Mr. MOOLENAAR of Michigan.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d, clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Chair, Mr. DEFAZIO of Oregon, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Ms. DELBENE of Washington, Mr. MORELLE of New York, Ms. OMAR of Minnesota, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. BERGMAN of Michigan, Mr. BURCHETT of Tennessee, Mr. HAGEDORN of Minnesota, and Mr. STAUBER of Minnesota.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h, clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. CUELLAR of Texas, Chair, Mr. CORREA of California, Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Ms. ESCOBAR of Texas, Ms. LOFGREN of California, Mr. CARBAJAL of California, Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. CLOUD of Texas, Mr. VALADAO of California, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, and Mr. GIMENEZ of Florida.

The message further announced that pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 51312(b), clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Merchant Marine Academy: Mr. SUOZZI of New York and Mr. GARBARINO of New York.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 1928a, clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the United States Group of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly: Mr. GUTHRIE of Kentucky, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. BERGMAN of Michigan.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

S.J. Res. 15. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of

title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of Currency relating to “National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders”.

MEASURES DISCHARGE PETITION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged of further consideration of S.J. Res. 15, a resolution on providing for congressional disapproval of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency relating to “National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders”, and, further, that the resolution be immediately placed upon the Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

Sherrod Brown, Patrick J. Leahy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Brian Schatz, Tammy Duckworth, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Ben Ray Lujan, Debbie Stabenow, Jack Reed, Edward J. Markey, Patty Murray, Jon Tester, Maria Cantwell, Elizabeth Warren, Bernard Sanders, Tim Kaine, Catherine Cortez Masto, Chris Van Hollen, Ron Wyden, Gary C. Peters, Mark Kelly, Richard Blumenthal, Mark R. Warner, Charles E. Schumer, Tina Smith, Richard J. Durbin, Michael F. Bennet, Amy Klobuchar, Raphael G. Warnock, Alex Padilla.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator RAND PAUL, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pension: Gwen Graham, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs, Department of Education, vice Peter Louis Oppenheim, resigned.

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-865. A communication from the Regulations Writer, Office of Regulations and Reports Clearance, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Rescission of Rules on Improved Agency Guidance Documents” (RIN0960-A154) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-866. A communication from the Director, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Mandatory Advance Electronic Information for International Mail Shipments” (RIN1651-AB33) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 28, 2021; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-867. A communication from the Compliance Specialist, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Independent Contractor Status Under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA): Delay of Effective Date” (RIN1235-AA34) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April

28, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-868. A communication from the Compliance Specialist, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Tip Regulations under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA): Delay of Effective Date” (RIN1235-AA21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 28, 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-869. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled “Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) Quarterly Report to Congress; Second Quarter of fiscal year 2021”; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

EC-870. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to operation of the Exchange Stabilization Fund (ESF) for fiscal year 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-871. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-872. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Equal Credit Opportunity (Regulation B); Discrimination on the Bases of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity” (12 CFR Part 1002) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-873. A communication from the Sanctions Regulations Advisor, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Final Rule Amending the Somalia Sanctions Regulations” (31 CFR Part 551) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-874. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13303 of May 22, 2003, with respect to the stabilization of Iraq; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-875. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004, with respect to the actions of the Government of Syria; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-876. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13667 of May 12, 2014, with respect to the Central African Republic; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-877. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Resolution Planning” (RIN2590-AB13) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 28, 2021; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-878. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board,

transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board’s fiscal year 2020 Annual Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-879. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report on applications made by the Government for authority to conduct electronic surveillance for foreign intelligence during calendar year 2020 relative to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978; to the Committees on the Judiciary; Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; and Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-880. 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 39-21449” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0916)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-881. 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 39-21448” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1123)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-882. 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 39-21445” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1131)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-883. 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 39-21444” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1107)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-884. 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 39-21452” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1132)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-885. 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 (Type Certificate Previously Held by Eurocopter Deutschland GmbH) Helicopters; Amendment 39-21450” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2015-4497)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-886. 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;

EC-909. 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:

EC-933. 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 39-21384” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0905)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-934. 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 39-21506” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0587)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-935. 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; Austro Engines GmbH Engines; Amendment 39-21517” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0311)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-936. 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; Textron Aviation Inc. Airplanes; Amendment 39-21500” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0819)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-937. 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; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.); Amendment 39-21497” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0911)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-938. 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 39-21502” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0965)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-939. 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 39-21494” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-1071)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-940. 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 39-21498” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2019-0480)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-941. 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 39-21512” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0305)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-942. 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; Garmin International GMN-00962 GTS Processor Units; Amendment 39-21509” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0991)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-943. 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 39-21505” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0268)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-944. 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. Helicopter; Amendment 39-21493” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2021-1077)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-945. 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; Rockwell Collins, Inc., Global Positioning Systems; Amendment 39-21501” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0915)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-946. 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 39-21486” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0848)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-947. 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 39-21489” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1173)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-948. 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; MHI RJ Aviation ULC (Type Certificate Previously Held by Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-21487” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1137)) received in the Office of the President of the

Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-949. 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 39-21503” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0266)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-950. 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 Defense and Space S.A. (Formerly Known as Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A.) Airplanes; Amendment 39-21475” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1134)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-951. 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 and Co KG (Type Certificate Previously Held by Rolls-Royce plc) Turbofan Engines; Amendment 39-21488” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1138)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-952. 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; Pacific Scientific Company Seat Restraint System Rotary Buckle Assemblies; Amendment 39-21490” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2013-0752)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-953. 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 39-21483” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-1034)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-954. 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 39-21432” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2020-0854)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-955. 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; Fokker Services B.V. Airplanes; Amendment 39-21476” ((RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2021-0186)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 10, 2021; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 1544. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment under the Medicaid program of certain providers across State lines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1545. A bill to amend the Securities Act of 1934 to require country-by-country reporting; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1546. A bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to provide for reform in the operations of the Office of Government Ethics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 1547. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to apply a 1 percent excise tax on large endowments of certain private colleges and universities, to require that such institutions distribute at least 5 percent of large endowments in each taxable year, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1548. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the diversity of participants in research on Alzheimer's disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PETERS:

S. 1549. A bill to require a review of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration preference for domestic suppliers; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. COONS, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1550. A bill to support Foreign Service families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1551. A bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to finalize a rule to protect consumers from the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning from keyless ignition motor vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS:

S. 1552. A bill to require a report on defense and aerospace manufacturing supply chains; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 1553. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to submit to Congress an annual report on peaker plants in the United States and to provide financial incentives for replacing peaker plants with technology that receives, stores, and delivers energy generated by renewable energy resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAMER (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. 1554. A bill to make certain irrigation districts eligible for Pick-Sloan Missouri

Basin Program pumping power, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DAINES, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1555. A bill to shorten the extension, and the amount, of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation in order to get Americans back to work; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS:

S. 1556. A bill to require a report on the feasibility and benefits of establishing a supply chain center of excellence; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SASSE:

S. 1557. A bill to support both workers and recovery by converting expanded Federal unemployment payments into signing bonuses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. REED, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 1558. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to ensure that all firearms are traceable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 1559. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow certain qualified over-the-counter securities to be treated as readily traded on an established securities market for the purpose of diversification requirements for employee stock ownership plans; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1560. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 1561. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to limit the number of local wage areas allowable within a General Schedule pay locality; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1562. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. HICKENLOOPER):

S. 1563. A bill to establish an open network architecture testbed at the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to develop and demonstrate network architectures and applications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 1564. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide support to university law school programs that are designed to provide legal assistance to veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 1565. A bill to provide for hands-on learning opportunities in STEM education;

to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1566. A bill to provide grants to enable nonprofit disability organizations to develop training programs that support safe interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with disabilities and older individuals; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1567. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish direct care registered nurse-to-patient staffing ratio requirements in hospitals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. PORTMAN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1568. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a waiver of the cap on annual payments for nursing and allied health education payments; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 1569. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the eligibility of students to participate in the supplemental nutrition assistance program, establish college student food insecurity demonstration programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KELLY, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1570. A bill to facilitate nationwide accessibility and coordination of 211 services and 988 services in order to provide information and referral to all residents and visitors in the United States for mental health emergencies, homelessness needs, other social and human services needs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1571. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to expand parental leave for members of the Armed Forces, to reduce the service commitment required for participation in the career intermission program of a military department, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1572. A bill to expand child care opportunities for members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1573. A bill to require Federal law enforcement and prison officials to obtain or provide immediate medical attention to individuals in custody who display medical distress; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MARSHALL:

S. Res. 204. A resolution establishing a Select Committee on the Outbreak of the Coronavirus in China; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. Res. 205. A resolution promoting minority health awareness and supporting the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2021, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations of the United States such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 206. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of April 18 through April 24, 2021, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 89

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors 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. 98

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 98, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for neighborhood revitalization, and for other purposes.

S. 306

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 306, a bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to aliens from certain countries who meet specified eligibility requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 464

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 464, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security

Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 481

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 481, a bill to secure the Federal voting rights of persons when released from incarceration.

S. 535

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 535, a bill to authorize the location of a memorial on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of the Global War on Terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 545

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 545, a bill to permanently exempt payments made from the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Account from sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

S. 611

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to deposit certain funds into the Crime Victims Fund, to waive matching requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 659

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 659, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to promulgate regulations relating to commercial motor vehicle drivers under the age of 21, and for other purposes.

S. 680

At the request of Ms. WARREN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 680, a bill to award grants to States to establish or improve, and carry out, Seal of Biliteracy programs to recognize high-level student proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in both English and a second language.

S. 697

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 697, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the Bicentennial of Harriet Tubman's birth.

S. 740

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 740, a bill to help charitable nonprofit organizations provide services to meet the increasing demand in community needs caused by the coronavirus pandemic, preserve and create jobs in the nonprofit sector, reduce unemployment, and promote economic recovery.

S. 747

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 747, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the adjustment of status of essential workers, and for other purposes.

S. 864

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 864, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 865

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 865, a bill to recognize the right of the People of Puerto Rico to call a status convention through which the people would exercise their natural right to self-determination, and to establish a mechanism for congressional consideration of such decision, and for other purposes.

S. 1168

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1168, a bill to provide clarification regarding the common or usual name for bison and compliance with section 403 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1210

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1210, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to clarify provisions enacted by the Captive Wildlife Safety Act, to further the conservation of certain wildlife species, and for other purposes.

S. 1238

At the request of Mr. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1238, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1251

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1251, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop

a program to reduce barriers to entry for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary markets, and for other purposes.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1271, a bill to reauthorize the Clean School Bus Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1302

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1302, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1315

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1315, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items under the Medicare program.

S. 1355

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1355, a bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to strike provisions that limit the disclosure of certain information by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

S. 1360

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1360, a bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 and the Head Start Act to promote child care and early learning, and for other purposes.

S. 1385

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1385, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to establish additional requirements for dealers, and for other purposes.

S. 1389

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1389, a bill to provide relief to workers impacted by COVID-19 and support for reopening businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 1446

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1446, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a plan for obligating

and expending Coronavirus pandemic funding made available to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1452

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 1452, a bill to require a standard financial aid offer form, and for other purposes.

S. 1470

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1470, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to increase voting accessibility for individuals with disabilities and older individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1482

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1482, a bill to increase Government accountability for administrative actions by reinvigorating administrative Pay-As-You-Go.

S. 1502

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 1502, a bill to make Federal law enforcement officer peer support communications confidential, and for other purposes.

S. 1511

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1511, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 with respect to payments to certain public safety officers who have become permanently and totally disabled as a result of personal injuries sustain in the line of duty, and for other purposes.

S. 1512

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG), the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1512, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 1517

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1517, a bill to prohibit the use of funds for the operation or construction of family detention centers, and for other purposes.

S. 1535

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Wis-

consin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1535, a bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States.

S. CON. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 9, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. RES. 35

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 35, a resolution condemning the military coup that took place on February 1, 2021, in Burma and the Burmese military's detention of civilian leaders, calling for an immediate and unconditional release of all those detained and for those elected to serve in parliament to resume their duties without impediment, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 105

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 105, a resolution condemning the coup in Burma and calling for measures to ensure the safety of the Burmese people, including Rohingya, who have been threatened and displaced by a campaign of genocide conducted by the Burmese military.

S. RES. 136

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 136, a resolution recognizing the duty of the Senate to abandon Modern Monetary Theory and recognizing that the acceptance of Modern Monetary Theory would lead to higher deficits and higher inflation.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 1560. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the work opportunity credit for certain youth employees; to the Committee on Finance.

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. 1560

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Helping to Encourage Real Opportunities (HERO) for Youth Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. MODIFICATION AND EXTENSION OF WORK OPPORTUNITY CREDIT FOR CERTAIN YOUTH EMPLOYEES.

(a) EXPANSION OF CREDIT FOR SUMMER YOUTH.—

(1) CREDIT ALLOWED FOR YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.—Section 51(d)(7)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(A) by striking clauses (i) and (iii) and redesignating clauses (ii) and (iv) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

(B) in clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking “(or if later, on May 1 of the calendar year involved),”;

(C) by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) (as so redesignated) and inserting “, and”;

(D) adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) who will be employed for not more than 20 hours per week during any period between September 16 and April 30 in which such individual is regularly attending any secondary school.”.

(2) INCREASE IN CREDIT AMOUNT.—Section 51(d)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subparagraph (F) of section 51(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “summer”.

(B) Paragraph (7) of section 51(d) of such Code is amended—

(i) by striking “summer” each place it appears in subparagraphs (A);

(ii) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by paragraph (2), by striking “subparagraph (A)(iv)” and inserting “subparagraph (A)(ii)”;

(iii) by striking “SUMMER” in the heading thereof.

(b) CREDIT FOR DISCONNECTED YOUTH.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 51(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “or” at the end of subparagraph (I), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (J) and inserting “, or”, and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(K) an disconnected youth.”.

(2) DISCONNECTED YOUTH.—Paragraph (14) of section 51(d) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

“(14) DISCONNECTED YOUTH.—The term ‘disconnected youth’ means any individual who—

“(A)(i) is certified by the designated local agency as having attained age 16 but not age 25 on the hiring date, and

“(ii) has self-certified (on a form prescribed by the Secretary) that such individual—

“(I) has not regularly attended any secondary, technical, or post-secondary school during the 6-month period preceding the hiring date,

“(II) has not been regularly employed during such 6-month period, and

“(III) is not readily employable by reason of lacking a sufficient number of basic skills, or

“(B) is certified by the designated local agency as—

“(i) having attained age 16 but not age 21 on the hiring date, and

“(ii) an eligible foster child (as defined in section 152(f)(1)(C)) who was in foster care during the 12-month period ending on the hiring date.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to individuals who begin work for the employer after the date of the enactment of this Act.

S. 1562. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide funding, on a competitive basis, for summer and year-round employment opportunities for youth ages 14 through 24; 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. 1560

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 “Creating Pathways for Youth Employment Act”.

SEC. 2. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating subtitle E (29 U.S.C. 3241 et seq.) as subtitle F; and

(2) by inserting after subtitle D (29 U.S.C. 3221 et seq.) the following:

“Subtitle E—Youth Employment Opportunities

“SEC. 176. DEFINITIONS.

“In this subtitle:

“(1) ELIGIBLE YOUTH.—The term ‘eligible youth’ means an individual who—

“(A) is not younger than age 14 or older than age 24; and

“(B) is—

“(i) an in-school youth;

“(ii) an out-of-school youth; or

“(iii) an unemployed individual.

“(2) HARDEST-TO-EMPLOY, MOST-AT-RISK.—The term ‘hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk’, used with respect to an individual, includes individuals who are homeless, in foster care, involved in the juvenile or criminal justice system, or are not enrolled in or at risk of dropping out of an educational institution and who live in an underserved community that has faced trauma through acute or long-term exposure to substantial discrimination, historical or cultural oppression, intergenerational poverty, civil unrest, a high rate of violence, or a high rate of drug overdose mortality.

“(3) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATION.—The terms ‘Indian tribe’ and ‘tribal organization’ have the meanings given the terms in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

“(4) IN-SCHOOL YOUTH; OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH.—The terms ‘in-school youth’ and ‘out-of-school youth’ have the meanings given the terms in section 129(a)(1).

“(5) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ‘institution of higher education’ has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

“(6) SUBSIDIZED EMPLOYMENT.—The term ‘subsidized employment’ means employment for which the employer receives a total or partial subsidy to offset costs of employing an eligible youth under this subtitle.

“(7) TRIBAL AREA.—The term ‘tribal area’ means—

“(A) an area on or adjacent to an Indian reservation;

“(B) land held in trust by the United States for Indians;

“(C) a public domain Indian allotment;

“(D) a former Indian reservation in Oklahoma; and

“(E) land held by an incorporated Native group, Regional Corporation, or Village Cor-

poration under the provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.).

“(8) TRIBAL COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term ‘tribal college or university’ has the meaning given the term ‘Tribal College or University’ in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).

“(9) TRIBALLY DESIGNATED HOUSING ENTITY.—The term ‘tribally designated housing entity’, used with respect to an Indian tribe (as defined in this section), has the meaning given in section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103).

“SEC. 176A. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.

“(a) ALLOCATION.—Of the funds appropriated under section 176E that remain available after any reservation under subsection (b), the Secretary may make available—

“(1) not more than \$1,500,000,000 in accordance with section 176B to provide eligible youth with subsidized summer employment opportunities; and

“(2) not more than \$2,000,000,000 in accordance with section 176C to provide eligible youth with subsidized year-round employment opportunities.

“(b) RESERVATION.—The Secretary may reserve not more than 10 percent of the funds appropriated under section 176E to provide technical assistance and oversight, in order to assist eligible entities in applying for and administering grants awarded under this subtitle.

“SEC. 176B. SUMMER EMPLOYMENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) GRANTS.—Using the amounts made available under 176A(a)(1), the Secretary shall award, on a competitive basis, planning and implementation grants.

“(2) GENERAL USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall award the grants to assist eligible entities by paying for the program share of the cost of—

“(A) in the case of a planning grant, planning a summer youth employment program to provide subsidized summer employment opportunities; and

“(B) in the case of an implementation grant, implementation of such a program, to provide such opportunities.

“(b) PERIODS AND AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—

“(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The Secretary may award a planning grant under this section for a 1-year period, in an amount of not more than \$200,000.

“(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—The Secretary may award an implementation grant under this section for a 3-year period, in an amount of not more than \$5,000,000.

“(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a planning or implementation grant under this section, an entity shall—

“(A) be a—

“(i) State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization, that meets the requirements of paragraph (2); or

“(ii) community-based organization that meets the requirements of paragraph (3); and

“(B) meet the requirements for a planning or implementation grant, respectively, specified in paragraph (4).

“(2) GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS.—An entity that is a State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization referred to in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the entity has entered into a partnership with State, local, or tribal entities—

“(A) that shall include—

“(i) a local educational agency or tribal educational agency (as defined in section 6132 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7452));

“(ii) a local board or tribal workforce development agency;

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

“(iii) a State, local, or tribal agency serving youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system;

“(iv) a State, local, or tribal child welfare agency;

“(v) a State, local, or tribal agency or community-based organization, with—

“(I) expertise in providing counseling services, and trauma-informed and gender-responsive trauma prevention, identification, referral, and support (including treatment) services; and

“(II) a proven track record of serving low-income vulnerable youth and out-of-school youth; and

“(vi) if the State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization is seeking an implementation grant, and has not established a summer youth employment program, an entity that is carrying out a State, local, or tribal summer youth employment program; and

“(vii) an employer or employer association; and

“(B) that may include—

“(i) an institution of higher education or tribal college or university;

“(ii) a representative of a labor or labor-management organization;

“(iii) an entity that carries out a program that receives funding under the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5601 et seq.) or section 212 of the Second Chance Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17532);

“(iv) a collaborative applicant as defined in section 401 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360) or a private nonprofit organization that serves homeless individuals and households (including such an applicant or organization that serves individuals or households that are at risk of homelessness in tribal areas) or serves foster youth;

“(v) an entity that carries out a program funded under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), including Native American programs funded under section 116 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 2326) and tribally controlled postsecondary career and technical institution programs funded under section 117 of that Act (20 U.S.C. 2327);

“(vi) a local or tribal youth committee;

“(vii) a State or local public housing agency or a tribally designated housing entity; and

“(viii) another appropriate State, local, or tribal agency.

“(3) COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION PARTNERSHIPS.—A community-based organization referred to in paragraph (1) shall demonstrate that the organization has entered into a partnership with State, local, or tribal entities—

“(A) that shall include—

“(i) a unit of general local government or tribal government;

“(ii) an agency described in paragraph (2)(A)(i);

“(iii) a local board or tribal workforce development agency;

“(iv) a State, local, or tribal agency serving youth under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system or criminal justice system;

“(v) a State, local, or tribal child welfare agency;

“(vi) if the organization is seeking an implementation grant, and has not established a summer youth employment program, an entity that is carrying out a State, local, or tribal summer youth employment program; and

“(vii) an employer or employer association; and

“(B) that may include one or more entities described in paragraph (2)(B).

“(4) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICULAR GRANTS.—

“(A) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR PLANNING GRANTS.—The Secretary may award a planning grant under this section to an eligible entity that—

“(i) is preparing to establish or expand a summer youth employment program that meets the minimum requirements specified in subsection (d); and

“(ii) has not received a grant under this section.

“(B) ENTITIES ELIGIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award an implementation grant under this section to an eligible entity that—

“(I) has received a planning grant under this section; or

“(II) has established a summer youth employment program and demonstrates a minimum level of capacity to enhance or expand the summer youth employment program described in the application submitted under subsection (d).

“(ii) CAPACITY.—In determining whether an entity has the level of capacity referred to in clause (i)(II), the Secretary may include as capacity—

“(I) the entity's staff capacity and staff training to deliver youth employment services; and

“(II) the entity's existing youth employment services (as of the date of submission of the application submitted under subsection (d)) that are consistent with the application.

“(d) APPLICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an eligible entity desiring to receive a grant under this section for a summer youth employment program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including, at a minimum, each of the following:

“(A) With respect to an application for a planning or implementation grant—

“(i) a description of the eligible youth for whom summer employment services will be provided;

“(ii) a description of the eligible entity, and a description of the expected participation and responsibilities of each of the partners in the partnership described in subsection (c);

“(iii) information demonstrating sufficient need for the grant in the State, local, or tribal population, which may include information showing—

“(I) a high level of unemployment among youth (including young adults) ages 14 through 24;

“(II) a high rate of out-of-school youth;

“(III) a high rate of homelessness;

“(IV) a high rate of poverty;

“(V) a high rate of adult unemployment;

“(VI) a high rate of community or neighborhood crime;

“(VII) a high rate of violence; or

“(VIII) a high level or rate on another indicator of need;

“(iv) a description of the strategic objectives the eligible entity seeks to achieve through the program to provide eligible youth with core work readiness skills, which may include—

“(I) financial literacy skills, including providing the support described in section 129(b)(2)(D);

“(II) sector-based technical skills aligned with employer needs;

“(III) skills that—

“(aa) are soft employment skills, early work skills, or work readiness skills; and

“(bb) include social skills, communications skills, higher-order thinking skills, self-control, and positive self-concept; and

“(IV) (for the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth) basic skills like communication, math, and problem solving in the context of training for advancement to better jobs and postsecondary training; and

“(v) information demonstrating that the eligible entity has obtained commitments to provide the non-program share described in paragraph (2) of subsection (h).

“(B) With respect to an application for a planning grant—

“(i) a description of the intermediate and long-term goals for planning activities for the duration of the planning grant;

“(ii) a description of how grant funds will be used to develop a plan to provide summer employment services for eligible youth;

“(iii) a description of how the eligible entity will carry out an analysis of best practices for identifying, recruiting, and engaging program participants, in particular the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth;

“(iv) a description of how the eligible entity will carry out an analysis of best practices for placing youth participants—

“(I) in opportunities that—

“(aa) are appropriate subsidized employment opportunities with employers based on factors including age, skill, experience, career aspirations, work-based readiness, and barriers to employment; and

“(bb) may include additional services for participants, including core work readiness skill development and mentorship services;

“(II) in summer employment that—

“(aa) is not less than 6 weeks;

“(bb) follows a schedule of not more than 20 hours per week; and

“(cc) pays not less than the applicable Federal, State, or local minimum wage; and

“(v) a description of how the eligible entity plans to develop a mentorship program or connect youth with positive, supportive mentorships, consistent with paragraph (3).

“(C) With respect to an application for an implementation grant—

“(i) a description of how the eligible entity plans to identify, recruit, and engage program participants, in particular the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth;

“(ii) a description of the manner in which the eligible entity plans to place eligible youth participants in subsidized employment opportunities, and in summer employment, described in subparagraph (B)(iv);

“(iii) (for a program serving the hardest-to-employ, most-at-risk eligible youth), a description of workplaces for the subsidized employment involved, which may include workplaces in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors;

“(iv) a description of how the eligible entity plans to provide or connect eligible youth participants with positive, supportive mentorships, consistent with paragraph (3);

“(v) a description of services that will be available to employers participating in the youth employment program, to provide supervisors involved in the program with coaching and mentoring on—

“(I) how to support youth development;

“(II) how to structure learning and reflection; and

“(III) how to deal with youth challenges in the workplace;

“(vi) a description of how the eligible entity plans to offer structured pathways back into employment and a youth employment program under this section for eligible youth who have been terminated from employment or removed from the program;

“(vii) a description of how the eligible entity plans to engage eligible youth beyond

the duration of the summer employment opportunity, which may include—

“(I) developing or partnering with a year-round youth employment program;

“(II) referring eligible youth to other year-round programs, which may include—

“(aa) programs funded under section 176C or the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

“(bb) after school programs;

“(cc) secondary or postsecondary education programs;

“(dd) training programs;

“(ee) cognitive behavior therapy programs;

“(ff) apprenticeship programs; and

“(gg) national service programs;

“(III) employing a full-time, permanent staff person who is responsible for youth outreach, followup, and recruitment; or

“(IV) connecting eligible youth with job development services, including career counseling, resume and job application assistance, interview preparation, and connections to job leads;

“(viii) evidence of the eligible entity’s capacity to provide the services described in this subsection; and

“(ix) a description of the quality of the summer youth employment program, including a program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential.

“(2) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—An eligible entity that is an Indian tribe or tribal organization and desires to receive a grant under this section for a summer youth employment program may, in lieu of submitting the application described in paragraph (1), submit an application to the Secretary that meets such requirements as the Secretary develops after consultation with the tribe or organization.

“(3) MENTOR.—For purposes of subparagraphs (B)(iv), (B)(v), and (C)(iv) of paragraph (1), a mentor—

“(A) shall be an individual who has been matched with an eligible youth based on the youth’s needs;

“(B) shall make contact with the eligible youth at least once each week;

“(C) shall be a trusted member of the local community; and

“(D) may include—

“(i) a mentor trained in trauma-informed care (including provision of trauma-informed trauma prevention, identification, referral, or support services to youth that have experienced or are at risk of experiencing trauma), conflict resolution, and positive youth development;

“(ii) a job coach trained to provide youth with guidance on how to navigate the workplace and troubleshoot problems;

“(iii) a supervisor trained to provide at least two performance assessments and serve as a reference; or

“(iv) a peer mentor who is a former or current participant in the youth employment program involved.

“(e) AWARDS FOR POPULATIONS AND AREAS.—

“(1) POPULATIONS.—The Secretary shall reserve, from the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1)—

“(A) 50 percent to award grants under this section for planning or provision of subsidized summer employment opportunities for in-school youth; and

“(B) 50 percent to award such grants to plan for planning or provision of such opportunities for out-of-school youth.

“(2) AREAS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In awarding the grants, the Secretary shall consider the regional diversity of the areas to be served, to ensure that urban, suburban, rural, and tribal areas are receiving grant funds.

“(B) RURAL AND TRIBAL AREA INCLUSION.—

“(i) RURAL AREAS.—Not less than 20 percent of the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1) for each fiscal year shall be made available for activities to be carried out in rural areas.

“(ii) TRIBAL AREAS.—Not less than 5 percent of the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(1) for each fiscal year shall be made available for activities to be carried out in tribal areas.

“(f) PROGRAM PRIORITIES.—In allocating funds under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities—

“(1) who propose to coordinate their activities—

“(A) with local or tribal employers; and

“(B) with agencies described in subsection (c)(2)(A)(i) to ensure the summer youth employment programs provide clear linkages to remedial, academic, and occupational programs carried out by the agencies;

“(2) who propose a plan to increase private sector engagement in, and job placement through, summer youth employment; and

“(3) who have, in their counties, States, or tribal areas (as compared to other counties in their State, other States, or other tribal areas, respectively), a high level or rate described in subsection (d)(1)(A)(iii).

“(g) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may use the grant funds for services described in subsection (d).

“(2) DISCRETIONARY USES.—The eligible entity may also use the funds—

“(A) to provide wages to eligible youth in subsidized summer employment programs;

“(B) to provide eligible youth with support services, including case management, child care assistance, child support services, and transportation assistance; and

“(C) to develop data management systems to assist with programming, evaluation, and records management.

“(3) ADMINISTRATION.—An eligible entity may reserve not more than 10 percent of the grant funds for the administration of activities under this section.

“(4) CARRY-OVER AUTHORITY.—Any amounts provided to an eligible entity under this section for a fiscal year may, at the discretion of the Secretary, remain available to that entity for expenditure during the succeeding fiscal year to carry out programs under this section.

“(h) PROGRAM SHARE.—

“(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The program share for a planning grant awarded under this section shall be 100 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

“(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The program share for an implementation grant awarded under this section shall be 50 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

“(B) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Secretary—

“(i) may increase the program share for an eligible entity; and

“(ii) shall increase the program share for an Indian tribe or tribal organization to not less than 95 percent of the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

“(C) NON-PROGRAM SHARE.—The eligible entity may provide the non-program share of the cost—

“(i) in cash or in-kind, fairly evaluated, including plant, equipment, or services; and

“(ii) from State, local, tribal or private (including philanthropic) sources and, in the case of an Indian tribe or tribal organization, from Federal sources.

“SEC. 176C. YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) GRANTS.—Using the amounts made available under 176A(a)(2), the Secretary

shall award, on a competitive basis, planning and implementation grants.

“(2) GENERAL USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary shall award the grants to assist eligible entities by paying for the program share of the cost of—

“(A) in the case of a planning grant, planning a year-round youth employment program to provide subsidized year-round employment opportunities; and

“(B) in the case of an implementation grant, implementation of such a program to provide such opportunities.

“(b) PERIODS AND AMOUNTS OF GRANTS.—The planning grants shall have the periods and amounts described in section 176B(b)(1). The implementation grants shall have the periods and grants described in section 176B(b)(2).

“(c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a planning or implementation grant under this section, an entity shall, except as provided in paragraph (2)—

“(A) be a—

“(i) State, local government, or Indian tribe or tribal organization, that meets the requirements of section 176B(c)(2); or

“(ii) community-based organization that meets the requirements of section 176B(c)(3); and

“(B) meet the requirements for a planning or implementation grant, respectively, specified in section 176B(c)(4).

“(2) YEAR-ROUND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS.—For purposes of paragraph (1), any reference in section 176B(c)—

“(A) to a summer youth employment program shall be considered to refer to a year-round youth employment program; and

“(B) to a provision of section 176B shall be considered to refer to the corresponding provision of this section.

“(d) APPLICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an eligible entity desiring to receive a grant under this section for a year-round youth employment program shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including, at a minimum, each of the following:

“(A) With respect to an application for a planning or implementation grant, the information and descriptions specified in section 176B(d)(1)(A).

“(B) With respect to an application for a planning grant, the descriptions specified in section 176B(d)(1)(B), except that the description of an analysis for placing youth in employment described in clause (iv)(II)(bb) of that section shall cover employment that follows a schedule—

“(i) that consists of—

“(I) not more than 15 hours per week for in-school youth; and

“(II) not less than 20 and not more than 40 hours per week for out-of-school youth; and

“(ii) that depends on the needs and work-readiness level of the population being served.

“(C) With respect to an application for an implementation grant, the descriptions and evidence specified in section 176B(d)(1)(C)—

“(i) except that the reference in section 176B(d)(1)(C)(ii) to employment described in section 176B(d)(1)(B) shall cover employment that follows the schedule described in subparagraph (B); and

“(ii) except that the reference to programs in clause (vii)(II)(aa) of that section shall be considered to refer only to programs funded under the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

“(2) INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—An eligible entity that is an Indian tribe or

tribal organization and desires to receive a grant under this section for a year-round youth employment program may, in lieu of submitting the application described in paragraph (1), submit an application to the Secretary that meets such requirements as the Secretary develops after consultation with the tribe or organization.

“(3) MENTOR.—For purposes of paragraph (1), any reference in subparagraphs (B)(iv), (B)(v), and (C)(iv) of section 176B(d)(1) to a mentor shall be considered to refer to a mentor who—

“(A) shall be an individual described in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of section 176B(d)(3);

“(B) shall make contact with the eligible youth at least twice each week; and

“(C) may be an individual described in section 176B(d)(3)(D).

“(4) YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, any reference in section 176B(d)—

“(A) to summer employment shall be considered to refer to year-round employment; and

“(B) to a provision of section 176B shall be considered to refer to the corresponding provision of this section.

“(e) AWARDS FOR POPULATIONS AND AREAS; PRIORITIES.—

“(1) POPULATIONS.—The Secretary shall reserve, from the amounts made available under section 176A(a)(2)—

“(A) 50 percent to award grants under this section for planning or provision of subsidized year-round employment opportunities for in-school youth; and

“(B) 50 percent to award such grants to plan for planning or provision of such opportunities for out-of-school youth.

“(2) AREAS; PRIORITIES.—In awarding the grants, the Secretary shall—

“(A) carry out section 176B(e)(2); and

“(B) give priority to eligible entities—

“(i) who—

“(I) propose the coordination and plan described paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 176B(f), with respect to year-round youth employment; and

“(II) meet the requirements of section 176B(f)(3); or

“(ii) who—

“(I) propose a plan to coordinate activities with entities carrying out State, local, or tribal summer youth employment programs, to provide pathways to year-round employment for eligible youth who are ending summer employment; and

“(II) meet the requirements of section 176B(f)(3).

“(f) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under this section may use the grant funds—

“(1) for services described in subsection (d);

“(2) as described in section 176B(g)(2), with respect to year-round employment programs;

“(3) as described in section 176B(g)(3), with respect to activities under this section; and

“(4) at the discretion of the Secretary, as described in section 176B(g)(4), with respect to activities under this section.

“(g) PROGRAM SHARE.—

“(1) PLANNING GRANTS.—The provisions of section 176B(h)(1) shall apply to planning grants awarded under this section, with respect to the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(A).

“(2) IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS.—The provisions of section 176B(h)(2) shall apply to implementation grants awarded under this section, with respect to the cost described in subsection (a)(2)(B).

“SEC. 176D. EVALUATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

“(a) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish performance measures for purposes of annual reviews under subsection (b).

“(2) COMPONENTS.—The performance measures for the eligible entities shall consist of—

“(A) the indicators of performance described in paragraph (3); and

“(B) an adjusted level of performance for each indicator described in subparagraph (A).

“(3) INDICATORS OF PERFORMANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The indicators of performance shall consist of—

“(i) the percentage of youth employment program participants who are in education or training activities, or in employment, during the second quarter after exit from the program;

“(ii) the percentage of youth employment program participants who are in education or training activities, or in employment, during the fourth quarter after exit from the program;

“(iii) the percentage of youth employment program participants who obtain a recognized postsecondary credential, or a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent (subject to subparagraph (B)), during participation in or within 1 year after exit from the program; and

“(iv) the percentage of youth employment program participants who, during a program year, are in a youth employment program that includes an education or training program that leads to an outcome specified by the Secretary, which may include—

“(I) obtaining a recognized postsecondary credential or employment; or

“(II) achieving measurable skill gains toward such a credential or employment.

“(B) INDICATOR RELATING TO CREDENTIAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), youth employment program participants who obtain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent shall be included in the percentage counted as meeting the criterion under such subparagraph only if such participants, in addition to obtaining such diploma or its recognized equivalent, have obtained or retained employment or are in a youth employment program that includes an education or training program leading to a recognized postsecondary credential within 1 year after exit from the program.

“(4) LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For each eligible entity, there shall be established, in accordance with this paragraph, levels of performance for each of the corresponding indicators of performance described in paragraph (3).

“(B) IDENTIFICATION IN APPLICATION.—Each eligible entity shall identify, in the application submitted under subsection (d) of section 176B or 176C, expected levels of performance for each of those indicators of performance for each program year covered by the application.

“(C) AGREEMENT ON ADJUSTED LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE.—The eligible entity shall reach agreement with the Secretary on levels of performance for each of those indicators of performance for each such program year. The levels agreed to shall be considered to be the adjusted levels of performance for the eligible entity for such program years and shall be incorporated into the application prior to the approval of such application.

“(b) ANNUAL REVIEW.—The Secretary shall carry out an annual review of each eligible entity receiving a grant under this subtitle. In conducting the review, the Secretary shall review the performance of the entity on the performance measures under this section and determine if the entity has used any practices that shall be considered best practices for purposes of this subtitle.

“(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

“(1) PREPARATION.—The Secretary shall prepare a report on the grant programs es-

tablished by this subtitle, which report shall include a description of—

“(A) the eligible entities receiving funding under this subtitle;

“(B) the activities carried out by the eligible entities;

“(C) how the eligible entities were selected to receive funding under this subtitle; and

“(D) an assessment of the results achieved by the grant programs including findings from the annual reviews conducted under subsection (b).

“(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Creating Pathways for Youth Employment Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report described in paragraph (1) to the appropriate committees of Congress.

“(d) APPLICATION TO INDIAN TRIBES AND TRIBAL ORGANIZATIONS.—The Secretary may issue regulations that clarify the application of all the provisions of this subtitle to Indian tribes and tribal organizations.

“SEC. 176E. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“There are authorized to be appropriated—

“(1) to carry out section 176B, \$300,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026; and

“(2) to carry out section 176C, \$400,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.”.

SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) REFERENCES.—

(1) Section 121(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II) of the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3152(b)(1)(C)(ii)(II)) is amended by striking “subtitles C through E” and inserting “subtitles C through F”.

(2) Section 503(b) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 3343(b)) is amended by inserting before the period the following: “(as such subtitles were in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act)”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of such Act is amended by striking the item relating to the subtitle heading for subtitle E of title I and inserting the following:

“Subtitle E—Youth Employment Opportunities

“Sec. 176. Definitions.

“Sec. 176A. Allocation of funds.

“Sec. 176B. Summer employment competitive grant program.

“Sec. 176C. Year-round employment competitive grant program.

“Sec. 176D. Evaluation and administration.

“Sec. 176E. Authorization of appropriations.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 204—ESTABLISHING A SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE OUTBREAK OF THE CORONAVIRUS IN CHINA

Mr. MARSHALL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 204

Resolved,

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE OUTBREAK OF THE CORONAVIRUS IN CHINA.

There is established a select investigative committee of the Senate, to be known as the Select Committee on the Outbreak of the Coronavirus in China (referred to in this resolution as the “select committee”), to investigate the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in or around Wuhan, China.

SEC. 2. MEMBERSHIP.

(a) COMPOSITION.—The select committee shall be composed of not more than 12 Senators, of whom 6 shall be appointed by the

Majority Leader and 6 shall be appointed by the Minority Leader.

(b) **CHAIRPERSON; VICE-CHAIRPERSON.**—The Majority Leader shall designate 1 member of the select committee as the chairperson of the select committee, and the Minority Leader shall designate 1 member of the select committee as the vice-chairperson of the select committee.

(c) **EXEMPTION.**—For purposes of paragraph 4 of rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, service of a Senator as a member or chairperson of the select committee shall not be taken into account.

(d) **VACANCIES.**—Any vacancy in the select committee shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

SEC. 3. INVESTIGATION AND REPORT.

(a) **INVESTIGATION.**—The select committee shall conduct a full and complete investigation and study regarding—

(1) identification of the source of the COVID-19 virus and the route of human-to-human transmission beginning in or around Wuhan, China;

(2) secret research and gain-of-function zoonotic research at the Wuhan Institute of Virology (referred to in this section as “WIV”);

(3) training operations and safety standards at the WIV;

(4) cases of researchers at the WIV laboratory becoming sick or demonstrating COVID-19-like symptoms in 2019 or 2020;

(5) cables and other communications from 2017 to 2021 from employees of the Department of State, the Central Intelligence Agency, and the Department of Health and Human Services regarding activities and research at the WIV;

(6) response from officials of the Department of State and National Security Council in Washington, DC to the cables and other communications described in paragraph (5);

(7) funding distributed to the WIV by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the National Institutes of Health, and institutions of higher education of the United States;

(8) funding of gain-of-function research by the National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases during the 2014–2017 moratorium on such research;

(9) research and possible leaks from the Wuhan Center for Disease Control;

(10) information regarding efforts by the Chinese Communist Party to silence journalists and doctors, destroy samples of the COVID-19 virus, and block United States and other foreign investigators, including investigations surrounding the Chinese Communist Party’s misinformation campaign through social media, traditional news outlets, and other propaganda outlets;

(11) the origination of claims that the pandemic spread from a seafood market in Wuhan, China and the closure and sanitation of the market;

(12) actions taken by the World Health Organization, including actions taken by Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus and other World Health Organization officials, to spread Chinese misinformation and the failure of the World Health Organization to meet the Organization’s charter to prevent the international spread of disease; and

(13) the impact of failing to shut down travel in and out of Wuhan, China, the Hubei province, and greater China.

(b) **REPORTS.**—The select committee—

(1) shall issue a final report to the Senate of its findings from the investigation and study described in subsection (a) by not later than 1 year after the date of adoption of this resolution; and

(2) may issue to the Senate such interim reports as the select committee determines necessary.

SEC. 4. AUTHORITIES AND POWERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—For the purposes of this resolution, the select committee is authorized in its discretion—

(1) to make investigations into any matter within its jurisdiction;

(2) to make expenditures from the contingent fund of the Senate;

(3) to employ personnel;

(4) to hold hearings;

(5) to sit and act at any time or place during the sessions, recesses, and adjourned periods of the Senate;

(6) to require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance of witnesses and the production of correspondence, books, papers, and documents;

(7) to take depositions and other testimony;

(8) to procure the services of individual consultants, or organizations thereof, in accordance with section 202(i) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4301(i)); and

(9) with the prior consent of the government department or agency concerned and the Committee on Rules and Administration, to use on a reimbursable basis the services of personnel of any such department or agency.

(b) **OATHS.**—The chairperson of the select committee or any member thereof may administer oaths to witnesses.

(c) **SUBPOENAS.**—A subpoena authorized by the select committee—

(1) may be issued under the signature of the chairperson, the vice-chairperson, or any member of the select committee designated by the chairperson; and

(2) may be served by any person designated by the chairperson, the vice-chairperson, or other member signing the subpoena.

(d) **COMMITTEE RULES.**—The select committee shall adopt rules (not inconsistent with the rules of the Senate and in accordance with rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate) governing the procedure of the select committee, which shall include addressing how often the select committee shall meet, meeting times and location, type of notifications, notices of hearings, duration of the select committee, and records of the select committee after committee activities are complete.

SEC. 5. TERMINATION.

The select committee shall terminate on the day after the date the report required under section 3(b)(1) is submitted.

SENATE RESOLUTION 205—PROMOTING MINORITY HEALTH AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH IN APRIL 2021, WHICH INCLUDE BRINGING ATTENTION TO THE HEALTH DISPARITIES FACED BY MINORITY POPULATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SUCH AS AMERICAN INDIANS, ALASKA NATIVES, ASIAN AMERICANS, AFRICAN AMERICANS, HISPANICS, AND NATIVE HAWAIIANS OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BROWN,

Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 205

Whereas the origin of National Minority Health Month is National Negro Health Week, established in 1915 by Dr. Booker T. Washington;

Whereas the theme for National Minority Health Month in 2021 is “Vaccine Ready”;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has set goals and strategies to enhance and protect the health and wellbeing of the people of the United States;

Whereas a study by the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, entitled “The Economic Burden of Health Inequalities in the United States”, concludes that, between 2003 and 2006, the combined cost of health inequalities and premature death in the United States was \$1,240,000,000,000;

Whereas African American women were as likely to have been diagnosed with breast cancer as non-Hispanic White women, but African American women were about 40 percent more likely to die from breast cancer than non-Hispanic White women between 2012 and 2016;

Whereas African American women lose their lives to cervical cancer at more than twice the rate of non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African American men are 70 percent more likely to die from a stroke than non-Hispanic White men;

Whereas Hispanics are twice as likely as non-Hispanic Whites to suffer from end-stage renal disease caused by diabetes, and are 30 percent more likely to die of diabetes, than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas the HIV diagnosis rate among Hispanic men is more than 3 times the HIV diagnosis rate among non-Hispanic White men;

Whereas the HIV diagnosis rate among Hispanic women is 4 times the HIV diagnosis rate among non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas, in 2018, although African Americans represented only 13 percent of the population of the United States, African Americans accounted for 42 percent of new HIV diagnoses;

Whereas, in 2018, African American youth accounted for an estimated 51 percent, and Hispanic youth accounted for an estimated 27 percent, of all new HIV diagnoses among youth in the United States;

Whereas, in 2016, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were 1.6 times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, in 2018, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders were 2.5 times more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders are 10 percent more likely to die from cancer than non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas, although the prevalence of obesity is high among all population groups in the United States, 48 percent of American Indian and Alaska Natives, 51 percent of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, 48 percent of African Americans, 45 percent of Hispanics, 37 percent of non-Hispanic Whites, and 12 percent of Asian Americans older than 18 years old were obese (not including overweight);

Whereas Asian Americans accounted for 30 percent of chronic Hepatitis B cases, and non-Hispanic Whites accounted for 13.5 percent of chronic Hepatitis B cases;

Whereas of the children diagnosed with perinatal HIV in 2017, 65 percent were African American, 9 percent were Hispanic, and 14 percent were non-Hispanic White;

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has identified heart disease,

stroke, cancer, and diabetes as 4 of the 10 leading causes of death among American Indians and Alaska Natives;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives die from diabetes, alcoholism, unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide at higher rates than other people in the United States;

Whereas American Indians and Alaska Natives have a life expectancy that is 5.5 years shorter than the life expectancy of the overall population of the United States;

Whereas African American women die from childbirth or pregnancy-related causes at a rate that is 3 to 4 times higher than the rate for non-Hispanic White women;

Whereas African American infants are 3.8 times more likely to die due to complications related to low birth weight than non-Hispanic White infants;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Native infants are more than twice as likely as non-Hispanic White infants to die from sudden infant death syndrome;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Natives have an infant mortality rate twice as high as that of non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas American Indian and Alaska Native infants are 2.7 times more likely to die from accidental deaths before their first birthday than non-Hispanic White infants;

Whereas sickle cell disease affects approximately 100,000 people in the United States, occurring in approximately 1 out of every 365 African American births and 1 out of every 16,300 Hispanic births;

Whereas 10.9 percent of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, 6.3 percent of Asian Americans, 8.8 percent of Hispanics, 8.7 percent of African Americans, and 14 percent of American Indians and Alaska Natives received mental health treatment or counseling in the past year, compared to 18.6 percent of non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas the 2019 National Healthcare Quality and Disparities Report found African Americans and American Indians and Alaska Natives received worse care than non-Hispanic Whites for about 40 percent of quality measures, Hispanics and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders received worse care than non-Hispanic Whites for 33 percent of quality measures, and Asian Americans received worse care than non-Hispanic Whites for nearly 30 percent of quality measures;

Whereas nearly 30 percent of reported COVID-19-related cases are among Hispanics compared to less than 50 percent comprising non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas nearly 3.5 times more American Indians and Alaska Natives, 2.9 times more Hispanics, and 2.8 times more African Americans were hospitalized due to COVID-19 compared to non-Hispanic Whites;

Whereas significant differences in social determinants of health can lead to poor health outcomes and declines in life expectancy; and

Whereas community-based health care initiatives, such as prevention-focused programs, present a unique opportunity to use innovative approaches to improve public health and health care practices across the United States and to reduce disparities among racial and ethnic minority populations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2021, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations in the United States, such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

SENATE RESOLUTION 206—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF APRIL 18 THROUGH APRIL 24, 2021, AS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 206

Whereas crime and victimization in the United States have significant, and sometimes life shattering, impacts on victims, survivors, and communities across the United States;

Whereas research suggests that there are several million violent victimizations each year in the United States, yet less than half of all violent crimes are ever reported to police;

Whereas crime victims and survivors need and deserve support and access to services to help them cope with the physical, psychological, financial, and other adverse effects of crime;

Whereas Congress has recognized the importance of supporting crime victims and survivors through the passage of legislation concerning this important issue, including—

(1) the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (34 U.S.C. 20101 et seq.);

(2) the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291 et seq.);

(3) the Survivors' Bill of Rights Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-236; 130 Stat. 966);

(4) the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.);

(5) the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.);

(6) the Elder Abuse Prevention and Prosecution Act (34 U.S.C. 21701 et seq.);

(7) the Amy, Vicky, and Andy Child Pornography Victim Assistance Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-299; 132 Stat. 4383);

(8) the Scott Campbell, Stephanie Roper, Wendy Preston, Louarna Gillis, and Nila Lynn Crime Victims' Rights Act (Public Law 108-405; 118 Stat. 2261); and

(9) the Justice for All Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-405; 118 Stat. 2260);

Whereas crime can touch the life of any individual, regardless of the age, race, national origin, religion, or gender of that individual;

Whereas a just society acknowledges the impact of crime on individuals, families, schools, and communities by protecting the rights of crime victims and survivors;

Whereas crime victims and survivors in the United States, and the families of those victims and survivors, need and deserve support and assistance to help cope with the often devastating consequences of crime;

Whereas, since Congress adopted the first resolution designating Crime Victims Week in 1985, communities across the United States have joined Congress and the Department of Justice in commemorating National Crime Victims' Rights Week to celebrate a shared vision of a comprehensive and collaborative response that identifies and addresses the many needs of crime victims and survivors and the families of those victims and survivors;

Whereas the Senate applauds the work of crime victims advocates to ensure that all crime victims and survivors, and the families of those victims and survivors, are—

(1) treated with dignity, fairness, and respect;

(2) offered support and services, regardless of whether the victims and survivors report crimes committed against them; and

(3) recognized as key participants within the criminal, juvenile, Federal, and Tribal justice systems in the United States when the victims and survivors report crimes; and

Whereas the Senate recognizes and appreciates the continued importance of—

(1) promoting the rights of, and services for, crime victims and survivors; and

(2) honoring crime victims and survivors, and the individuals who provide services for those victims and survivors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports—

(A) the designation of the week of April 18 through April 24, 2021, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week; and

(B) the theme of National Crime Victims' Rights Week 2021, "Support Victims. Build Trust. Engage Communities.", which emphasizes the importance of leveraging community support to help crime victims and survivors;

(2) recognizes that crime victims and survivors, and the families of those victims and survivors, should be treated with dignity, fairness, and respect;

(3) applauds the work carried out by thousands of victim assistance organizations and agencies that serve crime survivors at the local, State, Federal, and Tribal levels;

(4) remains committed to funding programs authorized by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (34 U.S.C. 20101 et seq.) and the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291 et seq.), among other Federal programs, which help thousands of public, community-based, and Tribal victim and survivor assistance organizations and agencies that provide essential, and often life-saving, services to millions of crime victims throughout the United States; and

(5) encourages the observance of the 40th anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week with appropriate public awareness, education, and outreach activities.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. 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, May 11, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

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, May 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

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, May 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 11, 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, May 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

The Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TAXATION AND IRS
OVERSIGHT

The Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

PROMOTING MINORITY HEALTH
AWARENESS AND SUPPORTING
THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NA-
TIONAL MINORITY HEALTH
MONTH IN APRIL 2021

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, if I could say, this is kind of like the old days, with you up there.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 205, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 205) promoting minority health awareness and supporting the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2021, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations of the United States such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. I know of no further debate on the measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If there is no further debate, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 205) was agreed to.

Mr. BROWN. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION
OF THE WEEK OF APRIL 18
THROUGH APRIL 24, 2021, AS NA-
TIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS
WEEK

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 206, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 206) supporting the designation of the week of April 18 through April 24, 2021, as National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The resolution (S. Res. 206) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 12,
2021.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Wednesday, May 12; 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 the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the motion to discharge the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services from the Finance Committee; that at 12 noon all time be considered expired and the Senate vote on the motion to discharge the Brooks-LaSure nomination; that the cloture motions filed during yesterday's session of the Senate ripen following disposition of the motion to discharge; further, that if cloture is invoked on Executive Calendar No. 108,

Ronald Stroman, all postcloture time be considered expired at 3:30 p.m.; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BROWN. 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, following the remarks of Senator INHOFE of Oklahoma.

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

The Senator from Oklahoma.

ALLIES AND PARTNERS

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, Winston Churchill famously said: "There is only one thing worse than fighting with allies, and that is fighting without them."

Republicans and Democrats agree: Strong alliances and partnerships are key to the asymmetric advantage that the United States has over our strategic competitors.

Like every President before him, President Biden has rightly made America's alliances and partnerships a cornerstone of his administration. It is a national security policy.

Alliances and partnerships are not a substitute for a strong American military. A strong military is the foundation of our alliances. Military power creates leverage and credibility for our diplomats, and just as importantly, it creates a deterrent.

Real deterrence cannot be achieved unless it is credible, and it cannot be credible unless we properly fund our military and have our allies and partners with us. It has to be both. You can't have one or the other. Why? Because our partnerships are two-way streets. Alliances aren't just for show. They are not just empty statements that we are blindly sending money to support vague goals. These relationships are built on mutual interests. They benefit us just as much as they benefit other countries. Look at the billions of dollars that some of our allies have contributed to U.S. bases in their countries.

"National Defense Strategy"—this book is the one that was put together in 2018. It was put together by 12 people, 6 Republicans and 6 Democrats, all experts in their field. In fact, one of them just this morning was in a committee hearing before our committee. This document has been our blueprint for a long period of time, so this is what we have, and this is what we feel is going to be something that will stay with us for a long time.

In this book, it states that—and I am quoting from it now—"mutually beneficial alliances and partnerships are

crucial to our strategy, providing a durable, asymmetric strategic advantage that no competitor or rival can match.” But maintaining that asymmetrical advantage requires much more than simply saying nice things about our allies and partners.

The bipartisan National Defense Strategy Commission report, written by six Democrats and six Republicans, makes this very clear. They talk about how “these alliances and partnerships . . . have ultimately rested on a foundation of military strength.” So when President Biden says that “America’s alliances are our greatest asset” and then goes to underfund the military, it defies common sense. Underfunding the military threatens that very foundation that underwrites the effectiveness of our alliances and partnerships.

Let me explain a little bit of how it works. We will start with nuclear modernization.

The United States maintains a safe and effective nuclear arsenal to protect American families but also to protect our partners and allies. Our nuclear umbrella has three benefits.

First, it makes clear to China and Russia which countries stand with us. You know, they don’t know otherwise, and they have a terrible practice of lying about which countries are with us or are with them. So this makes it very clear. It is on the dotted line.

Second, it has the benefit of giving those countries the security of relying on our deterrence rather than feeling like they have to develop their own nuclear weapons.

Thirdly, our umbrella of extended nuclear deterrence is a pillar of our goal of global nuclear nonproliferation. If we cut back our own nuclear deterrent and take away that umbrella, which is what would happen if we reduce our defense budget, it is likely that nuclear weapons will become more common, not less.

President Biden has said nuclear nonproliferation is one of his priorities. Do you see the disconnect here? That is why it is so concerning to me that some administration officials—now I am talking about the current administration—some of those officials are talking about drastically reducing our nuclear modernization efforts.

I am also concerned that some in the administration and in Congress are targeting our fifth-generation stealth air power. Don’t get me wrong—the F-35 has had its problems. We all understand that. But it is the cornerstone of our ability to operate with allies and our partners.

The F-35 program—that is our program—has 21 allies and partners in it. For many, it is their main capability and will be their primary contribution to any kind of a high-end problem that should come forward. When we talk about cutting the program or moving away from it, their governments question our commitment. There is no substitute aircraft or capability for these countries. We want our allies and part-

ners to fight along with us; there is no question about that.

Let’s remember what happened. First of all, the F-35 is a fifth-generation vehicle, and we only had one other one, and that was the F-22. I remember so well, just a few years ago, at that time we were going to have 700 F-22 aircraft, but we only ended up with 187 of them because at the last minute, they were talking like they are talking today, a lot of people in the administration, saying maybe we don’t need to have as many F-35s. Well, we absolutely do need to have them. We don’t want to make the same mistake now that we made several years ago with the F-22.

Our combatant commanders have already told us that we will be outnumbered in terms of stealth fighters in the western Pacific by 2025, and it will be even worse if American F-35 cuts lead—because you know that other countries, like our allies in Australia and Japan, they would be cutting theirs if we cut ours.

That is just one of the many serious problems we have in the Indo-Pacific.

Our partners and allies are worried about U.S. force posture and our ability to deter and, if necessary, defeat China’s use of military force. I heard that for myself way back in 2018 when I was in that area of the South China Sea. Many of our allies and partners in that region—they were clear. They saw firsthand how China was preparing to swiftly defeat our forces in the Pacific. They were trying to figure out how—if we would be there for them when that happened or if they would be needing to start cozying up to China. They are not going to sit around and wait for us to perform. They are going to have to know that we are going to be there for them.

Our competition out there in that area is clearly China. We know what they are doing, we know what their plans are, and we are concerned about it. Fortunately, our significant investment in the military under President Trump was an encouraging sign to our allies and partners. They were all very proud of us. But after watching China’s Communist Party dismantle democracy in Hong Kong and commit genocide on the Uighurs in northwest China, our partners and allies in the Indo-Pacific are now worried that China will try to invade and annex Taiwan. How many years have we been talking about that? Now they are really concerned about it.

General McMaster testified that Taiwan is “the most significant flashpoint that could lead to large scale war,” saying that China would take military action against Taiwan as soon as 2022. The former and current commanders of INDOPACOM both emphasized the near-term threat. It is a real threat. It is out there.

This is the primary reason why the Armed Services Committee with overwhelmingly bipartisan support has put in place our Pacific Deterrent Initiative. We call it the PDI. The PDI is in-

tended to bolster our degraded force posture in the Indo-Pacific to counter China’s military buildup. We have to restore the favorable balance of power in the region where the problem is the most acute, and that is west of the international date line, where our partners and allies are most immediately threatened by Chinese aggression.

PDI is fundamentally about building basic infrastructure so that we can operate with our allies and partners. It will mean more distributed and smaller bases, maybe hardened communications, as well as increased and more realistic exercises with allies and partners.

If we want PDI to succeed, we need to resource it properly. Both Admirals Davidson and Aquilino told the Armed Services Committee that much just last week in a hearing we had in our committee.

After the hollow promises of the Obama administration to “Pivot to the Pacific” and after almost no change in the U.S. military posture in the region over the last two decades, our partners and allies in the Indo-Pacific are worried, and justly so. They want to see sustained investment matching sustained commitments, especially after President Trump rightfully pushed them to step up their own investments. They answered the call. But President Biden will create a credibility problem if we don’t continue to invest as well. We want them to do that. This is the case. We are going to have to get this done.

Our INDOPACOM allies and partners throughout that region are watching closely to see what we do with the defense budget top line and with PDI. What they see is that President Biden’s defense budget does not even keep up with inflation. We are talking about the defense budget that he came out with just a couple of weeks ago. That actually had a reduction. It didn’t even beat inflation at that time and didn’t come close to what was really recommended by this document that we are supposed to be using—it is a bipartisan document—let alone matching the real growth we need to implement the National Defense Strategy.

So over in Europe, Biden proclaimed, “America is back,” and that sounds good, claiming a reversal from the previous administration. It is just not true. Again, actions are not matching words. Rhetoric without resources will devastate our credibility and undermine our alliances here too.

If defense cuts impact the European Deterrence Initiative, it will serve to weaken our European posture and make our allies and partners more susceptible to Russian aggression. Without a strong defense budget, the Biden administration’s goal and pledge to support NATO and deter Russia will ring hollow for our European allies and partners.

Sharing the burden is a key benefit of our international alliances and partnerships, but our NATO alliances

might see the administration's military reductions as a signal that they no longer need to meet their commitments to spend 2 percent of their GDP. Now, remember when the previous President, President Trump, talked to our allies to start belying up and participating. NATO—those nations are our friends, but they are not coming to the level that they are going to have to do to carry their end of it.

Don't forget—whether we are facing Russia, China, or other adversaries in other parts of the world, operating jointly with our allies and partners is a core part of our ability to deter conflict in multiple theaters, but it requires investment.

Take the refueling support we provided for our French allies in Mali—6 million pounds of fuel to allow the French to take on that critical counterterrorism mission and support their troops on the ground. It would have cost us billions to do this mission by ourselves. That is why we need the allies. The same goes for Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Yemen, and elsewhere. A good portion of our defense budget pays for our military to support our allies and partners so that we don't have to send our own troops over there and our allies can do it for us. It gives us insight into its operations.

So do you see what would happen if our military's ability to posture forward and stay ready is choked by inadequate defense spending? Our allies and partners would suffer, not improve, and the United States would end up spending more money for less security. This goes directly against the Biden administration's stated goals.

Thinking that alliances and partnerships can substitute for U.S. military capability and capacity is wishful thinking. It is illogical. That strategy will harm our national security. As former Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said, "Throughout history, we see nations with allies thrive and nations without allies wither." If we want to win against our strategic competitors, it will take both a strong, fully resourced military, as well as strong alliances and partnerships. Let's be clear. One is not an alternative for the other. You got to have both.

So it is clear then that we need our allies. So how do we maintain this mutual relationship with robust defense spending of 3 to 5 percent real growth? That is what it calls for right here. This year, we should have a 3- to 5-percent increase, and the President's budget actually came out with a net decrease. That is why this whole thing is so important.

Just this morning, we had a hearing, and we had one of the authors of this book. I asked him the same question. I said: This was put together back in 2018. Is it still accurate today? He said: Yes, it is. And it doesn't even increase enough to keep up with inflation.

So Eric Edelman—he is one of the co-sponsors of the NDS that we are referring to here that has been our blueprint for 5 years now. The report said it best in an article this week by Eric Edelman. He said in this article:

[I]t remains a fact that allies and adversaries will see the U.S. commitment to defense as a crucial benchmark for assessing U.S. willingness and ability to succeed at long-term competition with its authoritarian adversaries.

He continued, and this is Eric Edelman:

A tough declaratory policy without adequate military means to reinforce it is a recipe for disaster, particularly in the Indo-Pacific region.

So I would just say this: President Biden walks the walk, but when it comes to supporting our allies, they don't do it, and I and many others know that it is meaningless without a strong defense budget to back it up.

And we need a higher topline. We need a higher topline. It is going to have to be somewhere in the range that was put together by a group of Democrats and Republicans that outlined what we have to do for America to survive. So we need a higher topline, and we are going to end up getting a higher topline.

With that, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:22 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate May 11, 2021:

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

CYNTHIA MINETTE MARTEN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ANDREA JOAN PALM, OF WISCONSIN, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF REV.
DR. GARTHER ROBERSON, JR.

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Reverend Doctor Garther Roberson, Jr. of Ypsilanti, Michigan. His lifetime of service and dedication to our community is worthy of commendation.

Rev. Roberson was born in Ypsilanti, Michigan on August 1, 1927, the fifth child of Pastor Garther Roberson, Sr. and Estella Roberson. He attended Ypsilanti Public Schools and after graduation in 1948, went on to serve his country in the United States Army during the Korean War. He earned the Korean Services Medals of Honor with the Bronze Star and an Overseas Bar. Rev. Roberson was educated at Washtenaw Community College, Moody Bible College, Trinity College, and William Tyndale College. He was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree from the Tennessee School of Religion (Ypsilanti Extension) in 1999.

As a member of the Second Baptist Church in Ypsilanti, he served as director of the youth department, Sunday school superintendent, and as Deacon until he was called to serve as Reverend in 1979. Rev. Roberson also served as Pastor at Mount Olive Baptist Church in Ypsilanti. He was known for his love for the community and the people he served. His warmth and joyful personality led to him being a trusted confidante for not only the congregation of his church, but for local youth and community leaders as well.

A leader not only in the faith community, Rev. Roberson was a fixture in Washtenaw County, serving as President of the Minister's Alliance and as President for Joint Operational Services for a Human Urban Alliance (JOSH-UA). Rev. Roberson was the longest serving member of the Minister's Alliance and was presented with a Congregational Certificate of Honor Founder's Day Award by Pastor Phillip Farrell. In 1996, he was chosen to deliver the Invocation for former President William Jefferson Clinton during his visit to Eastern Michigan University. Additionally, he served on the boards of the NAACP, Hope Clinic, the Students and Friends of Washtenaw County Community College, and the Huron Valley District Christian Academy. Many honors bear his name; In Ypsilanti, March 15th to 17th is known as "Reverend Garther Roberson, Jr. Week" and April 4, 2003 is known as "Garther Roberson Day" and each year, JOSHUA awards the "Rev. Dr. Garther Roberson Community Leadership Award" to outstanding leaders in the area.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Reverend Doctor Garther Roberson, Jr., a pillar of our community, a native son of Ypsilanti, and a man of true faith. He will be deeply missed but has left behind a lasting legacy. Our thoughts are

with his friends, family, and congregation at this time.

WILLIAM (BILL) FRANCIS HOOVER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize William (Bill) Francis Hoover of Aurora, Colorado who passed away May 1, 2021.

Bill was born and raised on his family's farm in Topeka, Kansas as the third of five children. Bill joined the United States Air Force in 1950 and rose to the rank of Major in 1965. While stationed in Tennessee, Bill met the love of his life, Sue. They were married in 1960.

Bill served with honor and distinction in the U.S. Air Force. He served in Korea, Vietnam and Cold War operations across the world. He was awarded numerous commendations, including one of the Air Force's highest awards, the Distinguished Flying Cross. He earned this medal during the Vietnam War for his actions as Aircraft Commander of an AC-119 gunship. Under great personal risk and during terrible weather conditions in mountainous terrain, he and his crew repelled an attack, saving the lives of the troops who were at risk of being overrun by North Vietnamese Forces. He retired from the Air Force in November 1970.

Following his career in the Air Force, he flew Lear Jets out of Columbus Airport, but soon realized it took him away from his family too much, and he began a second career working for the Federal Aviation Administration. He was stationed in Rawlins, Wyoming, where he was able to teach his children to hunt and fish while he kept flying as a Certified Flight Instructor. Bill and his family then moved to Aurora, Colorado in 1977. His experience and knowledge was again put to use, as he served on the FAA's Air Traffic Procedures Advisory Committee to develop aviation safety and operation regulations. Bill retired from the FAA after 20 years of service to the government. After retiring, Bill and Sue traveled the world, often with family and friends. They were inseparable, enjoying a life of adventure.

Bill was a devoted husband and loving father and grandfather. He and his wife Sue raised five children—Bill, David, Lori, John and Theresa. He was especially fond of his seventeen grandchildren and loved and cherished his five great-grandchildren.

In addition to his career in the Air Force, Bill was a devoted member of Queen of Peace Catholic Parish. He was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus as a fourth-degree knight. I am deeply grateful for his lifetime of service to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE REMARKABLE
LIFE OF DOROTHY M. SWEENEY

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I'm honored and humbled to recognize the remarkable life of Mrs. Dorothy M. Sweeney, who left our earthly bounds on April 7, 2021. "Mother Sweeney," as she affectionately was called, leaves behind an eternal and meaningful legacy not only to her family and loved ones, but to the entire York County Community.

Mother Sweeney's life began on January 16, 1934, born to Eddie and Rhoda Hawkins. She was the youngest child—and only girl—in a household of older brothers, Edward Jr., Clyde, and Herman.

Mother Sweeney married Arthur Sweeney in 1951, when they planted their roots in York. Together, they raised four wonderful children—Takanii, Tomoa Tanya, Tanoue Onishi, and Arleta Maria—with a resilient sense of love and respect for their legacy.

After a tragic work-related accident claimed the life of her beloved husband, Mother Sweeney was thrust into single parenthood. As obstacles were placed along her path, she persevered—like her mother, Rhoda Hawkins.

Mother Sweeney would go on to graduate from York College with a degree in Nursing, all while managing a household of four beautiful, albeit sometimes unruly, children. She raised her children with a strong and powerful image of womanhood. She served as the head nurse at York County Homes, and as a private duty nurse while also volunteering for the local PTA—later serving as its president for over six years. She would go on to accept a position with Lincoln Intermediate Unit No. 12 as a teacher for special needs children.

Mother Sweeney made sure that her children knew their elders and family history, making sure to surround her daughters with family and love, as well as a connection to their roots. Her family soon began to grow, as her daughters welcomed children of their own. Her oldest, Takanii, had 11 children (Damaine, Tak, Takakhan, Asaii, Ishni, Kiya, Azijah, Adonysha, Zebulon, Masata, and Amasa), Tomoa had four children (Angela, Yahselah, Nashon, and Ashir), Tanoue had one son (Emneko), and Arleta had five children (Tazaa, Taza Todd, Tyleta, T-Hara, and Tynaketa).

When Mother Sweeney retired professionally, she certainly was kept busy with 21 grandchildren—and all the birthdays, holidays, and celebrations a large family brings. When asked about the number of great-grandchildren she has, Dorothy's response was, "after 10, I stopped counting." The branches of her great family tree have continued to grow with 45 great-grandchildren—and counting.

Mother Sweeney was always an energetic and active young lady, serving her family, church, and community. As a faithful and dedicated member of Emmanuel COGIC in York—

• 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.

of which her mother was one of the founding members—she has served under founding pastor Elder Wise until his home going. Until now, Mother Sweeney was the only living founding member. Remaining steadfast under the leadership of Pastor Leighton McMillan, she held various leadership positions, including Sunday school teacher, chair of the Pastors Aide Committee, a member of the nurses unit, vice president of the Deaconesses, and was appointed as Mother of Grace.

Civically, Mother Sweeney was an active member of the State Democratic Committee, president of the Democratic Club of York, vice president of Lincoln Charter School Board, Past Matron of the Queen Esther Temple IBPOE, positions in Eastern Stars PJA, Daughters of Isis—and numerous other community organizations. Whenever possible, Mother Sweeney loved traveling to Florida to be with her “Sunshine State” family—the Burton/Nealy family, Pastor & First Lady Speed, Elder & Mother Combs, Pastor & First Lady Mays, Bishop Theodore and First Lady Hall, BAM International Fellowship. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Mother Sweeney enjoyed being a part of Hurst Chapel AME Parking Lot Posse, enjoying Sunday morning service in the church parking lot.

Mother Sweeney was a matriarch, a pillar of truth, and a true shining light. With words of wisdom, her strong Christian values, and her loving heart, she guided and nurtured her family and her community. She took pride in knowing that her beloved family remains strong and ever-growing, just as she and Arthur had envisioned. Mother Sweeney was and will always be all that a virtuous woman should be, and truly sets the standard for all to follow.

With great honor and thanks, I'm humbled to acknowledge the life and legacy of Mrs. Dorothy M. “Mother Sweeney” of York, Pennsylvania. I wish her Godspeed.

RECOGNIZING NORTH END-STERLING HEIGHTS VFW POST 6250 ON 100 YEARS OF DEDICATED SUPPORT TO THE VETERANS OF MACOMB COUNTY MICHIGAN

HON. LISA C. MCCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the North End-Sterling Heights VFW Post 6250.

VFWs across the country provide sanctuaries of support for our nation's veterans. Post 6250 is no different. In their times of need, Post 6250 has been there for the veterans of Macomb County by assisting with the VA, providing wheelchairs and helping veterans restart their lives. This is only a drop in the bucket for what this post has done, and their assistance even extends to the widows of our fallen heroes.

The men and women who serve are our nation's most selfless citizens, and they should have all the support they need when they come home. Luckily for the veterans of Macomb County, VFW Post 6250 has been their strong ally for a century. It is an honor to congratulate them on reaching this historic milestone, and I wish them many more years of dedicated service to our veterans.

IN MEMORY OF ADAM KOLTON

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Adam Kolton, who passed away on April 26, 2021. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin, he lived in Bethesda, Maryland with his family and their dog, Riley. He is survived by two sons, 17-year-old Jacob and 14-year-old Sam, as well as his wife, Laura; his parents, Chet and Carol; his sister Lisa; mother-in-law Priscilla; and brother-in-law Sandy.

A tireless environmental advocate, Adam spent much of his career fighting oil and gas development in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. At the beginning of his career, he oversaw a vital period as the Arctic Refuge Campaign Director at Alaska Wilderness League from 1997 to 2002, spearheading the fight to block Congress and the Bush administration from opening the refuge's coastal plain to drilling. Following that, he spent 15 years at the National Wildlife Federation, eventually overseeing its 40-person Washington, D.C. office as Vice President of National Advocacy and leading staff in countless conservation wins, including another high-profile Arctic Refuge battle in 2005. In 2017, he returned to Alaska Wilderness League as its Executive Director and led the organization's work to protect Alaska's public lands and waters through the politically challenging years of the Trump administration. His passion for bringing people together to protect the Arctic Refuge was highlighted by his dedication to elevating the voices of impacted Indigenous communities like the Gwich'in.

As a northern New Jersey native, Adam was an unapologetic fan of the New York Mets and the forever hapless New York Jets. Early in his life, he and a friend formed Sports Fans United—“the largest nonprofit fan advocacy group in the country”—and Adam even testified before Congress in a hearing on revoking baseball's longstanding exemption from antitrust laws.

It is my honor to recognize Adam Kolton, an individual wholly dedicated to the protection of our nation's wildest places like the Arctic Refuge. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of this remarkable advocate for conservation.

IN HONOR OF ALIGN CREDIT UNION OPENING THEIR FIRST NEW HAMPSHIRE LOCATION

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Align Credit Union on opening their new location in Seabrook, their first in New Hampshire.

Every day brings unique challenges to our entrepreneurs here in the Granite State—even more so during these unprecedented times—but as someone who has owned and operated a family restaurant, I know that it's institutions like Align Credit Union that help drive our

economy and form the fabric of our communities. Since its founding in 1922, Align has built strong bonds within New England communities, and maintained its focus on members, regardless of circumstance.

Community financial institutions like Align have long served an essential purpose in expanding financial literacy and strengthening local economies. Now, their work is more important than ever, as Americans turn to credit unions to disburse essential relief funds and rely on their support of Main Street businesses. Align's cooperative model and “people helping people” approach has been essential to its members during this crisis. We welcome Align to the Seacoast of New Hampshire.

Once again, I want to congratulate Align Credit Union on this great achievement, and them for all those who have been involved in making this possible.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF MINING IN ARIZONA

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize those that fight for true economic independence in this country, the mining industry. Recently, the Arizona State Senate passed a resolution recognizing and honoring the importance of mining in Arizona and the nation at large which was joined by the Arizona House of Representatives in a Concurrent Resolution, No. 2009.

As a member of the House Natural Resources Committee, a variety of energy subcommittees, and as former Chairman of the Western Caucus, I have worked with the mining industry and I understand the difficult job the industry has in navigating a political climate that takes for granted its indispensable and vital products. Indeed, many misguided, naive, or simply ignorant people seek to ban mining, restrict it, or eradicate it from our lands. This is foolish and only increases the costs of every product made with mined resources (which is almost everything) and makes us reliant on China and Russia.

I am proffering the Arizona Concurrent Resolution for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for all to see that at this time in history, the leaders of Arizona understand the importance of mining and will not allow federal bureaucrats and radical environmental socialists to shut down our key industry.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 2009

Filed: Secretary of State
State of Arizona,
House of Representatives,
Fifty-fifth Legislature,
First Regular Session,
2021.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HARDROCK MINING INDUSTRY TO ARIZONA'S ECONOMIC WELL-BEING.

Whereas, hardrock mining has played a central role in the development of Arizona's economy since before statehood: and

Whereas, copper produced from hardrock mining is one of the “Five C's” that established Arizona's economy and continues to provide quality jobs for Arizona residents; and

Whereas, copper and other minerals produced through the hardrock mining process are critical to developing and manufacturing low-carbon energy sources, including, PV cells, wind turbines, electric vehicles, medical equipment and battery storage; and

Whereas, each 3MW wind turbine requires approximately 4.7 tons of copper to produce reliable low-carbon energy; and

Whereas, PV cell production accounts for seven percent of global silver demand; and

Whereas, the World Bank estimates that in the next twenty-five years the world will need 550 million tons of copper, which is equal to all the copper produced in the previous five thousand years, to meet low-carbon energy demands; and

Whereas, according to the United States Geological Survey, Arizona was second in the nation in the value of 2018 nonfuel mineral production, which includes sand and gravel, cement and crushed stone as well as copper and other minerals such as molybdenum, lead, zinc, gold, silver, coal and uranium; and

Whereas, Arizona has been the nation's top producer of copper for more than a century, delivering two-thirds of United States copper exports and sixty-eight percent of the nation's copper; and

Whereas, mining activity and employment opportunities are distributed widely throughout the state and provide economic benefits for every Arizona county; and

Whereas, the hardrock mining industry is Arizona's second largest industry by economic impact, directly and indirectly employing more than 38,900 valuable and important individuals with an average income higher than Arizona's median wage in 2018 who are a part of the successes of the mining industry; and

Whereas, in 2018, the hardrock mining industry directly and indirectly generated \$370 million in state and local tax revenues, creating a total economic impact of \$11.4 billion; and

Whereas, to ensure that mining operations are safe for employees, communities and the environment, the hardrock mining industry is regulated by a combination of state and federal agencies, including the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Arizona State Mine Inspector's Office and the United States Department of Labor Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Therefore, be it resolved, by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring:

That the Members of the Legislature recognize the importance of the hardrock mining industry to Arizona's economy and support the involvement of Arizona's government and the hardrock mining industry in any future regulatory changes to ensure that operations continue to be safe and productive for the State of Arizona.

Passed the House February 4, 2021 by the following vote: 58 Ayes, 1 Nays, 0 Not Voting, 1 Vacant.

Unanimously Adopted by the Senate:

Passed the Senate April 22, 2021 by the following vote: - Ayes, - Nays, - Not Voting.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Resolution received by the Secretary of State this 22nd day of April, 2021 at 3:15 o'clock P.M.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF VERNON POLICE CHIEF JAMES KENNY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished career in public service of Vernon Police Chief James Kenny. Having pursued a 36-year long career toward the betterment of the local policing community, the latter 15 within my hometown of Vernon, Chief Kenny announced his decision to retire on July 9, 2021. As a resident of Vernon who directly benefited from Chief Kenny's commitment to "Preserve and Protect" and as a public official who has a front row seat to observe him in action, I can attest to his stellar record of public service.

Born and educated in the nearby town of Rocky Hill, James was destined to deepen his roots within the region help and build upon the community ties that raised him. Connected to his commitment to the community was his passion for service: immediately upon his graduation from Rocky Hill High School in 1978, James enlisted into the United States Army. He trained as a military police officer and served overseas, ultimately receiving an honorable discharge. After returning home he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Bryant University with Honors, all the while working as a part time constable in Old Lyme, Connecticut.

James Kenny initially joined the force as a patrol officer with the Glastonbury Police Department, a stone's throw away from his hometown, Rocky Hill. During his tenure at Glastonbury, his forward-thinking embracement of community policing and diligent work habits accelerated him through the ranks, rising in leadership to field training officer, sergeant, and then captain in the year 2000. He stayed on with the Glastonbury Department, serving as a supervisor in both the patrol and detective divisions until he transferred to the Vernon Police Department as a captain in 2006. It is worth noting that whilst serving within the Glastonbury Police Department, James pursued additional opportunities to serve the region such as when he became a founding member and then team leader to the Capital Region Emergency Services Team.

Upon his retirement from Glastonbury's Police Department, James Kenny joined Vernon's Police Department in 2006 as a captain, becoming responsible for the entire operations of the local department. Of course, in transitioning to the Vernon Police Department, Captain James Kenny continued his advocacy of community policing in Vernon's neighborhoods, particularly the Rockville section of town. This proactive initiative did not go unnoticed, and it was not long before Captain Kenny became Police Chief Kenny in 2007. During his term, I had the opportunity to do some "ride-alongs" and witness the engagement with town residents that the chief himself and his officers practiced as part the "Kenny Plan".

Presence was a major tenet of Vernon Police Chief Kenny's tenure as a leader in policing—not just for the region within the second district of Connecticut, but the entire state. He utilized this presence to grow the mission of

and advocate for community policing. Shortly after becoming head of the Vernon Police Department, Chief Kenny was selected to sit on Governor Jodi Rell's Sentencing and Parole Review Task Force in order to thoroughly review policies involved in arresting, charging, sentencing and releasing those convicted of crimes in Connecticut. Around this same time, Chief Kenny also joined the Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission, for which he has remained on through to retirement. Even as our nation has brought to the forefront tough discussions on police reform, Police Chief Kenny and the Vernon Police Department remained a source of inspiration to the importance of a community-oriented and integrated local police force. It is worth noting that the Vernon Police Department, under the forward-thinking perspective of Chief Kenny, has long been a leader in this regard with the unit already having implemented policies to build trust within the town, such as through early utilization of body cameras and revisions to their authorized use of force.

Madam Speaker, Chief Kenny has spent his life and career toward the betterment of his community. Chief Kenny has been a leader and a mentor to many people within and outside of the aforementioned policing departments. The town of Vernon owes him an endless amount of gratitude for his leadership in evolving an essential community service, particularly amidst the pandemic. He now retires to dedicate more time to his primary job as a devoted husband to his wife Theresa and a loving father of three daughters Lexie, Jacqueline and Jamie—the last of whom did an outstanding stint as an intern in my D.C. office. I cannot think of a gentleman more deserving of a fruitful retirement, the people of Vernon will truly miss his talented, caring service. To that end, I ask my colleagues in the House join me in honoring and thanking Vernon Police Chief James Kenny for his exemplary lifetime of service and wishing him and his family all the best in their life's new chapter.

LONDON BRIDGE ASSOCIATION STUDY ON REHABILITATING THE EAST RIVER TUNNELS

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, I include in the Record a study conducted by the London Bridge Association on the benefits of implementing a repair-in-place model for rehabilitating the East River Tunnels in New York City. The full study can be found at the following web page: <http://www.gatewayprogram.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2020-11-23-LBA-vFINAL.pdf>.

Track bed and overhead line replacement is a priority because it is responsible for a large percentage of the delays.

1.5. NRT CURRENT CONDITIONS—OVERVIEW

The NRT consists of two tubes and was constructed in the early 1900s and, in addition to suffering from old age, was impacted by Superstorm Sandy, the deadliest and most destructive, as well as the strongest, hurricane of the 2012 hurricane season. The NRT is located on the Northeast Corridor

(NEC), the most heavily used passenger railway in the United States and is used for over 200,000 passenger trips by NJ TRANSIT and Amtrak customers. The NRT is experiencing the following conditions:

Long-term damaged and deteriorating tunnel infrastructure

Leaks in shafts and tubes

Tunnel services are beyond their useful life and need replacement

Track faults

Overhead line (catenary) issues

Poor drainage and maintenance issues

Salts/chlorides from Superstorm Sandy corrode rails and exacerbate stray current

Due to the long-term deterioration and the conditions described above, the NRT's two tubes are currently experiencing incidents that are increasing in frequency and unpredictability and are threatening the reliable operation of the NRT for Amtrak and NJ TRANSIT customers. A report from the Northeast Corridor Commission (Ref 12.1.6) analysed more than 3 million train movements and 750,000 daily delay records between 2014 and 2018. The report found there were 65 days where incidents in or around the NRT resulted in more than 5 hours of train delay, of which 45 were caused by infrastructure issues, resulting in 2,500 delayed trains and 65,800 train delay minutes. The report indicated that the delay minutes were due to:

Signal Problems (13% of delay minutes)

Track Conditions (31% of delay minutes)

Overhead Power (35% of delay minutes)

Other (21% of delay minutes)

1.6. CURRENT REFURBISHMENT PLAN

The current proposal for the NRT Refurbishment proposes a solution that would be completed after the construction and completion of the new Hudson River Tunnel (HRT) in 2028, thus leaving the NRT "at risk" until 2032, at the earliest (as of the 2019 financial Plan). Based on LBA's review of the current NRT conditions, LBA believes that this is an unsatisfactory situation, does not meet global best practice, and that there are approaches that could be adopted to target the refurbishment at a much earlier time.

LBA, therefore, considered how this risk to the NRT infrastructure and to the Amtrak and NJ TRANSIT customer experience could be reduced and a resilient and reliable service established at the earliest possible time whilst delivering better value.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 OVERVIEW

This report takes into account the current NJ TRANSIT and Amtrak rail operations and concludes that regular weeknight and weekend periods of a one-tube outage are feasible, reliable, and safe. This would necessitate an in-service sequence of work in only one of the NRT tubes at any point in time and refurbishment could be undertaken simultaneously in a number of locations in the occupied NRT tube by means of bespoke highly productive works trains or road rail vehicles.

This review is conceptual and general in nature, based on limited information provided. Further diligence is required to verify the feasibility of the LBA proposals and to confirm the assumptions made concerning the NRT, as well as developing the planning and budgeting for the NRT Refurbishment work.

Refurbishment activities identified are:

Repair the tunnel lining and seal the leaks

Replace the mechanical and electrical services in the tunnel with new and improved systems

Replace the High Voltage (HV) cables which pass through the tubes

Demolish the bench walls (which are too high and failing) and replace them with new walkways and cable containments

Replace the trackbed, track, and overhead catenary

Replace the signalling system

The refurbishment activities that are proposed to be accomplished through an in-service refurbishment are broadly the same as the activities currently proposed in the full outage scenario.

The specific target of LBA's review has been to consider whether it is feasible, safe, and with no impact to the rail service, to carry out the refurbishment while both of the NRT's two tubes remain in service, with refurbishment work being carried out in agreed off-peak outage periods during both overnights and weekends.

In doing so, LBA have leaned on their experience gained on recent projects in the United Kingdom and also referred to international best practice on other recent projects in the United Kingdom, Europe, Hong Kong, and the United States (the Canarsie Tubes/L-Train). Refurbishment in-service is becoming increasingly the norm of international best practice as highly utilised railway systems/tunnels get older and are under increasing pressure due to rising passenger demand. Some examples of refurbishment in-service on the London Underground, a very old and busy system, include the refurbishment of the Central Line and Northern Line tunnels as well as 3.2 km of the Metropolitan Line (the world's first underground railway dating back to 1863) between Baker Street and Finchley Road Underground Stations.

To demonstrate the feasibility of an in-service NRT Refurbishment that would implement the refurbishment activities identified above, LBA has developed a conceptual approach and developed an outline plan and program for the NRT:

A conceptual approach, strategy, and system of work

Outputs and calculated durations of work based on the available working time (weeknight and weekend one-tube outages)

A schedule for the refurbishment activities for each tube

The logistics arrangements (at an outline stage):

The equipment which could be used to demolish, remove, and reconstruct the walkways/benches

The safety equipment required to carry out the works

The options for trackbed replacement

LBA have carried out a construction planning exercise of all of the main activities with the purpose of demonstrating the overall feasibility and possible schedule of NRT Refurbishment in-service while managing risks to NJ TRANSIT and Amtrak customers. LBA emphasises that such construction planning study is conceptual and general in nature, with limited information.

2.2 FINDING: THE NRT IS EXPERIENCING SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION

The NRT consists of two tubes and was constructed in the early 1900s and, in addition to suffering from old age, was impacted by Superstorm Sandy, the deadliest and most destructive, as well as the strongest, hurricane of the 2012 hurricane season. The NRT is experiencing the following conditions: Long-term, damaged and deteriorating tunnel infrastructure, leaks in shafts and tubes, tunnel services are beyond their useful life and need replacement, track faults, overhead line (catenary) issues, poor drainage and maintenance issues, and salts/chlorides from Superstorm Sandy corrode rails and exacerbate stray current.

2.3. FINDING: WHAT IS NOT RECOMMENDED

2.3.1 Waiting for the Construction of the New Tunnel to Start NRT Refurbishment:

The current proposal for the NRT Refurbishment proposes a solution that would be

completed after the construction and completion of the new Hudson River Tunnel (HRT) in 2028, thus leaving the NRT "at risk" until 2032, at the earliest (as of the 2019 Financial Plan). Based on LBA's review of the current NRT conditions, LBA believes that this is an unsatisfactory situation, does not meet global best practice, and that there are approaches that could be adopted to target the refurbishment at a much earlier time.

2.3.2 Removing Scope from the Current NRT Refurbishment Plan:

The NRT's two tubes are currently experiencing incidents that are increasing in frequency and unpredictability and are threatening the reliable operation of the NRT for Amtrak and NJ TRANSIT customers. The NRT Refurbishment requires an approach that includes a scope of work necessary to address the long-term deterioration of the existing infrastructure, and should be broadly the same as the activities currently proposed in the full outage scenario.

2.3.3 Repairing the NRT Incrementally Through Smaller Repairs:

A "stabilization" type approach is poor value and will not solve the basic problems.

2.3.4 Leaving the NRT Bench Walls, As They Currently Exist, in Place:

The NRT bench walls cannot be left as is because:

1) The height of the existing bench wall is higher than the level of the train vestibule, requiring an unacceptable stepping distance in an emergency,

2) The headroom of the emergency walkway needs to be increased.

The concrete forming the existing bench walls is likely to be relatively weak with numerous internal voids. There is a requirement to lower the level of the bench wall in the NRT by 2-3 feet in order to achieve satisfactory emergency egress according to NFPA 130. Further, a low-level Maintenance Platform bench wall on the opposite side of the tube from the emergency bench wall is proposed for railway workers to gain access to the train bogies (underneath the train/wheel truck). It should be noted that the Canarsie Tubes (L-Train) bench walls could be left at their existing height, but this is not possible in the NRT based on current information.

2.3.5 Leaving the Track, Trackbed, and Overhead Line, As They Currently Exist, in Place:

The NRT track, trackbed, and overhead line failures, according to the Northeast Corridor Commission report on train performance, are the causes of a significant proportion of the delays to NJ TRANSIT and Amtrak customers and do not meet global best practice. It should be noted that the Canarsie Tubes (L-Train) already had a fixed concrete trackbed system, unlike the NRT, and only partial refurbishment was required.

2.3.6 Leaving the Mechanical and Electrical (M&E) Services, As They Currently Exist, in Place:

Mechanical and Electrical (M&E) Services, including cables, ducting, water and fire main piping, signalling, and communications cabling, are currently operable, but are not considered to be "State of the Art," are contained in degraded benchwalls, and contribute to system failures. Any form of in-service refurbishment will require sequential and phased management of the relocation and replacement of these services, which will be moved in synchronization with the demolition and replacement of the bench walls and necessary repairs to the tunnel concrete lining. The M&E services will need to be protected and fireproofed in compliance with contemporary regulations (operational and emergency compliance requirements).

2.3.7 Replacing Cables in Ducts Encased in Concrete:

It has been previously considered that the only way to protect cables from fire and mechanical damage is to pull them into ducts encased by concrete forming the bench walls. This cumbersome solution restricts the lengths of HV cables which can be pulled into ducts, does not give easy access for maintenance, and requires frequent joint pits which are current sources of failure.

2.4 FINDING: WHAT IS RECOMMENDED

2.4.1 Implement NRT Refurbishment "In-Service":

LBA believes that regular weeknight and weekend periods or one-tube outages are feasible. This would necessitate an in-service sequence of work in only one of the NRT tubes at any point in time and refurbishment could be undertaken simultaneously in a number of locations in the occupied NRT tube. Planning should utilise weeknights for non-invasive work and weekends for more linear, invasive construction work.

Repair the tunnel lining and seal the leaks

Replace the mechanical and electrical services in the tunnel with new and improved systems

Replace the High Voltage (HV) cables which pass through the tubes

Demolish the bench walls (which are too high and failing) and replace them with new walkways and cable containments

Replace the trackbed, track, and overhead catenary

Replace the signalling system

2.4.2 Reduce the Service Impacts at the Earliest Possible Stage:

The prioritisation of track, trackbed, and overhead line replacement is important in planning the NRT Refurbishment, therefore, early activities should include:

Lower trackbed, Where Possible: To achieve a greater clearance between the overhead catenary cable and the train pantograph (arm)

Direct Fixation Trackbed: Replace the existing traditional ballast (crushed stone) trackbed with a fixed concrete system (direct fixation track) to avoid blocked drains and salt-contaminated ballast (that result in signal problems)

Modify or Replace 12.5kV Overhead Line: To achieve the full dynamic and electrical clearances that are required in the crown of the tubes for compliance with standards

2.4.3 Utilise In-Line Methodologies and Sequences for Bench Wall Demolition & Replacement:

LBA have detailed a number of possible methodologies for the replacement of the NRT bench wall based on benchmark performance information from successful international projects to provide an emergency egress walkway, a maintenance platform for railway workers, and locations for the tunnel's electrical/communication cables and third-party services, including a precast solution, GRP encasement solution, duct bank solution with fire protection, fireproof duct solution, and cable in racks only solution. All options have their advantages and disadvantages, but the fireproof duct solution incorporated in a steel cantilevered walkway conceptually seems to offer the best potential ahead of a formal fire risk assessment.

2.4.4 Utilise modern cable solutions and comply with NFPA 130 Fire Life Safety requirements:

LBA makes recommendations for modern cable solutions and an approach to cable management and containment based on laying cables rather than pulling them. Utilizing the longest possible lengths of cable reduces joints and joint pits and ultimately potential cable failures. High Voltage (HV) cables (power cables) and Low Voltage (LV) cables (lighting, telephony, fire detection, alarm, and communications) may require

different types of solutions, depending on the level of Fire Protection required under the NFPA 130 standard.

LV cable containment systems could include continuous troughs and cable racking with fire protection to emergency circuits provided by the direct cable sheathing or a sheathing which contains the cable.

HV cables with intrinsic resistance to fire are not available but fire protection may be required to protect business continuity as the result of a fire risk assessment identifying an unacceptable level or risk. Cables could be contained in a number of ways including securing to low level cable racks and fireproof ducting. Suitable fireproof ducting has been identified if required and included in the conceptual bench wall replacement options. Space constraints are an important consideration because the fire resistance is dependent on the duct material thickness and air gaps are required around the cables for cooling. A detailed design would be required to determine the final solution for the duct.

Protection to all cables and services should be provided by derailment protection provided by guard rails, which sit inside the running rails.

Refurbishment should ensure that the emergency egress walkway clearances are safe and compliant with NFPA 130 requirements.

2.4.5 Remove the Third Rail:

LBA believes that the Third Rail should be removed because it is not used routinely, there are alternatives to its use in an emergency, the cost of installing and maintaining is unnecessary, it is an unnecessary complication in safety and emergency procedures, and, if required, the Third Rail can be re-installed at the end of construction or another future date.

2.4.6 Treat the In-Service Refurbishment Operation as a System:

Optimise the overall performance rather than maximise component elements of the cycle and propose using mechanical measures where practicable to enhance productivity and promote innovation, refinement, and improvement.

2.4.7 Utilise Bespoke and Highly Productive Works Trains & Railhead:

Battery or hybrid locomotives could be used for train rescue and for handling works trains for NRT refurbishment. A railhead should be constructed to support the activities within the NRT tubes to service and load work trains for the refurbishment.

2.4.8 Incorporate Risk Mitigation Throughout the Planning of the Refurbishment:

Mitigations have been implemented successfully to help other refurbishment projects of comparable age, complexity, and essentiality. The risk chapter of this report identifies specific risks and proposes appropriate mitigations. LBA recommends that a risk assessment is conducted by the Integrated Work Team, which includes the Gateway Partners, to compile and address the risks and deficiencies that could occur during the refurbishment program.

HONORING THE CAREER OF KEN SMITH

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. LONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and storied career of Branson West City Administrator Ken Smith.

Mr. Smith began his tenure in 1998, and since then, has worked tirelessly for the people of Branson West. As City Administrator, he has overseen numerous projects designed to improve and expand the city. Shortly after he took office, the new Sewer Treatment Plant Facility was completed. This facility was designed to meet the needs of the city well into the future and has remained in operation, ready for the city to continue prospering. He has also overseen the expansion of utility lines so that the city can provide essential services to more properties. In addition to these projects, in recent years, sidewalks and streetlights have been added along Business Highway 13, and a new water tower has been approved.

In October 2010, Branson West Municipal Airport was opened. The new airport includes a 5000-foot runway, and 10,000 square foot maintenance hangar connected to the terminal. There are 39 private T-hangars, all of which are occupied, and construction is about to begin on 4 larger square hangars. All of this allows for a general aviation facility, which serves the city and surrounding communities. In 2016, the city limits were expanded south on Highway 13 to Highway DD.

All these projects have allowed for community growth. New businesses have been drawn to the community, and there are more projects underway to encourage further business expansion. The city has also recently acquired land for future parks and recreation. Mr. Smith has overseen all these projects, and many more, during his 23-year tenure as City Administrator.

Madam Speaker, since taking office in 1998, Ken Smith has worked every day for the people of Branson West. He has led several projects and expansions of the city, all designed to improve the community he has so enthusiastically served. I wish him, and his family a happy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL JONES

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Paul D. Jones II who will be retiring this spring after a highly distinguished career of service in the California water industry. For over twenty-five years, Mr. Jones has been the top executive officer for major water agencies in the Southern California region. Over the last decade, Mr. Jones has served as the General Manager for Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD), which serves nearly one million customers in western Riverside County.

During his tenure at EMWD, Mr. Jones has been widely recognized for his leadership in elevating Eastern to one of the most respected and forward-thinking water, wastewater and recycled water agencies in the nation. Mr. Jones played an instrumental role in notable accomplishments for EMWD, such as the agency's achievement of 100 percent beneficial reuse of its recycled water supplies, the initiation of its potable reuse program, and the spearheading of key infrastructure investments which will provide safe and reliable services for future generations. Under Paul's direction,

EMWD was able to substantially expand the agency's desalination program creating a new local water source for its residents. The federal and state funding secured for this initiative resulted in the construction of the South Perris Desalter project, which will produce 6,000 acre-feet per year of potable water.

Mr. Jones was also a leading advocate for transforming the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI recycled water funding program into a competitive grant program—a goal which was realized through the enactment of the Water Infrastructure Investment for the Nation (WIIN) Act in 2016. While President of the WaterReuse Association, Mr. Jones helped to develop the nation's first ever federal Water Reuse Action Plan which formally launched in February 2020. During California's historic drought, Mr. Jones worked with other state water leaders to create a more equitable system that rewarded proactive water use efficiency measures. In addition, Paul has led the way in California for a more viable alternative to assist failing water systems without the need for a statewide tax on all water users.

On the local level, Mr. Jones has played a key role in a local agency partnership to transform the area near Diamond Valley Lake into an environmentally sustainable recreational area. In addition, on behalf of EMWD Mr. Jones has made innumerable contributions at the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, the Association of California Water Agencies, the Southern California Water Coalition, and the California WaterReuse Association. I would like to thank Paul Jones for his service to the community and water industry and wish him much happiness in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING ARKANSAS
STATE TROOPER JAMES O. RAY
ON BEING NAMED AS AMERICAN
ASSOCIATIONS OF STATE TROOPERS
TROOPER OF THE YEAR

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arkansas State Trooper James O. Ray on being named the 2021 American Association of State Troopers Trooper of the Year. A three-year veteran of the Arkansas State Police Highway Patrol Division and Franklin County resident, Officer Ray exemplifies service beyond the call of duty and represents the finest of Arkansas' Fourth District.

Officer Ray was granted this honor following his courageous action in December 2020 in which his wise response to a dangerous chase prevented catastrophic damage and injury to the public. After responding to a call to support a fellow trooper along Interstate 40 near Ozark, Officer Ray followed a suspect vehicle at speeds exceeding 100 miles per hour. The suspect later crossed the median, driving toward oncoming traffic. Officer Ray drove ahead of the suspect in the opposite lane, stopped traffic to protect motorists behind him, and then rammed the front corner of the suspect vehicle. Once both vehicles were in the median, Trooper Ray safely arrested the

suspect, with no injuries to the suspect or any other motorist.

I take this time today to congratulate Trooper Ray on this most deserving honor and thank him for his exemplary service to the people of the State of Arkansas. May we always look to officers like him as the picture of true heroism.

HONORING MR. JAMES TOBIN

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James J. Tobin—a man who dedicated almost 40 years of his life to the automotive industry before retiring at the end of last year.

In the close-knit community of auto manufacturing, Mr. Tobin was a model of integrity, leadership, and hard work. As an executive with Magna International, the world's largest supplier for vehicles and automobiles, he was integral to strategic planning for an ever-changing landscape.

That knack for adapting—the ability to innovate as an industry leader while having the flexibility of someone helming a start-up—was instrumental when the first wave of COVID-19 hit our state last March.

Working closely with the State of Michigan, Oakland County, and my office, Mr. Tobin helped retool Magna's global supply chains to secure PPE for our frontline workers. His expertise with logistics and operations helped overcome challenges by bridging the gap between Asian and North American markets.

Whether it was supporting domestic production of gowns, face shields and ventilators, or coordinating meals to local health care workers, Mr. Tobin stepped up when folks needed it most.

The open dialogue and communication between his team and ours brought essential supplies and equipment to the front lines of the pandemic.

I am ever-grateful to have had him as a partner in our efforts. There is no doubt in my mind that lives in Michigan were saved because of Mr. Tobin and the folks at Magna.

Now, as he enjoys his well-earned retirement, I am wishing him all the best. He deserves the R&R but, knowing him, I'm certain he'll continue to give back—as a loving husband and father of three and as a dedicated role model in the community.

It's my privilege to recognize him on the floor of the People's House so his achievements and contributions can forever live on.

HONORING FORMER AMBASSADOR
AHMET SHALA

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor the first Minister of Finance for the Republic of Kosovo and former Kosovo Ambassador to Japan, Mr. Ahmet Shala, on earning his Doctor of Philos-

ophy in Strategic Leadership from James Madison University.

Mr. Shala was one of the first entrepreneurs to establish his own business in Kosovo, where he founded The Cambridge School, which is considered one of the leading institutions for English Language Teaching in Kosovo.

Mr. Shala began his career in public service when he was named the Deputy Managing Director at the Kosovo Trust Agency, where he was responsible for directing and managing the privatization of Kosovo's socially-owned enterprises. He later became the co-head of the Department of Trade and Industry, where he developed strategies and procedures for commercialization, again helping to transform Kosovo's socially-owned enterprises into private-sector development.

After being named the first Minister of Economy and Finance for the Republic of Kosovo in 2008, Mr. Shala laid the building blocks of the country's current economic system and successfully coordinated Kosovo's membership to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in 2009. Mr. Shala ran the Ministry of Finance until 2012, when he was appointed Kosovo's Ambassador to Japan.

After serving as Ambassador, Mr. Shala continued his service to the international community as a lecturer and professor in European and American educational institutions such as the London School of Economics, James Madison University and Harvard University.

Since losing family and friends to the horrific war crimes committed during the Kosovo War, he has been an avid human rights advocate and works to provide a voice for those facing oppression by expanding access to doctoral and master's program opportunities. At James Madison University, Mr. Shala has worked to ease tensions in the Balkan region by improving the quality of education in Kosovo and by partnering Kosovar students with high-impact graduate programs in the United States.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Former Ambassador Shala for his academic accomplishments along with his distinguished service to Kosovo, the United States and the global community.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF IRENE B.
WEST

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise to honor the life of beloved Sacramentan Irene B. West, Retired Principal of the Elk Grove Unified School District, City of Elk Grove, County of Sacramento, California. Mrs. West entered eternal rest on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at the age of 88. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. West.

Mrs. West was a beloved California educator, community leader, activist, and devoted mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. She was a longtime and very active member of one of California's historic religious institutions, Shiloh Baptist Church. Mrs. West was a supporter of, mentor and friend to many. The citizens of the Sacramento area benefitted

greatly from her passion and love for educating our students; her dedicated service made our community and State better.

Mrs. West was born July 3, 1932 in Crowley, Louisiana and was reared in Orange, Texas during the height of the Great Depression, a time when the racial climate in America was even more depressing for African Americans. Knowing the importance of education, she graduated valedictorian in her high school class in Texas. She then enrolled in undergraduate studies at the historic Fisk University at Nashville, Tennessee where she would meet her late husband, Clifton L. West, Jr. The couple relocated, in 1958, to McClellan Air Force Base in Sacramento where her husband was stationed. Mrs. West completed her education by earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from California State University at Sacramento and a Master of Arts from the University of San Francisco.

In 1962, before completing her undergraduate studies, Mrs. West took on a seemingly insurmountable challenge, being hired as a teacher in the all-white student and faculty Elk Grove Unified School District. This marked the embarking upon a barrier-breaking 27-year career in education. She quickly rose through the ranks in teaching and administration to the position of Principal in 1979, a position in which she served for ten years. Although she retired in 1989, she remained a very active respected presence in and around the Elk Grove-Sacramento community well into her 80s.

Despite her demanding career and devotion to serving others, Mrs. West's four children did not lack in parental love, nurturing and educational guidance. All her children excelled in academia, sports, or both, two of whom having achieved professorship at prestigious universities, and another is an accomplished Zoo linguist.

A partial list of awards and recognitions marking Mrs. West's achievements include educational awards and citations such as Teacher of the Year; newspaper awards which included the 1963 Mother of the Year (her most endearing recognition); awards from All-state Insurance, Shiloh Baptist Church, Sacramento Council of Negro Women, Sacramento Chapter of 100 Black Women; in 1979, first female principal in the Elk Grove Unified School District; and, in 2002, the first African American in Sacramento to have a school, Irene B. West Elementary, named in her honor.

Madam Speaker, today as family and friends of Mrs. Irene B. West gather to remember her, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her tremendous legacy of educator, encourager, and motivator. Her mark on the Sacramento area community will live on forever.

IN RECOGNITION OF TAYLOR WARE

HON. LAUREN UNDERWOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Taylor Ware for her service in my office in Washington, D.C.

Taylor joined our office as a legislative correspondent at the beginning of the coronavirus

pandemic. As our office pivoted to remote work and worked 24/7 to respond to the massive increase in constituents reaching out with questions or for assistance, Taylor played an integral role. Among other accomplishments, she drafted hundreds of letters updating constituents on policy changes, made sure every incoming message was promptly referred for a response, and solely managed a detailed and high-volume correspondence system. Taylor truly went above and beyond in managing constituent correspondence, fulfilling my commitment to transparency and accountability and elevating constituent concerns so we could bring them directly to Administration officials. Taylor also worked to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion in Congress through her role leading Legislative Branch appropriations for the office for Fiscal Year 2022.

Taylor's thoughtfulness, graciousness, and professionalism were invaluable assets as we worked to keep our community safe, healthy, and informed in this unprecedented year. I particularly want to recognize her efforts to support and mentor interns in our office, who relied on her for answers and guidance. Although Taylor may be leaving our office, our community in northern Illinois and my entire staff will continue to benefit from the results of her hard work and expertise.

Prior to joining my staff, Taylor earned a Bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University and a Master's degree from Washington University in St. Louis. I am grateful she chose to continue her career in public service by joining my office. Our office will miss her kindness, intelligence, sense of humor, and love of bizarre Jell-O recipes.

Madam Speaker, I would like to formally thank Taylor Ware for her service to my office, to Illinois's 14th Congressional District, and to our country.

THE COMMUNITY BROADBAND ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I'm proud to sponsor H.R. 1631, the Community Broadband Act, a bicameral bill that empowers communities in every state to bridge the digital divide by deploying their own local broadband networks.

Tens of millions of Americans lack access to broadband or can't afford it. This digital divide is a national embarrassment, and we must do everything we can to solve it. One part of the solution should be community broadband, a proven model that works to provide fast broadband at affordable speeds to millions of Americans today.

Over 900 municipalities, Tribes, co-ops, public-private partnerships, and nonprofits across the U.S. administer broadband networks in their own communities. These are communities in urban, suburban, rural, and Tribal regions of our country spanning 120 Congressional Districts.

Unfortunately, 22 states have enacted laws to limit or ban such networks. These state laws shield incumbents from competition and harm consumers. Importantly, research by New America's Open Technology Institute shows that community broadband produces higher quality service at lower costs.

For this reason, Senator CORY BOOKER, Representative JARED GOLDEN, and I introduced the Community Broadband Act which preempts protectionist state laws to enable community broadband. The Community Broadband Act was originally introduced in the 109th Congress by Senators Lautenberg and McCain, and I've been proud to carry this legislation with Senator BOOKER since the 114th Congress.

The Community Broadband Act is supported by a long list of well-respected organizations, including the National League of Cities; the National Association of Counties; Next Century Cities; the Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association; National Urban League; Consumer Reports; Electronic Frontier Foundation; New America's Open Technology Institute; Public Knowledge; Free Press Action; the Center for Democracy & Technology; Access Now; the National Digital Inclusion Alliance; National Rural Electric Cooperative Association; the Utilities Technology Council; the Institute for Local Self-Reliance; and the Coalition for Local Internet Choice.

Last Congress, the House passed the Community Broadband Act as part of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act. The legislation is included in H.R. 1783, Majority Whip CLYBURN's Accessible, Affordable Internet for All Act and H.R. 1848, the Energy and Commerce Committee's LIFT America Act, and I thank Whip CLYBURN and Chairman PALLONE for including my legislation in theirs.

I'm also very pleased that the Biden-Harris Administration's American Jobs Plan proposal includes the need for "lifting barriers that prevent municipally-owned or affiliated providers and rural electric co-ops from competing on an even playing field with private providers," which can be achieved by enacting the Community Broadband Act.

At a recent hearing of the Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, three witnesses made a strong case for the importance of community broadband, and each endorsed the Community Broadband Act. They testified about successful networks of many types that I wish to recognize as well:

The City of Wilson, North Carolina, operates a successful fiber-to-the-home network for its residents. The City of San Rafael, California partnered with a nonprofit to develop a mesh network to provide free wi-fi to residents. EugNet is an open-access network in Eugene, Oregon that has experienced major societal returns to their investment in a community network. The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority is a highly successful Tribal broadband network. The City of Lafayette, Louisiana launched LUS Fiber to offer affordable, high-speed broadband for all of its residents. The City of Chattanooga, Tennessee, invested in a fiber network in 2009. That network isn't just economically viable, it turns a profit for the city even after offering low prices.

I also wish to recognize two community networks in my California's 18th Congressional District. A group of residents of the City of Los Altos Hills formed a mutual benefit organization called the Los Altos Hills Community Fiber Association to offer high-speed internet where other fiber options are sparse. The City of Palo was a pioneer when it became one of the first cities in our country to deploy a dark fiber network in 1996. This has enabled high-quality

connectivity for countless businesses. Residents are now organizing to expand this network for fiber-to-the-home offerings.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1631 and urge the House to pass this legislation swiftly.

HONORING MEDFORD LEAS ON THEIR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Medford Leas on their fiftieth anniversary. Medford Leas is a continuing retirement community with the mission of creating and advancing individual and community well-being for people aged 55 years and older.

For the past five decades, Medford Leas has provided valued high quality residential and healthcare services to older adults. From the conversations I have had with Medford Leas residents, I know Medford Leas lives up to its mission.

On Medford Leas fiftieth anniversary, I extend my best wishes to staff and residents of the Medford Leas community.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF MS. BONNIE BRUESHOFF

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. CRAIG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Ms. Bonnie Brueshoff, Director for the Dakota County Public Health Department located in West St. Paul, Minnesota, who is retiring after 27 years of service and dedication to the public health efforts of Minnesota.

Throughout her career, Ms. Brueshoff exhibited a commitment to bettering our community by chairing numerous health official boards, such as the National Association of County and City Health Officials. Time and time again, she contributed her expertise on both a state and national level to molding the next generation of public health practitioners. With her leadership, in 2019, the Dakota County Public Health Department was nationally recognized for its innovative initiatives to promote health awareness in our state.

As we continue to persevere through these unprecedented times, we must never forget to recognize our heroes at the forefront of the fight against COVID-19. Ms. Brueshoff, alongside so many others, exemplifies the true meaning of public service in the realm of civic wellness. Her career is a testament to the character of our district and our determination to assist those in need.

I rise on behalf of the 2nd Congressional district of Minnesota, expressing my deepest gratitude to her commitment to the health of our community. She created a legacy I know many hope to emulate. I congratulate Ms. Brueshoff for her many years of leadership and wish her the best as she embarks on her well-deserved retirement.

HONORING HOWELL HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR SURVIVORS

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 16 graduating seniors from Howell High School who recently participated as contestants in the 14th annual "Senior Survivor" fundraiser.

I'm thrilled to honor Gage Altrick, Felicia Berendt, Nicole Caudy, Jackson Dukes, Lucas Gonzalez, Olivia Gray, Alyssa Johnson, David Johnston, Julia Jolly, Ryan Lane, Danny Maura, Zach Metz, Taylor Newstead, Alaina Schrock, and Molly Tucker—as well as the winner of this year's Senior Survivor: Morgan Pasini.

For a full week, these students lived at Howell High, collecting money and competing against each other in reward and immunity challenges that included scavenger hunts, trivia challenges, and cake-baking contests. This year's Senior Survivors were put to the test—not just to prove who could outwit, outlast, and outplay their fellow competitors—but also by the extraordinary circumstances they each have faced in adapting to a school year affected by COVID-19.

Each Senior Survivor was supported by a Junior Survivor from the 5th grade classes at Howell's elementary schools. These Junior Survivors led a coin drive in their schools to benefit their respective seniors.

Together, Howell students raised a whopping \$220,427—which will go towards building an inclusive playground for children of all abilities at Genoa Township Park.

This playground, which will be named the Senior Survivor Playground, will let kids play together in a natural environment in order to develop physical, imagination, and problem-solving skills through self-directed play. Together with its nationally-recognized Unified Sports program, it's just one more example of the Howell community's steadfast commitment to including students with disabilities and special needs.

None of it could have been possible without the 16 seniors who came together to raise money for a noble cause. Over the years, Senior Survivors have raised more than \$760,000 for various charities. It is why I have the great privilege of recognizing them on the floor of the People's House—so that their selfless service to others may be forever known.

HONORING ASCENSION MATA, SR.

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations to Mr. Ascension Mata, Sr., who celebrates his 100th birthday on Wednesday, May 12, 2021.

Ascension Mata, Sr. was born in 1921, in San Benito, Texas, the eighth child of the late Manuel and Isidora Mata. Ascension's parents instilled in him the values of religious devotion, honesty, resilience, and hard work at a young age, and his resilience pushed him to travel

four miles every day to attend Sebastian Elementary School. While the pursuit of knowledge has always been a priority for Ascension and his family, he was only able to receive a second-grade education. Although his academic time was cut short, his hardworking mindset propelled him forward as he spent his childhood on the farm and in the fields with his father to help provide for his family.

In 1937, when Ascension was just sixteen years old, his father passed away, leaving his mother a widow and sole provider for him and his seven siblings. Ascension continued to work to ensure his family persevered.

Ascension married the love of his life, Eloise De La Rosa, in 1942. They were faithfully married for 53 years until Eloise's passing in 2003. Over the years, they were blessed with six children: Ascension Mata Jr., Vincente Mata, Guadalupe Mata, Celia Mata Delgado, Roberto Mata, and Janie Linda Mata Cantu; seven grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren. As doting parents, Ascension and Eloise created a nurturing environment built on a solid faith in their love for God that would become the moral foundation for their children, grandchildren, and a host of other family members throughout their lives.

In addition to being a committed family man, Ascension is also a proud Veteran who served his country during World War II. After he was drafted, he was assigned to an Army base in Salt Lake City, Utah where he spent one month in basic training. He was then assigned to an Army base in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he received an additional eight months of training. After completion of his training Ascension was sent to New York, where he was preparing to sail overseas to join the Armed Forces in Germany. However, on November 9, 1943, Ascension was honorably discharged from the United States Army because he did not meet the Army's education requirement, which at the time was a sixth-grade education level. After he was discharged, Ascension returned to his home in Sebastian, TX where he worked various jobs including managing a field crew, working at Alberti's Seafood Packing shed in Harlingen, Texas for about 12 years, and at La Feria Water Irrigation District for many years until his retirement. During that time, he purchased 20 acres of land near Santa Rosa, TX, that he and his family used to cultivate cotton and sorghum crops.

Today, Ascension lives near Sebastian, where he continues to uphold the same values of resilience, faith, honesty, and hard work that have allowed him to live a long and fulfilling life with his family.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ascension Mata, Sr., on 100 years of life, service, and dedication to his community and country, and wish him continued happiness surrounded by loved ones.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WILLIAM HENRY LAWSON

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of William

Henry Lawson of Glasgow, Kentucky. William passed away at the age of 97 on April 7, 2021.

William served our country in the United States Army during World War II. His military occupational specialty was Truck Driver, Light (345). William was awarded the European-African-Middle Eastern Ribbon with three bronze service stars and bronze arrowhead, the American Theater Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, and World War II Victory Medal as a testament to his valiant and honorable service in defense of our nation.

In addition to serving in the Army, William also was a farmer and school bus driver. Most importantly, he had a loving family. William is survived by children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, step-grandchildren, and many other loving family members.

I would like to thank William for his service to our country and community.

**RECOGNIZING DIANNE GREFF FOR
HER LIFETIME OF SERVICE AS A
PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER AND
NORTH JERSEY COUNCIL PRESIDENT
OF THE NAVY LEAGUE OF
THE UNITED STATES**

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Dianne Greff, public school teacher and North Jersey Council President of the Navy League of the United States, for her lifetime of service to her students, her community, and to New Jersey.

Dianne's commitment to service began when she was 18 years old, when she enrolled at William Paterson University in Wayne, New Jersey, to study education and fulfill her dream of being a public school teacher. Upon her graduation in 1959, Dianne set off on her 40-year career as an educator, helping to shape the lives of thousands of New Jersey students. She was awarded the New Jersey Governor's Teacher of the Year Award before retiring in the early 2000s.

Dianne's impact on Passaic County extended beyond education. As President of the North Jersey Council of the United States Navy League, she worked to support America's Navy service members. The Navy League aids military families while spouses or parents are deployed, honors enlisted personnel, and adopts ships and shore commands. While Dianne was president of the New Jersey chapter, there were over 300 active members.

Later in life, Dianne committed herself to helping our seniors. She was elected the President of the Saint Mary's Active Senior Ministry in Pompton Lakes, New Jersey. She also served on the Board of Trustees for the Golden Age Circle of Wayne, and advised the Mayor as a member of his Wayne Township Senior Citizen Advisory Committee.

There was never a moment in Dianne's life when she wasn't trying her hardest to help other people. Whether for students, service members, veterans, seniors, or immigrants, Dianne went the extra mile to help them achieve their dreams or have a good life.

Dianne passed away on January 29, 2021. Her legacy will live on in all of the lives she

touched in Passaic County and across New Jersey. The world is a kinder, better place because of Dianne Greff.

**HONORING CAPTAIN BREANNA L.
KNUTSON**

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding service of Captain Breanna Knutson.

CAPT Breanna Knutson currently serves as the House of Representatives Liaison Officer for the Coast Guard. She ensures the Coast Guard's prompt response to the House's 435 members and staffs by coordinating and conducting policy briefs, preparing senior Coast Guard leaders for Congressional hearings and engagements, and planning and leading Congressional delegations to Coast Guard units throughout the country.

She previously served as The Chief Pilot and Operations Officer of Coast Guard Air Station Detroit where she directed the operations of 5 MH-65 Dolphin helicopters, 26 pilots and 35 air crew members in the conduct of Search and Rescue missions on the Great Lakes from the St. Lawrence Seaway to eastern Lake Michigan.

CAPT Knutson's first operational assignment was as a deck watch officer aboard USCGC MOHAWK in Key West, Florida. Following this assignment, CAPT Knutson was selected for Naval Flight Training in Pensacola, Florida and began flight school the summer of 2001. She earned her wings in the fall of 2002.

In 2007 she earned a dual qualification in the Rotary Wing Air Intercept mission and deployed to the National Capitol Region ten times supporting National Security missions. In 2010 CAPT Knutson was assigned to the Coast Guard's Helicopter Interdiction Tactical Squadron in Jacksonville, Florida where she conducted Airborne Use of Force—Counter Drug missions, deploying aboard four Coast Guard cutters in the Eastern Pacific Ocean and Western Caribbean Sea.

In 2014 CAPT Knutson was selected as the Executive Assistant to the Director of Department of Homeland Security, Joint Task Force—East, the first ever Joint Task Force of its kind. In this capacity she supported the Director and Executive Leadership in executing the foundational processes of standing up a new unit tasked with improving the Department of Homeland Security's ability to operate as a unified team.

CAPT Knutson graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Management. She holds a Master of Arts degree in Human Resources Management from American Military University.

CAPT Breanna Knutson is a true American who chose to answer the call to serve our country. It is an honor to recognize her incredible service history that is a true depiction of her dedication to the United States Coast Guard. I wish her the best as she continues her service as Commanding Officer of Sector North Bend, Oregon.

IN HONOR OF KEN WHITE

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker I rise today to recognize Ken White, the recently retired Executive Director of the Peninsula Humane Society. As Mr. White noted, he was retiring on his 469th birthday, as measured in dog years. He joined the Peninsula Humane Society in 2002 and his successes at this organization have been historic for this beloved organization.

Upon his arrival, Ken White and the Peninsula Humane Society guaranteed a home to every adoptable dog or cat in their care, a promise they have kept ever since. In 2003 the organization expanded its promise to include as many ill and injured and behaviorally challenged pets as possible. In 2005, the Humane Society purchased a mobile veterinary clinic and provided spay/neutering surgeries for animals in some of the most underserved communities in the county.

More than 22,000 households contribute to the work of the Peninsula Humane Society. The euthanasia rate has decreased 98 percent since 1970. 1200 volunteers allow PHS to function as an integral part of our community.

In 2006, Ken and his board bought an old Burlingame warehouse. Through a major gift and the loving care of volunteers, they were able to open this facility as the Center for Compassion to house charitably funded programs through state-of-the-art facilities. The progress is amazing. When Ken arrived in our community, the percentage of animals released live back into the community was 53 percent. Today, it is 89 percent. There are tens of thousands of peninsula animals who found their forever-home thanks to the kind heart and amazing fundraising talents of Ken White.

Not content to be an over-achieving humane organization, Ken, his board, employees and volunteers have set a reach goal. The organization now owns 260 acres of land in San Mateo County which will be turned into an animal sanctuary. It will be the first in our nation owned and operated by a humane society.

Ken has seen a tortoise survive being driven over by a vehicle, and today that tortoise thrives as Ken's pet. He watched a falcon be released into the wild after severe injuries were healed. Reptiles have been visitors to his home. He and his apparently patient wife, Carolyn Crane, have also taken in a pot-bellied pig and an Argentinian homed frog. If there was a wild party at Ken's home and the noise ever got to be too much, I'm sure there was always a pet or two that was more than willing to lay down the law to Ken.

Ken White got into the business of running animal shelters from an unusual background. He holds a Master's Degree in creative writing. After a series of jobs, he was eventually invited to create educational materials for a local shelter. As a child he was never allowed to own a pet, but then as a young man he was suddenly surrounded by animals. It was love at first sight.

As he leaves his longtime position, he goes out on a national high note. The 260 acre sanctuary in the San Mateo County mountains

will be for medically or behaviorally challenged dogs and cats with low adoption rates. This facility will be a huge step forward for those that are able to live out a full life, but without troublesome humans and their nitpicking rules as preconditions. So goes the dream of San Mateo County's Dr. Doolittle, the man who talks to our animals. I have long admired Ken White for his ingenuity and can-do spirit. The San Mateo community and I wish him well as he leaves his avid fans, of all breeds, behind. Undoubtedly there's a movie about Ken that will someday be released on Netflix: Ken White: Lifesaver, Tortoise Daddy and Snake Whisperer. Watch for it, streaming soon.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 2862, THE CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT SUICIDE ACT, AND H.R. 2981, THE SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of two pieces of legislation, H.R. 2862, the Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act, and H.R. 2981, the Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act of 2021—both of which make critical investments to support suicide prevention efforts nationwide.

Rising suicide rates across the country, and especially in my home state of Texas, represent a growing concern in our communities. According to the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health, Texas suicide rates have risen nearly 26 percent since 2000—and are the second leading cause of death for Texans aged 15 to 34. The cost of inaction on this issue is too high, and that is why I am encouraged that we are voting on these pieces of legislation today.

H.R. 2862, the Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act, will direct the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to carry out a national suicide prevention campaign. This campaign would include advocacy for an effort that I led last Congress, which would redesignate the National Suicide Prevention Hotline as a three-digit 9-8-8 number. This effort, which would shorten the previous 1-800 number, is an essential step towards simplifying access to critical resources for our constituents in their times of need.

H.R. 2981, the Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act of 2021, would further require HHS to develop a plan to ensure high-quality service through the National Suicide Prevention Hotline. Beyond a strategic plan, the bill would authorize additional funding for a network of local crisis centers that provide free support and assistance to those struggling with suicidal thoughts.

Madam Speaker, the passage of these two bills would have immediate and tremendous benefits—and could ultimately save lives. That is why I will support these bills, and why I urge their immediate consideration and passage in the Senate.

RECOGNIZING MR. JEFF HASTE UPON HIS RETIREMENT AS CHAIRMAN OF THE DAUPHIN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend, congratulate, and profusely thank Mr. Jeff Haste, upon the occasion of his retirement as Chairman of the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners.

Few public servants have been as effective and innovative as Jeff Haste. When he became the Chairman in 2003, he took bold steps to cut costs and put county government on a path to fiscal responsibility, and held the line on taxes for an unprecedented ten straight years.

A conservative and pragmatic leader, Jeff consistently sought ways to support private sector growth. He established the first-of-its-kind infrastructure and land bank, to fund critical local projects, fight blight, and stimulate economic growth. He also saved the Harrisburg Sports and Outdoor Show—a major economic and tourism driver for the region—by securing a new producer and making the show the most successful to date.

As a testament to his leadership and initiative as county commissioner, Jeff was named the Harrisburg Regional Chamber (CCAP)'s Government Leader of the Year in 2006 and 2011. He also was awarded the CCAP 2016 Outstanding Commissioner of the Year, the National Association of Counties 2014 Achievement Award in the category of community/economic development, the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association President's Award for the Dauphin County Infrastructure Bank, and the Harrisburg Riverboat Society 2013 Award for Distinguished Community Service, among myriad other accolades, commendations, and recognitions.

An avid outdoorsman and open space advocate, Jeff helped Dauphin County preserve almost 15,000 acres of farmland since 1992, under a program that began when he was chief clerk.

He also served as CCAP's 2014 president, representing all 67 counties in Pennsylvania, before becoming Chairman of the Board in 2015. He was Chairman of the Susquehanna Township Recreation Board in 2001, and served on the Township's zoning hearing board. In 2012, he was appointed to the Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing, and Conservation.

Jeff, also active in the Boy Scouts, coaches youth soccer and baseball, and is involved with many other community and professional organizations. After graduating in 1977 from Lewistown Area High School, he attended Shippensburg University, and graduated in 1981 with a Bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice and Law Enforcement, while serving as class president all four years, and earning Dean's List honors. Jeff is a devoted husband to his wife, Maria, father of four, and grandfather of three.

Once again, on behalf of the Citizens of the 10th Congressional District, I'm honored to congratulate and sincerely thank Commissioner Jeff Haste for his tireless, dedicated,

and selfless service to the County of Dauphin, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the United States of America, and I wish him God-speed on his future.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE TAYLOR, TEXAS ROTARY CLUB

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I'm proud to honor and celebrate the Taylor Rotary Club's century of extraordinary service. Founded on May 10, 1921 by twenty-five charter members, the Club has made lasting and monumental contributions toward making Central Texas a great place to call home.

Throughout their century of service, the Club has helped where help is needed—in their own communities and around the world—with unmatched integrity and energy. When the Taylor Rotary Club gets involved, problems get smaller and communities get better.

The Club has been instrumental in the creation of public parks, Taylor's first Boy Scout organization, and numerous philanthropic campaigns. Their continued participation in the Baylor Scott and White Blood Drive, Shepherd's Heart Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels, and numerous college and vocational scholarships to local students show the Taylor Rotary Club truly lives out its motto of "Service Above Self."

A century after its creation, the Taylor Rotary Club has touched countless lives for the better and continues to make positive impacts on those it's dedicated to serve. I celebrate 100 years of incredible civic involvement and join all Central Texas in wishing this great organization nothing but the best in the decades to come.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER ERIC TALLEY

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a hero who made the ultimate sacrifice for his community. On March 22, Officer Eric Talley courageously confronted a gunman in the Boulder King Soopers. By racing to the scene and not hesitating to directly confront the armed suspect, Officer Talley undoubtedly saved countless lives. His heroic actions and remarkable bravery stand as a stark reminder of the danger that law enforcement officers face every time they pin on their badge.

Good people like Officer Talley represent the best of America. He was deeply committed to his faith, his family, and his community. He saw a need in his community and felt so strongly that he could contribute to his community that he made a mid-career change to serve as a member of the Boulder Police Department. His deeply held convictions are admirable, and his sacrifice deserves commendations that our human institutions are unable to offer. Colorado will be forever grateful

for his bravery and determination. On March 22, 2021, Colorado lost a dedicated guardian of the public, a family man, and a person of faith.

The circumstances that prompt this recognition of Officer Talley fill me with sorrow at the human cost of the gunman's crimes, but it also fills me with a solemn pride and gratitude to know of his resolute character and courage in the face of imminent danger.

I want to extend my deepest condolences to Officer Talley's family, friends, fellow officers, and community. Madam Speaker, I am humbled and honored to recognize Officer Talley's service and sacrifice.

THE PRIMARY REGULATORS OF INSURANCE VOTE ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the Primary Regulators of Insurance Vote Act with Rep. Barry Loudermilk, Rep. Roger Williams, and Rep. Alexander X. Moonhey as the original cosponsors.

The Primary Regulators of Insurance Vote Act would add a dedicated voting seat for state insurance commissioners on the federal Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC), established under the 2010 Dodd-Frank law in response to the global financial crisis and the Great Recession. This bipartisan bill would ensure that the expertise of the nation's primary insurance regulators, state commissioners, has equal weight in the FSOC's decision-making and risk monitoring activities, which directly impact the national insurance industry and market for hundreds of millions of American consumers.

With this bill, we will better protect consumers by ensuring that the impact insurance companies have on our financial stability is sufficiently monitored at the national level. As former State Insurance Commissioner of California, I know the frontline role that state regulators can have in holding insurance companies accountable. Unlike other financial sectors, insurance markets are largely regulated at the state level. Our bill will ensure that the state officials leading that effort have a full and equal voice at the national level to ensure stability, fairness, and accountability in our financial system and the insurance industry nationwide.

I am joined in this effort by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), American Property Casualty Insurance Association, National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, Insured Retirement Institute, Reinsurance Association of America, and American Council of Life Insurers which have endorsed the legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to join me in cosponsoring the "Primary Regulators of Insurance Vote Act to ensure that the state officials leading the effort to regulate insurance markets have a full and equal voice at the national level to ensure stability, fairness, and accountability in our financial system and the insurance industry nationwide.

RECOGNIZING MARK JANTON FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE AT THE BOONTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize former Fire Chief Mark Janton for 50 years of service at the Boonton Fire Department.

As we prepared this winter to recognize Mark Janton, alongside two of his fellow firemen, the community received the sad news that Mark passed away after a two-year battle with cancer.

Mark devoted his life to his community and to serving his neighbors. It's his dedication that made Boonton, and New Jersey, such a special place, and is something that I know we are all so grateful for.

Mark first joined the Boonton Fire Department in 1971. Over the years he rose through the ranks, serving as Firefighter, Lieutenant, Captain, Battalion Chief, Deputy Chief, Chief, and Chief Driver for Maxfield Hose and Engine Company No. 1, aka The Workhorse.

Mark's memory lives on in the impact he made on his town and the people who loved him. I also want to extend my deepest condolences to Mark's family: his children, grandchildren, and his high school sweetheart, Kathy.

Fifty years is a lifetime of service. I want to honor Mark for everything he has done for his town, Boonton, New Jersey. He will be remembered fondly.

HONORING WWII VETERAN GUADALUPE ESPINOZA

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Guadalupe Espinoza, a World War II veteran celebrating his 100th birthday.

Mr. Espinoza is a Rio Grande Valley native who not only succeeded but thrived despite tremendous odds. Mr. Espinoza dropped out of elementary school after fifth grade and worked at a bakery to help his family during the Great Depression. He was drafted into the Army on Oct. 2, 1942, and while he never imagined joining the military, this experience shaped the spirited and strong-willed man he became.

While serving in the United States Air Force, Mr. Espinoza worked as a ground crew member supporting bomber and fighter aircrafts. He was assigned guard duty near the stern of the second biggest ship, the Queen Mary, and he and his crew voyaged throughout the sea as a German submarine closely followed them. After the four days it took to cross the Atlantic Ocean, he was stationed at a base in England and became an aviation mechanic.

Mr. Espinoza continued to serve our nation in the Air Force for six years, from 1942 to 1948. Upon completion of his service, he returned to his native city of Raymondville, TX where he constructed the building that would house Espinoza Bakery, which he owned and operated until 1980.

Throughout his life, Mr. Espinoza has exemplified true leadership and public service. As we honor Guadalupe Espinoza today, I ask my colleagues to join me, his family, and our community in celebrating his legacy and thanking him for his outstanding service to our great nation.

HONORING MR. BRENT EARL

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent in Michigan's Eighth District who embodies the definition of service to others: Mr. Brent Earl, of Livingston County.

Mr. Earl's roots in the county run deep—he's a graduate of Howell High School's Class of 1985 who now serves as Vice Chair of the Howell Public Schools Board of Education. He serves in this role in addition to working a full-time job and being involved in several local organizations, all while raising cattle and other animals as a sixth-generation Livingston County farmer.

At his core, Mr. Earl is a giver and a helper. Alongside his wife, Jen, and his four kids, he runs the Earl Farm Foundation, a non-profit that has been donating thousands of pounds of ground beef to local food pantries and shelters since 2009.

During the pandemic, when our community needed it most, Mr. Earl stepped up as a Good Samaritan. When local school children eligible for free or reduced lunch were dependent on food banks, Mr. Earl's donations literally put food on the table. For needy families priced out of grocery store beef, his generosity allowed their kids to enjoy hamburgers, meat loaf, and spaghetti.

For years, Mr. Earl has been a friend of the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLHSA). As a former member of the Advisory Council and current Vice Chair of the Board of Directors, Mr. Earl has guided the organization with the steady hand and easy demeanor that he is known for.

Whether he's been raising money or personally distributing goods and services to those in need, Mr. Earl has given countless hours to OLHSA efforts. For the past five years, he's been the Chair of its annual Walk for Warmth, which raises money to help community members stay safe and warm during heat-related emergencies.

For his work and his efforts, he's been recognized as a Person of the Year, Big Brother of the Year, and Citizen of the Year. But beyond these personal awards and accolades, Mr. Earl is something much greater. He's a local Fred Rogers: a good man and a good neighbor who simply wants to help.

On behalf of a grateful community, I thank Mr. Earl for his tireless devotion to his family, his town, and our community. It's my honor to insert these remarks into the permanent record of the People's House so that his legacy of service may live on.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Résumé of Congressional Activity.

Senate passed S.J. Res. 15, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency True Lender Congressional Review Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2423–S2462

Measures Introduced: Thirty bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1544–1573, and S. Res. 204–206. **Page S2451**

Measures Passed:

National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders: By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 183), Senate passed S.J. Res. 15, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Office of the Comptroller of Currency relating to “National Banks and Federal Savings Associations as Lenders”, after agreeing to the motion to proceed. **Pages S2430–41**

Prior to the consideration of this measure, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S2430**

National Minority Health Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 205, promoting minority health awareness and supporting the goals and ideals of National Minority Health Month in April 2021, which include bringing attention to the health disparities faced by minority populations of the United States such as American Indians, Alaska Natives, Asian Americans, African Americans, Hispanics, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders. **Pages S2458–59**

National Crime Victims’ Rights Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 206, supporting the designation of the week of April 18 through April 24, 2021, as National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. **Page S2459**

Messages from the President: Senate received the following messages from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13873 of May 15, 2019, with respect to securing the information and communications technology and services supply chain; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–9)

Page S2446

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012, with respect to Yemen; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–10)

Page S2446

Motion to Discharge Brooks-LaSure Nomination: Pursuant to S. Res. 27, Committee on Finance being tied on the question of reporting, the Majority Leader made the motion to discharge the Committee on Finance from further consideration of the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; under the provisions of S. Res. 27, there will be up to 4 hours of debate on the motion, equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; with no motions, points of order, or amendments in order. **Pages S2441–42**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to discharge the nomination at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, May 12, 2021; that at 12 noon, all time be considered expired and Senate vote on the motion to discharge the nomination; that the motions to invoke cloture filed on Monday, May 10, 2021 ripen following disposition of the motion to discharge; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a

Governor of the United States Postal Service, all post-cloture time be considered expired at 3 p.m.

Page S2460

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 61 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. EX. 180), Andrea Joan Palm, of Wisconsin, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services. Page S2428

By 54 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 182), Cynthia Minette Marten, of California, to be Deputy Secretary of Education. Page S2430

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 54 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. EX. 181), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. Pages S2428–29

Messages from the House: Page S2446

Executive Communications: Pages S2447–50

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S2452–53

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S2453–57

Additional Statements: Pages S2443–46

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Pages S2459–60

Record Votes: Four record votes were taken today. (Total—183) Pages S2428–30 and S2441

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:22 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 12, 2021. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2462.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Michael J. McCord, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary (Comptroller), who was introduced by former Senator Chuck Hagel, and Ronald S. Moultrie, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Security, both of the Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

NOMINATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Adrienne Todman, of the Virgin Islands, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Nuria I. Fernandez, of California,

to be Federal Transit Administrator, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

FREIGHT MOBILITY

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Surface Transportation, Maritime, Freight, and Ports concluded a hearing to examine freight mobility, focusing on strengthening America's supply chains and competitiveness, after receiving testimony from Chuck Baker, American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association, and Lamont Byrd, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, both of Washington, D.C.; Christopher J. Connor, American Association of Port Authorities, Alexandria, Virginia; and Chris Spear, American Trucking Associations, Arlington, Virginia.

EQUITY IN TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure concluded a hearing to examine equity in transportation infrastructure, focusing on connecting communities, removing barriers, and repairing networks across America, after receiving testimony from Toks Omishakin, California Department of Transportation Director, Sacramento; William T. Panos, North Dakota Department of Transportation Director, Bismarck; Veronica O. Davis, Houston Public Works, Houston, Texas; and Steven E. Polzin, Lutz, Florida.

CLOSING THE TAX GAP

Committee on Finance: Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight concluded a hearing to examine closing the tax gap, focusing on lost revenue from non-compliance and the role of offshore tax evasion, after receiving testimony from Barry Johnson, Acting Chief, Research and Analytics Officer, and Doug O'Donnell, Deputy Commissioner, Services and Enforcement, both of the Internal Revenue Service, and J. Russell George, Inspector General for Tax Administration, all of the Department of the Treasury; and Nina E. Olson, Center for Taxpayer Rights, and Charles O. Rossotti, former Commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service, both of Washington, D.C.

FEDERAL CYBERSECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine improving Federal cybersecurity post-SolarWinds, focusing on prevention, response, and recovery, after receiving testimony from Brandon Wales, Acting Director, Cybersecurity and Information Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security; Ryan A. Higgins, Chief Information Security Officer and Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the

Chief Information Officer, Office of the Secretary of Commerce; and Janet Vogel, Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Health and Human Services.

COVID-19

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine an update from Federal officials on efforts to combat COVID-19, after receiving testimony from Anthony S. Fauci, Director, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institutes of Health, David A. Kessler, Chief Scientific Officer, COVID-19 Response, Peter Marks, Director, Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, and Rochelle P. Walensky,

Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, all of the Department of Health and Human Services.

STOPPING GUN VIOLENCE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on the Constitution concluded a hearing to examine stopping gun violence, focusing on ghost guns, after receiving testimony from Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro, Harrisburg; Michael Harrison, Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore, Maryland; Nicholas Suplina, Everytown for Gun Safety, New York, New York; Ashley Hlebinsky, The Gun Code, LLC, Cody, Wyoming; and Rick Vasquez, Rick Vasquez Firearms, LLC, Winchester, Virginia.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 57 public bills, H.R. 3075–3128; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 381–383, were introduced. **Pages H2192–95**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H2196–98**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 379, dismissing the election contest relating to the office of Representative from the Fourteenth Congressional District of Illinois (H. Rept. 117–28); and

H. Res. 380, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2547) to expand and enhance consumer, student, servicemember, and small business protections with respect to debt collection practices, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1065) to eliminate discrimination and promote womens health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–29). **Page H2192**

Decorum Statement: The Speaker addressed the House regarding an update to the policies of January 4, 2021, and December 15, 2020, regarding the requirement to wear masks in the Hall of the House during the coronavirus pandemic. Consistent with the updated guidance from the Office of the Attending Physician, the Chair informed Members that while masks continue to be required in the Hall of the House, Members are permitted to remove their masks temporarily while under recognition. Mem-

bers and staff must wear masks in the Hall of the House at all times except that a Member may remove their mask when recognized by the Chair and Members presiding as Chair may remove their masks when speaking. The Sergeant-at-Arms is directed to enforce mask requirements consistent with this announcement. **Page H2157**

Oath of Office—Second Congressional District of Louisiana: Representative-elect Troy A. Carter presented himself in the well of the House and was administered the Oath of Office by the Speaker. Earlier, the Clerk of the House transmitted a copy of a letter received from the Honorable John Bel Edwards, the Governor of Louisiana, and the Honorable R. Kyle Ardoin, the Secretary of State of Louisiana, indicating that, according to the preliminary results of the Special Election held April 24, 2021, the Honorable Troy A. Carter was elected Representative to Congress for the Second Congressional District, State of Louisiana. **Pages H2157–58, H2191**

Whole Number of the House: The Speaker announced to the House that, in light of the administration of the oath to the gentleman from Louisiana, the whole number of the House is 431. **Page H2158**

Committee Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Peters wherein he resigned from the Committee on Small Business. **Page H2159**

Suspensions: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure:

Fairness in Orphan Drug Exclusivity Act: H.R. 1629, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to limitations on exclusive

approval or licensure of orphan drugs, by a 2/3 yeas-and-nays vote of 250 yeas to 168 nays, Roll No. 134.

Pages H2181–83

Recess: The House recessed at 4:23 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m.

Page H2184

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2021: H.R. 433, to establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families;

Pages H2160–61

Pursuing Equity in Mental Health Act: H.R. 1475, amended, to address mental health issues for youth, particularly youth of color;

Pages H2161–63

Suicide Training and Awareness Nationally Delivered for Universal Prevention Act of 2021: H.R. 586, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and condition State educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies receiving funds under section 520A of such Act to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy;

Pages H2163–65

Mental Health Services for Students Act of 2021: H.R. 721, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs;

Pages H2165–67

Behavioral Intervention Guidelines Act of 2021: H.R. 2877, to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop best practices for the establishment and use of behavioral intervention teams at schools;

Pages H2167–68

Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act of 2021: H.R. 1260, amended, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program supporting trauma center violence intervention and violence prevention programs;

Pages H2168–69

Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act of 2021: H.R. 1205, to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Center for Mental Health Services of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, to award grants to implement innovative approaches to securing prompt access to appropriate follow-on care for individuals who experience an acute mental health episode and present for care in an emergency department;

Pages H2169–71

Effective Suicide Screening and Assessment in the Emergency Department Act of 2021: H.R. 1324, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a program to improve the identification, assessment, and treatment of patients in hospital emergency departments who are at risk of suicide;

Pages H2171–72

Helping Emergency Responders Overcome Act: H.R. 1480, amended, to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues among public safety officers;

Pages H2172–75

Campaign to Prevent Suicide Act: H.R. 2862, amended, to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a national suicide prevention media campaign;

Pages H2175–76

Suicide Prevention Lifeline Improvement Act of 2021: H.R. 2981, to amend the Public Health Service Act to ensure the provision of high-quality service through the Suicide Prevention Lifeline;

Pages H2176–78

Suicide Prevention Act: H.R. 2955, to authorize a pilot program to expand and intensify surveillance of self-harm in partnership with State and local public health departments, to establish a grant program to provide self-harm and suicide prevention services in hospital emergency departments; and

Pages H2178–80

Block, Report, and Suspend Suspicious Shipments Act of 2021: H.R. 768, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to clarify the process for registrants to exercise due diligence upon discovering a suspicious order.

Pages H2180–81

Presidential Messages: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency with respect to Yemen that was declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012 is to continue in effect beyond May 16, 2021—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 117–37).

Page H2183

Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency with respect to securing the information and communications technology and services supply chain that was declared in Executive Order 13873 of May 15, 2019 is to continue in effect beyond May 15, 2021—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 117–38).

Page H2184

Discharge Petition: Representative Perry presented to the clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution, H. Res. 160 entitled expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the International Olympic Committee should rebid the 2022 Winter Olympic

Games to be hosted by a country that recognizes and respects human rights, (Discharge Petition No. 4).

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appears on page H2159.

Quorum Calls—Votes: One yea-and-nay vote developed during the proceedings of today and appears on page H2184.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Committee Meetings

COMPREHENSIVE DEBT COLLECTION IMPROVEMENT ACT; PREGNANT WORKERS FAIRNESS ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 2547, the “Comprehensive Debt Collection Improvement Act”; and H.R. 1065, the “Pregnant Workers Fairness Act”. The Committee granted, by record vote of 8–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2547, the “Comprehensive Debt Collection Improvement Act”, and H.R. 1065, the “Pregnant Workers Fairness Act”. The rule provides for consideration of H.R. 2547, the “Comprehensive Debt Collection Improvement 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 Financial Services or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Financial Services now printed in the bill, 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 Financial Services or her 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 Financial Services 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 part B of 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. 1065, the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, under a closed rule. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Education and Labor now printed in the bill 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 one motion to recommit. The rule provides that at any time through the legislative day of Friday, May 14, 2021, the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules with respect to multiple measures that were the object of motions to suspend the rules on the legislative days of May 11 or 12, 2021, and on which the yeas and nays were ordered and further proceedings postponed. The Chair shall put the question on any such motion without debate or intervening motion, and the ordering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions to suspend the rules with respect to such measures is vacated. The rule provides that House Resolution 379 is hereby adopted. Testimony was heard from Chairman Scott of Virginia, and Representatives Foxx, Waters, and Luetkemeyer.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: to hold hearings to examine domestic violent extremism in America, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine military and civilian personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review on the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense budget posture for nuclear forces in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2022 and the Future Years Defense Program, 4:30 p.m., SR-232A.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine waste, fraud, cost overruns, and auditing at the Pentagon, 11 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider S. 82, to require a joint task force on air travel during and after the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, S. 140, to improve data collection and monitoring of the Great Lakes, oceans, bays, estuaries, and coasts, S. 316, to establish a temperature checks pilot program for air transportation, S. 497, to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, S. 516, to plan for and coordinate efforts to integrate advanced air mobility aircraft into the national airspace system, S. 1037, to provide for the establishment of a section of the website of the Department of Commerce that shall serve as the primary hub for information relating to Federal manufacturing programs, S. 1106, to prohibit the sale of shark fins, S. 1260, to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, S. 1289, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to reauthorize and modify the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program, an original bill entitled, "COVID-19 Home Safety Act", and the nominations of Leslie B. Kiernan, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Commerce, and Lina M. Khan, of New York, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Shannon Aneal Estenoz, of Florida, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife, and Radhika Fox, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator and Michal Ilana Freedhoff, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, 10 a.m., SR-253.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the President's 2021 trade policy agenda, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

Subcommittee on Health Care, to hold hearings to examine the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, focusing on improving mental health and addiction services in our communities, 3 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: to hold hearings to examine COVID-19 pandemic and the United States international response, 10 a.m., SD-419/VTC.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider the nominations of Jocelyn Samuels, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Jennifer Ann Abruzzo, of New York, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, Seema Nanda, of Virginia, to be Solicitor for the Department of Labor, and other pending calendar business, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 1351, to strengthen the security and integrity of the United States scientific and research enterprise, S. 1316, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to make a declaration of a significant incident, S. 1097, to establish a Federal rotational cyber workforce program for the Federal cyber workforce, S. 1353, to promote United States values and fulfill agency missions through the use of innovative applied artificial intelligence technologies, S. 1324, to establish a Civilian Cyber Security Reserve as a pilot project to address the cyber security needs for the United States with respect to national security, S. 73, to ban the Federal procurement of certain drones and other unmanned aircraft systems, S. 1143, to prohibit certain individuals from downloading or using TikTok on any device issued by the United States or a government corporation, S. 1330, to facilitate the reskilling of Federal employees, S. 1350, to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a national risk management cycle, S. 1306, to provide for domestic sourcing of personal protective equipment, S. 732, to strengthen Buy American requirements, S. 1303, to ensure that certain Federal infrastructure programs require the use of materials produced in the United States, S. 363, to amend chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code, to increase the requirement for American-made content, to strengthen the waiver provisions, and S. 1094, to ensure that certain materials used in carrying out Federal infrastructure aid programs are made in the United States, 9:15 a.m., SD-342.

Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight, to hold hearings to examine the findings and recommendations of the Government Accountability Office's 2021 report on duplication, overlap, fragmentation and opportunities to achieve financial benefits, 2:30 p.m., SD-342/VTC.

Committee on Indian Affairs: to hold hearings to examine the COVID-19 response in native communities, focusing on tourism economies one year later, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

Committee on the Judiciary: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Deborah L. Boardman, and Lydia Kay Griggsby, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, and Ronald L. Davis, of California, to be Director of the United States Marshals Service, Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD-G50.

Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and Border Safety, to hold hearings to examine the essential role of immigrant workers in America, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: to hold hearings to examine supporting disabled veterans, focusing on the state of claims processing during and after COVID-19, 3 p.m., SR-253.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry, hearing entitled “Title II Conservation Programs: Exploring Climate Smart Practices”, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled “USDA Research, Education and Economics Mission Area”, 10:30 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, oversight hearing on Federal Aviation Administration Safety, 10:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “An Update on Afghanistan”, 11 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services, hearing entitled “Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Service”, 12 p.m., Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “The Fiscal Year 2022 HHS Budget”, 10:30 a.m., Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 166 the “The Fair Lending for All Act”; H.R. 1188, the “Greater Accountability in Pay Act”; H.R. 1443, the “LGBTQ Business Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act”; H.R. 2570, the “Climate Risk Disclosure Act”; H.R. 3007, the “Disclosure of Tax Havens and Offshoring Act”; and H.R. 3009, the “Improving

Language Access in Mortgage Servicing Act”, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Driving a Global, Whole-of-Society Response to Climate Action”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, continue hearing entitled “Oversight of the January 6th Attack: United States Capitol Police Threat Assessment and Counter-Surveillance Before and During the Attack”, 12 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Natural Resources, Office of Insular Affairs Full Committee, hearing on H. Res. 279, the “Insular Cases Resolution”, 1 p.m., Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Capitol Insurrection: Unexplained Delays and Unanswered Questions”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight, hearing entitled “COVID-19 Variants and Evolving Research Needs”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled “Military Transition During the COVID-19 Pandemic”, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support, hearing entitled “Making a Difference for Families and Foster Youth”, 10 a.m., Webex.

Subcommittee on Revenue Measures, hearing entitled “Funding Our Nation’s Priorities: Reforming the Tax Code’s Advantageous Treatment of the Wealthy”, 2 p.m., Webex.

Joint Meetings

Joint Economic Committee: to hold hearings to examine the racial wealth gap in the United States, 10 a.m., VTC.

Résumé of Congressional Activity

FIRST SESSION OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

The first table gives a comprehensive résumé of all legislative business transacted by the Senate and House.

The second table accounts for all nominations submitted to the Senate by the President for Senate confirmation.

DATA ON LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY

January 3 through April 30, 2021

	<i>Senate</i>	<i>House</i>	<i>Total</i>
Days in session	64	56	..
Time in session	359 hrs., 3'	244 hrs., 33'	..
Congressional Record:			
Pages of proceedings	2,391	2,136	..
Extensions of Remarks .....	..	472	..
Public bills enacted into law	9	6	..
Private bills enacted into law .....	..	..	..
Bills in conference .....	..	..	..
Measures passed, total	118	144	262
Senate bills	14	5	..
House bills	7	72	..
Senate joint resolutions	1	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	1	..
Senate concurrent resolutions	3	3	..
House concurrent resolutions	4	6	..
Simple resolutions	89	57	..
Measures reported, total	*50	*25	75
Senate bills	17	..	..
House bills	2	11	..
Senate joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
House joint resolutions .....	..	..	..
Senate concurrent resolutions .....	..	..	..
House concurrent resolutions .....	..	..	..
Simple resolutions	31	14	..
Special reports	8	1	..
Conference reports .....	..	..	..
Measures pending on calendar	40	5	..
Measures introduced, total	1,748	3,383	5,131
Bills	1,518	2,940	..
Joint resolutions	18	45	..
Concurrent resolutions	9	32	..
Simple resolutions	203	366	..
Quorum calls	2	1	..
Yea-and-nay votes	178	132	..
Recorded votes .....	..	..	..
Bills vetoed .....	..	..	..
Veto overridden .....	..	..	..

DISPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

January 3 through April 30, 2021

Civilian nominees, totaling 271, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	45
Unconfirmed	191
Withdrawn	35
Other Civilian nominees, totaling 1,096, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	2
Unconfirmed	1,094
Air Force nominees, totaling 3,967, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	1,687
Unconfirmed	2,280
Army nominees, totaling 4,135, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	2,570
Unconfirmed	1,565
Navy nominees, totaling 481, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	169
Unconfirmed	312
Marine Corps nominees, totaling 561, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	547
Unconfirmed	14
Space Force nominees, totaling 1,075, disposed of as follows:	
Confirmed	176
Unconfirmed	899
<i>Summary</i>	
Total nominees carried over from the First Session	0
Total nominees received this Session	11,586
Total confirmed	5,196
Total unconfirmed	6,355
Total withdrawn	35
Total returned to the White House	0

*These figures include all measures reported, even if there was no accompanying report. A total of 19 written reports have been filed in the Senate, 26 reports have been filed in the House.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, May 12

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to discharge the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, with a vote on the motion to discharge at 12:00 noon. Following which, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2021. If cloture is invoked, Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination. To be followed by a vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Ronald Stroman, of the District of Columbia, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2028, to be followed by a vote on confirmation of the nomination. Senate also expects to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Amber McReynolds, of Colorado, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2026.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, May 12

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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