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# House of Representatives

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

## DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
*March 8, 2022.*

I hereby appoint the Honorable JAHANA HAYES to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

## MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 10, 2022, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

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

## LOW COLLEGE ENROLLMENT IS NOT A CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, college enrollment decreased this year by a million students. Although many claim dropping enrollment is a crisis, this is a once-in-a-generation opportunity.

This is an opportunity to see that Americans are making more decisions that are best for them. This is an opportunity for Americans to see that college is not the only pathway to a successful career. This is an opportunity for institutions of higher education to rethink how best to serve students.

As the Republican leader of the Education and Labor Committee and a former educator, I know the importance of giving every American the opportunity to climb the economic ladder through pursuit of postsecondary education.

Yet, the college-for-all mentality has forced many Americans to obtain expensive degrees which may not prepare them for a satisfying career when they could have thrived on an alternative career path. It also allowed institutions to maintain the status quo of high prices and often questionable value.

College is not the only pathway to a fulfilling career. Falling college enrollment could demonstrate that more Americans are weighing the cost of college and deciding it just might not be worth it.

A study by the Foundation for Research on Equal Opportunity found that the return on investment for obtaining a bachelor's degree varies significantly. The report found that 37 percent of the programs have negative returns on investment, meaning that students will be financially worse off for having participated in those programs.

Students can benefit from college only if they complete their degree. Historically, about 900,000 students leave college without finishing each year, according to Michael Petrilli, president of Fordham Institute. Petrilli surmises that individuals not registering for college could be some of the same students who would have dropped out anyway.

The roughly 40 percent of students who leave college without a degree are often left with a mountain of student debt and no wage increase to help pay it off. For these students it may have been a better option to enter the workforce, pursue a skilled profession, or put off college until the time was right rather than conforming to societal norms.

The fact that college enrollment is down signals that more Americans are doing just that—that is, making decisions that are better for their lives and families. As more young people come to realize that college is not always a golden ticket, they are embracing alternative career paths.

For example, more Americans are participating in apprenticeship programs or obtaining an associate degree in a high-skilled trade like welding technology or respiratory therapy.

We should celebrate our country's diverse workforce, not belittle it. Looking down on careers in critical industries, especially during a historic labor shortage, is shortsighted. We should encourage more Americans to obtain the skills needed for these in-demand jobs.

College is not the only way for Americans to move up economically. Many careers, particularly those in high-skilled trades, can lead to high and stable incomes. Most importantly, declining enrollments may be the wake-up call colleges and universities needed to finally convince them that they must change to meet the demands of students, families, and our workforce.

The cost of attending college has exploded while student outcomes have remained stagnant. Why would we expect any different when the Federal Government, using taxpayer dollars, is willing to write universities a blank check without requiring any accountability to students and taxpayers?

It is time for these institutions to get serious about providing an affordable education that will prepare students for the workforce. The drop in college enrollment shows that America is ready to change its attitude on ''college-for-all'' and accept that there are



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several pathways to the American Dream and lifelong success.

## BIDEN AGENDA AND CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, last week President Joe Biden delivered a strong State of the Union address focused on building a better America.

Our jobs recovery is strong and well underway, as noted by the most recent numbers, which shows unprecedented job growth so far under this President. More than 7.3 million jobs have been created by President Biden's very first year in office, even with the challenges posed by omicron and delta COVID variants. But we have so much more to do in this never-ending process of building a more perfect Union.

One area highlighted by the President was his desire to prioritize mental health needs in our country, particularly among our children. Our country faces an unprecedented mental health crisis in which our youth have been particularly impacted.

A number of mental health organizations have declared a youth mental health crisis and our surgeon general has issued an advisory calling it ''an urgent public health crisis.''

Today, I rise as we celebrate School Social Work Week, to talk about one way to help address that issue by supporting and investing in school social workers.

First, I just want to take an opportunity to thank our school social workers who work every single day to make a difference in the lives of their students and their families. School social workers are responsible for fostering students' social and emotional well-being so that they are ready to learn. As trained mental health professionals, social workers can deliver a wide spectrum of services, from building social skills to providing mental health support.

Their presence in our schools is invaluable and the support they provide for students is critical. I personally can attest to how school social workers make a difference. I would not be here if not for the support I received from a school social worker when I was a student.

Make no mistake, school social workers are key members of a school's educational team. Their expertise can help guide students through serious life challenges, including poverty, addiction, bullying, children whose parents are incarcerated, and even the military deployment of a family member.

It is more important, now more than ever, to reduce the barriers to mental health services for children, especially in our schools. As we do, improving access to school social workers must be a part of those efforts.

That is why later this week I will introduce, along with my very good friend and former professional social worker, Representative BARBARA LEE of California, my School Social Workers Improving Student Success Act, as we create a grant to help schools hire additional social workers and retain existing school social workers.

There should be one social worker for every 250 students in most schools. In high-need schools, one social worker for every 50 students. Many schools struggle to meet these ratios.

My bill would also create a National Technical Assistance Center for school social work to help develop strategies for improving the effectiveness of school social work and help disseminate best practices.

Madam Speaker, I want to say thank you to the front-line school social workers for the hard work they put in every day to help our students succeed. It is going to be much more challenging after COVID.

I applaud the President for his commitment to take on mental health, especially among our youth, and to make it part of his unity agenda for the Nation that I believe colleagues on both sides of the aisle should be able to get behind.

I share his dedication to getting all Americans the mental health services they need. I look forward to seeing the proposals included in his fiscal year 2023 budget, including to help increase access to school-based medical health services in which school social workers will play a key role.

I sincerely hope that this House and this Congress can come together to address our children's mental health. Democrats continue to prioritize efforts to make our economy recover. I encourage all Members to consider our youth's mental health.

## HONORING NATORRA MOODY

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Natorra Moody for receiving the Alma-Bacon Georgia Library Employee of the Year award for 2021.

Natorra has exceptionally high standards for herself, of her coworkers, and of our library system, helping to maintain the highest caliber of public service.

She is dedicated to serving her community by leading programs such as a prom dress donation campaign which helps students who can't afford formal wear by allowing them to borrow the dresses freely from the library.

She regularly participates in community events as well to promote her library and the stellar services it provides.

This past year, Natorra has taken on the role of managing the Appling County Public Library during the renovation period and beyond. Her dedication, hard work, and love originate from a simple volunteer position at her local library when she was a high school student.

I thank Natorra for all she does to benefit others.

### REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF BILL ROBERTS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of a dedicated member of our community, as well as a fellow Young Harris alumnus, Bill Roberts of Fayetteville, Georgia.

Bill was the recipient of the Young Harris Medallion, the highest honor that is bestowed by the college for his love and support throughout his years.

Recruited to come to Young Harris as a basketball star, Bill was so much more, serving as a champion debater and officer of both the SPAT clubs and Student Government Association. He earned a bachelor's degree in economics and continued his basketball career at Mercer University, proceeded to Georgia State to earn a business and accounting degree, and finally received a law degree from Woodrow Wilson.

He served our great State of Georgia on the financial side, overseeing massive construction projects like the Georgia Dome and World Congress Center. Bill's expertise was put to use as a trustee of the State's Employees' Retirement System where he served on the Investment Committee and was responsible for investing retirement funds to the humble tune of $12 billion.

Emeritus trustee for Young Harris, distinguished alumni, veteran, and loved member of our community are just a few of the titles that Bill retained. This is a tremendous loss that will be felt by many.

### RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF PAM SOUTHARD

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of an incredible Georgian, Pam Southard.

Pam has served as the executive director of the Greater Pooler Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau. She has selflessly put her heart and soul into her position and worked to better the city of Pooler in any way that she can.

As the executive director, Pam was instrumental in creating the shuttle system to and from the annual St. Patrick's Day celebration in Savannah. She also founded the annual Hearts for Heroes Gala Fundraiser to help put Pooler, Georgia, on the map. This upscale, black-tie event has sold out for the past 7 years and has been an incredible event for our community.

Throughout her tenure as executive director, Pam has overseen substantial business growth in the city of Pooler, thanks to her guiding hand. Pam has truly been the embodiment of what it means to be a servant to one's community.

Her retirement will leave big shoes to fill, and we will certainly miss her. We are grateful for all that she has done for our great city and wish her the best as she enters a new stage of her life.

□ 1015

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JON LOTT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Jon Lott, a devoted Christian, full of curiosity, and committed to serving everyone he encountered. He attended and graduated from Nicholls School, where he was senior class president and played basketball.

After high school, Jon would follow in his father's footsteps by attending North Georgia University, joining the Corps of Cadets. Military life didn't agree with Jon, and he graduated from Georgia Southern University.

Jon would go on to be the president of Nicholls State Bank as well as serving in leadership roles in several other banks. At the time of his passing, Jon was serving as the executive vice president of FNB South, where he had worked for almost three decades.

He was especially proud of the time he spent with the Coffee Regional Medical board, further helping his neighbors.

Jon was a man who was loved and admired by those who knew him and those whom he helped, which were many. My thoughts and prayers reside with his family, friends, and community as they mourn this tremendous loss of a friend, neighbor, loved one, and servant.

## HONORING JOHN ''POPS'' ARTHUR, SR.

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

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Arthur, Sr., a beloved San Fernando Valley leader whom we lost earlier this year. Pops, as many of his students called him, was known by Men's Journal Magazine as the toughest man in America.

Born in Starkville, Mississippi, Pops attended Clark Atlanta University with an athletic scholarship. He met the love of his life, Jeraldine, and they had a beautiful daughter, Jonvette. He worked as an underground bare-knuckle fighter with a black belt in various martial arts. He also worked as an undercover FBI agent and had various public safety roles.

After the passing of his wife, Pops moved to southern California with his beautiful daughter. There, he worked as a trainer with fitness personality Billy Blanks and trained various world champion fighters such as James Toney.

However, after a vibrant career training some of the world's most recognizable names, Pops found his true calling when he began coaching at-risk youth for free. He impacted countless families in our community by training their little children about life—not about fighting, but about life.

Pops dedicated his life to helping others and creating champions. A legend himself, Pops was truly a force of good in our community and in our world. For many reasons, I honor the life of the toughest man in America, John ''Pops'' Arthur.

UNITED STATES REMAINS A BEACON OF HOPE

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I am thankful for the opportunity to speak before the House, and it is an honor to be a Member of this prestigious body. With that, I would like to take the opportunity to explain and exclaim how our hearts in America go out to the people of Ukraine as they fear for their lives and they flee this tragedy that is caused by Russia and Vladimir Putin.

It is unfortunate that there are many people around the world right now as we speak who have, unfortunately, had to flee their country, flee their homes, in fear of people like Vladimir Putin and others who create atrocities on them, their communities, and their country.

I want to just remind everybody that the United States of America continues to be the beacon of hope, light, and life for everyone who needs to seek asylum. There are opportunities for us and many, many great countries around the world to embrace these people who are fleeing these unspeakable horrors.

It is very important for us to understand that we are great when our arms are open. We are great when we receive those who are less fortunate. We are great, and our greatness comes from so many of us who come from families who fled their country, who left atrocities so that they can have a new life for them, but more importantly, for the next generation, the next, and the next.

Once again, the United States of America shall always remain the place where people can seek refuge when they are fleeing atrocities like we are witnessing in Ukraine and other parts of the world.

## HONORING LANDER UNIVERSITY'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor the 150th anniversary of Lander University, one of the greatest universities in the Third District of South Carolina and the fastest growing public university in our State.

Lander was founded in 1872 in Williamston, South Carolina, as Williamston Female College by the Reverend Samuel Lander, who served as the institution's first president. That is a factoid that I didn't know until I started learning about their 150th anniversary.

The institution later moved to its current campus in Greenwood, South Carolina, in the heart of the Third District back in 1903. Williamston Female College was later renamed Lander College in honor of its founder and began admitting men in 1943.

On July 1, 1973, Lander College became a State-supported institution of higher learning after authorization from the South Carolina General Assembly. After another period of growth under the leadership of President Larry Jackson, Lander College changed its name again to Lander University in 1992.

Today, the university celebrates record growth, with more students choosing Lander University to continue their education than at any other time in the university's history. The university's continued growth over the past century-and-a-half and the impact the institution has had on the Third Congressional District and the State of South Carolina is exceptional.

Lander University offers high-demand and market-driven programs in a rich liberal arts environment to produce highly qualified and marketable graduates. The university now offers over 90 in-demand bachelor's and master's programs that produce career-ready graduates who have the technical, interpersonal, and professional skills they need to succeed in the workplace and the world thanks to their liberal arts education from Lander.

Now, Lander is a special place to me personally as I was a Lander University parent. My oldest son is a proud Lander alumnus and currently works for the university.

Go Bearcats, and congratulations on 150 years.

Madam Speaker, I want to mention one other thing.

In 2018, Democrats were hollering about gas prices, hollering just because President Trump was in the White House.

Look at gas prices today. I would love to hear you holler now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

## HONORING DR. PAUL FARMER

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

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dr. PAUL Farmer, a visionary in global health, crusader for health equity, and accomplished physician with an unparalleled passion for social justice.

Dr. Farmer was my mentor, my professor, and my friend. He was completely selfless, and his relentless dedication to those less fortunate inspired me and helped shape me into who I am today.

His story begins in North Adams, Massachusetts, in 1959. He spent his childhood there and later in Tampa, Florida, where he was raised in an old school bus that his father had converted into a mobile home.

Encouraged by his parents, Dr. Farmer developed a strong interest in the

world around him at an early age. His intellect and incredible work ethic led him to excel in school and eventually to win a full scholarship to Duke University. It was there, at Duke, where his passion for service took root.

After graduating, he traveled to Haiti, where he worked in public health clinics before pursuing his medical degree and doctorate in anthropology from Harvard University.

In 1987, Dr. Farmer cofounded what would become his legacy, Partners In Health, whose mission is to bring modern medical science and high-quality care to those most in need and serve as an antidote to despair. Its banner has always been ''pragmatic solidarity'' in the fight for health and social justice.

Dr. Farmer also used his gifts to shape young minds and the next generation of providers. He served as chief of the Division of Global Health Equity at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston and chair of the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School.

It was there, at Harvard Medical School, where our paths crossed in what proved to be one of the biggest blessings in my life. As my mentor and professor, Dr. Farmer embraced me, trained me, taught me, and encouraged me in all that I did.

In short, I blossomed under his guidance. I was empowered under his wings. He taught me to channel that very same passion that I had as a student-activist into fighting for social justice with my medical training.

I remember one day in the class when he told us all: All of you are now part of the elite. The mere fact that you are sitting here at Harvard Medical School will make you an elite.

As someone who grew up in a trailer park and was the first generation of my family to graduate from high school, I immediately resisted that. No way. No way. Not me. How dare he say that?

Now, I won't say what I was thinking in that moment, but ever the mind reader, Dr. Farmer looked me in the eyes and said: ''Yes, you, too, Raul.''

His point was that now that we are at Harvard Medical School, we need to own that. We need to use our Harvard medical training and research skills for the poor and give them the best care always. It was then that I understood the opportunity that I had to make a difference and serve those suffering from inequities with the care I would provide as a doctor.

I spent many years under his wing, learning from him and training with him to provide humanitarian aid and care. It was in the classroom at Harvard, in the rainforests of Chiapas, Mexico, and in the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti that I learned from Paul the powerful act of accompaniment. I admired his humility with the people; his fierce advocacy with the powerful; his selflessness; and the enormous respect that he showed to all he cared for, regardless of income or education. He treated everyone as equals and worked to earn their respect.

It is because of him that I stand before you all today, both as a physician and as a representative of the people.

Dr. Farmer was a great man, a humble servant, and a fierce warrior for health and justice. I miss him, and I know the world will, too.

In his memory, and in honor of all that he has done and achieved, I ask for all present to join me in a moment of silence.

## FARM BILL IMPACT SERIES: BIOFUELS

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

Mr. MANN. Madam Speaker, in preparation for reauthorizing the farm bill in 2023, I rise today to deliver the next installment of my farm bill impact series, where I am highlighting various aspects of the farm bill that deserve Congress' awareness and support.

If America is going to thrive, then the people who feed, fuel, and clothe America must thrive, and the farm bill contains certain programs that have been critical to the success of agricultural producers in my district and the energy independence of our country.

Every committee in this Congress should work to develop a sound, 21st century energy policy, one that embraces American energy independence, one that employs an all-of-the-above strategy embracing both fossil fuels and biofuels, and one that is not a mandated approach from the government.

For example, the House Energy and Commerce Committee should continue to pressure the Biden administration to reapprove the Keystone XL pipeline while it also considers the Year-Round Fuel Choice Act, and the House Agriculture Committee should weigh in on the enforcement of the renewable fuel standard while it also includes strong biofuels language in the next farm bill.

Energy policy has an impact on every American and cannot be crafted in a vacuum. When it comes to the farm bill, we know that we can strengthen our access to reliable, affordable, and efficient energy, like biofuels.

The Rural Energy For America Program provides financial assistance to promote energy independence and efficiency and renewable energy development for agricultural producers and rural small businesses.

Kansas Ethanol LLC, based in Lyons, Kansas, has utilized the REAP program twice. The first time they used it, they were able to expand their facility and went from producing 65 million gallons of ethanol to 80 million gallons of ethanol per year. The second time, the program helped them put in the infrastructure to produce their own electricity. They now produce their own heat and power through a gas turbine for their facility and export some power to the grid.

As Kansas produces nearly 500 million gallons of ethanol each year, programs like the Biodiesel Fuel Education Program and the Biomass Crop Assistance Program are important for Kansas and for the rest of this country. The Biodiesel Fuel Education Program awards competitive grants to nonprofit organizations and institutes of higher education that educate the public, as well as government and private entities, about the benefits of biodiesel fuel use.

□ 1030

The Biomass Crop Assistance Program supports the establishment and production of eligible crops for conversion to bioenergy and assists agricultural landowners and operators with the collection, harvest, storage, and transportation of eligible material for use in a biomass conversion facility.

These programs, and many more, are investments in the future of our country, and they must remain strong in the 2023 farm bill if America is going to be energy independent. That is why the farm bill is so important. It is not just about food and farming. It is about ensuring the security and self-determination of our country. We must support not only the efforts of farmers, ranchers, and agriculture producers who aim to keep us food-secure, but also the efforts of the renewable energy pioneers in our country, like Kansas corn growers and Kansas sorghum growers who aim to keep us energy independent.

I will be back on the floor soon to deliver another installment of my farm bill impact series and highlight more programs and titles within the bill that I believe Congress must understand and support to ensure that agriculture thrives in America.

## CELEBRATING THE EDITH FARNSWORTH HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. UNDERWOOD) for 5 minutes.

Ms. UNDERWOOD. Madam Speaker, as we mark the beginning of Women's History Month and International Women's Day, I rise today to celebrate the recent renaming of the iconic Farnsworth House to the Edith Farnsworth House.

Located in Plano, Illinois, the home designed by Mies van der Rohe was commissioned by Dr. Edith Farnsworth in 1945 and today is a National Historical Landmark and considered a masterpiece of modern architecture.

I am proud that this piece of architectural history is located in the 14th District of Illinois and that the National Trust for Historic Preservation is elevating the role of women throughout history by renaming and rededicating the house for the woman who commissioned it.

Too often, women's roles in history are overlooked and forgotten. That is why the National Trust's efforts through the Where Women Make History project to recognize places across

the country where women have changed their communities is so important, not only to elevate more of our history and celebrate women's contributions to it, but to inspire the next generation of artists and change-makers.

The Edith Farnsworth House is a cultural gem of the 14th District of Illinois that would not have been possible without the vision and commitment of Dr. Edith Farnsworth. I am proud to see this landmark rededicated in her name so that her legacy can be appreciated for generations to come.

## WE NEED TO RETURN TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

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

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, what would you do with $1,300? Would you go on vacation? Save for your kids' college? Maybe buy some new appliances?

Well, under the Democrats' new America last energy policies, most Americans have little choice but to spend $1,300 extra on gas to fill up their cars over the course of the next year. Today, the price of gas hit an all-time high.

Democrats want to blame surging prices on Russia. But the truth is, their out-of-touch policies are why we are here in the first place.

Remember what happened on day 1 with one-party rule? The President canceled the Keystone Pipeline, and then he stopped new oil and gas leases on Federal lands and waters. Then he gave the green light to Putin's pipeline. These knee-jerk decisions had damaging effects up and down the supply chain.

Now, Democrats are creating a fake choice between sanctioning Russia and lowering gas prices. In their twisted thinking, Americans must feel the pain at the pump in order to punish Putin. It doesn't have to be this way.

When Democrats' one-party rule started last year, they inherited an energy independent America. Average prices at the pump were $2.53 a gallon. Oh, do we wish we had those days again.

It is still possible to get back to that, which is why Republicans offered a bill last week that would approve the Keystone Pipeline, fast track oil and gas production on Federal lands and waters and remove all hurdles to exporting American natural gas.

Do the American people wonder what happened when we offered that? Two hundred twenty Democrats voted against it.

Then we offered targeted solutions to the immediate crisis, like approving the six natural gas export permits that are being held up by the Department of Energy. Just approving those six permits could increase U.S. natural gas exports by 25 percent.

But Democrats refused to listen. They think our Nation's future is better with leaving our resources in the ground, even if that requires us to buy oil from Iran or Venezuela and batteries from China.

It is obvious which party is championing clean, affordable American energy and which party has given up on it. It is interesting that American natural gas is 41 percent cleaner than Russian natural gas. Why wouldn't you want that to go to Europe and everywhere else?

If we want to lower prices and protect the environment, we must prioritize American energy independence.

What is worse, it is not just the Biden administration; it is complete throughout the Democrats' administration, for those who are in governorships as well. Just take a look at my home State, Madam Speaker, California.

Now, the United States imports from Russia 209,000 barrels of crude per day. That is 76.3 million barrels of crude per year. Of that, California imports from Russia 50,265 barrels of crude per day. In fact, California imported twice as many barrels of oil from Russia in 2021 than from Canada. So that means this money went to Putin to pay for his war.

Just as the Biden administration chose to stop the Keystone XL pipeline, apparently Governor Newsom thinks it is better to buy oil from Russia than from Canada. California domestic production was 374,000 barrels of crude per day in 2021. That has decreased under Gavin's administration, 89,000 barrels of crude per day less than in 2018.

If you take the analysis, looking at the data, if California rolled back the Newsom/Biden regulations that are crippling oil production in California, California could more than offset its use of Russian crude and then some. The United States could offset 43 percent of its dependence on Russian crude if California produced its full capacity.

You see, we don't have to be where we are. If the Democrats would change their policies of harming America and harming the environment by buying more Russian oil and gas, we wouldn't be where we are today. The prices would be lower, there would be more Americans working, and the world would be safer.

## BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA) for 5 minutes.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate President Biden and his administration following February's job report.

678,000, that is the total number of jobs created last month. But these are not just any type of jobs. These jobs are good-paying jobs that are giving Americans the dignity of a good paycheck.

In the last 13 months, 7.4 million jobs have been created, and unemployment has been slashed from 6.4 percent to 3.8 percent. When the President took office, over 18 million people were receiving unemployment benefits. Today, only 2 million people remain.

The bottom line, Madam Speaker, is we are seeing the best economy for American workers in decades, with people getting higher wages, better benefits, and better jobs across the board.

Our national deficit has also seen improvement. Under President Biden's watch, the deficit fell by $360 billion last year. This is the first deficit decline in more than half a decade. Better yet, our Nation is on track to cut the deficit even more this year. Biden's plan of action will make sure we continue our path to building a better America.

But building a better America requires much more than only economic success. It also requires healthy communities. I am proud to share that America has had much success on the public health front during Biden's first year.

In my home State of Texas, only 10 percent of the population was fully vaccinated this time last year. Today, 60 percent of the entire population is fully vaccinated in Texas. On top of that, 21 percent of the population have received a booster shot.

In short, Madam Speaker, our Nation is recovering, and we are powering through the challenges COVID–19 created.

As we continue to recover from COVID–19 and rebuild the economy, we also must invest in our infrastructure. Investing in roads, bridges, and public transportation is critical. Shockingly, in America, one in three U.S. bridges need repairs or replacement. Biden has a plan for that, too.

There are 4,000 infrastructure projects already planned, alongside 65,000 miles of highway and 1,500 bridges scheduled to be repaired.

But it is not only highways and bridges that need repairs and upgrades. Our ports need improvements as well. In my home area, the Port of Houston secured $142,500,000 in new funding because of the Biden boom.

In Houston, the transit authority, METRO, also received more than $137 million in Federal funds to strengthen local public transportation.

The best part, Madam Speaker, this is only the beginning. I am truly excited that we are really accomplishing much for the American people as we work in partnership with President Biden and his boom. We truly are building a better America for generations to come.

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT DANIEL M. MCBRIDE, JR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

New Mexico (Ms. HERRELL) for 5 minutes.

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a decorated American war hero, Sergeant Dan McBride, Jr., of Silver City, New Mexico.

Dan passed away at the age of 97 on February 16, 2022, and was among the prestigious members of New Mexico's and our Nation's Greatest Generation.

In 1942, during World War II, Dan enlisted as a paratrooper in the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne, also known as the Screaming Eagles.

He was one of the first American servicemembers on the ground in Normandy during D-day and was one of our longest-living World War II heroes.

Dan was an exceptional marksman, which served him well as a sniper and a machine gunner. He endured unspeakable challenges and overcame tremendous adversity during his time at war. He fought German forces during record low subzero temperatures at the Battle of the Bulge. He took heavy fire, was wounded in action, and had limited access to food and resources behind enemy lines.

His heroic actions did not go unnoticed. After honorably serving our country, Dan returned home with three Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star because of his courageous service.

He was also featured in the book ''Three of the Last WWII Screaming Eagles'' along with his fellow paratroopers, Dick Klein and James Martin. That book has now been made into a documentary film called ''A Rendezvous with Destiny,'' which premiered at the National Veterans Museum and Memorial in Columbus, Ohio. I can't think of a better way to honor his legacy than by immortalizing his story on film.

We owe an enormous debt of gratitude to our World War II veterans, of whom we are now one fewer. Dan will be missed dearly but will never be forgotten.

It was abundantly clear to everyone who met him that he loved this country and enjoyed life with a passionate American spirit.

Dan was laid to rest at the Fort Bayard National Cemetery with full military honors. He is survived by his three children: Danny McBride, Pat McBride; and John Carr.

Thank you, Dan, for your bravery, for being a true representative of the Greatest Generation, and for making the world a safer place.

We know that freedom isn't free. Today, we enjoy the benefit of living in a Nation of freedom because of Dan's sacrifice and the sacrifice of so many others.

Dan, you possessed the courage of David; the patience of Job; and, like Paul, the willingness to stand for your convictions and for what you believed in. Everyone who had the privilege to meet you was immediately drawn to your stories, your strength, and your heart, so full of joy and pride. You have impacted more lives than you will ever know. And even in death, your legacy will live on.

Dan, today, the United States House of Representatives thanks you for your service and a life well lived. I am confident that on February 16, you were welcomed into God's loving arms, and you heard him say: ''Well done, my good and faithful servant.''

Rest in peace, Sergeant Dan McBride, Jr.

□ 1045

## REMEMBERING SARAH LOUISE HODGE

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

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in memory of a constituent of mine, Sarah Louise Hodge.

She was a mother, a grandmother, an educator, a union rep, and also my mother-in-law. She died on the evening of January 20 in Los Angeles, with my wife at her side, as well as her caregiver, Patricia.

She was born in Macedonia, Ohio. She is the daughter of two teachers, and she was the youngest of three and the only girl, but she was raised as a tomboy through and through, and her brothers taught her not to take any crap from anyone.

She became a teacher, a kindergarten teacher for over 40 years, 38 years at the same school. She was an educator through and through. She would make sure that each student had their own curriculum, their own box, and then made sure that any time that she found a new student that didn't feel welcome, she would find a way to connect with them.

When I met her, she just had a student that enrolled that was from Latin America. She thought he was Mexican, but I think he was Salvadoran, but close enough. She wanted me to go and get to know him, so we went to the Cleveland Zoo so she would feel more comfortable. I got to speak a little Spanish to that student.

Like many teachers, she always went out of her way to give out of her own pocket to the students that didn't have much, and that is one of the things that she did.

She was an educator even with her own daughters. When they would go on summer family trips to Virginia and the different areas around here, she would play the Civil War songs that were being played on a tape, and then she would go to the different historical sites for the daughters to know about our history.

She was an educator through and through, but she was also a tough advocate for teachers. She was a union rep. Her daughters would often go and sit in the union meetings where they would plan out strikes, and they would participate in everything that a union does.

She was soft spoken. She was quiet, but I learned my lesson when I tried to debate her once at Thanksgiving where she didn't let me get a word in edgewise. I knew at that moment that if I helped her run for office, she could have become a Member of Congress, no problem. She was fit for the position.

She was very adventurous except when it came to food. Back in the 1960s, she traveled around the globe on a cruise ship, and she went to India and different countries. This is different because she had a disorder where she couldn't eat any spices, so tell me how do you go to India when you can't eat spices? But that is what she did. She went around the globe because she wanted to travel, learn about different cultures, no matter if she couldn't eat spices. She was a very interesting and tough woman.

There are different people you meet throughout your life, you think there is coincidence in life. One of them for me is that she had an uncle whose name was Laurence Woodworth. Most Americans don't know who he was, but he was the director of Congress' Joint Committee on Taxation, which I find interesting because I am from California, the son of immigrants, and I married her daughter, and I end up coming to Congress, and what committee am I on? I am on the Ways and Means Committee, which is the main taxation committee that interacts with the Joint Committee on Taxation. So you never know how lives from different parts of the country are going to intersect.

She had a profound impact on my life, not only through her daughter, but also just kind of being a calming force when I ran for office the first time. She was one of my first max-out donors, even after she retired from teaching, and that is impressive because retiring on teacher's pay and then being able to give a max contribution was a big, big deal, but she believed in me enough.

She started losing some of her personality, it felt like, because of the stroke she had in 2014, but she got to come here to Congress when I got sworn in and got to meet Speaker PELOSI. Speaker PELOSI gave her Ghirardelli's chocolate, her favorite. My mother-in-law opened it, ate it, made a face, and gave it back to Speaker PELOSI, so she didn't lose that spirit.

She has been a force. I want to just say that she will be missed. She is survived by her two daughters—my wife, Mary Hodge; Felicia Hodge and her two kids, Stacey and Fedrick; her brother, Al Woodworth; as well as the extended family of the Eysters.

Sally, you will be missed, and we love you very much. We will see you again soon.

## REMEMBERING BUCK LIMEHOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from

South Carolina (Ms. MACE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Buck Limehouse, a beloved member of the Charleston community, public servant to the State of South Carolina, and a fellow graduate of the Citadel, the military college of South Carolina.

Buck served as a commissioner from the First Congressional District for the South Carolina Department of Transportation and would later serve as South Carolina's first Secretary of Transportation. He even started the State infrastructure bank, the first of any State in the Nation. His leadership was instrumental in the implementation of several transportation projects across the State of South Carolina.

Buck was a pillar of the Charleston community, the consummate entrepreneur. While he will be sorely missed, his legacy will live on in our State for decades to come. I offer my sincerest condolences to the Limehouse family.

RECOGNIZING BEAUFORT FILM SOCIETY

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today because for over three decades Beaufort has served as the backdrop for major motion picture films, including Forrest Gump, The Big Chill, and of course Pat Conroy's The Prince of Tides.

Today I rise to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Ron Tucker and his team at the Beaufort Film Society.

This past month, the society recognized aspiring filmmakers of every genre at the 16th Annual Beaufort International Film Festival, showcasing Beaufort's sweeping marsh vistas and quiet charm to visitors from all over the world.

Over 10,000 attendees from four continents, eight countries, and 32 States gathered at the University of South Carolina-Beaufort for this incredible exhibition of independent films and documentaries.

After such a spectacular festival this year, I know the global film community is looking forward to coming back to Beaufort next year.

COASTAL CAROLINA EAGLE SCOUTS

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate 98 Coastal Carolina Eagle Scouts, including their first female Eagle Scouts, which totaled six young women from our area to achieve this distinct honor. It was an honor to meet these women just a few weeks ago.

Only about 6 percent of Scouts achieve the Eagle rank, and as the first woman to graduate from the Citadel, I can appreciate the special challenges inherent with being one of the first women anywhere.

As a conservationist, I am also pleased to inform the House of Representatives that over half of the projects completed by the Eagle Scouts in the Charleston area were conservation, climate, and environment-related. In reaching this goal, these Scouts completed over 21,000 hours of volunteer work in their communities.

I commend their efforts, and I was glad to congratulate each of them in person just last month.

CRISIS IN UKRAINE

Ms. MACE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address the rising crisis in Ukraine. I want to recognize President Zelensky and the people of Ukraine for their valor, for putting it all on the line to defend their freedom, their country, their democracy. We have seen people from all walks of life, all ages defending their country and their homeland.

As much as I dislike social media, I think it has really influenced how quickly we have responded to sanctions, not only us but our allies. I commend us and our allies, our friends and partners around the world for doing that, but more needs to be done.

Upwards of 600,000 barrels of oil a day are imported into our country from Russia. Vladimir Putin funds his war machine, his wars and his invasions of Ukraine and elsewhere through the oil and gas economy, so every gallon that we fill in our cars today from Russian gas has the stain of blood from the Ukrainian people. I can't think of one person in the State of South Carolina who wants to put one more gallon of gas in their car from Russia.

I am encouraged to see the administration today is looking more seriously and may announce a moratorium and ban on Russian imports of oil and gas, and we need to do that, but the administration should be concerned about getting jobs here going to Texas, going to South Dakota, North Dakota, Oklahoma, American jobs, and not a job in Venezuela. Venezuela is aligned with Russia. They are an ally of Vladimir Putin. We shouldn't be seeking jobs for Venezuela and Saudi Arabia to replace Russian oil when we have those jobs right here in our country or our neighbors to the north in Canada, who are not aligned with Russia, who do not support Putin. Replacing one bloody regime with another is just wrong.

We need to be able to keep costs down. We should not be dependent on kowtowing to global dictators. When I look at the rise of inflation, the cost of goods over the last year is up over 100 percent, gasoline over 80 percent, coffee over 70 percent. Every single crisis our Nation is facing today, whether it is Ukraine, whether it is Afghanistan, whether it is the border, is a direct result of President Joe Biden's failed policies in his first year in office, and it has got to end today.

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, last week I shared a series of historical facts for Virgin Islands History Month, which falls in the month of March. Today, in celebration of International Women's Day, I proudly recognize the indomitable spirit of women from the Virgin Islands.

This year, the theme of International Women's Day is centered around the bold hashtag ''Break the Bias.'' For decades, women have worked to break the bias in communities, workplaces, schools, universities. We learn about different historical figures in history, but often we forget to give recognition to the lesser-known women whose stories and contributions help to propel the historical narrative.

First on my list, I want to recognize the most influential and enigmatic writer of Harlem Renaissance, Nellallitea, or as she was more commonly known, Nella Larsen. With a father from the Danish West Indies, what is now the Virgin Islands, while working as a nurse and librarian, she wrote two instant success novels, Quicksand in 1928, and Passing in 1929, which made its screen debut on Netflix in 2019. Nella was the first African-American woman to receive the prestigious Guggenheim fellowship award for creative writing.

Also on my list is an individual who has a series of firsts for Virgin Islanders, Ruby Rouss. Ruby Rouss was a Crucian known for breaking the bias throughout her short life journey. She broke the mold for what was considered possible for women during her time and was the first of many things:

She was the first female member of the drill team at Fort Dix in New Jersey.

She was the first Black woman to be permanently assigned to the staff of General Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Parole officer, probation officer, legislator, leader, Ruby Rouss was a woman who advocated for those most in need, spoke out against injustice, and was true to her belief that women belong in politics.

My very own chief of staff, Angeline Muckle-Jabbar, comes from a long lineage of powerful women from the Virgin Islands. One such woman in her family was Ann Marie Shrader from St. Croix, who was at the forefront of pivotal changes that were taking place in the 1970s at the FBI National Academy. She was one of only two women to graduate from the academy in 1972.

And, of course, bringing it forward, I would be remiss if I did not include the Virgin Islands' very own Aliyah Boston who, through her excellence in the NCAA women's basketball league, continues to break the bias. Aliyah posted a record-breaking 23 consecutive double-doubles this season. Miss Boston's team, the South Carolina Gamecocks, are currently the number one overall seed for the upcoming NCAA tournament.

All of these women faced deliberate or unconscious bias, and yet they prevail. As a Black woman, I think about my own mother and all the mothers who, every day even when it wasn't common to work, they sacrificed, occupied spaces where they were underrated, underappreciated, marginalized.

Women continue to face tremendous obstacles across a number of spheres. For example, managerial and leadership positions continue to be male dominated, with women holding approximately 27 percent of managerial roles. In the business world, on average, women hold 19.7 percent of corporate board seats. Of that number, 6.7 percent are chairs, and only 5 percent are CEOs.

The importance of representation for women in leadership, politics, law enforcement, and across every sphere is evident. In politics alone, evidence shows that more women in public decision-making and public policy produce policies that benefit women, children, and families in general. Loans given to women's businesses exponentially support families and communities. We need women.

On this International Women's Day, I pay homage to the women who have come before me and the ones who stand beside me, and I send special prayers and strength on International Women's Day to the women of Ukraine, those fighting on the front line, those bringing support and comfort to children and elders and bringing them to safety, all of the women in Ukraine, especially today.

Let us all continue the great work to break the bias and advance the cause of women's rights in our communities, our government, and our world.

## RECOGNIZING WILLIAM WESTRICK UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate William Westrick of Ebensburg, Pennsylvania.

William recently accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

William is the son of Ryan and Carissa Westrick and the grandson of Bill Itle of Loretto, Joyce Itle of Ebensburg, Barbara Westrick of Bakerton, and Albert Westrick of Ebensburg. He has a younger sister, Sophie Westrick.

As a student at Central Cambria High School, William is active in the classroom and on the athletic field. He is a member of the National Honor Society, the 4–H Dairy Club, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Outside of school, William is a member of the Ebensburg Borough Junior Council and is employed by Vale Wood Farms.

I would like to thank William for his commitment to service and wish him the very best of luck as he embarks on this exciting new phase of life in Annapolis.

## RECOGNIZING JOSHUA HERSHBINE UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Joshua Hershbine of Port Matilda, Pennsylvania.

Joshua recently accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Joshua is a senior at State College Area High School, where he has excelled in and out of the classroom. He is a member of the student council as well as the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

He is an active member in his church community, spending time as an altar server, videographer, and supporting the Toys for Tots Christmas campaign.

Joshua is the son of Todd and Julie Hershbine and the grandson of the late Clarence and Dolores Farabaugh of Carrolltown and John and Kathleen Hershbine of Sanibel, Florida. He has two sisters, Brynn and Tara Hershbine.

Joshua has a clear passion for service and is a great example of what leadership looks like.

Best wishes in West Point, Joshua, and I look forward to seeing all that you achieve.

## RECOGNIZING WILLIAM RISHEL UPON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate William Rishel of Philipsburg, Pennsylvania.

William accepted a fully qualified appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

William is a graduate of Philipsburg-Osceola High School and currently a first-year student at Penn State University. He is the son of Jason and Ann Rishel.

In high school, William was a 4-year varsity athlete as well as a member of the National Honor Society and the Mountie Nation Service Organization. By the time he graduated high school, he had accumulated over 260 community hours of service.

As a first year at Penn State, William is an active member of the Air Force ROTC Detachment 720, and he also earned his private pilot license from University Park Airport.

I am confident William's experience in and out of the classroom will serve him well as he looks forward to this exciting new phase of life. I thank William for his commitment to our Nation and wish him the best of luck in Colorado Springs.

Mr. Speaker, it was an honor to nominate these young men. Their dedication to serving our country is inspirational. I look forward to seeing their successes in the years to come. I thank all the appointees for their commitment to our great Nation.

## STANDING WITH UKRAINE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STANTON). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and stand with our brothers and sisters who are fighting for democracy, Mr. Speaker, for their country, for the world, in Ukraine.

As you may know, Mr. Speaker, New York City is a gorgeous mosaic of people from all over the world. In my district, the 13th Congressional District, I stand in solidarity with constituents that come from Ukraine, Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainians who are part of my district.

New York City stands in solidarity with them. People in the Brighton Beach area of Brooklyn, called Little Odessa today, we stand in solidarity with our Ukrainian brothers and sisters.

Vladimir Putin has waged a war—it is called Putin's war—of unprecedented proportions on the people of Ukraine, the likes of which we haven't seen since World War II, Mr. Speaker.

He continues to pound on civilian sites. As he waits to assault Kyiv, the world braces for what could be, really, an attack of unprecedented proportion as he prepares to slaughter the Ukrainian people and engage in, clearly, war crimes.

These unprovoked and unjustified attacks have caused tragic losses in human life and suffering. They are grandparents. They are moms with their little children being forced out of their homes out of fear of rocket attacks; fathers, uncles, cousins leaving their families behind to defend democracy in Ukraine and on behalf of the world.

This week, the Permanent Representative of Ukraine at the United Nations told the Security Council that hundreds of Ukrainian civilians have been killed, including children, Mr. Speaker.

Thousands of people are wounded as a result of Russia's military aggression as Vladimir Putin continues to engage, to perpetrate war crimes.

This is a war without remorse, Mr. Speaker. More than 1,000 civilians have died, and more than 1.5 million Ukrainians have been displaced, causing a humanitarian crisis.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Putin, Vladimir Putin, has engaged in war crimes. This isn't just Putin's war on Ukraine. It is a rebuke of Western values. It is a rebuke of democratic structures. It is a rebuke of the will of the people and basic human rights. It is a rebuke of law and order and peaceful coexisting.

He has doubled down, Mr. Speaker, and has premeditatedly, illegally, and immorally engaged in this war. But those on the front lines in Ukraine are relentless in their defense of democracy.

It is our duty, Mr. Speaker, to support Ukraine to the best of our ability, to defend its freedom and sovereignty from Putin's war.

President Zelensky's message is clear. He will defend Ukrainian sovereignty and statehood to the very end,

and America must, we must, stand with him and every Ukrainian.

I commend President Biden's rallying calls to our allies in response to Russia's military invasion of Ukraine, and urge continued support for the Ukrainian people as they violently resist tyranny in the name of freedom and democracy.

Putin's actions are barbaric. They are a disregard of human rights, violating Ukrainian sovereignty and posing a threat to all of us across the planet.

His actions are hurting the people of Russia as well. Dozens of cities across Russia saw people being arrested as they demonstrated against this illegal war.

It is heartbreaking that during Women's History Month, on International Women's Day, we are witnessing thousands of Ukrainian women fleeing their homeland with their children to bordering countries.

The United States and our allies must do everything in our power to prevent this from happening again.

Mr. Speaker, I have introduced a resolution calling on Vladimir Putin and the Russians to be held accountable for war crimes.

## SPIKING GAS PRICES

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

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, we all stand united with our allies across Europe and with the people of Ukraine against Vladimir Putin's aggression against this democratically elected country.

We also support actions to stop the purchasing of Russian oil. But without action to increase production here domestically, the American people will suffer.

It was only 2 years ago when, for the first time since the mid-1950s, under President Donald Trump's leadership, the United States was a net total energy exporter in 2019 and 2020.

This was made possible because of the Trump administration's commitment to increasing domestic production of oil and natural gas, which drove costs down and benefited American consumers.

But, sadly, look at where we are now. In just 13 months of President Biden's liberal energy policies, we are now facing skyrocketing gas prices. Even before the crisis in Russia unfolded, gas prices had increased 40 percent, marking an 8-year high.

Now, because of President Biden's Green New Deal attitude and reversal of Trump-era policies, we are once again reliant on countries overseas, and energy costs are soaring.

In my district, across the Roanoke Valley, the cost of a gallon of gas has increased nearly 72 cents in the past month alone. This increase, in and of itself, will cost the average driver $363 a year for those who fill up three times a month. That might not seem like a lot to Washington elites, but it sure is for folks in rural areas like mine.

I urge President Biden to pursue an American agenda to help get this country back to energy independence. If all Joe Biden does is ban Russian oil imports without increasing production domestically, we know where the blame lies for spiking gas prices: 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

### CONGRATULATING THE STRASBURG HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING TEAM

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Strasburg High School wrestling team for winning this year's VHSL Class 2 State championship.

This victory marks the program's fifth overall State title and the first in 22 years.

The Rams dominated the competition, ending the tournament with a total score of 218 points. This was truly impressive, considering the runner-up, the four-time defending champion, Poquoson High School, scored only 150.5 points, meaning the margin of victory was nearly 70 points.

This win was a total team effort, with all 11 Rams wrestlers who qualified for the tournament placing in the top four of their weight class. As Coach Daniel Reynolds noted:

> It is an incredible feat that we were able to bring 11 and place 11, bring six to the finals. To have three champions of six finalists is great.

The three Strasburg athletes that took home individual titles were sophomores Heath and David Burks and junior Chuck Fake.

Further, with only one graduating senior in the starting lineup this year, the prospects for another great season are high.

Congratulations again to the Strasburg High School wrestling team. They deserve it.

## HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NICK HELMER

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

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Nick Helmer, the late, beloved mayor of Prospect Heights, and someone with whom I was proud to have a friendship.

Mayor Helmer was a dedicated public servant, serving as mayor since 2011. His tenure transformed Prospect Heights. He led the city out of a lingering recession into what he lovingly called Prosperous Heights.

Throughout his 79 years of life, Mayor Helmer shaped Prospect Heights, building a home with his wife, Gail Ann Helmer, and raising their two children, son Nick Helmer, Jr., and daughter Rebecca.

Through his work, he literally built both Prospect Heights and Chicago with a career and a passion for real estate. He was recognized as Chicago's Certified Property Manager of the Year.

One of my favorite memories was joining Mayor Helmer for the Fourth of July parade in the parade marshal car. Over the course of the parade route, I got to see firsthand his passion for his community, his love of his constituents, and the mutual love they shared for him.

Mayor Helmer leaves a huge hole in Prospect Heights and a hole in all of our hearts. He will be sorely missed. May his memory be a blessing.

□ 1115

### IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINE

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to affirm Congress' resolute support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people in their defense of the unprovoked, unlawful Russian invasion.

The world will hold Vladimir Putin accountable for his invasion and the actions of his armed forces. He is solely responsible for this war, its devastation, the senseless deaths of thousands of Ukrainian forces and civilians, and the forced migration of millions more. Putin's war is an affront to every nation and to all people that respect international law and self-determination.

I commend the administration's swift and strong response to unite NATO and other allies against the Russian aggression and for heeding Congress' call to ban imports of Russian oil.

In Congress, our bipartisan support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people and for isolating and sanctioning Putin and his regime is rock solid. The United States, together with our allies, must do all we can to compel Putin to end this unwarranted, illegal war. We must do all we can to help the Ukrainian people in their struggle and their fight for their independence and their freedom. Putin must know that Americans and people of conscience around the world stand with the people of Ukraine; and that we will stand strong until Ukraine is again free.

## HONORING AND REMEMBERING BETTY GRIFFO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. TENNEY) for 5 minutes.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, on International Women's Day it is fitting that I rise today to honor and remember Mrs. Betty Griffo of Rome, New York, who served our community with distinction.

Mrs. Griffo passed away this January at the age of 94 surrounded by her loving family.

Betty was a hardworking seamstress for 15 years and a woman of great faith, having been a long-time member of the Church of Saint John the Baptist, where she impacted so many lives through her intentions and rosaries.

Betty's personal struggle to fight and defeat cancer is a stirring example of her courage and tenacity. Betty's compassion for others is revealed by her commitment to help so many others through her involvement in the Relay for Life organization.

Betty's legacy of community service has been passed down to her son and my longtime colleague and friend, New York State Senator Joseph Griffo. Betty instilled her wisdom, tenacity, and compassion in Joe, who employs those key qualities each day that he serves us in government.

We are so grateful to Betty, her late husband Joe, and their son, Senator Joe Griffo, for their kindness and generous service to our community.

My deepest condolences to the Griffo family on the loss of Betty Griffo, a beautiful mother, aunt, sister, and deeply devoted community volunteer.

RECOGNIZING LOGAN HENYAN

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Logan Henyan, the Congressional App Challenge winner for New York's 22nd Congressional District.

Logan is not your typical App Challenge participant. I say that, not because he isn't well versed in coding, he certainly is. I say that because Logan is only an eighth grader at Chenango Valley Middle School.

Logan's ''Study Buddy'' app is a student-to-student application. It provides students with much-needed assistance, and it does so while building lasting friendships.

New York's 22nd District has a rich history in the technology sector. It is the birthplace of industry giants like IBM and Singer-Link. The tradition continues now at the Air Force Research Laboratory in Rome, New York, the Marcy Nanocenter, and perhaps most importantly, in the minds of the next generation of inventors and innovators like Logan.

And so I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating Logan Henyan and all the competitors in this year's Congressional App Challenge. Thanks to these young people, our future is a bright one.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL TRIO DAY

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National TRIO Day, which recently took place on February 26.

National TRIO Day recognizes the vital support and assistance that students around the country receive through federally funded TRIO programs. TRIO identifies students from disadvantaged backgrounds and provides them with the skills, training, and support to excel academically and personally.

This National TRIO Day, my team attended a TRIO Day celebration at the newly named Utica University, a great institution in the heart of my district. Students who benefited from TRIO-funded programs shared their experiences alongside faculty mentors and community members.

We are honored that in our community, Utica University operates a Student Support Services program that guides 140 low-income and first-generation students through their academic development. The program ensures students meet basic college requirements and successfully complete their post-secondary education. All of this is made possible by TRIO grants.

It is a privilege to see firsthand the positive impacts of the TRIO program in our community. Thank you to Utica University President Laura Casamento, a friend, for her vision and leadership.

I strongly support TRIO's mission, and I applaud my colleagues in this Chamber for their continued bipartisan support of this proven program.

## RECOGNIZING AMBASSADOR HAROLD E. DOLEY, JR. ON HIS 75TH BIRTHDAY

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

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ambassador Harold E. Doley, Jr. on his 75th birthday.

Ambassador Harold E. Doley, Jr., a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, rang the closing bell of the New York Stock Exchange on February 18, 2022, marking his 50th anniversary of becoming a member.

Ambassador Doley began his career in investment banking in 1968. Five years later, at the tender age of 26, he bought a seat on the stock exchange, becoming the first and only African American in history to do so.

Ambassador Doley chaired the investment committee of Southern Africa Enterprise Development Fund, SAEDF, a private equity fund. Ambassador Doley also placed the first Black market maker on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

Industry peers honored Ambassador Doley as an Outstanding Broker of the Year in 1971, and The Wall Street Journal selected him as Stock Picker of the Year in 1990.

Ambassador Doley has been an appointee of five Presidential administrations.

In 1982, Ambassador Doley was appointed the founding director of the Minerals Management Service in the Department of the Interior, a department of more than 5,000 employees. MMS represented the second-largest revenue source to United States Government at that time.

In 1983, Ambassador Doley was appointed the United States Representative of the African Development Bank Fund, AfDB, headquartered in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

The AfDB was able to quadruple its authorized capital by using Ambassador Doley's capital increase formula.

At the AfDB, Ambassador Doley secured a AAA rating from the global financial rating agencies, the first AAA rating for an African-based entity.

Ambassador Doley was inducted into the United States Small Business Administration Hall of Fame in 2005 and is a life member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

In 2003, the Doley family funded the Doley Foundation, whose mission is to support education and cultural endeavors that impact the African diaspora.

The foundation and its work is an outgrowth of a 1977 study the ambassador commissioned and directed in determining the reliability of using apartheid South Africa as a dependable source for the strategic and ubiquitous metal, platinum. The study can be found at the U.S. Library of Congress today.

In 2018, Ambassador Doley received the Imagine Award for Special Recognition in Social Justice in Cape Town for this watershed document.

The Doley Foundation replaced the Southern University Law Library in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and funded an NFL study that called on the league to engage with its franchise owners' contracts with minority businesses.

A graduate of my alma mater, Xavier University, and the President Management program and Harvard Business School, Ambassador Doley was recently selected as one of 50 Wall Street practitioners interviewed for this piece, Remembering Wall Street: 1950–1980.

Ambassador Doley is married and has two sons and two grandsons.

A huge congratulations and birthday wishes to this outstanding New Orleans native, Ambassador Harold Doley.

## IN SUPPORT OF AMERICANS NEGATIVELY AFFECTED BY INFLATION

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of every American being negatively affected by inflation caused by President Biden and congressional Democrats' reckless spending policies over the last year.

Inflation isn't something that happens overnight. It occurs as a direct result of the bills passed right here in this body and the President's executive actions. Since President Biden stepped foot in the Oval Office and Democrats gained control of both branches of Congress, their actions have directly resulted in the highest inflation levels in 40 years, since the year I was a junior in high school.

I recall when President Biden and congressional Democrats' first legislative priority was a $1.9 trillion bill disguised as COVID relief, but in reality, only 9 percent of funds went directly to combating the COVID–19 pandemic. Instead, it was a Progressive wish list of socialist ideas designed to transform American society from one of capitalism to socialism. Even the White House called it the most progressive piece of legislation in the history of the United States.

After that, Democrats wasted the entire legislative year using the budget reconciliation process to bypass the Senate filibuster and to pass their so-called infrastructure bill which was, in

reality, another piece of legislation costing more than $1 trillion, that builds more debt than it builds bridges or roads.

When the bill passed the House, inflation was already on the rise, and gas prices had increased 50 percent over the prior year. Instead of addressing these issues before they got out of hand, Democrats have used their political capital in an attempt to reshape the very fabric of our society and take another giant leap toward the United States becoming another socialist country. As a consequence, the cost of everything has continued to rise while inflation rages on with reckless abandon and no end in sight.

Unfortunately, the madness did not end there. Despite already passing two bills with price tags over a trillion dollars, President Biden and congressional Democrats saved the worst of all for last—their build back broke bill that was thankfully defeated in the Senate but would have added a staggering $5 trillion in new spending.

In just 1 year, House Democrats passed legislation equating to almost $10 trillion which, unbelievably, amounts to a full one-third of the current U.S. national debt. They acted like kids in a candy store with their parents' credit card. But in reality, their actions are even worse than that because in this case they are actually using their children's and grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's credit card, and even though they have more than maxed out the credit card, new purchases are never declined.

Economists warned of an impending recession as we got closer to reaching the debt limit last year. America's fiscal house was flooding, and the Democrats chose to raise the roof rather than stop the flooding. On a party-line vote, Democrats voted to impose the largest nominal increase in the debt cap in the history of our country, and in doing so, once again denied all reality that their out-of-control spending would directly result in inflation, the steep and cruel tax levied on all Americans.

You would think that after passing so many spending bills in the trillions of dollars that they would be able to pass a standard government funding bill, but you would be wrong. Congressional Democrats and President Biden have not achieved this once; in fact, we are already almost halfway through the current fiscal year and, in an ironic twist, are still operating under the spending priorities of President Donald Trump; that is, until the House votes on the Democratic appropriations bills tomorrow, which we have yet to read and will likely cost taxpayers additional trillions of dollars.

Trillions of dollars spent, and what do we have to show for it? Higher prices on everything, real wages for all Americans declining, and an economy dependent on government expenditures. We are getting exactly what President Biden and congressional Democrats want: Socialism. These are not the ideals on which America was founded. Every step they take diminishes capitalism, the engine of our economy and the engine of our standard of living, and it also diminishes freedom, the engine of our national soul. But regrettably, that is President Biden's America.

The fact of the matter is that President Biden's administration will stop at nothing to satisfy their far-left base.

□ 1130

## SELLING AMERICA A BILL OF GOODS

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the ability to address a few of my colleagues here on the floor of the House.

Mr. Speaker, I would note, though, here we are again, we are sitting here at the precipice of the government funding running out. And I hear all my colleagues talking about how great it is: We are going to come up with some great, big omnibus bill. And I am hearing that from my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Nobody in America wants us to plus-up more spending irresponsibly.

Nobody in America wants us to say, Oh, let's pat ourselves on the back now. Because some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle are saying, Well, you know what? It is time now to ban Russian oil.

It is not good enough to ban Russian oil if we are not going to open up American oil and gas. All we are going to do is provide more money to Venezuela, more money to Saudi, more money to Iran. But yet, that is being touted as a victory.

And some of my colleagues on this side of the aisle are saying, Okay, good. Oh, this is great. But my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, they don't want any oil. They don't mind your gas being $4, $7, $10 a gallon.

Don't get played. But my colleagues on this side of the aisle are about to get played, and everybody back home is saying: What are you going to do to stop vaccine mandates? Nothing. What are you going to do to secure the border?

And my colleagues on this side of the aisle are going to say, Oh, don't worry. We are going to give you more money for ICE, more money for Border Patrol. But you know what that does? It makes it worse, because you are funding the processing of people at our border, because that is all Border Patrol and ICE are doing.

But my colleagues on this side of the aisle are going to say, Oh, look at us. We did something for border security. It ain't true. It is going to make it worse. And anybody who has been to the border, anybody who talks to Border Patrol, anybody who talks to ICE, knows that is true.

We are not going to get a vaccine mandate, we are not going to get a secure border, and we are not going to get more oil and gas being produced in America.

And then we are going to say, Great, let's have a vote and send more lethal aid to Ukraine. And we are not even going to have a debate down here about what we are doing in funding Ukraine, with Putin rolling over Ukraine? All we are doing is backroom dealmaking, waiting for somebody to drop a bill on the floor of the House, and then come down and vote ''yes'' or ''no.''

That is a disgusting display by both sides of this body. We ought to have a full and open debate on the floor of the House about what we are doing in sending arms to Ukraine; how much we are spending; what it means for our involvement; what it means for NATO; what it means for stopping Putin.

And stop spending money we don't have. Stop funding tyranny. Stop forcing Americans to get a jab or lose their job. Stop leaving the border wide open. And stop selling the American people a bill of goods. And I am looking directly at my party when I say that.

## PUTIN'S WAR ATROCITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARTER of Louisiana). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the murderous Putin's war on Ukraine is recognized worldwide as criminal.

I am grateful that America and our NATO allies have unified to support Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and the Ukrainian people. I have faith in the Russian people, who I have met on numerous visits across Russia, that they will reject Putin's war atrocities.

Russia is a nation of world-significant art, music, architecture, literature, and can change. And that is why I am introducing a bill to encourage Russian military defectors, true Russian patriots, with immediate refugee status in America with up to $100,000 for Russian military equipment transferred to Ukraine. Putin betrays the troops to death for his purpose of oil, money, power.

Additionally, I will introduce a bill for a bust of President Volodymyr Zelensky to be placed in the U.S. Capitol, as is the bust of Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Churchill was the wartime leader of World War II, and Volodymyr Zelensky is the wartime leader in Putin's war.

On Saturday, I was very grateful to be part of the Zoom address by President Zelensky to the U.S. Congress. And today, he is addressing the British Parliament.

In December, I visited Kyiv, and I was so inspired by the people of Ukraine. It is a modern, free-market democracy with extraordinary success for its citizens of eight-lane boulevards with modern SUVs.

Today, Putin's war is conducting mass murder, defaming the people of Russia as innocent women and children are being murdered.

God bless Ukraine. God save Ukraine. Long live Volodymyr Zelensky.

## RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 35 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

## AFTER RECESS

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

## PRAYER

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

O Lord, our God, will now be the time when You reveal Your favor? Answer those who cry to You, O compassionate Lord, for Your blessing this day.

Is today the day of salvation? Help those, Almighty God, who find themselves in unspeakable danger and desperately in need of Your saving grace at this very moment.

Will You allow release for the prisoners of tyranny?

Will You shine light on those who have been enveloped in the darkness of destruction?

Have pity on those who suddenly find themselves physically and spiritually hungry and thirsty.

Have pity on them and lead them by springs of living water. Refresh them again with hope found only in You. Do not let them be struck down, they who endure the scorching wind of war and the heat of battle.

Turn impassable mountains into an open road and raise up Your highways above any obstruction of passage. May those who seek refuge find shelter in You and those who suffer brought safely toward Your haven of compassion.

We call upon Your strong and sovereign name.

Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

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

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois 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.

## MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 55. An act to amend section 249 of title 18, United States Code, to specify lynching as a hate crime act.

H.R. 2545. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the role of doctors of podiatric medicine in the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2089. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that grants provided by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for State veterans' cemeteries do not restrict States from authorizing the interment of certain deceased members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces in such cemeteries, and for other purposes.

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

## TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF PRESIDING ELDER ALONZO MIDDLETON

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

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and mentor who was a man of great faith. Elder Alonzo Middleton passed away on March 1, 2022, at the age of 91.

Elder Middleton used his longevity in great service to the African Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a proud lifetime member of my home congregation, Morris Brown AME Church, in Charleston, South Carolina, and was a graduate of Allen University, where he later served on the board of trustees.

Elder Middleton was a pastor and presiding elder in the Seventh Episcopal District, which encompasses the entire State of South Carolina. He served as a delegate to multiple quadrennials of the AME Church's general conference and on its general board.

He retired from active service as presiding elder of the Mount Pleasant District, one of the largest in the AME Church.

One of his lasting accomplishments was engineering the merger of three small Charleston congregations to create a single church renamed the Greater Middleton Chapel AME Church.

Elder Middleton was a mentor for many generations of AME clergy and laymen. He will be sorely missed.

## THIRTEEN KILLED IN KABUL

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

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today having received a message from the mother of a young American hero, Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui, who tragically and unnecessarily lost his life during the Biden administration's catastrophic withdrawal from Afghanistan.

She encouraged me to publicly share her message, which in part read:

Mrs. Boebert, I am the mother of Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui, one of the 13 killed in Kabul. I wish more people had the backbone that you have. When I heard you say, ''13 of them,'' my heart dropped, my eyes filled with tears, and I was so happy to hear about our 13 kids at that very moment. You have no idea how much that meant to me.

We have been lied to over and over, and then we watch this administration act as if it never happened. The pain of losing my son is unbearable.

Just know when I heard you say, ''13 of them,'' it gave me hope to help us get some type of justice about what this corrupt administration has done and is still doing. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to say it was impossible to ignore our 13 servicemembers, and they will continue to be honored and remembered, despite their Commander in Chief intending to ignore them.

## HONORING ''HARMONICA PETE'' DUPRE

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

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the extraordinary life of Rochester's own Pete DuPre, fondly known as Harmonica Pete, who died peacefully at the venerable age of 98 earlier this year.

Harmonica Pete served our Nation as a combat medic during World War II. When he returned home, he began volunteering with the Greatest Generation Foundation, playing the harmonica for veterans groups.

His heartfelt rendition of ''The Star-Spangled Banner'' onboard the USS *Arizona* and his performance before the U.S. Women's National Soccer Team in 2019 turned Harmonica Pete into a worldwide viral sensation.

He chose to heal our Nation's veterans through music and brought joy to all who knew him.

Pete once said, ''History books fade, and so do we,'' but his memory will never fade from our hearts and minds.

May you rest in peace, Harmonica Pete.

## FOCUSING ON ENERGY

(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, it is time to focus on our energy crisis and our energy costs, but that also relates to food.

In our country, we are already seeing bare shelves of food items. You might recall years ago when Boris Yeltsin visited this country. They took him to a supermarket, and he was amazed by what was on American shelves. Now, we are moving in the direction of having shelves like in Russia.

In my home State of California, as they cut off the water supply, the Klamath Basin got zero water last year to farm crops, and in the San Joaquin Valley and part of the Sacramento Valley, zero water allocations.

As we look at conditions around the world, Russia is deciding to cut off some of the imports of fertilizer, which will make it harder to plant crops. Hungary has decided they are not going to export grain anymore this coming year. This is going to have a ripple effect through all food supplies and certainly on prices. The price of wheat is way up, maybe 100 percent—wheat futures. We are going to feel this at the stores if we are not planting our own food in this country.

We have the water to do it in California, but it is all going out in the ocean in order to support fish that no longer live there. And the salinity issue is misused.

We have to focus once again.

## CALLING FOR U.S. ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, this week, the House will consider a bill to provide both humanitarian and military aid to the people of Ukraine.

We must fortify President Zelensky and the Ukrainian people from an unprovoked attack on an independent country. We must also protect ourselves.

Putin has weaponized oil and natural gas export profits, profits that he stole from the Russian people, parking oil profits throughout the world in oligarchs.

Right now, the United States imports 22 million barrels of Russian oil every single month. This is 60 percent of the money that Putin used to leverage his invasion, and it must stop.

Our country needs long-term energy independence.

There are 211 lithium-ion battery plants in the world. Mr. Speaker, 156 are in China, and just 12 are here in the United States. We need to get tough on China, but we need to get tougher on ourselves about China.

Everyone will benefit from an America that is producing electric vehicles and one that is truly energy independent. It is time to get serious about this. American jobs and national security are on the line.

## FAMILY FARMS ARE SUFFERING

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

Mrs. MILLER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the critical issues facing my fellow farmers.

The world is on fire under President Biden and his America last agenda. We are seeing skyrocketing costs of critical inputs, such as fertilizer. Nitrogen fertilizer has doubled in price.

Our fuel prices have reached record highs, and President Biden's solution is to beg our enemies in Iran and Venezuela for more oil.

The supply chain crisis was never addressed, and farmers are struggling to find parts to repair equipment. Family farms are suffering, and every American is about to see a drastic increase in the price of food.

I am afraid for regular Americans. This yearlong experiment of woke government has been a disaster.

My constituents in the 15th District miss President Trump and an agenda that put America first.

## NAVIGATING THE IRS

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

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, as the 2022 tax filing season gets underway, I rise to draw attention to the issues that my constituents face when trying to navigate the IRS.

James from Nottingham came to my office because his 2020 return was delayed for almost a year. Lisa from Berwyn called us after she learned that a clerical error at the IRS had led the Social Security Administration to claim that she owed them a significant amount of money. And Tina from Malvern worked with my team to secure a full refund.

Stories like these are far too common. As recently as the end of last year, the agency had a backlog of over 8 million new and amended individual returns.

That is why I was proud to join with over 190 of our House colleagues in sending a letter to Treasury Secretary Yellen, urging her to provide taxpayers with relief and flexibility while the IRS addresses its backlog. These backlogs lead to delays and errors that are devastating to the families and businesses at the heart of my community and many others. It is imperative that this relief and flexibility be provided.

## HELPING STARBUCKS EMPLOYEES THRIVE

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

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I am here to talk about a company you might have heard about: Starbucks. They made the $8 cup of coffee a little popular.

The workers there through the pandemic are now struggling to form a union. Well, Kevin Johnson, the CEO, got a 39 percent raise. Not bad. The workers took a cut.

Those profits didn't magically appear. Starbucks didn't pour their own coffee. It was the men and women who went out during the pandemic and went to work. Yet, Kevin Johnson gets a $20 million bonus.

If Kevin is listening, he should do the right thing.

We hear the ethical sourcing that Starbucks talks about helping people thrive. Well, he needs to do it right here in America and treat his employees right.

Mr. Speaker, Kevin should do the right thing and take care of his employees.

□ 1215

## OIL COMPANIES SHOULD NOT PRICE GOUGE

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, the President just announced that he will ban the importation of Russian oil. It is a tiny fraction of the oil we consume, so it shouldn't mean a big run-up in price. In fact, prices have already run up 30 percent since the invasion of Ukraine, they have already priced it in, and they are already profiting from it.

We need to become energy independent, as the President pointed out. We have to break our addiction to Big Oil. We need to be self-sufficient on renewables, but we don't need to price gouge the American people on the way there.

Last year, the oil companies reported record profits, bought back $7 billion worth of stock, and had record dividends. This year, they say there is a $22 billion stock buyback, bigger dividends, bigger profits. They should not be price gouging during a crisis.

I am introducing legislation for a price gouging profits tax with rebates to consumers.

Colleagues, join me in this effort. Don't let Big Oil gouge the American consumers under the guise of an international crisis.

## BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA FOR THE PEOPLE

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

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, Democrats are building a better America for the people.

This week is the anniversary of the American Rescue Plan that Democrats passed in the House and the Senate, and that President Biden signed into law. That law was transformative. It helped schools reopen and remain open. It also increased vaccine distribution across America. It got people into jobs, and it funded police departments.

We then followed the American Rescue Plan with an infrastructure law that is going to rebuild roads, bridges, and highways; it is going to take lead out of our water pipes; it is going to have EV charging stations across America; and it is going to make sure that we have broadband everywhere.

What are Republicans doing? I am not really sure. But I know that two of them recently attended a white nationalist conference, and last week 174 of them voted ''no'' to providing benefits to veterans who inhaled toxic fumes.

## SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

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

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in awe of the courageous Ukrainian people defending their sovereign land, and in fierce condemnation of the sickening violence the Kremlin is inflicting upon them.

Our children are watching an attack on democracy and a grave violation of international law and global peace unfold, and we must continue to show them it will not be tolerated.

For over 3 years, the Kremlin has tried to intimidate America with the wrongful detention of my constituent, Paul Whelan. While we remain profoundly concerned about our citizens wrongfully detained in Russia, including Trevor Reed and now, Brittney Griner, we will never give up on our mission to bring them home and make President Putin pay.

Financially, economically, militarily, and strategically, the United States is battling for the Ukrainian people.

It is time to ban Russian oil. We prepared for this moment in close coordination with our allies, and the Kremlin will be held accountable.

Our country is united in praying for the safety and well-being of the Ukrainian people on the front lines, for nearly 2 million seeking refuge in neighboring countries, and for those who dwell within our own borders doing everything they can to support their family and friends back home.

I ask my colleagues to join me in demanding Russia end its invasion of Ukraine, withdraw its military forces at once, and release political prisoners.

## RECOGNIZING BLAINE HAWKINS

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a young man from my district for shining the national spotlight on Central College by shattering one of the most impressive NCAA records.

Last season, Central College senior quarterback Blaine Hawkins set the new NCAA season record for the most touchdown passes with a total of 63 touchdowns over 13 games, leading the Dutch to an impressive 12–1 season record.

Blaine has garnered national attention for setting the Division III career touchdown record, and he has won several awards, including Player of the Year, Conference Offensive MVP for both the 2019 and 2021 season, and has been named an Academic All-American for the 2018, 2020, and 2021 season.

Congratulations to Blaine and the Central College Dutch for a fantastic season. I wish you all the best.

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
*Washington, DC, March 7, 2022.*

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to Section 535(e) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, (22 U.S.C. 2346d(e)), I am pleased to appoint the following member to the People-to-People Partnership for Peace Fund Advisory Board:

Mrs. Dina Powell McCormick, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

KEVIN MCCARTHY,
*Republican Leader.*

## ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SOTO). 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.

## CONDEMNING THREATS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 70) condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities (''HBCUs'') and reaffirming support for HBCUs and their students, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 70

Whereas the Federal Bureau of Investigation is investigating the bomb threats made in January and February 2022 against HBCUs as racially or ethnically motivated violent extremism and hate crimes;

Whereas a high-quality education is central to economic prosperity and social well-being in the United States;

Whereas HBCUs provide educational and economic opportunities for postsecondary students;

Whereas these institutions educate and produce a significant share of the Nation's Black leaders and innovators;

Whereas as early as the 19th century, HBCUs were established in response to discriminatory practices that excluded Black Americans from pursuing an education in the United States;

Whereas, on January 5, 2022, at least 8 HBCUs received bomb threats, including Howard University, Xavier University, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Prairie View A&M University, North Carolina Central University, Florida Memorial University, Norfolk State University, and Spelman College;

Whereas, on January 31, 2022, at least 6 HBCUs received bomb threats, including Southern University and A&M, Howard University, Bethune-Cookman University, Albany State University, Bowie State University, and Delaware State University;

Whereas, on February 1, 2022, the first day of Black History Month, at least 18 HBCUs received bomb threats, including Shorter College, Philander Smith College, Arkansas Baptist College, the University of the District of Columbia, Howard University, Edward Waters University, Spelman College, Fort Valley State University, Kentucky State University, Xavier University, Coppin State University, Morgan State University, Jackson State University, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Rust College, Tougaloo College, and Harris-Stowe State University;

Whereas HBCUs provide an environment of belonging, safety, and security for Black students, faculty, and administrators; and

Whereas these threats against HBCUs disrupt campus environments, obstruct educational opportunities, increase anxiety, and instill fear: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring)*, That Congress—

(1) condemns violence and the threat of violence against HBCUs, including bomb threats made against several HBCUs on January 5, 2022, January 31, 2022, and February 1, 2022; and

(2) reaffirms the commitment of the United States Federal Government to combat violence against HBCU students, faculty, and staff.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 70.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, over the last 5 months, more than 30 of our Nation's historically Black colleges and universities, including Norfolk State University and Hampton University in my district, have faced an alarming series of bomb threats.

These threats of violence against HBCU students, staff, and communities are deplorable and unacceptable. In response, schools were forced to cancel classes and lock down campuses and dormitories, disrupting students' education and depriving them of their sense of safety.

After some prodding, Members of Congress were briefed by the Department of Justice and learned that the FBI is investigating these threats as racially motivated and possibly hate crimes. It should not go unnoticed that these current threats underscore the very reason HBCUs were established in the first place; to eliminate barriers to higher education for Black students by creating safe, affirming, and high-quality institutions.

Mr. Speaker, we should all agree that every student in this country deserves to attend a school with a safe and supportive campus.

This resolution not only condemns the recent threats of violence but also reaffirms our shared commitment to protecting the safety of HBCU students.

I want to thank Congresswoman ADAMS for her leadership in crafting this resolution, and I urge all of my colleagues to send a unified message that these disgusting threats of violence will not be tolerated.

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in unequivocal support of H. Con. Res. 70.

The series of bomb threats against historically Black colleges and universities, or HBCUs, is extremely concerning. Threats of violence, especially ones motivated by racism and hate, have no place in this country. This resolution demonstrates our full and unwavering support for HBCUs.

Since the beginning of February, over a dozen HBCUs in 5 states and the District of Columbia have received bomb threats. Threatening the safety and education of students in these historic institutions is unacceptable.

The work HBCUs do on behalf of students, families, and communities, is critically important. These institutions are invaluable parts of the post-secondary education landscape, and they are changing lives by offering students an excellent education.

For almost 200 years, these institutions have worked to provide Black Americans with the skills and education they need to become a vital part of our workforce. Generations of strong and capable leaders have graduated from these institutions, including 50 percent of Black teachers and doctors, as well as 80 percent of Black judges.

Despite massive challenges throughout their histories, HBCUs have persevered. Their ability to thrive under immense pressure and hardship is how we know they will survive this current onslaught of hate. But they will not fight against these threats alone. We stand by their side so they can continue to play a critical role in preparing our country's next generation of leaders and innovators.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in voting ''yes'' on this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the majority leader of the United States House of Representatives.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. SCOTT, the chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, and the gentlewoman from Iowa for their comments. We join in unanimity in rejecting hate, rejecting bigotry, and rejecting threats based upon the color of skin or any other attribute, rather than adverse conduct.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a founding member of the Congressional Bipartisan HBCU Caucus, led by Congresswoman ADAMS from North Carolina. I am proud, because historically Black colleges and universities not only have played a critical role in making quality higher education accessible to more people in my district but also because these institutions have produced some of the most innovative, entrepreneurial, and transformative leaders for our country.

When I first learned about the bomb threats against several HBCU campuses earlier this year, I was deeply alarmed and angered. Disturbingly, these threats continue to occur, including at Bowie State University, Maryland's oldest HBCU and one of the first in our country. It is in my district.

I picked up the phone and called my friend, Aminta Breaux, who is the president of Bowie State University, to ask about her campus, her students, the faculty, their sense of threat, and, yes, their sense of well-being.

On February 2, as the chairman has outlined he has done, I sent a letter to the Secretary of Homeland Security Mayorkas and Attorney General Garland making clear that these threats must be taken seriously, and they ought to be investigated as hate crimes. The chairman has just indicated that is what they are doing. That was, of course, during February, Black History Month.

Sadly, the history of Black Americans, of those brought here in 1619 in chains who, for another 2½ centuries, lived in those chains or lived in segregation—and I mean America, not just the South—lived in a place where they were discriminated against and shut out.

The threats made against historically Black colleges and universities in 2022 recall the horrific attacks made on students who worked to integrate higher education during the 1950s and 1960s, against young Freedom Riders.

Mr. Speaker, I spent this past weekend in Montgomery, Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama, and Selma, Alabama. My dear friend John Lewis went with me every time I went there. He went more often, obviously. We walked across the Edmund Pettus Bridge together, half of those times hand in hand. We miss John, but his spirit was there. His cry for justice was there. His cry for freedom and respect was there.

The threats made against historically Black colleges and universities were a failure of some of our citizens to understand the grief, the wrong, the original sin of slavery, and the ramifications of that to this very day.

□ 1230

Today's young Americans, like those young Americans, deserve to spend their college years free from violence and harassment, free from the hate and intolerance that it manifests. They deserve to learn and grow and expand their horizons without fear of bombs, gun violence, or threats of attack.

Martin Luther King, in his ''I Have a Dream'' speech, spoke about young Black boys and young Black girls with young White boys and young White girls holding hands in solidarity as Americans based upon the content of their character, not the color of their skin.

This bipartisan resolution before us expresses that determination and concern of the House for the safety and well-being of students, faculty, and staff at historically Black colleges and universities across the country.

I want to thank Representative ADAMS and Republican Member HILL. This is bipartisan. This is about America. This is about who we are. This is about who we want to stand up for and what we want to stand up about.

Let us come together today in a strong show of unity and resolve to say that this kind of hateful and criminal activity has no place in our country and runs counter to our principles of freedom, justice, opportunity, and equality.

John Lewis is not with us physically here today, but his spirit is on this floor, and on his behalf I urge every one of our colleagues to vote ''yes'' for justice, for respect, for America.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Louisiana (Ms. LETLOW).

Ms. LETLOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 70.

Like countless Americans, I am deeply shocked by the recent threats against our Nation's historically Black colleges and universities. As a former educator who spent my career working on college campuses, I firmly believe that every student has the right to learn in a safe environment and free from threats and intimidation.

I am proud to say that my State of Louisiana is home to some of the Nation's most iconic HBCUs, including Grambling State University, Southern University, and Xavier University of Louisiana. I am saddened to know the emotional anguish that students, faculty, and staff went through last month when threats were made against Southern and Xavier.

Today, we send a clear message to those that want to use fear, intimidation, and hatred against our Nation's HBCUs: We will never just stand by and let you terrorize our students, our next generation of leaders, and our future.

So many Members of this Congress are united, both Republicans and Democrats, and we are proud to support America's HBCUs with this resolution.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for this important resolution. I rise in support of this resolution condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities.

As the Member from the District of Columbia, I also represent two historically Black colleges and universities, Howard University and the University of the District of Columbia. Last month, several D.C. schools were targeted, including my own alma mater, Dunbar High School.

This resolution is important to not only express our outrage at these threats of violence, but to reaffirm our commitment to the students, faculty, and staff at these universities.

HBCUs are responsible for educating the next generation and preparing them for their careers. The value they have for the District of Columbia and the country cannot be overstated.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution, and I appreciate the opportunity to work on it with my good friend and co-chair of the HBCU Caucus, ALMA ADAMS. ALMA and I have worked tirelessly over the past year and a half on issues of importance to our HBCUs. We were elected together in 2014 and have both been actively engaged in helping lead on HBCU issues before this Congress over the past four terms.

All four of Arkansas' HBCUs have received bomb threats, Mr. Speaker. University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, our land grant university, was the first to receive a bomb threat. Later, Philander Smith, Arkansas Baptist College, and Shorter College all received bomb threats, all in my hometown of Little Rock.

These bomb threats began on January 4, and we are seeing continued bomb threats even as of last week. According to the FBI, at least 28 historically Black colleges and universities have received such a threat, and they have received threats multiple times.

Imagine being a student and learning your school has had a bomb threat. Imagine being a parent and learning that your child's school has had a bomb threat. It would be terrifying. As a student, a campus community member, or a parent, this cannot stand.

These bomb threats are meant to invoke fear in our HBCU communities. This violence is unacceptable, and it cannot become the norm for our historically Black colleges and universities. I am deeply disturbed and saddened that we even have to be on the floor today to carry on this conversation.

We are condemning these threats by this resolution. I expect an overwhelming bipartisan support. I urge it. I thank ALMA, again, for her leadership on it. I thank Mr. SCOTT and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA).

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in January, 14 HBCUs received bomb threats. Even worse, on the first day of Black History Month, 18 HBCUs received bomb threats. That is more than 30 threats to our HBCUs in only 3 months. That is simply appalling and unacceptable.

The numbers show threats to HBCUs are rising. These threats have no place in our communities. These actions must stop now and should be condemned by Congress now.

As a proud graduate of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University, an HBCU institution, and a proud member of the HBCU Caucus, I am honored to cosponsor H. Con. Res. 70, which condemns these threats to our HBCUs.

Students deserve to be free from fear. College is for learning, not for bombing. I urge my colleagues to condemn these acts now and support this resolution.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. MFUME).

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman SCOTT for yielding, and for also working so closely with Representative ADAMS to get us to this point.

Mr. Speaker, I don't know how we got here, except that I know that we can't, as a Nation, stay at this point. There is no reason that Black colleges and universities, and the students that attend them, ought to be threatened in this sort of way with this sort of almost impunity by racists who think that they can do that and that there will not be a response.

I happen to be chair of the Board of Regents at Morgan State University, a historically Black college, founding itself 4 years after Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, and has turned out, over that period of time, thousands of bright young people who have come out all over the country and are serving in different capacities.

In my State of Maryland, whether it was Morgan State University, or Coppin State University, or Bowie State, you cannot imagine the sense of uncertainty that students had, knowing that they were under threat and that at any minute something could, in fact, happen.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker, for them who are the extensions of a race of people who have suffered, endured, and survived two centuries of slavery, oppression, deprivation, degradation, denial, and disprivilege, none of them should have to matriculate in this country at an institution of higher education under those conditions simply because they are Black.

I strongly urge this condemnation to be approved by this body.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, we certainly all remain unified in condemning the bomb threats, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I proudly stand with my colleagues to condemn the terrorizing of our historically Black colleges and universities.

The cowards who made bomb threats to America's HBCUs sought to sow fear on the very campuses where Black scholars seek belonging, safety, and support.

They exploited the legacy of bombings long inflicted on Black communities, like those ignited in Jim Crow Florida at White businesses that served Blacks, at synagogues, and at the home of the brave civil rights pioneers, Harry and Harriet Moore.

They tried to light the same fires of hatred right outside Black bastions of higher learning, like Florida Memorial, Edward Waters, and Bethune-Cookman Universities.

On the first day of Black History Month in 2022—2022—over a dozen other HBCUs saw bomb threats and lockdowns. If Howard and Spelman aren't safe, they seem to warn, then neither is FAMU.

HBCUs were always scholarly havens when Whites shut Black students out, and they still mold strong Black leaders, celebrate Black culture, and nurture academic excellence.

Hatred cannot diminish that, and it will not, but only if we unite as one to affirm that racism and terror will not be tolerated on college campuses, especially our HBCUs. A threat to one, after all, is a threat to us all.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Ms. BUSH).

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise today because the violence of white supremacy has once again threatened institutions of Black education across our country, our historically Black colleges and universities.

Nearly 30 bomb threats have been levied against HBCUs in recent months. My own alma mater, Harris-Stowe State University in St. Louis, was subjected to this dangerous violence on the first day of Black History Month. As one of only two HBCUs in Missouri, Harris-Stowe should be a safe haven for Black students to learn, to grow, to fully realize their humanity. As proud Harris-Stowe Hornets, we know the antidote to white supremacy's violence and intimidation is Black education and our liberation.

I thank my HBCU sister in service, Congresswoman ADAMS, for championing this legislation and bringing the issue of white supremacist violence against HBCUs for consideration in the U.S. House of Representatives. I am proud to support this resolution and to join my colleagues in condemning the bomb threats against HBCUs.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER).

□ 1245

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding, and a special thanks to Representative ALMA ADAMS for her tireless efforts on behalf of our Nation's historically Black colleges and universities.

HBCUs were built to educate and celebrate the Black community when very few would. At Xavier University in New Orleans, my mother was able to bring six children to class while she finished her college degree. Little did she know that her children and grandchildren would later attend and graduate from the very same university.

We are barely 2 full months into the year, but dozens of HBCUs are on high alert amid several instances of racially motivated threats of violence. HBCUs are resilient institutions that can weather any storm but should not have to weather this type of storm.

The threats to these higher education institutions are not just disrupting postsecondary education. They are disrupting the very underlying sense of safety and community of the HBCUs. The fact that this has been undermined is perhaps the biggest travesty of all.

Let us be clear: These threats are acts of terror, and they must be urgently investigated and prosecuted. We must help foster safety in the HBCU communities.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. We must help foster safety in HBCU communities. Today's resolution is a way that Congress can commit to fighting against hatred and racism and stand with HBCUs.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, how much time is remaining on both sides?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia has 10½ minutes remaining. The gentlewoman from Iowa has 15½ minutes remaining.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for bringing this resolution to the floor.

Today, I rise in strong support of this resolution condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities, or HBCUs, and reaffirming the important role that HBCUs play in our country's education, innovation, and leadership.

I am a proud graduate of Morehouse College, one of 107 HBCUs across this country. My district, in middle and southwest Georgia, is home to two distinguished HBCUs, Fort Valley State University and Albany State University, both of which were targeted during last month's bomb threats.

The incitement of fear and hatred is utterly unacceptable, should be intolerable, and has no place anywhere, let alone at our sacred places of learning.

These threats came on the cusp of Black History Month, and they remind us that we still have not achieved the colorblind world that was dreamed of by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and of the important educational mission and empowering roles that HBCUs play for the African-American community and our Nation.

Today, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution condemning these dangerous threats to our Nation's HBCUs and the African-American community and demand that those responsible be brought to justice for their heinous actions.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS), the chair of the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus and sponsor of the resolution.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD statements from UNCF, TMCF, NAFEO, Alabama A&M's President Wims, and the Executive Leadership Council in support of the resolution.

WASHINGTON, DC (February 7, 2022).—Over the past month, more than two dozen historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) have received terroristic threats in an apparent attempt to disrupt and, presumably, sow fear in our campus communities. These attempts to intimidate the HBCU community reached a peak on Tuesday, Feb. 1—the first day of Black History Month—when 13 HBCUs were forced to disrupt their normal operations due to coordinated threats posed to their respective campuses.

The United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF) are pleased that the federal government has characterized its ongoing investigation into these threats as ''threats of terror with the utmost seriousness'' and as acts of domestic terrorism, as announced during a recent briefing by the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Given the federal government's characterization of these threats, we anticipate and expect that the Justice Department will fully prosecute the individuals responsible for these heinous acts and we look forward to the swift conclusion of this matter.

Unfortunately, these terrorist acts fall squarely into a recent trend line documented by the Center for Strategic and International Studies that reflects a sharp increase in right-wing extremist attacks and plots in the United States in recent years. HBCUs, as institutions founded for the original purpose of educating and uplifting former enslaved people and their descendants, have been at the forefront of social and economic justice advocacy for more than 180 years. Our universities' missions and their historic legacies naturally put them at odds with the enemies of equality which, even in the 21st century, makes our institutions and their students, staff, faculty and administrators an apparent target for extremism. Notwithstanding these attempts to terrorize our community, our HBCUs remain unbroken and unbowed.

The actions of a misguided few will not deter our institutions from fulfilling their collective mission to educate our nation's next generation of teachers, entrepreneurs and leaders. We are hopeful that congressional, state, community and philanthropic leaders will join with us and offer the support that is needed for us to offer our students the sense of security needed as we move forward with the same sense of resilience we have shown since the founding of the first HBCU in 1837.

Reflecting on these incidents, we are reminded of the words of the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, which still are instructive today:

''I wish I could say that racism and prejudice were only distant memories. We must dissent from the indifference. We must dissent from the apathy. We must dissent from indifference. We must dissent from the apathy. We must dissent from the fear, the hatred and the mistrust . . . We must dissent because America can do better, because America has no choice but to do better.

DR. HARRY L. WILLIAMS,
*President & CEO, Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCF).*

DR. MICHAEL L. LOMAX,
*President & CEO, United Negro College Fund (UNCF).*

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION,
*Washington, DC, February 5, 2022.*

RE Bomb Threats on HBCU Campuses, Congressional Resolution Condemning Violence on HBCU Campuses & Related Matters.

Hon. ALMA ADAMS (NC–12)
*Co-Chair, Congressional HBCU Bipartisan Caucus.*
Hon. CHRIS COONS,
*CH-Chair, Congressional HBCU Bipartisan Caucus.*
Hon. FRENCH HILL (AR–02),
*Co-Chair, Congressional HBCU Bipartisan Caucus.*
Hon. TIM SCOTT,
*CO-Chair, Congressional HBCU Bipartisan Caucus.*

DEAR CONGRESSIONAL BIPARTISAN HBCU CAUCUS CO-CHAIRS ADAMS, HILL, COONS AND SCOTT: I am writing in my capacity as President & CEO of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), which, as you know, is the nation's only 501 (c) (3) membership and advocacy association for all HBCUs and PBIs. I am joined by Attorney John Pierre, Chancellor of the Southern University Law Center, and Chair of the NAFEO Presidential Policy, Advocacy & Legal Advisory Board. We are writing to express our profound gratitude for your leadership of the Congressional Bipartisan HBCU Caucus, which, along with support from other congressional leaders, members of the Congressional Black Caucus, bipartisan support from other Members of Congress, and leadership from the Administration, yielded more than $5.8 billion for HBCUs, their students, families, faculty, staff, infrastructure, and service communities. This represents a greater federal investment in HBCUs than any time in the Nation's history. It was a substantial downpayment on closing the gulf between public and private investments in HBCUs as compared with their historically White college and university counterparts, relative to their missions and student outcomes.

We are writing at this time to let you that our members are poised to do whatever is required to assist you and your colleagues in moving the Nation closer toward closing the HBCU/HWCU funding gap and building a stronger, peaceful, equitable, just America.

We are concerned that the recent bomb threats on HBCU campuses, must be taken seriously. Consideration must be given to Congress requesting that Homeland Security, the FBI, Department of Justice, and the Department of Education, repurpose some of their existing funds to provide HBCUs additional resources, immediately, with which to provide the training and infrastructure they need to ensure the safety of their campus community, and their service communities. Additionally, where, as in the case of Homeland Security, a federal department or agency is poised to make grant funds available in the spring, that could be used to better prepare the campuses for any possible assault with a clear plan, based on the most promising practices, while moving everyone on the campuses and in their service communities out of harm's way, consideration should be given to making the funds available now.

We believe we must act immediately on the assumption that the perpetrators may make good on some of the threats because: (1) The perpetrators of the bomb threats have not been publicly identified; (2) The institutional targets are moving; (3) The threats are coming: (a) amid heightened incendiary racist rhetoric, and unabated race-based assaults; (b) amid increased state actions to suppress the Black & Hispanic vote; (c) amid efforts to trammel the First Amendment rights of professors who want to include in curricula a comprehensive examination of America's past and present, including discussions about Blacks in America; (d) as polls show that many disaffected Whites believe their plight is due to Blacks in America gaining ''too much,'' although the December jobs reports demonstrate that the unemployment rate for White people dropped (3.2 percent), Asian Americans (3.8 percent), and Latino/Hispanic people (4.9 percent), while the unemployment rate for Blacks increased from 6.5 percent to 7.1 percent, demonstrating the entrenched, intractable and growing racial employment gap, especially for Black women;

In spite of their perception, the Black-White gaps in education, employment, salaries, wealth, health, sustainability, and justice persist. (e) The bomb threats on HBCU campuses coincide with reports documenting the billions of dollars that HBCUs have been denied to which they are entitled, highlighting the tremendous disparities between funds for the historically White land-grant institutions (1862s) and the historically Black land-grant institutions (1890s), and the failure of many states to provide the congressionally mandated one-to-one match funding for 1890 land-grant universities; (f) The bomb threats on HBCU campuses are occurring as reports indicate the January 6th Congressional Commission is unearthing information that may result in exposure of the masterminds.

The HBCU Community thanks you for your leadership in calling for a Congressional Resolution condemning the bomb threats against HBCUs and denouncing violence, supporting peace, tolerance, and ecumenism. The HBCUs have a rich and cherished history of leading in teaching about civility, combatting violence by highlighting the oneness of humankind, respect for our pluralism, and teaching the imperatives of love, mercy, justice, and for a peaceful coexistence in our pluralistic nation. We stand ready to engage our members in educating their Members about the importance of your resolution especially during such times as these.

With thanksgiving,

LEZLI BASKERVILLE,
*President & CEO.*
JOHN PIERRE,
CHANCELLOR,
*Southern University Law Center Chair, NAFEO Presidential Policy Advocacy & Legal Advisory Board.*

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ALABAMA AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY,
*Normal, AL, February 7, 2022.*

Hon. ALMA ADAMS,
*House of Representatives,*
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN ADAMS: Approximately around 2:30 a.m. on Monday, January 31, 2022, law enforcement officials at historic Alabama A&M University received notice that the campus was the target of a bomb threat and indicating the quadrants that would be impacted by the device. Thanks to the immediate actions of our campus police and its continuing partnership with the Huntsville Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the University received an ''all clear'' to resume operations prior to the start of the business day.

While this designation was a relief, the chronicled and persistent threats on all fronts to historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) must be taken seriously. While representing a small percentage of America's vast higher learning system, HBCUs' role over more than a century has been nothing short of phenomenal. Thus, we wholeheartedly support the resolution led by you and Congressman French Hill outright condemning these persistent acts of domestic terrorism. Our HBCUs have proven their merit by making the American Dream accessible to thousands. We must do everything in our power to ensure their continued existence.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership and work in Congress and for your and your colleagues' adamant stand for one of our nation's greatest resources, our HBCUs.

Sincerely,

DANIEL K. WIMS, PH.D.,
*President.*

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THE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL'S STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO RECENT THREATS OF RACIAL VIOLENCE AT HBCUS ACROSS THE NATION

WASHINGTON, DC (February 8, 2022)—The right to an education is one of our nation's greatest freedoms. George Washington Carver, renowned scientist, and professor at Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University) once said, ''Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom to our people.''

Historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) are some of the nation's most enduring symbols of what can be achieved when a people are determined to prosper. For decades, HBCU's have faced threats of racial violence. These threats are violent attempts to keep Black people from receiving educations that ultimately unlock economic opportunity in America.

The Executive Leadership Council (ELC) issued the following statement in response to the recent bomb threats targeted at HBCUs across the country.

Please see our statement, below:

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) are essential to the American story.

Since their inception, HBCUs have educated and trained America's most brilliant Black scholars, doctors, lawyers, and a myriad of other professionals—from the first Black Supreme Court Justice of the United States Thurgood Marshall to Kamala Harris, the first woman elected Vice President of the United States. HBCUs have made a tremendous impact on American progress.

However, despite their rich history, HBCUs are historically underfunded and often subject to threats of racial violence. The recent bomb threats at HBCU's nationwide are particularly disturbing. Our students deserve to feel safe on campus.

We applaud the administration's swift response but recognize that distractions like this only deepen the chasm between HBCU students and their counterparts at universities that do not face continuous instructional disruptions. These threats are as material as they are symbolic and we, the members of The Executive Leadership Council (ELC), take them very seriously.

The ELC is the preeminent global membership organization for Black current and former CEOs, senior executives. and board members of Fortune 1000 and equivalent companies. We advocate for advancing Black leadership by increasing the number of Black corporate CEOs, C-Suite executives, and board members, as well as building a pipeline for the next generation of Black corporate leaders. HBCU graduates account for a significant number of the Black talent pipeline for the public and private sectors—HBCU students are the nation's workforce of the future.

If our nation seeks to continue cultivating diverse talent and reaping the proven results of inclusive leadership—it is imperative that we prioritize investing in these historic institutions and the overall safety of their students. We hope Congress and the Biden-Harris Administration will continue to support

thoughtful legislation that serves to protect these institutions and will work to pass the HBCU Ignite for Excellence Act, which provides needed federal investment for these institutions that mean so much to America and her continued success.

Ms. ADAMS. I thank Chairman SCOTT for his courageous leadership and support of our schools.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my resolution (H. Con. Res. 70), which condemns the recent despicable, cowardly bomb threats to more than 30 historically Black colleges and universities. These were hate crimes, acts of terror.

As a proud two-time HBCU alumna of North Carolina A&T State University, a retired professor of 40 years at Bennett College in Greensboro, and now a representative of Johnson C. Smith University in my district, I know HBCUs can overcome any challenge, but those challenges should not include terrorism or racism.

The congressional response from my colleagues to these threats has been robust. We came together to call for swift action from Federal law enforcement.

The threats were quickly addressed by members of Federal, State, and local law enforcement. Thanks to the Department of Justice and its agencies for working swiftly in this regard.

My thanks as well to Chairman SCOTT, whose leadership has resulted in more than $6.5 billion in funding to HBCUs, more funding than the last 10 years combined.

Our HBCUs, their faculty, their staff, and especially their students are strong. They are resilient. They are brilliant paragons of academic excellence. But they shouldn't have to respond to threats and secure their campuses on shoestring budgets.

While today's resolution rightly condemns these cowardly acts of violence against our hallowed institutions, Congress must continue to respond with action and legislation.

Finally, I want to address the perpetrators of these crimes. I am praying that the hate that inspired these acts leaves your heart forever, that you take a moment and imagine yourself in different circumstances.

Imagine growing up on the ghetto streets of Newark, New Jersey, your mom cleaning houses to make ends meet. You save every penny to go to college because the most important people in your life have taught you the value of education.

You make it to an HBCU, becoming the first member of your family to go to college. It is a big responsibility. Because HBCUs are special places, especially for Black Americans, they invest in you. They lift you up. They help you succeed in ways you never thought possible. They take you from cleaning houses with your mom to serving in the U.S. House.

Similar experiences are shared by millions, and that is what you attacked when you threatened our HBCUs. That is what you deemed worthy of hate and violence. And that is why Congress must condemn these actions.

Mr. Speaker, I move that we pass this resolution, and I ask all of my colleagues to support it.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time from Members who are present. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Education and Labor Committee, I have learned about the ways in which HBCUs serve our country's students and postsecondary education community. For decades, HBCUs have provided countless opportunities for men and women to achieve their goals, whether academic, professional, or personal.

Threats of violence against HBCUs are despicable and cowardly. We fully and unequivocally condemn these acts of hate. They have no place in our country.

HBCUs deserve to be celebrated, not threatened. That is why I am voting in favor of H. Con. Res. 70, and I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as many of our colleagues have stated, HBCUs play an invaluable role in our higher education system and in our communities.

Despite facing chronic underfunding in the past, and disproportionately suffering from the pandemic, these institutions have persevered to open the door to higher-quality higher education for generations of students over the years.

However, we cannot expect these institutions to maintain their legacy of expanding access to education when their basic safety and security continue to be threatened.

Each of us has the responsibility to condemn these recent threats of violence against HBCUs and reaffirm our support for HBCU students, staff, and communities.

Moving forward, we must also build on the historic relief funding that Congress has provided for these critical institutions and secure the resources they need to recover from the pandemic and prepare students for their success.

I thank the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) and, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS) for their leadership with the Bipartisan HBCU Caucus—particularly Ms. ADAMS—for her extraordinary leadership over the years with the caucus and her leadership in sponsoring this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote for this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 70, which condemns any and all threats of violence against HBCUs and expresses our support for their staff, faculty, and students.

Over the past few weeks, several HBCUs across the country were subjected to anonymous, unacceptable threats of violence on their campuses. These threats disrupted campus, obstructed classes, and struck fear into the HBCU community.

HBCUs were originally established to offer Black students an equal opportunity for higher education, free from racial discrimination and intimidation. Now, these institutions offer among the most competitive educations in the country and have produced some of our brightest leaders. This growth is certainly a sign of progress—but the prevalence of these threats is a solemn reminder that we still have work to do.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus and an original co-sponsor, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 70, a resolution condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities ("HBCUs") and reaffirming support for HBCUs and their students.

I thank Congresswoman ALMA ADAMS and Congressman FRENCH HILL, the co-chairs of the HBCU Caucus, for their work in bringing this important legislation to the floor.

A high-quality education is central to economic prosperity and social well-being in the United States and HBCUs provide educational and economic opportunities for postsecondary students.

As early as the 19th century, HBCUs were established in response to discriminatory practices that excluded Black Americans from pursuing an education in the United States.

HBCUs educate and produce a significant share of the Nation's Black leaders and innovators.

On January 5, 2022, at least 8 HBCUs received bomb threats, including Howard University, Xavier University, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Prairie View A&M University, North Carolina Central University, Florida Memorial University, Norfolk State University, and Spelman College.

On January 31, 2022, at least 6 HBCUs received bomb threats, including Southern University and A&M, Howard University, Bethune-Cookman University, Albany State University, Bowie State University, and Delaware State University.

On February 1, 2022, the first day of Black History Month, at least 18 HBCUs received bomb threats, including Shorter College, Philander Smith College, Arkansas Baptist College, the University of the District of Columbia, Howard University, Edward Waters University, Spelman College, Fort Valley State University, Kentucky State University, Xavier University, Coppin State University, Morgan State University, Jackson State University, Alcorn State University, Mississippi Valley State University, Rust College, Tougaloo College, and Harris-Stowe State University.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is investigating the bomb threats made in January and February 2022 against HBCUs as racially or ethnically motivated violent extremism and hate crimes.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that one of the greatest HBCUs in the country, Texas Southern University, is located in my congressional district.

Texas Southern University has a rich history with nine academic units, 1,000 dedicated staff members, and over 9,200 esteemed students.

Like most of my HBCU Caucus colleagues, I have worked closely with my local HBCU to provide funding and resources needed to enable them to fulfill their mission of educating the next generation of social engineers and conducting research programs addressing issues of major concern to the African American community.

As Chairwoman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection in the 111th Congress, I authored the legislation to establish a Transportation Security Center of Excellence at TSU and worked to help TSU secure $1.2 million in funding over four years from the Department of Homeland Security for this Center of Excellence.

One of my proudest accomplishments as a member of Congress is my success in working with federal officials in the Clinton Administration to settle the lawsuit against TSU that had been pending for more than 23 years.

I was proud to spearhead the initiative that brought more than $13 million in financial aid relief for the students and campus of Texas Southern University.

I also worked with TSU administrators to initiate digital archive projects to preserve the records of two of its most distinguished alumni, the legendary Barbara Jordan and Mickey Leland, both of whom preceded me as the Member of Congress for the Eighteenth Congressional District of Texas.

I was pleased to facilitate a partnership between Comcast and TSU's School of Communication to provide' scholarships and internships to TSU students and in-kind marketing services to the university.

I helped secure funding needed to establish the Center for Transportation, Training and Research in the TSU College of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

HBCU's have played a critical role in American history.

As the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stated:

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education."

HBCUs do not just educate—HBCUs have and will continue to fill an important role in education opportunity and engagement for millions of young people from diverse backgrounds.

I ask my colleagues to joining me in voting to pass H. Con. Res. 70, condemning threats of violence against one of the nation's greatest resources, historically black colleges and universities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 70, 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. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. 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.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Adrian Swann, one of his secretaries.

## CONDEMNING THE HEINOUS TERRORIST ATTACK ON CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL IN COLLEYVILLE, TEXAS

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 881) condemning the heinous terrorist attack on Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas, on January 15, 2022, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 881

Whereas, on January 15, 2022, Malik Faisal Akram entered Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas, taking four individuals hostage;

Whereas MI5, Britain's counterintelligence and security agency investigated Mr. Akram in 2020, and he was listed as a subject of interest, but was later determined to no longer pose a threat;

Whereas Mr. Akram arrived at New York's John F. Kennedy Airport on December 29, 2021, staying in New York City for two days until taking a flight to Dallas, Texas;

Whereas it is reported Mr. Akram chose the synagogue because it appeared to be the closest gathering of Jewish people to a Federal prison where he demanded to see a woman who is in custody after being found guilty of two counts of attempted murder, armed assault, using and carrying a firearm, and three counts of assault on United States officers and employees in Afghanistan;

Whereas according to the Anti-Defamation League, in 2020 and 2021, there were 8,366 incidents of extremism or antisemitism in the United States;

Whereas more than half of the religiously motivated hate crimes reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 2020 were anti-Jewish hate crimes;

Whereas Jewish Americans make up about 2 percent of the population of the United States, but crimes against them make up 55 percent of the anti-religious hate crimes in the United States;

Whereas, on Sunday, January 16, 2022, President Joe Biden classified this attack as an act of terror and Vice President Kamala Harris affirmed we should combat antisemitism and hate wherever it exists;

Whereas the four hostages were held for nearly 11 hours, during that time Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker used the skills he learned by attending several security courses hosted by local law enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Anti-Defamation League, and the Secure Community Network;

Whereas Good Shepherd Catholic Community church provided support and housed family members of the worshipers held inside the Synagogue during the 11 hour standoff;

Whereas Pleasant Run Baptist Church offered their thoughts and support during the standoff, and allowed for their parking lot to be used by the media;

Whereas worshipers who were watching service virtually contacted local law enforcement once they realized there was an incident underway at Congregation Beth Israel; and

Whereas because of the swift response from local, State, and Federal law enforcement officers and emergency responders on the ground, no hostages were harmed during the hostage situation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) stands with the community of Colleyville, Texas, the hostages, and all those affected by the terrorist attack on Congregation Beth Israel on January 15, 2022;

(2) commends the Federal, State, and local law enforcement officers and emergency responders who responded to Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas;

(3) condemns this heinous terrorist attack; and

(4) reaffirms our commitment to combat hate, bigotry, antisemitism, and violence against Jewish Americans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FALLON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 881, and I condemn in the strongest terms the hateful attack on Congregation Beth Israel of Colleyville, Texas, on January 15 of this year.

Anti-Semitism is a dangerous and growing crisis both in the United States and around the world. According to the Anti-Defamation League, in 2020 and 2021 alone, there were 8,366 incidents of extremism or anti-Semitism just here in the United States.

According to the FBI, in 2020, more than half of the religiously motivated hate crimes reported targeted Jewish people, even though Jewish Americans make up only 2 percent of the population of the United States of America. This is a staggering level of anti-Semitism.

Tragically, on January 15, 2022, violent anti-Semitism became all too real for the Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas. Four individuals were taken hostage simply for being Jewish.

Although all hostages were eventually rescued safely, this attack never

should have happened in the first place. After the defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945, the revelations of the barbarity, and the scope of the Holocaust, the world vowed never again. Yet, the hate and bigotry that drove the Nazis to commit genocide is still alive and well. This is something we simply cannot allow to continue.

I have made fighting hatred and anti-Semitism—a personal mission. In 2020, we passed my bill, the Never Again Holocaust Education Act, to support Holocaust education in all schools across this country so that the next generation will learn the horrific consequences of anti-Semitism, bigotry, and hate.

□ 1300

Freedom of religion is one of the most basic rights afforded to every American in the First Amendment of our Constitution. No one should face discrimination or violence because of their religious beliefs.

We must send a clear and unequivocal message that anti-Semitism has absolutely no place here in the United States.

I thank my colleague, Representative VAN DUYNE, for introducing this important resolution. Let it be a reminder that the rallying cry of ''never again'' must be more than mere words. It is our duty to come together to denounce anti-Semitism and hate, and this resolution does just that.

I encourage all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote ''yes,'' and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, this January 15, 2022, tragedy struck a community in my home State of Texas. A terrorist held four people hostage at a Jewish synagogue for 11 hours. We are immensely grateful that each hostage ultimately escaped unharmed, though the psychological scars are real for the victims and lasting for the community.

This act of terrorism has no place in our society.

Today, my colleagues, in the strongest terms and means possible, firmly and fiercely condemn the terrorist's acts and condemn those who target any Americans, and in this instance our Jewish brothers and sisters.

Early in the morning on Saturday, January 15, 2022, the Congregation Beth Israel near Fort Worth, Texas, was targeted.

At this synagogue, worshipers welcomed the attacker inside. The rabbi even made him tea. The worshipers faced Jerusalem and began to pray. The attacker then pulled out his weapon, and an 11-hour standoff ensued.

That Saturday, America held its breath. We prayed for the safe return of loved ones and family members.

No one in America should ever face this kind of fear and terror and evil.

The worshipers at Congregation Beth Israel showed remarkable courage when faced with evil in their own house of worship.

And all Americans rose to the occasion when our sisters and brothers faced this kind of adversity. The four hostages, including the rabbi, battled their attacker. Later, the hostages were able to escape, and the FBI's Hostage Rescue Team secured the synagogue.

Americans, as one, rushed in to support Congregation Beth Israel. Christians, Jews, Muslims, Hindus, Americans of all faiths and others prayed for the Texas community and for those victims this past January.

Our hearts go out to the families of this congregation that they had to endure such an unjust evil that this terrorist caused. Thank God they escaped.

Today, we support the community of Colleyville, Texas. Today, we support Congregation Beth Israel. And today, we support the brave survivors of this heinous attack.

We applaud the bravery of Congregation Beth Israel, the survivors, and our heroes in blue, Texas law enforcement.

As patriotic freedom-loving Americans, we condemn the evil and the darkness of anti-Semitism. And we will fight hate and bigotry and anti-Semitism.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding and for bringing this resolution to the floor.

I rise today in support of this bipartisan resolution condemning the horrific domestic terrorist attack in Colleyville, Texas.

Saturday, January 15, 2022, was supposed to be a day of rest and prayer for Jews across the world. Instead, it was a day of hate, fear, and violence.

Four people walked into Congregation Beth Israel as worshipers, but they walked out as survivors. Their Jewish identity alone put them at risk of inherent danger. They were ordinary citizens distinguished only by their faith.

In 2022, this may seem unfathomable. Tragically, it is not.

It is clear that the terrorist responsible subscribed to anti-Semitic conspiracy theories and dangerous tropes.

Due to the valiant efforts and skills of first responders and the bravery of these hostages, these worshipers made it out safely.

While no one was physically hurt, the trauma leaves scars far deeper than any headline could convey. Those wounds and trauma are felt not only in Texas, but they reverberate all over this country in Jewish communities and Jewish sanctuaries all over the United States and the world.

Generations of Jews have faced and continue to face bigotry, hate, and violence every day. Jews are attacked on public streets, assaulted, and our synagogues are vandalized.

Anti-Semitic literature has been distributed in neighborhoods in many parts of this country, including my community in South Florida.

Anti-Semitism is rising at an alarming rate, and an astounding amount of it has become mainstream.

One in four American Jews has been the target of anti-Semitism over the past year. Four in 10 have changed their behavior out of fear of anti-Semitism. That includes people being afraid to wear a Star of David in public and men afraid to wear a kippah who would wear one normally in their everyday life.

On a personal note, as the first Jewish woman elected to Congress from Florida, my family and I know what it feels like to be the target of anti-Semitic hate.

To combat this scourge in our communities, leaders throughout our country must clearly, firmly, and forcefully denounce the alarming rise in rampant hate, violence, and harassment targeting Jewish Americans.

Today's resolution is an important condemnation of one act, but we must go further. It is time for this body to vote on a resolution that unambiguously and singularly denounces anti-Semitism.

It should not take a domestic terrorist attack for this body to do that.

We need an unequivocal, bipartisan condemnation of anti-Semitism. Enough is enough.

We must denounce the alarming rise in anti-Semitism in the United States and globally and issue a call for real action to combat it.

Hatred and bigotry against one community are often only a symptom of a deeper problem affecting all ethnic, racial, and religious minorities. This resolution condemns a terrible incident, but we must condemn the underlying root cause of anti-Semitism.

I thank Congresswoman VAN DUYNE, my good friend, for bringing today's resolution to the floor.

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

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield the gentlewoman from Florida an additional 1 minute.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, we must increase the Nonprofit Security Grant program so it can continue its essential work of protecting Jewish and other faith-based institutions across the country.

We must confirm Dr. Deborah Lipstadt as the State Department's Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism to advance our efforts to combat discrimination against Jewish people worldwide.

We must denounce the alarming rise in anti-Semitism in the United States and globally and issue a call for real, concrete action.

Resolutions are nice. Sentiment is helpful. But actions speak louder than

words, and we need to come together as a Congress to make sure that worldwide it is known that the United States of America resolutely stands against anti-Semitism, not only for one instance but in all instances.

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. VAN DUYNE).

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my resolution condemning the anti-Semitic terrorist attack in Colleyville earlier this year. And I thank my colleagues from Florida and New York for their kind words today.

On January 15, we witnessed a heinous attack, not only on our community in north Texas, but on the entire Jewish community when a terrorist entered the Congregation Beth Israel synagogue and took four worshipers hostage.

It was disturbing to see such hate enter our peaceful community in Colleyville and threaten the lives of the worshipers who had welcomed this man with open arms. Many questions remain on how or why this act of evil occurred, but let's appreciate our law enforcement for ultimately protecting the lives of those in harm's way. Also, I thank Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker for his courageous actions that led to the safe escape of his fellow hostages in the Congregation Beth Israel synagogue that day.

I am grateful so many of my colleagues joined in support of this resolution condemning the terrorist attack and reaffirming our commitment to combat hate, bigotry, anti-Semitism, and violence against Jewish Americans. Specifically, I thank Representative MARC VEASEY for his kindness and work in securing many bipartisan supporters.

H. Res. 881 clearly establishes our unequivocal support for the Colleyville community, the hostages, and all those affected by the terrorist act. It also commends the Federal, State, and local law enforcement and emergency responders who all pulled together for our community that day.

This resolution will not only condemn this act of hate but bring light to the anti-Semitism plaguing our country. As you have heard from comments from my colleagues from New York and from Florida, Jewish Americans make up a disproportionate percentage of the antireligious crimes in America, and that must end. No American of any religion should experience fear in a house of worship.

Thank you to all who joined me in this effort and made this the most supported piece of legislation in the 117th Congress. We look forward to seeing this pass on the House floor today, putting aside our differences and uniting in the face of hatred.

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

I am closing with a simple statement.

We must end terrorism and anti-Semitism here in the United States.

The violence suffered in Colleyville could have happened anywhere in America.

Let's take a minute to review some Jewish history. It literally began in that fateful year of 1492 when Europeans arrived in the New World, and a number of Jews fought alongside George Washington in the American Revolution.

And the first Jewish man to give his life for this country was also ironically the first Jew to be elected to public office in the Colonies: Francis Salvador.

By 1840, the Jewish-American community was tiny, only 15,000 out of 17 million, but it was strong and it was stable and it was prosperous. And within a decade it had tripled. At the time of the Civil War, there were only 150,000 Jews in America, but nearly 10 percent fought in the Civil War.

During the 19th century, the repression and the old world of Jews in Europe just became too much for so many, and by 1924, two million European Jews had immigrated to the United States.

Jewish Americans have woven a rich tapestry into the history of our Nation.

Jonas Salk discovered the polio vaccine. How many lives did that one man save?

Richard Feynman was an American physicist and was integral in formulating quantum physics.

What is even more remarkable is the percentage of Jews that have won Nobel Prizes. Twenty-two percent of all Nobel Prize winners had Jewish heritage, and 36 percent of American winners had Jewish heritage. It is remarkable.

It is refreshing to be on the floor and have both sides agree, and there is power in that, and there is strength in that, and I urge this Congress and all Americans to join me in condemning these violent acts and the evil of anti-Semitism. We are a beautiful and wonderful country, and we have to act like it.

My heart goes out to the hostages and their families for undergoing this terrorist attack in the beautiful and wonderful community of Colleyville, Texas, who are fortunate enough to be represented by such a wonderful Member of Congress in BETH VAN DUYNE. Our prayers are with the victims and their families.

Mr. Speaker, it is great to be here on the floor with you today, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1315

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I call upon all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this important resolution, H. Res. 881, and to join me in condemning, in the strongest terms, the heinous attack on Congregation Beth Israel of Colleyville, Texas, on January 15 of this year.

Mr. Speaker, anti-Semitism is a growing crisis, both in the United States and across the world, and we need to stand up together to denounce anti-Semitism and hate. This resolution does just that.

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 881, which condemns the recent terrorist attack on Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas.

And I want to thank my colleague from North Texas, Congresswoman VAN DUYNE, for introducing this legislation.

Just two months ago, an armed and dangerous terrorist entered the Congregation Beth Israel Synagogue and took Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker and three other members hostage. An eleven-hour standoff ensued, but thanks to the leadership of Rabbi Cytron-Walker and the bravery of law enforcement on the ground, everyone was able to escape without physical harm.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, tragedies like this are becoming all too common. Jewish Americans make up about 2 percent of our country's population, but hate crimes against them make up 55 percent of anti-religious hate crimes.

Congress must do more, and we must do it urgently. That's why I was proud to sign on to a letter to the House Appropriations Committee that supports funding for FEMA's Nonprofit Security Grant Program. This program provides critical assistance to communities of faith in order to secure and shield their places of worship from attacks.

But beyond any legislative action, we must also come together to condemn the hateful and divisive rhetoric that inspires these types of attacks. We all deserve the right to worship freely and safely, without fear of violence or retribution.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution and, in doing so, reaffirm our deep and unwavering support for the Jewish community.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary and Homeland Security, the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, the bipartisan Congressional International Religious Freedom Caucus, and the Helsinki Commission, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 881, a resolution that puts the House on record in condemnation of the heinous terrorist attack on Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas on January 15, 2022 and against anti-Semitism wherever this hate rears its ugly head.

On January 15, 2022, Malik Faisal Akram entered Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas, taking four individuals hostage.

Britain's counterintelligence and security agency, MI5, investigated Mr. Akram in 2020, and he was listed as a subject of interest, but was later determined to no longer pose a threat.

Mr. Akram arrived at New York's John F. Kennedy Airport on December 29, 2021, staying in New York City for two days until taking a flight to Dallas, Texas.

Whereas it is reported Mr. Akram chose the synagogue because it appeared to be the closest gathering of Jewish people to a Federal prison where he demanded to see a woman who is in custody after being found guilty of two counts of attempted murder,

armed assault, using and carrying a firearm, and three counts of assault on United States officers and employees in Afghanistan.

The four hostages were held for nearly 11 hours, during that time Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker used the skills he learned by attending several security courses hosted by local law enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Anti-Defamation League, and the Secure Community Network.

Worshipers who were watching the service virtually contacted local law enforcement once they realized there was an incident underway at Congregation Beth Israel.

Thankfully, because of the swift response from local, State, and Federal law enforcement officers and emergency responders on the ground, no hostages were harmed during the hostage situation.

Mr. Speaker, nearly thirty years ago, as a young mother, I first visited Israel and the Holy Land, and I have returned many times since then to the region that gave birth to three of the world's great religions, civilizations, and cultures.

I have been a passionate supporter of the Mickey Leland Kibbutzim Internship program, which for nearly thirty years has enabled inner-city high school students who live or study in the 18th Congressional District the opportunity to spend a summer in Israel.

As a member of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, better known as the U.S. Helsinki Commission, I have traveled abroad on numerous occasions to participate in parliamentary diplomacy in support of OSCE and other European efforts to combat anti-Semitism, including legislation calling for increased security for the Jewish community, funds for civil society coalitions to combat hate, and a U.S.-EU Joint Action Plan to combat prejudice and discrimination that would include a specific focus on anti-Semitism.

Mr. Speaker, nearly 74 years have passed since the end of World War II but for those who survived, and the descendants and relatives of those who perished, the Holocaust is not ancient history but a reminder of the evil that can be unleased when humans give into their worst instincts and appetites.

The Holocaust is the worst example of man's inhumanity to man in I human history and the magnitude of its destruction numbered more than 12 million deaths, including 6 million Jews and 1.5 million children.

A haunting quote in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum refers to the story of Cain and Abel:

> The Lord said, ''What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground (Genesis 4:11).

The Holocaust is a testament to the fragility of democracy, and it forces us to confront uncomfortable questions such as the responsibilities of citizenship and the consequences of indifference and inaction, and the importance of education and awareness.

That is why we, all of us, must reject and resist prejudice and intolerance in any form.

Mr. Speaker, anti-Semitism is the name for the bigotry and form of racism endured for centuries by Jewish people for no other reason that simply because they are Jews.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, in 2020 and 2021 there were a combined 8,366 acts of extremism or hate crimes against Jews or Jewish institutions, constituting 55.1 percent of all religious-based hate crimes.

There is an urgent need to ensure the safety and security of Jewish communities, including synagogues, schools, cemeteries, and other institutions.

Outside of the United States, Jews are the targets of anti-Semitic violence at even higher rates in many other countries.

Anti-Semitism includes scapegoating or blaming Jews as Jews when things go wrong; calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or extremist view of religion; or making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotyped allegations about Jews.

Mr. Speaker, we need to denounce and reject forcefully and continuously the scapegoating and targeting of Jews in the United States that has persisted for many years, including by the Ku Klux Klan, the America First Committee, and by modern neo-Nazis, whose membership decidedly is not comprised of ''very fine people.''

Let us be very clear: these purveyors of hate will not win because as the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., taught; persecution of any American is an assault on the rights and freedoms of all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, anti-Semitism is wrong and based on a lie—as are racism, Islamophobia, sexism, homophobia, and xenophobia—but remember the words of William Cullen Bryant, who said:

> Truth, crushed to earth, shall rise again;
> The eternal years of God are hers;
> But Error, wounded, writhes in pain,
> And dies among his worshippers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote for H. Res. 881 and I encourage every person in the United States to confront and reject anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry and do all they can to ensure that the United States lives up to the transcendent principles of tolerance, religious freedom, and equal protection as embodied in the Declaration of Independence and the first and 14th amendments to the Constitution that have made it the envy and the hope of the world.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 881, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

## RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 16 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 (Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

## SHADOW WOLVES ENHANCEMENT 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. 5681) to authorize the reclassification of the tactical enforcement officers (commonly known as the ''Shadow Wolves'') in the Homeland Security Investigations tactical patrol unit operating on the lands of the Tohono O'odham Nation as special agents, 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 gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 387, nays 33, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 60]

YEAS—387

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Bucshon
Budd
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Dunn
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick

Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Salazar
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NAYS—33

Allen
Banks
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Bowman
Buck
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Cline
Cloud
Davidson
Duncan
Gaetz
García (IL)
Gohmert
Gosar
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Harris
Hern
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Jordan
Massie
Omar
Perry
Pressley
Rice (SC)
Roy
Sessions
Tlaib
Weber (TX)

NOT VOTING—12

Buchanan
Ellzey
Emmer
Johnson (SD)
Kinzinger
Luetkemeyer
McCarthy
McHenry
Rutherford
Sánchez
Taylor
Wittman

□ 1916

Messrs. GARCIA of Illinois, RICE of South Carolina, HERN, HICE of Georgia, ALLEN, BANKS, and BURGESS changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Amodei (Balderson)
Bass (Kelly (IL))
Bonamici (Beyer)
Bustos (Meng)
Carl (Moore (UT))
Cawthorn (Nehls)
Clarke (NY) (Meng)
Cohen (Beyer)
Comer (Guthrie)
DelBene (Beyer)
Doyle, Michael F. (Connolly)
Fischbach (Stauber)
Gohmert (Weber (TX))
Gonzales, Tony (Bice (OK))
Grijalva (Stanton)
Harder (CA) (Beyer)
Jackson (Van Duyne)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kahele (Takano)
Keating (Connolly)
Khanna (Gomez)
Kim (NJ) (Pallone)
Kirkpatrick (Pallone)
Kuster (Meng)
Larsen (WA) (Connolly)
Lawson (FL) (Soto)
McEachin (Wexton)
Porter (Wexton)
Reed (Kelly (PA))
Roybal-Allard (Correa)
Rush (Jeffries)
Sherrill (Pallone)
Sires (Pallone)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Trone (Connolly)
Vargas (Correa)
Veasey (Fletcher)
Vela (Gomez)
Yarmuth (Beyer)

## CONDEMNING THREATS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

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 agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 70) condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities (''HBCUs'') and reaffirming support for HBCUs and their students, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 418, nays 0, not voting 14, as follows:

[Roll No. 61]

YEAS—418

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Massie
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)

Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Womack
Yarmuth
Young
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—14

Ellzey
Emmer
Fallon
Kinzinger
Luetkemeyer
McCarthy
McCaul
McHenry
Norman
Rodgers (WA)
Rutherford
Smith (WA)
Taylor
Wittman

□ 1936

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Allred (Wexton)
Amodei (Balderson)
Bass (Kelly (IL))
Bonamici (Beyer)
Buchanan (Cammack)
Bustos (Meng)
Carl (Moore (UT))
Cawthorn (Nehls)
Clarke (NY) (Meng)
Cohen (Beyer)
Comer (Guthrie)
DelBene (Beyer)
Doyle, Michael F. (Connolly)
Fischbach (Stauber)
Gohmert (Weber (TX))
Gonzales, Tony (Bice (OK))
Grijalva (Stanton)
Harder (CA) (Beyer)
Jackson (Van Duyne)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Kahele (Takano)
Keating (Connolly)
Khanna (Gomez)
Kim (NJ) (Pallone)
Kirkpatrick (Pallone)
Kuster (Meng)
Larsen (WA) (Connolly)
Lawson (FL) (Soto)
McEachin (Wexton)
Porter (Wexton)
Reed (Kelly (PA))
Roybal-Allard (Correa)
Rush (Jeffries)
Sánchez (Gomez)
Sherrill (Pallone)
Sires (Pallone)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Trone (Connolly)
Vargas (Correa)
Veasey (Fletcher)
Vela (Gomez)

## BUILDING A BETTER AMERICA

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

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, 1 year ago this Friday, amid the darkest days of the pandemic, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan into law. It got shots in arms and money in pockets. It helped families keep roofs over their heads and food on their tables. It helped schools reopen safely and kept small businesses afloat.

The American Rescue Plan laid the foundation for last year's unprecedented growth. More than 7 million jobs were created, the economy grew at the fastest rate in four decades and a record 5.4 million small businesses were started.

We still have work to do to lower costs for families, but we are stronger this year than we were last year thanks to the American Rescue Plan, and we will be stronger next year than we are this year thanks to the bipartisan infrastructure law.

Equitable growth, more jobs, better infrastructure, that is what I call building a better America.

## BIDEN'S ENERGY CRISIS

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

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address President Biden's attack on American energy independence.

From day one, the Biden administration has opposed domestic energy production in the Gulf of Mexico and onshore. The drastic reduction in domestic energy production has made the U.S. even more reliant on foreign energy.

Since President Biden took office, the U.S. has imported around 228 million barrels of oil from Russia alone. That adds up to $17.5 billion in 2021 to help fuel Putin's war on Ukraine and jeopardize our national security.

Instead of increasing the amount of domestic energy production to help ease the high fuel price, the President is now looking to Venezuela and Iran to help supply the U.S. with even more foreign oil and gas. We cannot allow the United States to cut funding from one tyrant to hand it out to another.

The United States has the world's largest oil and gas reserves. We can produce energy resources more cleanly and efficiently than anywhere else in the world, and we should produce them.

As a former offshore oil worker, and now a Member of Congress, an energy-independent United States is one of my top priorities in Congress. Our country must cut back its reliance on foreign oil. American oil, natural gas, or clean coal, the method is flexible, but the reason is not. We must increase our domestic production of energy. Our national security depends on it.

## REMEMBERING WAYNE PERKEY

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

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Wayne Perkey, a Louisville broadcasting legend, a man of immense compassion and charity, and my friend. He passed away this weekend after a hard-fought battle with COVID–19.

A Tennessee native, Wayne landed at Louisville's WHAS as a young deejay in 1969, and he would ultimately grace our city's airwaves for more than 30 years, hosting the radio station's daily morning show and emceeing WHAS11 TV's annual Crusade for Children charity event.

Wayne's skills as a broadcaster were only surpassed by the kindness he showed to his colleagues and fellow Louisvillians, his dedication to helping others, and his deep love for his family.

Wayne's passing is a loss for our city and Commonwealth, for all who remember starting their morning with that familiar cheerful voice, and for me personally. I am keeping the entire Perkey family in my thoughts and hope the fond memories we all have of Wayne are a source of strength for them. He truly was a treasure.

□ 1945

## RESTORING AMERICAN ENERGY DOMINANCE

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

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Speaker, I am deeply concerned with the Biden administration's efforts to look to other foreign adversaries for oil amid the current conflict in Eastern Europe.

Last week, Secretary Buttigieg said the option to import oil from Iran is on the table. Over the weekend, the Biden administration sent a delegation to Venezuela to discuss resuming relations with dictator Maduro and is weighing options to import Venezuelan oil.

Not once has the Biden administration considered the solution that is staring us right in the face: revitalizing domestic energy production.

The U.S. is blessed with the world's largest oil and gas reserves, and we are fully capable of producing these resources more cleanly and efficiently than anywhere else in the world.

Before we turn to socialist nations or countries that openly chant ''death to America'' in the streets, we must harness the potential in our own backyard.

American energy means lower prices for consumers at home and greater energy security for us and our allies.

The Biden administration needs to end their war on domestic energy production immediately and restore our Nation's energy dominance.

## FREEDOM FOR ALL

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to support H. Con. Res. 70, Condemning Threats of Violence Against Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

What an appalling, atrocious act to attack these historic colleges founded in the midst of the 19th century in the aftermath of slavery.

On January 5, 2022, at least eight HBCUs received bomb threats; on January 31, 2022, at least six; and then on February 1, 2022, 18. We must not only denounce it; we must protect these young people and ensure their protection.

I also rise in support of H. Res. 881, Condemning the Heinous Terrorist Attack on Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas.

We must denounce and reject forcefully and continuously the scapegoating and targeting of Jews in the United States and, as well, terrorism that subjects them to this kind of action.

Let's continue to stand for the freedom of all.

And I, as well, stand for the freedom of Ukrainian women and Ukraine. I support their freedom and bravery as they fled to protect their families, but yet, those who stood their ground and are fighting on the front lines.

We must stop the heinous, evil, vile, and terrorist Mr. Putin, who is attacking Ukraine violently. We must win, and we must win right, and we must fight and preserve democracy.

## FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3076. An act, to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills of the following titles in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 66. An act to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes.

S. 2299. An act to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 117–81, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States:

Robert M. Scher of the District of Columbia.

## MAKING AMERICA ENERGY INDEPENDENT

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

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, as gas prices across the country continue to soar, and with President Biden's announcement to ban Russian oil imports, it is time that America looked to our own backyard to meet our energy needs.

To ease the burden on hardworking Americans, we must increase domestic production to make America energy independent again.

We can no longer allow Russia, Venezuela, or oil from the Middle East to meet our energy needs. The Biden administration must commit to an America first strategy in oil production.

America must increase production so that we are not only energy independent but so that we can once again become a net exporter of oil and natural gas.

We must drill America, refine America, and we must buy American oil. That is why I joined many of my Republican colleagues in a letter to President Biden requesting the administration open Federal lands to energy production, end unnecessary and burdensome bureaucratic regulations, and approve and expedite construction of the Keystone XL pipeline.

President Biden must commit to these actions immediately to ease the burden on Americans at the pump.

## ENDING RUSSIAN OIL IMPORTS

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of ending Russian oil imports into our land.

Liberty is the shining jewel in America's crown. As Vladimir Putin unleashes his murderous fury on the people of Ukraine, we have a responsibility to stand up for liberty's defense, to inflict further pain on Putin and his war-related price hikes.

Now is the time to recommit ourselves to ensuring America's energy independence for the 21st century. We must take a stand and invest in our workers and our companies as U.S. oil and gas production is approaching all-time highs.

To Wall Street and the big corporate CEOs, now is the time to prioritize liberty and the well-being of hardworking Americans and their families, not just corporate profits and shareholder dividends.

Let's use this moment to develop a robust energy future to unleash across our land, across all energy technologies, our competitive edge.

Russian oil is the past. American energy innovation, ingenuity, and U.S. energy independence are within our grasp.

## PAIN AT THE PUMP

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to address Pennsylvanians' pain at the pump.

AAA reported Saturday that the average price for gas in Pennsylvania had reached $4.08 a gallon, an all-time high. Gas in Pennsylvania was $3.75 just a week ago and $3.60 a month ago.

The most recent spike could be attributed to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, but we know the cost of gas has continued to increase since President Biden's inauguration.

From day one, President Biden has stifled domestic energy production. His policies established new regulations governing methane emissions, overturned resolutions to reform EPA oil and gas rules, and halted new oil and gas leases on Federal lands and waters. These actions have resulted in energy poverty for many Americans across the United States.

When this administration chose to shut down domestic energy production, it opened the United States and our allies to energy instability and insecurity. Instead of reversing course, President Biden is emboldening dictators around the world by relying on their energy reserves.

A ban on Russian oil is a step in the right direction, but it is incomplete if we do not reopen the United States for domestic energy production.

## PROHIBITING CERTAIN IMPORTS AND NEW INVESTMENTS WITH RESPECT TO CONTINUED RUSSIAN FEDERATION EFFORTS TO UNDERMINE THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF UKRAINE—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 117–100)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BROWN of Ohio) 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:*

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I report that I have issued an Executive Order finding that the Russian Federation's unjustified, unprovoked, unyielding, and unconscionable war against Ukraine, including its recent further invasion in violation of international law, including the United Nations Charter, further threatens the peace, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and thereby constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States.

As a result, I have prohibited the following: (i) the importation into the United States of the following products of Russian Federation origin: crude oil; petroleum; petroleum fuels, oils, and products of their distillation; liquefied natural gas; coal; and coal products; (ii) new investment in the energy sector in the Russian Federation by a United States person, wherever located; and (iii) any approval, financing, facilitation, or guarantee by a United States person, wherever located, of a transaction by a foreign person where the transaction by that foreign person would be prohibited by this section if performed by a United States person or within the United States.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 8, 2022*.

## CALLING ATTENTION TO THE ENERGY CRISIS

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, we are here tonight to call attention to the energy crisis that is being felt both at home and abroad.

This crisis has sent prices skyrocketing and has caused deep uncertainty that leaves our businesses vulnerable and American families less secure.

Let's be very blunt. This energy crisis is a crisis that exists for two reasons. The first reason is the recent rise in gas prices that has been caused by Vladimir Putin's unlawful war against the people of Ukraine. The second reason is President Biden's long-term refusal to support American energy producers by canceling the Keystone XL pipeline and by stopping new drilling here at home.

By threatening new and burdensome taxes on energy producers, the Biden administration has deliberately raised energy prices on all American families, all for the sake of appeasing radical environmentalists.

As we stand here today, there are untapped energy reserves under the feet of my constituents, and these can be used to address the crisis that we are talking about tonight. It is time to unleash that energy, and it is time to unleash American energy dominance.

Americans can't afford what is happening right now. Gas prices are up over 11 percent in just the last month, forcing families to make hard choices about what they can afford.

Over the course of this Special Order, you will hear from many of my colleagues about the state of our energy industry. You will hear real solutions that can help lower costs while at the same time reinforcing our necessary national security.

This is a time to talk about these real solutions. Right now, we have an incredible number of opportunities to help lower energy costs while driving innovation at the same time. Through American ingenuity, we can create millions of new family-sustaining jobs in our energy industry.

It won't be easy. It will take Congress and the administration working alongside our energy industry to reform cumbersome regulations that limit our energy production. Now is the time to give our producers the tools that they need to develop new technologies to modernize the electric grid and our oil and natural gas infrastructure and unlock new and exciting opportunities.

I thank so many of my colleagues for joining me here tonight for this important Special Order, and I yield to my colleague from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS).

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE) for organizing this evening's Special Order hour.

For months now, we have seen a steady rise in energy prices, highlighted by rising prices at the gas pump. The United States imports hundreds of thousands of barrels of Russian oil every day, a slap in the face to workers and businesses across our country.

Sanctioning Russia's energy sector will cripple their economy and might be what it takes to end Russia's illegal invasion of a sovereign nation.

Today, the administration took a much-needed step and banned the import of Russian oil and gas. To help counter a lack of oil from Russia, the administration is currently requesting that dictatorships like Venezuela and Iran increase their oil and gas output instead of unleashing domestic energy production. This is unconscionable.

To support American workers and businesses, we should tap into the abundance of natural resources at home to counter high fuel costs, including Iowa-made ethanol and biofuels.

As a Presidential candidate in 2020, President Biden pledged to promote and advance renewable energy, ethanol, and other biofuels to help rural America.

Ethanol helps to extend our fuel supply, and this can help alleviate price pressure at the pump while giving access to American-made energy.

If only the Midwest States switched from E10 to E15, it would easily replace all the barrels of oil that we will no longer be importing from Russia. American ethanol producers have well over 2 billion gallons of unutilized production capacity and are standing ready to play a larger role in our energy sector.

We should continue to also grow our energy export network with our European allies and our NATO partners to help them wean off Russian energy. Biofuels, nuclear, oil, natural gas, hydro, and electric can all be part of our energy diplomacy and weaken Russia's influence in Europe.

We must take an all-of-the-above approach to our domestic energy policy, especially in the face of Russian aggression.

I will continue to fight to ensure that our energy sector continues to use oil and gas and American-made energy to end our dependence on Russia and other adversaries, diversify our energy usage, become more environmentally friendly, and create good-paying jobs here at home.

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Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON).

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, America is hurting, with painfully high gas prices, rampant inflation for everyday goods, from groceries to clothing, and it looks like it is going to get much worse before it gets better.

How did we get here? Well, some say it was the pandemic, others say it is the war in Ukraine. Well, what if I told you this has been going on for quite a long time?

In 2017, Republicans in Congress started an investigation into Russian interference. No, not that Russian interference, but real interference into the debate over American energy.

Let me explain. The Biden administration is right now trying to distance itself from their anti-coal, anti-oil and gas actions and policies. Their war on affordable, reliable energy, blocking pipelines, slowing permits, and promoting an ill-advised rush to green.

You see, Europe tried this already, walking headlong into dangerous energy dependence on Russia. The results of that are now clearly evident. We see it playing out in the horror unfolding in Ukraine.

Europe could have taken a path of self-reliance if it wasn't for their politicians caving to radical activists to rush renewables and cutting off their own reliable energy resources like nuclear, oil, gas, and coal.

France banned fracking in 2011; Bulgaria in 2012; the Netherlands in 2015; Germany in 2017; the U.K. in 2019. All the while becoming more dependent on Putin's Russia for reliable energy.

Well, what if I told you that Russia sent at least $95 million to radical green groups in Europe who helped achieve these goals?

The investigation I mentioned earlier conducted by the Republican-led Science, Space, and Technology Committee, uncovered evidence that Russia may have done and is continuing to do the same thing right here in America.

It is time to reopen that investigation. I sent a letter today to the relevant committee chairs to do just that.

Throttling back our own American energy resources is exactly what Vladimir Putin would want us to do.

To borrow a term from the Cold War, Madam Speaker, let's not be fellow travelers with the green agenda. Let's reopen that investigation into potentially real Russian interference.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER).

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague from Pennsylvania for yielding.

Madam Speaker, the Biden administration is breaking all the wrong records. Just this week, oil prices surged to a 14-year high, and gas prices topped $4 a gallon nationwide, hitting an all-time high.

Americans are spending more to heat their homes, put gas in their cars, and to run their businesses.

Yet, the Biden administration through all of this has refused to get behind American oil and natural gas producers. Instead, we are back to the days of begging OPEC and adversarial nations for oil.

America's energy needs can be achieved right here at home; a cleaner, more affordable option than importing it from Russia or other nations who don't have our best interests in mind.

President Biden is so fixated on dismantling American energy independence and imposing a radical Green New Deal that he has lost sight of what is best for the American people.

This administration's continued assault on American energy must end.

There is only one path that leads to lower energy costs and a stronger future for America. That path is American energy independence and dominance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. HERN).

Mr. HERN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for hosting this Special Order tonight.

The price of gas has been rising for the last 14 months. Yes, we are experiencing some added pressure thanks to Putin's evil attack on Ukraine, but our energy problems go much farther back than that.

They started on the very day that President Biden was inaugurated as President. When he left the inauguration, President Biden immediately signed multiple executive orders handcuffing domestic oil production. He proudly told supporters on the campaign trail that his goal was to end fossil fuels entirely.

Now, he is saying that his administration and his rhetoric have no impact on the energy crisis. I call B.S. on that. He is intentionally destroying traditional energy while begging the world's worst actors to make up for it.

We simply cannot rely on foreign dictators for oil that we can produce here in America. An energy dominant U.S. helps not only our people, but our allies around the world.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR).

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Pennsylvania for his leadership on this issue.

Madam Speaker, the Biden administration's war on domestic energy extends beyond canceling pipelines and infrastructure, suspending oil and natural gas leasing on Federal lands and waters, or opposing funding of construction of projects that could lower the cost of gas, diesel, or energy-derived fossil fuels and slow-walking liquified natural gas exports that could reduce Europe's dependence on Russia.

No, in fact, what most Americans do not understand is that the central feature of President Biden's anti-energy agenda is the weaponization of financial regulation to choke off capital to heroic American energy companies. And this agenda has been enabled by woke corporate leaders who have elevated a political ESG agenda ahead of returns for retail investors.

And we knew that the ESG agenda, the environmental social governance agenda, was prioritizing climate alarmism over and ahead of investor returns, over and ahead of affordable reliable energy.

But now as we see how Russia is using oil and gas exports to finance their illegal and brutal war against Ukraine, Americans can now see how the ESG agenda is compromising both American energy dominance and our national security.

The job of bank regulators is to ensure the safety and soundness of financial institutions and to promote financial stability. It is not to pick winners and losers in the credit markets or politicize the allocation of capital or solve climate change.

The central irony of the Biden administration's climate finance agenda is that it will neither promote financial stability nor help the environment.

On the contrary, it will actually destabilize the economy by destroying jobs, driving up energy costs, and severely reducing the reliability of our electric power grid.

It will also compromise efforts to combat climate change by starving innovative energy companies of the capital that they need to develop new technologies and processes to capture carbon, discover alternative uses for fossil fuels, harness the carbon cycle, and reduce emissions.

Biden's regulators say they want to assess how climate change may create risks to the financial system. But let's be honest. Biden has pledged a whole-of-government approach to ending support for fossil fuels. This is not about assessing risks for the financial system; it is about creating risks for our economy. It is about redirecting capital away from fossil energy and weaponizing regulations to discriminate against the most reliable, affordable energy we have.

The Federal Government should not be in the business of punishing heroic American energy companies, especially in a time of a national security crisis.

Unleash the power of the American innovative energy sector, not only to lower costs here at home, to restore American energy dominance, but to defend our allies in Europe to defend free people all over the country and to get rid of our overdependence on sources of energy from enemies of the United States.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments, and I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON).

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I thank my neighbor in Pennsylvania for hosting this Special Order this evening.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the importance of restoring American energy independence to combat skyrocketing prices at the pump, which just yesterday soared past all-time highs.

Last month, President Biden pledged to use every tool at our disposal to limit the effects of rising gas prices on American consumers and bolster energy supplies to our European allies.

Sadly, this commitment and the actions of this administration remain grossly misaligned.

Examples of these destructive decisions include: canceling the Keystone XL pipeline; halting new leases on Federal lands; greenlighting Russia's Nord Stream 2 project, while weakening our energy infrastructure here at home; begging OPEC to boost output and tapping into our Nation's emergency stockpile, all while refusing to take steps to boost domestic production; and proposing new punitive taxes and fees on producers.

Recently, the administration signaled its desire to increase imports from Saudi Arabia and Venezuela to offset the ban on Russian energy. Stopping the flow of energy from one authoritarian regime while opening the door to others does not strengthen America's energy security.

We must recommit the United States to energy independence. We must end the war against America's energy producers. And we must protect our energy infrastructure.

I join my colleagues in calling on the Biden administration to reverse course on the failed policies that are driving up costs for consumers, weakening America's energy security, and empowering our adversaries.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. NEWHOUSE).

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague, Dr. JOYCE, from the great State of Pennsylvania and the HEAT Team for providing this opportunity for a Special Order because the American people need to know.

They need to know that for months the Biden administration has been using the excuse that global markets are complex and there are dynamics out of our control that have led to the highest average gas prices since 2008 and spiking oil prices around the world.

This, I want you to know, is disingenuous at best, and the reality is simply not true.

As my colleagues in the Congressional Western Caucus and the House Energy Action Team have been saying, we have the ability to achieve our own secure energy future. In fact, we achieved just that, that energy independence, just a few short years ago. But with this President and his administration at the helm, we have thrown that energy security out the window.

Don't believe the President's revisionist history of blaming Vladimir Putin for high gas prices.

You can be sure the cancellation of the Keystone XL pipeline, the moratorium on oil and gas leasing on Federal lands, the lack of action on the offshore leasing program, and the commitment by this President and his administration to make American energy producers obsolete in just a few short years, yes, all of those are reasons to hold this President responsible for the burden now placed on the American people.

These rising prices started long before this conflict, and we will continue to hold this administration accountable for the burden they have placed on the American people.

Again, Madam Speaker, I thank Dr. JOYCE; the American people need to hear this.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BERGMAN).

MR. BERGMAN: Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

A lot of us were here on the House floor just a few months ago highlighting the problems with the Biden administration's energy policies. We were here. We are back again.

Being here again, we are saying the same things, only maybe a little farther down the road facing another self-inflicted completely avoidable crisis.

From day one, President Biden has put America last when it comes to our energy needs. And Americans are paying for it, quite literally.

While gas prices are up all over the country, in my district we are seeing some of the highest prices in the entire State of Michigan.

And let's be clear, the administration's approach to energy has been a problem long before Russia invaded Ukraine. Gas prices have been going up for months in response to heavy inflation brought about from out-of-control spending.

House Republicans have been sounding the alarm on the national security implications of our energy dependence and the problem with relying on nations like Russia for our energy needs.

But those legitimate concerns have largely been ignored. And now we are seeing the consequences of this administration's policies.

So where is America supposed to turn for oil and gas? Instead of promoting our domestic energy industry and working to make us more independent, the administration is looking to nations like Iran and Venezuela.

How can President Biden think it is a good idea to go from one bad actor to another in search of a solution to this self-induced energy crisis?

The only way to solve our energy crisis while ensuring our national security is to break the chains this administration has put on our energy producers. It is way past time. Let's break those chains now.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for the time.

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Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his insight.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT), my friend and colleague.

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I was leaving here when I met some of your family members on swearing-in day, and I know there is probably some proud chests stuck out and buttons busting everywhere, as my granddad used to say. So we welcome you in this new role.

Madam Speaker, Biden's woke environmental agenda is forcing many of my fellow East Tennesseans to pay more to heat their homes and to commute to work. How have these high energy prices increased in Tennessee over the last year, you may ask?

Gasoline costs $3.96 per gallon, a 35 percent increase—not as much as California, but that is, hopefully, never within our range.

Residential natural gas costs $12.40 per thousand cubic feet, a 23 percent increase. This is just working folks trying to heat their homes.

Electricity costs $10.27 per kilowatt hour; that is a 9 percent increase.

Madam Speaker, these higher energy costs are an additional expense for our businesses, too, and they are just going to pass it on to us. That means that businesses must raise all their prices to offset the increased energy rates. That is why this inflation is crippling our economy under President Biden.

Some of these arrogant folks suggest Americans work from home or ''go green'' to offset rising energy costs. Well, that disgusts me. That is an all-time arrogant low for some of these folks. They must assume that all my constituents have a job that allows them to work from home or can afford an electric car or solar panels.

Madam Speaker, I have spent many an hour in factories around my district, and those folks cannot work from home, and this country would fall off the edges of the Earth if we did that. And there is a reason that oil and natural gas and coal are preferred energy sources. They are cheap and they are reliable, and we get them from homegrown energy.

Now, how do we fix this energy mess? We return to energy independence, of course. It has been said many times, let's roll back some of these environmental regulations. Let's turn the spigots back on and let's lower the energy costs for the American people.

Madam Speaker, I thank Dr. JOYCE for his more-than-lackluster attempt at righting a horrible wrong, and I appreciate his leadership.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman and appreciate his comments.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN), my colleague and friend from the Doctor's Caucus.

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman and good doctor from Pennsylvania for this initiative tonight, this Special Order.

Madam Speaker, amidst Russia's ongoing invasion of Ukraine and historically high gas prices here at home, I have got a radical idea for President Joe Biden; how about you ask American workers to produce American energy sourced right here in America?

I know that is a radical idea for you, but this would increase American jobs, strengthen America's economy, and lower grocery and gas prices for all Americans. Not to mention, we would be producing some of the cleanest oil and gas in the world today.

So how do I tell my constituents the truth? The truth is this: The Biden administration would rather invest in foreign energy and make us more reliant on hostile nations and war criminals than to bring domestic production here in America back up to par.

Let me repeat that. Instead of supporting American ingenuity and affordable energy, the left wants your tax dollars to line the pockets of tyrants in Communist countries like Iran and Venezuela, who hate America and everything that we stand for. This kind of stupidity is hard to comprehend.

Tonight, I am calling on President Joe Biden to put what is best for America first for once, and immediately unleash American energy.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG), my colleague and friend.

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, today, Michigan's average fuel prices are mere cents away from the all-time high in the Motor State—not seen since the middle of the Great Recession. On Thursday, Triple A (AAA) data showed that Michigan had seen the highest Statewide average increase over the last week of any State in the Union.

Today, a gallon of regular unleaded gas costs 61 cents more than it did just one week prior. Diesel, which helps fuel our State's thriving agricultural industry, has increased even more.

Since this time last year, the cost of diesel is up 58 percent. In 2022, the price of natural gas is expected to reach an 8-year high. Not only does this increase families' costs to heat their homes, but it also further raises the already-inflated price of essential fertilizers that help grow Michigan crops.

Clearly, President Biden's war on American energy independence has created an energy crisis and made us more dependent on adversaries like Vladimir Putin, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela. The crisis continues to hit our homes, our farms, and our businesses, and it grows in severity week after week.

Recently, I sat down with some farmers in my home State. They lamented how the rising prices of energy and overall production costs is hurting

their livelihoods and trickling down to Michigan consumers. The data shows the same U.S. farm income is expected to drop 8 percent this year, all while prices at the supermarket reach historic highs. If we don't unleash American energy, this cost will continue to reverberate in our agricultural industry and at Michiganders' kitchen tables for years to come.

Madam Speaker, I implore the Biden administration to take the necessary steps to increase our energy production at home. We have the capacity, we have the drive, we have the capability and tools to do so—for the sake of consumers in Michigan and around the world.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Michigan.

Madam Speaker, one issue that needs to be addressed tonight is how the rising cost of gas disproportionately affects rural Americans who drive longer miles to get to work, to get to the grocery store, even to get to their kids' schools.

Today, the average cost for a gallon of gas in Pennsylvania is $4.23 a gallon. And now it is estimated that the average family will pay an extra $1,300 for gas this year alone. It is unaffordable. And it is time to unleash American oil drilling to help bring the prices down and once again establish American energy dominance.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), my friend.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, look at what is happening right now. We are dependent upon foreign sources of energy from volatile places around the world. We are bringing in energy from African nations. We have recently brought in energy from Venezuela, from Russia, from Iraq.

Madam Speaker, we have these resources in the United States. The President stood in this very room and talked about buying American. Why can't we buy our own American energy?

Tonight and tomorrow, we are going to be talking about banning Russian oil. Well, I welcome folks to this discussion. We have been trying to do this for years. And unfortunately, my friends on the other side of the aisle have opposed our efforts, have opposed efforts to ban Russian oil.

You can look at history. Whenever you stop producing in the United States, it doesn't change demand. All it does is it causes you to get the energy from somewhere else. This is affecting people all across America.

As a result of President Biden's strategies, as a result of Democrats impeding good policy, we are now to a point where we have the highest gasoline prices in American history. We watched under President Biden where we nearly tripled our dependence upon Russian crude oil—nearly tripled it.

Madam Speaker, it has greater emissions. They have greater environmental impacts. And again, why can't we buy America's resources? These are flawed energy strategies that are impacting those people the most that can least afford it.

''Buying American,'' we support that term. We support American energy. We support putting Americans back to work.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES), my colleague and friend.

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for hosting this Special Order.

Madam Speaker, for the past year, we have seen policies from the Biden administration devastate families and small businesses across the country. Moms in my district, like Meghan, have seen the cost of filling up their tanks and heating their homes continue to climb.

The average American family will spend an extra $1,300 in gas this year. And Biden's Green New Deal energy policies have left us weak abroad and crushed us economically at home. The national average for a gallon of gasoline is now $4.17—the highest ever on record. There is nothing to stop that number from going even higher as we head into the summer.

But the prices at the pump today are not the result of just the recent events in Eastern Europe. If we look at gas prices on January 21, 2021, just one day after President Biden took office, the national average was $2.40.

One year later, on January 20, 2022—before Putin ruthlessly invaded Ukraine—the national average was already $3.33. President Biden and the Congressional Democrats are solely responsible for the year-over-year increase. And the anti-American energy agenda prevented the United States from maintaining our energy independence at a critical moment in history.

That is why it is so important that we have good, permanent policies in place that encourage production here at home, keeping our prices low for American families and small businesses, and ensure that we maintain stability when bad actors disrupt the world.

We should buy American first. We should buy American oil first. When the United States isn't reliant on foreign oil, we can better address the global threats of tyrants and dictators.

Madam Speaker, it is time we prioritize American energy production again that will put American families first and keep our country safe.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Kansas.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER), the energy-rich Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, I thank my very good friend, Dr. JOHN JOYCE from Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, we are witnessing horrible brutality by Vladimir Putin. He is killing civilians and committing war crimes while Zelensky has ordered his troops to ''not cross the line between humanity and animals.''

Zelensky requested aircraft, military supplies, and for credit card processing to be cut off. Mastercard and Visa stepped up and cut off their services the day that he asked, on Saturday. And I hope the aircraft is on its way, as was planned. He also asked for the U.S. to impose an embargo on Russian oil. Finally, the Biden administration is taking this important step.

Madam Speaker, 14 months ago, this would have been a simple ask as we, the United States, were in fact energy independent. Because of the Biden administration's reckless anti-domestic fuel energy policies, it is far more complicated. At a time when we should be ramping up domestic production, the Biden administration is sending officials to Venezuela and Iran in a desperate attempt to buy oil from these rogue nations.

The historic gas prices we are all facing are a direct result of the Biden administration's foolish domestic energy policy. Producing oil and gas here at home doesn't just keep prices low but serves as a strategic global advantage.

Madam Speaker, regarding Ukraine, we must lay out our own terms to Putin: Get out of Ukraine or be subject to war crimes and every crippling sanction imaginable, as well as to fortify the Ukrainians.

This war is about tyranny versus freedom, oppression versus liberty, totalitarianism versus democracy, and injustice versus justice. The rest of the world is watching. This is a pivotal moment. Glory to Ukraine.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for his remarks.

Madam Speaker, right now, our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Ukraine and their fight against Putin's unlawful war. Refusing to buy Russian oil will go a long way towards showing Putin and his corrupt Russian oligarchs that they will pay a steep price for this war.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from the State of Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), my colleague and friend.

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I thank Dr. Joyce for holding this Special Order.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss how high energy prices due to choices made by Joe Biden and his administration are placing an undue burden on Americans and how it doesn't have to be this way.

On his very first day in office, President Biden made a conscious choice to declare war on American energy.

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As the ranking member of the Energy and Mineral Resources Committee, I know that it does not have to

be this way. One year later it is clear to every American that canceling the Keystone XL pipeline and halting leases on Federal lands were devastating for the American people.

Today, gas prices nationwide are averaging over $4 a gallon. Instead of ending hostility to American energy, Joe Biden is choosing foreign energy sources to lower prices in America. Folks, there is a better way. We need to return to American energy independence. Our blue-collar, middle-class workers are ready, willing, and able to help us achieve this.

America should never rely on foreign nations for our energy security, and we can be the source for our allies instead of reliance on adversarial nations like Russia. One way to speed up our return to energy dominance is to enact meaningful permitting reform to remove red tape and duplicative processes to speed up domestic production.

Do not buy the press secretary's rhetoric. Even if a company has a lease, the administration slow-walks every right-of-way, every approval, and every permit. From an administration that claims to care about Tribal consultation, they sure disregarded an indigenous voice in Mayor Harry Brower and the North Slope Borough when it comes to the Willow Project in Alaska.

Madam Speaker, I urge the administration and my colleagues across the aisle to join us on permitting reform. Energy security is national security. The war in Ukraine has made this clearer than ever before. We cannot wait any longer to return to American energy dominance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his excellent remarks.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD), my colleague and friend.

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I am here to let you know that the people of Texas stand ready. I represent the 27th District of Texas which includes a number of ports including the Port of Corpus Christi, our Nation's number one energy export port.

Texans stand ready to help American families struggling with inflation, including high gas prices. We stand ready to help ensure that Europe is not beholden to tyrants for their energy supply. We stand ready to help restore our economy and support the energy byproducts like fertilizer, pesticides, and even tractor tires that help produce our food supply.

How insulting and arrogant it is for the American worker that the Biden administration would rather go to dictators to fill the energy vacuum than the American people, in spite of the fact that the American workers produce energy much more clean and responsibly than these other nations.

To the casual observer this may seem like a tragic miscalculation. In 2017, as Vice President Biden said, ironically, in a speech he gave in the Ukraine, he said this: We are trying to create a multipolar world. In other words, he envisioned a world where the United States was not the premiere influence in the world. Well, tragically, that is the world we see forming before us day-by-day in the news.

Madam Speaker, I have no idea what the carbon footprint of a missile going into a Ukrainian's home is, but I do know that the human toll is tragic, and that it is the result in part of acceding American energy dominance.

We must stop in this Nation selling away generations of progress made by American workers and innovators and restore American energy dominance.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his comments.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. BICE), my friend and colleague.

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, the anti-energy policies of the Biden administration have targeted oil and gas production and eliminated American energy independence. Since day one, the Biden administration has embarked on an agenda of regulatory overreach.

Something you might have heard from the White House press secretary recently is that there are 9,000 untapped drilling permits that companies are not using. While this is in part true, they are being dishonest and purposefully leaving out crucial context and factors that cause companies to wait to drill those wells.

For starters, many of the wells produced predominantly natural gas, not oil. In addition, drilling can't begin overnight as leases can take months or years before companies actively drill.

Furthermore, the Federal permit to drill is not the only government approval required. Rights-of-way can take years to acquire before companies can access leases. Most companies cannot drill before pipelines are in place, and the delayed approvals have resulted in companies developing drilling access at much slower rates.

This administration is taking up to three times the amount of time to approve Federal permits than the Trump administration, and that is if they approve them at all. The American people are tired of the Democrats' blame-shifting while they ignore the real causes of crushing gas prices.

We must unleash American energy and lower gas prices domestically. In addition, restoring American production will remove Putin's control of the energy market and end his leverage over Europe.

To solve the crisis, President Biden must immediately end the Federal freeze on all new oil and gas projects, fast-track pending LNG export permits, expedite approval of all pipeline and energy development, and stop the regulatory assault on American energy development and financing.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Oklahoma.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JACOBS), my colleague and friend.

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative JOYCE for holding this very important event today.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the millions of Americans who are facing pain at the pump and around the Nation. On his first day in office, President Biden signaled to the world that American energy independence was no longer a priority. He canceled the Keystone XL pipeline on day one. He made regulatory changes to make new domestic production incredibly punitive. He put a moratorium on all new drilling on Federal lands.

The President's actions set the high prices we are seeing today in motion. Long before Russia invaded Ukraine, Americans were getting squeezed by the inflationary tax caused by careless and unrealistic policymaking. In fact, the national average for a gallon of gasoline had risen over a dollar in the year before Russia took this malign action.

International events have sent prices higher in the past week, but the administration cannot hide from the fact that their policies have amplified this financial crisis. The solution to this crisis is clear—American production and energy independence are the best protections we have at our disposal.

The President must reverse the course of his administration immediately and allow the full force of the U.S. energy industry to be unleashed in Americans' time of need.

Banning Russian oil imports out of principle is one thing, but it rings of hypocrisy when the administration turns around and immediately begins negotiating with vile dictators in Iran and Venezuela. The solution is no better there, and simply expands our dependence on hostile foreign nations for our economic and national security.

Madam Speaker, perhaps the administration does not want to admit their early anti-energy moves were wrong, but American energy and financial security cannot hinge on the egos of the President and his staff.

It is time to get out of the way of American production, allow our producers to increase capacity, and deliver affordable energy to the American people free from malign influence. Our future prosperity and national security depends on it.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York. One thing is abundantly clear from the speakers tonight, there is a growing need to utilize American innovation. Americans and our know-how have always stepped up and bend the individuals who can get us through crises.

Yet, we are not utilizing the resources that are under the feet of Americans. American ingenuity is the answer. American businesses have already cut our energy emissions by

more than any other country over the past 20 years. We were able to do this because of new and innovative technologies that our American businesses produced.

The answer is clear: we need to bring more American technologies to market as soon as possible. That message has been reiterated by my colleagues throughout tonight's Special Order.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA), my colleague and friend.

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I am still trying to figure out what the priorities of this Biden administration are. When you look at the different world events going on—when John Kerry comes out and says: Oh, we hope this Ukraine intervention does not interfere with the progress the U.S. is making with Mr. Putin on climate change—you wonder what are the priorities?

Indeed, I would have to remind you that if $CO_2$ is a priority of this administration, the carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, it represents only .04 percent of our atmosphere. You see all the other gases in our atmosphere are represented by much larger percentages.

If indeed John Kerry and this administration's big priority is $CO_2$, what are they doing to help remedy that for the energy this country needs? Well, my home State of California it shutting down both nuclear power plants that we had at one time in the State, Santa Onofre first and Diablo Canyon coming up pretty soon.

It is tearing up hydroelectric dams, like up in my district, on the Klamath River; both of those provide $CO_2$-free electricity, if $CO_2$ indeed is the big priority. No, it is something else. It is some other agenda. They are not doing much to help. If we had more nuclear power plants in this country, we wouldn't have the fuel for them.

We produce only 9,000 pounds of uranium, yet our needs in this country for our power plants, military ships, and even medical is about 45 million pounds. That is 9,000 versus 45 million. It doesn't seem to be the priority of this administration to have America's needs, the people of this country's needs, our energy independence when you look at just the production of electricity, let alone oil and gas, which are so critical for everyday needs for everyday Americans.

We need to really focus on what this country needs and we need to help steer this administration into that focus instead of the fruitless direction we are going.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his excellent remarks. I would like to thank all the Members who have been here tonight. When I proposed holding this Special Order, we received an overwhelming response. Perhaps that is exemplified by the number of Members who stayed late into the evening to discuss the energy crisis that right now is affecting every American.

This truly shows the commitment that congressional Republicans have to working to revitalize American energy dominance. It is a testament to how important this issue is. We truly have been able to discuss the issues that have dreadful effects on so many American families right now, this evening. This energy crisis that President Biden created is impactful tonight, tomorrow, and until we use American innovation to respond correctly.

Madam Speaker, what we have shown here tonight is a road map back to American energy dominance.

It is a plan to increase innovation. It is a plan to rebuild our energy grid. It is a plan to cut harmful regulations and a plan to ensure that the American people have safe, reliable, and affordable energy.

So, once again, Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their remarks, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 2050

## NO FLOWERS FOR UKRAINIAN WOMEN ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I am grateful for the opportunity tonight for a Special Order on this International Women's Day.

There are a lot of ironies about this day. We in the Democratic Women's Caucus and the Bipartisan Women's Caucus could not let this day go by without drawing attention to what is happening in Ukraine to women, mothers, and children. The irony is particularly significant because International Women's Day is a national holiday in Ukraine and Russia.

The Administrator of USAID and former U.S. Ambassador Samantha Power commented on this today. She referenced that the founder of International Women's Day was a woman by the name of Theresa Malkiel. She was a Jewish labor organizer in New York. She was born in what is now Ukraine, and she emigrated to the United States to escape persecution. Madam Speaker, 130 years later, Ukrainian women are now being forced to leave their homes as well.

Now, we are heralding the incredible strength of Ukrainian women. They are facing unimaginable horrors brought about by Vladimir Putin and Vladimir Putin alone.

Last year, President Putin sent a message to women for International Women's Day in Russia. He said: ''I wish you good health and success . . . . And, of course, I would like you to have as many reasons for smiles and joy as possible.''

I guess the question to ask Putin is: Does that apply to Ukrainian women as well, the women you presume are Russian but are willing to have them be forced into death marches because you feel compelled to shell communities throughout Ukraine?

Last week, Vladimir Putin's forces killed a woman and two children in cold blood as they attempted to escape over a bridge in Irpin, a suburb of Kyiv, and he continues to order the shelling of evacuation corridors as Ukrainian civilians attempt to flee. Over 1 million of them have already left. It is going to be millions and millions more.

Let me just show you a couple of pictures, Madam Speaker. This is a woman in Ukraine on International Women's Day, thanks to Vladimir Putin. This is what Vladimir Putin thinks of women. These are the smiles he wants to see on their faces, the joy he wants to see in their eyes.

This man needs to be called out for what he is. He is a tyrant, and he is committing premeditated war on the Ukrainian people and Ukrainian women and children. He is doing so and committing war crimes as well.

Let me show you yet another picture, Madam Speaker.

This is one that is hard to look at. These are three dead women who were trying to escape and were shelled down. They are now dead. They have their suitcases and their backpacks. One is a small girl. This is what Vladimir Putin is doing in Ukraine, and he must be called out for it.

His bloodthirsty disregard for the lives of women and children has never been more apparent. Last month, I was disgusted to hear him use a crude rape reference to urge Ukraine to acquiesce to Russia's demands, saying: ''You may like it. You may not. But you will have to endure it, my beauty.''

Vladimir Putin said this: ''You may like it. You may not. But you will have to endure it, my beauty.''

His senseless war has already caused nearly 500 civilian deaths, and it is probably more than that, including 29 children, and it is probably more than that. He has already forced 2 million Ukrainian people, mostly women and children—in fact, about half of them children—to flee their country.

On the news tonight was a story about an 11-year-old child whose mother let him leave. He traveled 700 miles to get to a safe haven. His mother, from some outpost somewhere in Ukraine, put up a video thanking those who had taken her son into their arms and who had brought him to safety. That is what Vladimir Putin is forcing Ukrainian families to do.

The vast majority of these refugees, as I said, are women and children who have left their husbands, their brothers, and their fathers behind to fight. For the first time—for the first time ever—half of these refugees are children.

Now, think about the scars that will take place in the minds of those children over their lifetimes. These are children who should be home playing in

their neighborhoods and heading off to school, not hiding in bomb shelters and fleeing across borders, not crying in their mama's arms for milk when all they can get is water.

Women and girls who are single and arriving at the border face an increased risk of exploitation and abuse, including sexual violence, gender-based violence, and trafficking.

Welcome to International Women's Day. Welcome to what Vladimir Putin said he wanted, to put smiles and joy on the faces of women. Instead, women are becoming victims of sex trafficking and rape.

The disruption of essential services and emergency medical care has already affected the women in Ukraine. We have seen heartbreaking reports of mothers giving birth in makeshift bomb shelters and underground metro stations as Russia bombs Ukraine's cities.

The U.N. estimates that 80,000 Ukrainian women will give birth in the next 3 months—80,000 of them. That is as many women who will give birth as I have in one of my larger cities in my district. Many of these women are going to do it alone without the support of their family or their spouses, and they are going to do it without access to medication or critical and lifesaving care.

This is the joy and smiles that Vladimir Putin talked about in his address for International Women's Day last year. I don't know what he said to the Russian women today. Did he send them flowers, give them candy, and offer them gifts?

This is what he calls gifts to the Ukrainian women. The Russian conflict in the Donbas region has already led to an increase in sexual violence. In 2019, one in three Ukrainian women reported experiencing physical or sexual violence, and the current crisis increases this risk exponentially.

We have seen a horrific increase in sexual violence just in the past 2 weeks. In the city of Kherson alone, Russian soldiers raped at least 11 women, in some cases so brutally that only five of them have survived.

We must elevate these stories and call Vladimir Putin out for what he is. He is a misogynistic, evil dictator.

Nevertheless, Ukrainian women are fighting back. I am really in awe of the ordinary, brave Ukrainian women who are leading the fight to protect their country.

I am going to show you a picture now, Madam Speaker, of the Ukrainian women. These are Ukrainian women. They represent almost 22 percent of Ukraine's armed forces, which is one of the highest percentages in the world. In the United States, the number of women serving in the military is like 18 percent. It is 22 percent in Ukraine.

Many women, many mothers, are taking their children to the border to hand them off to family members in Poland or Romania or other locales and then going back in to join in the fight.

More women are joining the fight every day. They are teachers, nurses, accountants, police officers, and grandmothers. The list goes on and on. Even women members of the Ukrainian parliament, who just 1½ weeks ago were writing their country's laws, have taken up arms in defense of Ukraine.

I guess we should all ask a question: Would we do that?

The Ukrainian parliamentary members are doing that. It is important for us to have their backs.

I am proud that the United States has imposed unprecedented sanctions and export controls on the Russian economy. I am proud of what our President has done by solidifying the support of all NATO nations, something that hasn't been done for a very long time.

NATO countries throughout Europe are stepping up in terms of how much money they are committing to their defense. They all recognize that this is about more than Ukraine. This is about freedom for all of Europe.

I commend the Speaker for working quickly to bring a Russia energy sanctions package to the floor and committing to sending $14 billion to Ukraine to aid its military and assist with humanitarian responses. We must bring the full weight of the U.S. Government and our allies to bear in holding Putin accountable for his aggression and his violations of international law.

Let me show you this picture, Madam Speaker. This is International Women's Day. There is no joy on the faces of these people. There are no smiles.

This is Vladimir Putin's war. He has every intention to annihilate an entire population of people in Ukraine. This is not just an unprovoked war; this is a premeditated, savage, murderous, and tyrannical attempt of genocide.

I hope that we have the guts to call him out. We need to create our red line, and our red line should be that every Ukrainian person who wants to leave the country will have safe passage to a safe country before another bullet or another missile is put into the air.

I hope we do not see the unthinkable happen in Ukraine.

God bless our Ukrainian women and children. God bless our Ukrainian President. God bless the military in Ukraine who fights on and all those who recognize that freedom is not cheap and freedom is not given. If you want a democracy, you have to be willing to put your name, your body, and your soul on the line to protect the community that you love.

Madam Speaker, I have the great and distinct honor to yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR), who is my colleague whom I adore. She cochairs the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus and has been passionate about drawing attention to the fate of the Ukrainian people.

□ 2100

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER of California for her leadership on so many issues, including women. Not just women but for people everywhere, in our country, those who have been abused, those who serve in our military, and those who serve in our intelligence services. I thank her for her great contributions to our country, how she has lived her life and has served so nobly. The people of California have really sent a jewel here, and they know it. I shall miss her greatly when she makes her decision to leave us at the end of this session of Congress. She is truly a friend and a friend to the American people.

I am very honored this evening to join her and rise on this International Women's Day to call out the damaged and really bestial soul of Vladimir Putin. His torturous treatment of the women, children, and elderly of Ukraine is a war crime.

He is about genocide in a country that 30 years ago voted to be independent. When the Soviet Union fell, 90 percent of the people of Ukraine, about 42 million people, voted that they wanted to be free. It was an extraordinary moment in world history.

But yet, we hear from this—what do I call him—Russia's tyrant—last year on International Women's Day, he issued a statement. Here is what he said: Congratulations to women—calling the day a ''holiday filled with joy, warmth and goodness.'' And he talked about mothers, granddaughters, grandmothers, aunts, sisters, saying how they represented love and tenderness and how good this was. Yet, if we look at the pictures that are here, he is killing them.

There are pictures of the people. Look at this woman. He says tenderness and love and that women are taking care of countries and they are raising children. He is killing them.

The elderly and the disabled—I received a letter today, and two individuals were killed in a car because a Russian bomb came down in a civilian area. The woman who was driving was elderly, and the person she had in the car with her was disabled. He is massacring civilians. He says he loves women. Really? They are dead. They didn't have a chance. They are civilians.

In terms of the disruption of life in Ukraine, God bless them. Over 2 million have now fled from their tiny, little homes. It is one of the poorest Nations in Europe, but it wants its freedom.

Here is a picture of the numbers of people fleeing. You can see, if you look at the number of headscarves, these are women with their children. Many at the Ukraine-Poland border are kissing their husbands goodbye, they fear for the last time. The children are crying.

In the westernmost city of Ukraine, Lviv, there is a sea of displaced people. Europe has not seen this since the Second World War, nothing like it. Free people everywhere have to pay attention. These are good people.

Seventy-five percent of the food raised in that country that is eaten by the people there is raised by those women in their family plots, in their gardens. Putin is killing them. He is killing the mothers and grandmothers of Ukraine.

What do his statements matter in the Kremlin, when he comes out of his cave, wherever that is. We see the butchery on the news every night. We see it on our iPhones. Our visceral feelings of horror pale in comparison to the lived reality of those who now know deep fear, anxiety, and loss.

The reality is that Putin is sending his troops in those tanks and those jets up in the air to shoot and bomb hospitals and maternity wards and kindergartens and schools. He has already killed, from 2014 to the present, when he first invaded Ukraine, 14,000 people who aren't known to the world, and now more. He has no heart.

In his statement last year, on International Women's Day, he said: Thank you to the women doctors, the paramedics, the medical nurses, and all of those who are saving lives and nursing patients back to health. What a lie.

These women in Ukraine today, without proper bandages, without medical equipment, are caring for women who are pregnant and delivering in the subway systems of the capital city, in Kyiv. If they need a C-section and they are cut, there is no thread to sew them up. How about that, Putin? How about that?

How many children have you killed since your invasion of Ukraine? The misery among these people.

This abominable creature is now spilling the blood of those he once heralded. Ukraine's medical professionals and their patients are being murdered. The people trying to help are being murdered.

On a day Putin recently proclaimed as the triumph of love and admiration and gratitude. This two-faced liar is committing war crimes against an innocent people.

Can Putin be human? A human could not celebrate women on one day and then annihilate them and their families on the next. He simply couldn't be human. He is a killer of Lucifer proportion. He considers human life not sacred.

So on this International Women's Day, a day dedicated to honoring women around the globe, let us recognize the brave, courageous women of Ukraine.

From every walk of life, they have endured centuries of oppression. Now, with this window on liberty, this moment in history, they have a chance to take their young democracy forward, and they are fighting for it.

They are sewing camouflage material to try to prevent the planes from seeing where they live. They are defending their homeland with every ounce left in them. There is not enough food, and there is not enough water.

As co-chair of the Congressional Ukraine Caucus and as someone who has visited Ukraine since the 1970s countless times, I know these women and their bravery. There is nothing you can teach a grandma in Ukraine that she hasn't been through. We call them babusyas. They are the world's strongest women. They have endured so much. Ukraine's women are truly engaged in a battle to slay Goliath.

Ukraine's passionate, generous, and courageous women are on the front lines. There are some who are serving in the military itself, on the home front, in their neighborhoods.

I don't know if anybody saw the babusya, a grandma, who had a pan, and she hit an armed drone out of the air. How about that? They are learning how to use guns, to do anything to help their people in beating the savage attacks of Kremlin's Putin.

□ 2110

The entire world sees the bold spirit of these women. Here in America, we see that spirit in Ukraine's remarkable Ambassador Oksana Markarova, who has such dignity, dignity under pressure, real courage, rallying our Nation and our leaders for the aid of her country. We must hear her. We must hear the pleas of the people of Ukraine.

In the midst of unceasing atrocity, Ukraine's women are pouring their hearts and souls into the righteous cause of defending the bright shining light of liberty. They can see it.

I will tell you one experience I had when I first went to Ukraine, and I watched how the people walked with their heads down, and they didn't want to be noticed. They tried to be almost disappeared while they were walking down the sidewalk. They didn't want to make eye contact with anybody.

Today, when you go to Ukraine, the new generation, they look at you, they have hope in their eyes, there is possibility. They want to access West. There is no more noble duty than defending liberty and letting others enjoy its bounty.

When envisioning the vanguards of democracy, don't think of some mythical beings. Instead, think of the flesh and blood of Ukrainian women who are protecting and defending the precious blessings of the bit of democracy and liberty that they have been able to taste. These women are the real heroines among us.

Today, America and the world rise up in solidarity with Ukraine's women. Let us salute their valiant fight against the darkness and the murderous behavior of Vladimir Putin. We stand with them, and we stand with Ukraine. No country in the world has done more for Ukraine than the people of our great country.

Today, on International Women's Day in the year of 2022, America exclaims to Ukraine's women: Slava Ukraini. Thank you, we love you, we know you are going to be victorious. It is going to take a bit more time, but know that we in the free world stand with you and are doing everything possible to save you, to save your beloved families, to save your communities, to save your country. You so deserve the liberty that you have earned.

I say in many of my speeches back home, there is no more sacred soil than the soil of Ukraine because of what its people intergenerationally have endured through no fault of their own. They deserve to be free. They have earned it.

Ms. SPEIER. I thank the remarkable gentlewoman from Ohio, whose passion and commitment to the Ukrainian people is just so evident. She said that they will be victorious. I believe her because we are going to make sure they are going to be victorious. We have their backs.

I am reminded of this comment by one Ukrainian woman, and she said: Nobody thought this is how we would spend our weekend; a teacher from the town of Dnipro told a cameraman as she and her neighbors made molotov cocktails. She said: I planned to plant tulips and daffodils on my backyard today. Instead, I learned to fire arms and get ready for the next night of attacks on Kyiv. These women are strong and committed, and we will have their backs.

It is now a great privilege to yield to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN), co-chair of the bipartisan Women's Caucus and a talented leader.

Ms. DEAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative SPEIER and Representative MARCY KAPTUR. It is a solemn privilege to be with them tonight as we lift up the people of Ukraine, as we lift up the women and children of Ukraine on this International Women's Day.

It is a sad day. It is a solemn day around the globe, and I hope that the people of Ukraine know that we are heartbroken and determined alongside of them.

I will begin by saying, ''Slava Ukraini. Slava Heroyam,'' and recognize this International Women's Day.

I am the co-chair of the bipartisan Women's Caucus, and on behalf of that caucus, I stand here to lift up the people of Ukraine, in particular, the women and children in their suffering.

I want to say personally for me—I am speaking for no one in this case other than myself—I don't believe that we are actually witnessing a war here. I believe we are witnessing a series of war crimes; that we are witnessing a series, the world is witnessing a series of atrocities. There is no justification for this attack on the sovereign nation of Ukraine. These are war crimes, and they are Mr. Putin's alone.

I represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania. It is Montgomery and Berks Counties, suburban Philadelphia, proud home, in both Jenkintown, Abington, and in Bridgeport and other areas of our community, to terrific Ukrainian-American members of my community.

I have known them for my entire time of public service: As a State representative for 6½ years and now in my

fourth year in Congress. I have always been proud to call them my community members, but sadly never so proud as I have been in the last 3, 4 weeks, as they prepared for this horror that we all hoped would not come.

Just a few days ago, I was with the Ukrainian organizations and volunteers at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center in Abington, many of whom still have close family and friends in Ukraine. And, in fact, the children there made me this beautiful headband; made for me and for many others. What was fascinating that day is everyone was coming together, community coming together—not just Ukrainian Americans, but others—to say we will not stand for the horror that is going on. The globe, the world will not stand for the atrocities, the murderous brutality of Mr. Putin on sovereign people.

One woman who started a donation drive was amazed. She went to U-Haul and bought 30 boxes, and she wondered if they would be able to fill those 30 boxes with donations of humanitarian food, medicines, blankets, clothing, and others. Well, I think there were about three container trucks later. The place was teeming with people, volunteers of all stripes, towering with boxes of donations and people furiously and very hopefully sorting those things. It was an amazing snapshot of what I already knew about the Ukrainian-American community. They are leaders in Montgomery County. They are leaders in this country. They are leaders we are watching and witnessing in this world. Their generosity and strength, their determination is extraordinary, and we cannot imagine the pain and suffering as they watch their homeland, they watch their family, their neighbors, their friends struggling with this set of atrocities.

No amount of warnings from the Biden administration and our intelligence could have prepared us for the sheer brutality and devastation we have seen. Mr. Putin expected that he would quickly topple Ukraine's young democracy. He was wrong, and he will be forever wrong, as we have watched in all the resilience and the heroism of the Ukrainians, especially President Zelensky.

Over the weekend, President Zelensky got on a call with Members of Congress, both House and Senate, Republicans and Democrats, hundreds of us. What a man of determination and dignity. I took notes. He said to us: We just want peace. We want to hold and kiss our children. We want to go to work. We want to sip coffee at our kitchen table. We want to be neighbors with the Russians.

What bravery. What dignity. And yet this war has brought on him and us a humanitarian crisis, with the number of people fleeing Ukraine already exceeding 2 million. But death, displacement, and destruction must not be forever. We must provide necessary aid, weapons, medicines, food, fuel, refuge in a bipartisan universal way. I know we all in Congress will continue to do all we can.

Ukrainians worldwide, please know we are here for you. You are welcome here. God bless Ukraine.

The U.N. has recorded 406 civilian casualty deaths. Sadly, I think it will be far more than that. An 18-month-old boy was killed in his home after he was shelled by Russian forces; 13 civilians killed in an air strike on the town of Makariv, their bodies recovered from the rubble; a 26-year-old woman killed while attempting to deliver supplies to a dog shelter in Buka; eight people killed during Russian shelling while trying to flee the town of Irpin—children, mothers, civilians; a preschool in northeastern Ukraine hit while civilians took shelter, killing three of them, including a child and wounding another.

□ 2120

These tragedies are inspiring a Nation and the many women in it, and I applaud the women of Ukraine fighting to keep their country free and the women of Russia protesting and speaking out against Mr. Putin, even at the risk of imprisonment and worse.

I think of Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.N., whom we have met with this past summer and this last week—what a tower of strength; and Julia, a teacher and volunteer who wept and said, ''I just want to live in our country, and that is all,'' as she waited to be deployed to fight Russian troops.

Putin will forever be a pariah. The globe recognizes him for the murderous, brutal dictator that he seeks to be.

Yet, I have hope. I have hope in the Ukrainian people and the globe that has recognized the horror that is this series of war crimes.

Representative SPEIER, thank you for heading this tonight. Slava Ukraini. Slava Heroyam. God bless Ukraine.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. DEAN) for her outstanding remarks.

Madam Speaker, there are many people to thank. There are many organizations to thank.

When we look at who is bringing shelter and aid to the Ukrainian people now, the nonprofit organizations around the world, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Rescue Committee, Plan International, Save the Children, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, World Food Program, and World Health Organization. To all of them, we say thank you.

Let's be clear: This is Putin's war. He will pay the price. His vicious, premeditated attempt of genocide of the Ukrainian people will not be tolerated.

Tonight, I want to close with this photograph of Ukrainian women in uniform. They are fighting for their country, their future, their children, and truly for freedom around the world.

Madam Speaker, I yield back.

## TAKING PUTIN'S WORDS AND DEEDS SERIOUSLY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. BUCK) for 30 minutes.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I am here to have a discussion with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), my good friend, about President Putin's actions in Russia.

Putin is waging an unprovoked and unjustified war on Ukraine. Over the past 2 weeks, his attacks have become increasingly violent. The attacks have become more severe, even targeting residential areas.

At the same time that Putin is engaged in a bloody war with tragic consequences for the people of Ukraine, he is also engaged in a propaganda war. His disinformation campaign is geared toward: first, his own people, who have largely been kept in the dark about the atrocities of this war against Ukraine; and, second, the entire world.

In justifying his war to the world, Putin has relied on the ridiculous claim that he is the appointed person to denazify Ukraine.

The Russian Government released a statement on March 1 through the Russian Embassy in Canada, stating: ''Russia continues its special military operation to demilitarize and denazify Ukraine. The Russian army does not occupy Ukrainian territory and takes all measures to preserve the lives and safety of civilians. The strikes are targeting military facilities only. . . . The tasks to clear Ukraine of Nazism . . . will be accomplished.''

Congressman ROY, there is a lot of evidence that Putin's army is targeting civilian targets.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Colorado (Mr. BUCK) for this important time talking about the horrors that have been inflicted upon people by Vladimir Putin. Specifically, we know how much damage he has been causing to the people of Ukraine.

More than 1.7 million—in fact, I saw a graphic just before I came to the floor—2 million Ukrainians have been displaced, have been fleeing Ukraine for other countries nearby.

Over 2,000 civilians have been killed, according to reports. But, obviously, we don't know the extent of the damage and the carnage. Thirty-eight children have been killed that we know of, but there are probably more, and 70 wounded that we know of.

Madam Speaker, $10 billion in damages to Ukrainian infrastructure, probably far more than that; 200 schools, 34 hospitals, and 1,500 residential homes destroyed—these are the basic numbers just coming in. We know they are going to be far greater.

On Saturday, a family with two children, a teenage son and a daughter who appeared to be 8 years old, and several

other civilians were killed by a Russian military strike at an evacuation crossing point in a Kyiv suburb as they were trying to flee Ukraine.

Ukraine has required men to stay to defend their country, forcing families to make the unthinkable decision. One Ukraine woman said: ''It is very hard to have your husband stay home. You have to choose: Save the kids or stay with him.''

I have heard from friends and read dozens of tragic stories in the past few days through friends of mine in Austin, Texas, who have gone to Ukraine to help people. I have been in touch, through them, with an orphanage in Kyiv with somewhere upward of 50 children, up to 14 infants, up near the suburbs of north Kyiv.

They are struggling. They are lacking food. They are lacking the materials to survive. They are trying to figure out how to get to a place where they can get to help.

We have actors on the ground trying to help them, but they can't get to them because of what Putin is doing and not really heeding the calls for helping people be able to get out of harm's way.

Right now, these children are completely helpless. A nurse from Lutsk in western Ukraine who fled to Poland said the decision on whether to stay or go was not instantaneous. When the Russian army first invaded eastern Ukraine, she and her husband decided to wait: ''We were hoping that the situation wouldn't develop into a full-scale invasion. But as hours passed, it became obvious that things were only getting worse.''

The next morning, she and her 2-year-old son, Tymi, got in a car and headed for Poland, where they waited 10 hours at the border. She said saying good-bye to their husband and father, who stayed in Ukraine to build barricades, was heartbreaking.

She and her son were hosted by a Polish family, Robert and Hana, an English language university instructor and a human resources supervisor, who live with their two children. They made it clear that their hospitality didn't have an end date.

Alex in Kyiv is helping his friends evacuate. Sergei in Rivne is setting up shelters for his community and providing food and supplies. Peter in Zhytomyr packed his car yesterday and is currently taking his neighbors to Poland.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I think it is worthwhile to take a look at who this leader is.

Who is Vladimir Putin? He began his career, not surprisingly, Congressman, at the KGB. He came to power in 2000, winning the presidency after having served as a Secretary of the Security Council of Russia and as the Director of the Federal Security Service.

Putin served as President until 2008, when he was constitutionally prohibited from seeking a third term, but Putin had little regard for the Russian Constitution. He orchestrated a maneuver in which one of his yes-men would be installed as the new President, and Putin would assume the role of Prime Minister.

After serving as Russia's top leader, but in the capacity of Prime Minister, Putin then did the unthinkable and ran again as President in 2012. With protests and allegations of mass fraud in his background, he assumed another 6-year term and then again ran in 2018.

Even more alarming, in April of last year, Putin signed into law a series of constitutional amendments that would permit him to run for President two additional terms, serving a total of 36 years.

Putin's regime has become increasingly totalitarian, and Putin himself has put his KGB background to use, employing Soviet-era repressions against the people of Russia.

□ 2130

He has cracked down on free speech, seized control of the media, and had his opponents and critics assassinated.

Congressman, I know you feel strongly about how President Putin has put his KGB background to use.

Mr. ROY. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. BUCK. I yield to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, we are seeing Putin's propaganda tactics, as we speak. The world is seeing it on full display. His regime is systematically shutting down the free flow of information surrounding this brutal war in Ukraine. The State run newspapers in Russia have been instructed to not use the words ''invasion'' or ''war.'' Just days ago, Putin's regime shut off Facebook access in the country.

Now, again, whatever Russians are able to see what we are saying on the floor, this is the truth. This is the truth of what Vladimir Putin is doing to the truth and the dissemination of information of what is happening in Russia, what is happening to the people of Ukraine, not the propaganda you're hearing in Russia.

Just days ago, Putin's regime shut off Facebook, as I said. The Russian newspaper translated as ''New Newspaper'' has a brave, freedom-loving editor-in-chief Dmitry Muratov—he co-won last year's Nobel Peace Prize—who has been forced to remove all of the material on the newspaper's website related to Russia's aggression in the Ukraine.

Think about that. That is what is happening. This isn't new. It is his track record. He came to power because of a terrorist act that was directed at Russia's own people.

In 1999, three apartment buildings in Moscow, Dagestan, and Volgodonsk were bombed. Those bombings, allegedly the acts of Chechen terrorists, gave a pretext for going into Chechnya for a second war, thus solidifying support for Putin as head of the Security Council.

Since then, almost everyone who has raised questions about these bombings or has attempted to investigate the cause of these bombings has been kicked out of Russia, imprisoned, or murdered.

Those are the facts. That is who Putin is.

During his more than two decades of ruling Russia, Putin has displayed a callous disregard for human life. He has engaged in murderous attacks on his political opposition.

In 2004, the Putin regime poisoned Ukrainian Presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko.

In 2006, there was the polonium killing in London of Alexander Litvinenko, a defector from Russia.

In 2009, Sergei Magnitsky was taken into police custody, beaten, deprived of medical care, and he died in jail.

In 2013, Boris Berezovsky was found in his home in the United Kingdom dead. Berezovsky had long been a critic of Putin, accused the Kremlin of orchestrating the killing of Alexander Litvinenko, who had been poisoned in 2006.

In 2015, Boris Nemtsov was shot four times in the back just a short distance from the Kremlin. He was another critic of Putin.

And in 2017, the world was horrified by the daylight shooting of Denis Voronenkov, who was murdered in Kyiv after renouncing his Russian citizenship and criticizing Vladimir Putin. That is the truth of Putin's brutality.

Mr. BUCK. And, Congressman ROY, I just want to go through one of these slides again, if I can. I don't know if you got a look at this, but this is the before and after. This is a man who left, went to England, was poisoned, and this is what he looked like before, and that is after he was poisoned with radioactive materials.

Mr. ROY. And how was he poisoned?

Mr. BUCK. Radioactive material. He was poisoned, and that is how he looks afterwards. Unbelievable that one human being can do this to another human being, much less a leader of a major nuclear power in the world.

Mr. ROY. Is there any disagreement on the intelligence that this is what occurred at the hands of Vladimir Putin's orders?

Mr. BUCK. Right. No disagreement in the world. And what is so significant is when Vladimir Putin says this is what is happening in Ukraine, who can believe him?

Mr. ROY. Right.

Mr. BUCK. In fact, you can pretty much go to Vegas and bet your money on the opposite of what this man says. If he is able to do something like this, one, he is a coward, and two, he is a monster.

During his more than two decades of ruling Russia, Putin has displayed a callous disregard for human life. As part of Putin's war on Chechnya, he ordered the destruction of Chechnya's capital Grozny. Tens of thousands of civilians were killed in this brutal assault.

In 2008, Putin waged another war, this time in Georgia, another part of

the former Soviet Union. The Georgian President during Putin's assault in 2008 had this to say in The Wall Street Journal, and, Congressman ROY, I want you to really hear this because it is so unbelievable how similar what the Georgian President said in 2008 is to the game plan that Putin has orchestrated in Ukraine.

Mr. ROY. Yes.

Mr. BUCK. ''Long before its conventional assault on Georgia, Russia openly backed separatist militants—that sounds familiar—launched cyberattacks and used disinformation to meddle in the internal affairs of sovereign states. Initial intelligence reports of Russian forces entering Georgian territory didn't even cause enough concern to order Georgian military officials back from their holidays. . . .

''But in August 2008, under the auspices of securing the separatist enclave, Russia invaded my country . . .

''Leaving aside the practical impossibility of Georgia attacking a nuclear power 100 times its size, the entirety of the conflict took place on internationally recognized Georgian territory. The Kremlin's claim that its land forces mobilized overnight in response to an emergency was absurd. Such an onslaught required careful preparation, especially given the mountainous terrain of the Russian-Georgian border.''

And I think what is really important to point out here is that President Putin has used the exact same plan, the exact same formula down to the T, claiming that there are Russian-speaking people and he is trying to protect those people in Ukraine, down to the absurd claim that Ukraine is a Nazi government now. All these claims are made up, they are nonsense to try to justify in the minds of the Russian people what Putin is engaged in.

Mr. ROY. That is exactly right. And I want to take 1 minute because it merits repeating because we are sitting here in the United States of America in the protection of our great Republic miles away from what is happening in Ukraine, and it bears repeating that there are two million Ukrainians right now fleeing Ukraine, fleeing their homes. We fortunately haven't had to experience that sort of thing.

But two million people right now are fleeing their homes, dads and husbands staying behind in Ukraine, families fleeing, seeking shelter, thousands killed, we don't know how many, children killed, billions of dollars of damage, destroying crops, destroying infrastructure, taking over nuclear power plants.

And I just got a text, literally as I am standing here, from my friends in Austin, Texas—from the wife whose husband is currently now in Ukraine trying to help people—talking about the orphanage I talked about in northern Kyiv. She says 51 kids are trapped; 51 kids trapped.

Do you have kids? People around here, many of us have kids. Fifty-one kids trapped after orphanage bombed and director killed. The director of the orphanage was killed. Running out of food. No heat or electricity. Cold front coming. Will freeze or starve if we can't get there soon. Fifteen infants. Special needs kids. Currently shelling of all civilian targets being perpetrated and carried out by Putin. The same Putin that killed a Ukrainian leader with nuclear poisoning.

This from my friend: We are pleading for someone to help us get to the children before it is too late. And we are trying. Anybody out there watching, we are trying to figure out how to get to this orphanage and get them to people who can help. But that is the product of Vladimir Putin. And if you are watching this, and if you are in Russia or if this clip gets to you and it isn't cut off by Putin and his thug leadership in Russia, this is the truth of Vladimir Putin. This is what he is doing to innocent people.

And he is lying to you that these children are being put up as somehow being a front and being put up to be put in harm's way. He is indiscriminately bombing. He is the cause of these children being in danger. He is the cause of this murder. He is the cause of thousands of people getting killed, millions getting displaced, billions in damage, and it is all because he is a thug and an autocrat, who is going after and killing innocent people.

□ 2140

Mr. BUCK. An immoral person does not wage a moral war, does not poison people, does not continue to commit the war crimes and the illegalities—murdering a political opponent just blocks away from the Kremlin. That kind of immoral person doesn't have the standing to talk to the world about what is going on in Ukraine.

I know, Congressman, you were a prosecutor. I was a prosecutor. When we had a criminal defendant who lied, that was a special treat, because we got to put witnesses on the stand, and we called it a false exculpatory. And Vladimir Putin has gone through his entire political career using false exculpatories; telling people one thing happened when, in fact, something else happened.

And the reason it is so important to point out false exculpatories is, it is a sign of guilt. And in this case, Vladimir Putin knows what he is doing is in violation of international law. He has committed numerous war crimes through his military; indiscriminately bombing civilian targets. And he is a war criminal, and he should be brought to justice.

But my question to you now is, Congressman, are we doing everything we can as a country to make sure that we bring this thug—as you put it—this animal who is violating international law, killing children, destroying billions of dollars worth of infrastructure in Ukraine. Are we, as Americans, are we, as the civilized world working with Western Europe, working with NATO, are we doing everything we can to bring this man to justice and to stop the tragedy that is going on in Ukraine?

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, well, I appreciate my friend from Colorado's question. And I would note in your comparison as to our experience as Federal prosecutors, that there is no entity that is able to hold him to account in Russia because he is running the whole show as a dictator, and there is no free press.

In our country—as bad as the press can be—we at least hope that we can get the truth out through the vestiges of the First Amendment and the importance of the free press, no matter who is in the White House. Right?

Mr. BUCK. Yes.

Mr. ROY. Neither you nor I shied away from criticizing the former President of the United States, despite the fact he had an ''R'' after his name. Nor will we shy away from criticizing this President who has a ''D'' after his name. Why? Because we are Article I, and he is Article II.

And the Founders gave us a free press to say we are going to have the press holding all of us to account, and the separation of power so we can hold the President to account. There is none of that here.

Mr. BUCK. And one more thing, when the press holds us to account, we stand up. We may disagree with them. We may offer another version of the facts, but we don't shut down the press. We don't close their doors. We don't turn off the TV station when they call something a war. When they call a war a war, we don't shut them down. That is exactly what is happening in Russia right now.

Mr. ROY. And the most important thing that we can do, in my opinion, is do what we are doing right here. And I hope all my colleagues will do this. And I hope everybody will unite. And I hope the American free press will unite, and the worldwide free press will unite, to call this out for what it is—a war criminal killing innocents for sheer power and for sheer determination of what he wants for his own agenda, not for any kind of honorable reasons in defending his homeland.

Whatever he is telling you and the people of Russia that this is somehow an honorable defense of Russia, it is not. He is lying to you. He is killing innocent people in the name of your homeland. And you need to know that. And you need to know the truth. And you need to see what he is doing to people.

And we, in this country, need to continue to do more. And I know we are here to talk about Putin, and we are here to talk about this situation of holding him accountable. And I don't want to get too partisan here, but our country should have been doing more sooner.

We should have been listening to Zelensky. I have heard a whole lot of applause lately for Zelensky from my

colleagues on the other side of the aisle. But where were we last July when he was asking for help with sanctions?

Where were my colleagues on the other side of the aisle when my former boss and my friend, Senator TED CRUZ, forced a vote in the Senate on Nord Stream 2?

MIA. Partisan vote: We are not going to continue sanctions on Nord Stream 2. We are going to go along with Biden's decision to stop sanctions on Nord Stream 2.

Well, what do you think happens when you allow Putin and Russia to have a complete control of the energy supply of Europe?

What do you think is going to happen when you empower a thug and a dictator? What do you think is going to happen?

And right now today, we have a complete refusal by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, and frankly, too many colleagues on my side of the aisle, who refuse to say that we are, today, going to open up American energy, liquefied natural gas, oil, and produce it in this country to ensure that this man doesn't have the power to do what he is doing in Ukraine.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman has 7 minutes remaining.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, to go back a little bit in history, when President Putin invaded Crimea, President Obama refused to give legal assistance to Ukraine. It wasn't until President Trump came in that legal assistance was given to Ukraine.

And then to President Biden's credit, he ramped up that lethal aid as the threat got greater. And we have seen a great deal of lethal aid going to the Ukraine military. They are using it wisely. They are fighting a courageous war against a much, much greater military power.

But I agree with you, Congressman. We could be doing more. We could be sanctioning more, the source of Russia's money, their income, their revenue for waging this war. And we should be doing that. And that is just one of the areas, just one of them.

We should be doing more in banking. We should be doing more in trade, in blockades. But one of the ways that we can sanction them is by producing more natural gas, more fossil fuels here at home. We should be shipping liquefied natural gas to our allies in Western Europe to wean them off the reliance on energy from Russia.

Mr. ROY. How has the lawless authoritarian managed to regain his power? Well, I will tell you. Europe made themselves completely dependent on Russian energy.

And if you want a wake-up call and you want a warning shot in this country, Russia controls 40 percent of the EU's natural gas and 30 percent of its oil. Germany buys more gas from Russia than any other country.

They chose this. They chose fracking bans. They chose to shut down energy freedom in Western Europe. They chose to pursue a political climate ideology over national security and commonsense and energy for their citizenry. And now, they are beholden to Russia. And now, we have empowered Russia.

This stuff matters. Wars have been fought over these kinds of things, and we just empowered an autocrat to roll over the people of Ukraine because of the leadership of the Democrats on the other side of the aisle. And the people in this White House are pursuing climate ideology over national security; climate ideology over energy freedom; climate ideology over affordable gas; and the ability for the American people to thrive while empowering the people of Ukraine instead of a thug like Putin.

Mr. BUCK. In addition to that, it is time that our allies in NATO step up, spend the money they are supposed to spend on their military, on their defense structure, and move forward with us. It is not time for Americans to constantly fight wars in other countries when other countries haven't stepped up and recognized the dangers of a man like Vladimir Putin.

I don't know if it is the equivalent of our Secretary of Defense or Army Chief of Staff, or maybe the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, but the head of the German military mocked his own military, talking about how unprepared they would be in the event of a conflict with Russia.

Putin knows that. Putin has intelligence agents. And they have scoured the Western European countries. They know exactly what the strength is of those countries. They know what their willingness is to fight. And Putin has made a decision that he can take Ukraine with very little consequence. That is a serious issue.

Mr. ROY. You are exactly right. And tomorrow, we are going to be voting on a number of things. I got to be honest with you. I am sickened at what we are doing in this body. Instead of debating and voting here and having a serious discussion about how we should spend our assets to support Ukraine but be sensible about what we are doing in policies here, we are going to have a vote on banning Russian oil.

What good does it do to ban Russian oil if you are going to buy it from Venezuela or Iran?

□ 2150

Why don't we produce it here in the United States? It is cleaner and it is better. We should be doing that right here. Instead, we are not going to do that.

I am going to turn it back over because I think it is about time to close.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I just want to echo what he is saying and tell you that right now the dictator who is the most threatening to us, we are going to pull away from his energy and we are going to go with dictators who aren't quite as dangerous to us. That isn't a strategy. That is just looking at the wrong end of a revolver.

Mr. ROY. Madam Speaker, I just want to remind everyone that 51 kids are trapped after an orphanage is bombed and the director is killed. No heat or electricity. Cold front coming. That is Putin's Ukraine. We should be helping these people.

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his time tonight and it is always a pleasure to speak with him.

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

## THE MATH IS THE MATH IS THE MATH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT) until 10 p.m.

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, we have a bit of the tyranny of the clock, as you know, so I am going to try to do this somewhat rapidly.

There has been a lot of speechifying today. I am frustrated because I don't have an elegant or delicate way to say this, but people keep making crap up. Let's actually walk through some basic math so we understand something.

Does anyone here have any memory of last fall when a number of us were coming behind these microphones getting ready to talk about the winter that was coming. Do you remember the discussion of about how high the power bills, the heating bills were going to be? It is because fuel prices—hydrocarbon prices—didn't just go up because of the Russian invasion.

If you look at the charts, this began functionally when the left took power. It really began in 2018 and really took off when they had unified control. It didn't just happen. As a matter of fact, there is a number of charts out there and futures contracts that were basically saying the prices you are seeing today at the gas pump—they just showed up about 6 months early—that that is actually where we were going because consumption and supply wasn't keeping up because of what we have done to ourselves.

You see it already. Do you not remember last October and September crossing $6 on natural gas? It was already coming at us and it was our own fault. How does this craziness happen? We keep getting folks coming behind the microphone and saying: It is because of the Keystone pipeline; it is a little bit. It is because of some of the drilling bans; it is a little bit.

It is mostly because over, particularly this last year, but also going back when the left took power after the 2018 election, they basically started to threaten capital markets. If you are a company and you invest in hydrocarbons, I think the SEC should look into you. If you're CalPERS or a pension fund and you invest in hydrocarbons, we are going to look down

upon that. As a matter of fact, we are going encourage universities and other pension funds no more investing in hydrocarbons.

What did you think was going to happen? When you actually see this frustration and the absolute distorted rhetoric coming from the White House—well, there are 9,000 drilling permits out there. I think most of America already understand that is lunacy; you get a permit, you find out if there are any hydrocarbons in the ground. But how do you go to capital markets and get any money to stick that straw in the ground? This continued.

Over and over, the Biden administration's executive orders missed the mark. It was actually talking about the Treasury coming at anyone that is putting capital markets into hydrocarbons. Understand what you are paying at the gas pump, what you are paying to heat your house. You voted for this.

If you voted for the left, if you voted for them in 2018, if you voted for them in 2020, you voted for this. You voted for that price because this is what they promised us. Do you remember the discussions here, the debates here? We are going to make it so you can't raise money to finance a pipeline, to finance new hydrocarbon extractions, to finance natural gas.

What is so ironic about this—just quote after quote after quote. Pension systems and others—the idea was strangle hydrocarbon extraction, oil and gas, and make it so they don't have the capital to open up new wells, to invest in more efficiencies. The left actually got what they wanted.

Are they now willing to admit that they got what they wanted there? We are now seeing $5 gasoline. You see the price of natural gas. Guess what, congratulations, we burned 23 percent more coal last year because they made natural gas so expensive; we moved from one fuel source that was dramatically cleaner than coal, but you raised the price so high. Remember, power generation is regulated. Power plant after power plant after power plant around America moved back to coal.

So now you have the brain trust in the administration saying things like: Well, go buy an electric car. Except that electric car is going to be powered by coal because the dramatically cleaner burning fuel of natural gas you have just made really expensive.

A couple of months ago we came here to the floor and talked about natural gas and the concerns the left has said over it—well, what about methane—showing them some breakthroughs of really inexpensive ways to capture that methane.

There is a rational argument there. Methane is a 9–1, but has only now a shorter half life of what is considered to be a greenhouse gas. Instead of saying, hey, we are going to look for technologies that deal with the problem there, the left's opinion is, well, let's wipe them out because those who invest in green energy finance and write checks to Democrats. The green mafia basically owns the Democrat Party.

Then you go look at other absurdities that is Democrat policy. I am sorry I had to grab an older slide. Do you realize the amount of baseload nuclear we have in this country that is going off line? You do realize over this 10-year period the United States is going to get dirtier? This is even before the left functionally raised the price of natural gas so much that power plants moved back to coal.

We are moving so much clean baseload nuclear off the grid that it doesn't even offset every bit of photovoltaic and wind we have put on the grid.

We give lots of pretty speeches here. We do lots of virtue signaling, but the math is the math is the math. The virtue signaling creating policy has actually raised more greenhouse gases. Look what Germany did by shutting down its baseload nuclear. They now burn massive amounts of coal. They got dirtier.

You have heard speech after speech here today about how much we despise Putin, but we also know his propaganda wing absolutely supported the left's movement to strangle these hydrocarbons. This is what you get when you make crappy policy. It didn't happen overnight. It is going to take us years to fix this mess.

Can I beg the Democrats: Stop hurting people. Stop making the poor poorer. Stop crushing the middle class. Come back to sensibility. Guess what, there might be a bonus there, and that is all the coal that is being burnt, all the dirty imports, you would actually get a benefit of the greenhouse gases, but you got to come back and do math again.

Madam Speaker, I think I am up against my time and I yield back the balance of my time.

## RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 0030

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCGOVERN) at 12 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.

## ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Cheryl L. Johnson, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker:

H.R. 3665. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in San Diego, California, as the Jennifer Moreno Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, and to support the designation of a component of such medical center in honor of Kathleen Bruyere.

## ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 9 a.m. today.

Thereupon (at 12 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until today, Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at 9 a.m.

## EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC–3572. A letter from the OSD FRLO, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Trade Agreements Thresholds (DFARS Case 2022-D003) [Docket: DARS-2021-0026] (RIN: 0750-AL50) received February 22, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3573. A letter from the OSD FRLO, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation [Docket ID: DoD-2020-OS-0095] (RIN: 0790-AK96) received February 22, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3574. A letter from the OSD FRLO, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Admissions Policies and Procedures for the School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences [Docket ID: DOD-2020-OS-0047] (RIN: 0790-AL01) received February 22, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3575. A letter from the OSD FRLO, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff Privacy Program [Docket ID: DOD-2019-OS-0109] (RIN: 0790- AK59) received February 22, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3576. A letter from the Deputy Chief, Auctions Division, Office of Economics and Analytics and Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Auction of Construction Permits for Full Power Television Stations, Notice and Filing Requirements, Minimum Opening Bids, Upfront Payments, and Other Procedures for Auction 112, Bidding Scheduled to Begin June 7, 2022 [AU Docket No.: 21-449] received February 22, 2022, 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–3577. A letter from the Assistant Legal Adviser, Office of Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report concerning international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States to be transmitted to the Congress within the sixty-day period specified in the Case-Zablocki Act, pursuant to 1 U.S.C. 112b(a); Public Law 92-403, Sec. 1(a) (as amended by Public Law 108-458, Sec. 7121(b)); (118 Stat. 3807); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3578. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the Department's final rule — Passports: Option for Passport Applicants Eligible To Apply by Mail for Renewal of Passports To Apply On-Line [Public Notice: 11609] (RIN: 1400-AE68) received March 7, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3579. A letter from the Chair, United States International Trade Commission, transmitting the Commission's combined Annual Performance Plan for Fiscal Year 2022-23 and Annual Performance Report for FY 2021, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 31315 note; Public Law 114-94, Sec. 5404(e); (129 Stat. 1549) and 5 U.S.C. 306(a); Public Law 103-62, Sec. 3 (as amended by Public Law 111-352, Sec. 2); (124 Stat. 3866); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–3580. A letter from the Acting Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives, transmitting the final audit report on the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer's NetIQ and User management Practices (Report No.: 22-CAO-03); to the Committee on House Administration.

EC–3581. A letter from the Acting Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives, transmitting the final audit report of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer's Net Expenses of Equipment Revolving Fund; to the Committee on House Administration.

EC–3582. A letter from the Acting Inspector General, Office of the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives, transmitting the final audit report on the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer's Information Technology (IT) Asset Management (ITAM) Controls; to the Committee on House Administration.

EC–3583. A letter from the Deputy Chief of Staff, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Civil Monetary Penalty Adjustments for Inflation (RIN: 1601-AB05) received February 1, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–3584. A letter from the Deputy Chief of Staff, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Civil Monetary Penalty Adjustments for Inflation (RIN: 1901-AA99) received February 1, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–3585. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Policy Development, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Qualifications of Drivers; Vision Standard [Docket No.: FMCSA-2019-0049] (RIN: 2126-AC21) received February 22, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5547. A bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to require eligible recipients of certain grants to develop a comprehensive economic development strategy that directly or indirectly increases the accessibility of affordable, quality care-based services, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117–259, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Ms. VELAZQUEZ: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 6445. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to require an annual report on entrepreneurial development programs, and for other purposes (Rept. 117–260, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Financial Services discharged from further consideration. H.R. 5547 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Budget discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6445 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

## PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. HICE of Georgia (for himself, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. FOXX, and Mr. MFUME):

H.R. 6967. A bill to implement merit-based reforms to the civil service hiring system that replace degree-based hiring with skills- and competency-based hiring, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. DOGGETT (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. CHU, Mr. BEYER, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. KIND, Mr. KEATING, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. MORELLE, Ms. ROSS, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. CROW, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. COHEN, Mr. GOMEZ, and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut):

H.R. 6968. A bill to prohibit the importation of energy products of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, and Rules, 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. BANKS (for himself, Mr. PFLUGER, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. WALTZ, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. COLE, Mr. GOHMERT, and Mr. RUTHERFORD):

H.R. 6969. A bill to prohibit the importation of petroleum products from Iran, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BERGMAN (for himself, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FEENSTRA, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. TIFFANY, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. DAVIDSON, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. KELLER, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. GOSAR, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. BOST, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. PERRY, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. CLINE, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. BABIN, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mrs. CAMMACK, Ms. TENNEY, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. LATURNER, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mr. WALBERG):

H.R. 6970. A bill to amend title 41, United States Code, to prohibit the Federal Government from entering into contracts with an entity that discriminates against firearm or ammunition industries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 6971. A bill to establish a commission to promote information and media literacy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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. BUTTERFIELD (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 6972. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish additional authorities of the Food and Drug Administration regarding the conduct of pediatric investigations of molecularly targeted drugs to treat cancer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 6973. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the conditions under which the Secretary of Health and Human Services can approve generic drug applications with labeling temporarily different than the brand name drug, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 6974. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to exempt certain vessels transporting crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, and liquified natural gas between a port in Hawaii and another port in the United States from Jones Act vessel requirements for the duration of any ban on the transportation of crude oil or petroleum products from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. CRAWFORD):

H.R. 6975. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to establish a rural manufacturing forgivable loan program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 6976. A bill to improve technology and address human factors in aviation safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in

each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. FLETCHER:

H.R. 6977. A bill to provide that, for a 3-year period, applications for the exportation of natural gas to member countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization be granted without modification or delay, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida):

H.R. 6978. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for certain freedom of association protections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois (for himself and Ms. JAYAPAL):

H.R. 6979. A bill to support a review of surcharge policy at the International Monetary Fund; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. HUDSON (for himself and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 6980. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a pilot program under which the Secretary increases the conduct of unannounced inspections of foreign human drug establishments and evaluates the differences between inspections of domestic and foreign human drug establishments, including the impact of announcing inspections to persons who own or operate foreign human drug establishments in advance of an inspection; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HUDSON (for himself, Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. UPTON, Mr. EMMER, Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana, Mr. BABIN, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. MAST, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. GARBARINO, Mr. GIBBS, Ms. FOXX, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. GUEST, Mr. ARMSTRONG, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. DUNN, and Ms. STEFANIK):

H.R. 6981. A bill to authorize the President to waive export criteria and transportation and related costs for transportation of certain ammunition and ordnance to supply entities providing ammunition to Ukraine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself and Mr. KHANNA):

H.R. 6982. A bill to support the establishment and improvement of communications sites on or adjacent to Federal lands through the retention and use of rental fees associated with such sites, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:

H.R. 6983. A bill to require the President to transmit to Congress a report on existing and needed authority to respond to a severe energy supply interruption; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. COSTA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. TORRES of New York, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. TITUS, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. WILD, Mr. MORELLE, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6984. A bill to authorize humanitarian assistance to the people of Ukraine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. KILDEE (for himself, Mr. PASCRELL, and Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin):

H.R. 6985. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the private business use requirements for bonds issued for lead service line replacement projects; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. KUSTER (for herself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. KATKO, Mr. PAPPAS, Ms. PINGREE, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 6986. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to modify certain requirements for Regional Commissions, to reauthorize the Northern Border Regional Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. BROWNLEY, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Ms. DELBENE):

H.R. 6987. A bill to establish programs to reduce the impacts of vessel traffic and underwater noise on marine mammals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEVIN of California (for himself and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 6988. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to authorize a program to support the adoption of, and improve the development of, innovative approaches to pharmaceutical product design and manufacturing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LIEU (for himself, Mr. CARBAJAL, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. LEE of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. BASS, and Ms. ESHOO):

H.R. 6989. A bill to address the homelessness and housing crises, to move toward the goal of providing for a home for all Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, Energy and Commerce, 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. MFUME:

H.R. 6990. A bill to award posthumously a Congressional Gold Medal to Doris Miller, in recognition of his acts of valor while a member of the United States Navy during World War II; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MOULTON:

H.R. 6991. A bill to establish the policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs on medicinal cannabis, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6992. A bill to designate Russia as a state sponsor of terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6993. A bill to provide for the designation of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan as a State Sponsor of Terrorism, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6994. A bill to prohibit United States Government recognition of the Russian Federation's claim of sovereignty over any part of Ukraine (to include Crimea), its airspace, or its territorial waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6995. A bill to prohibit trade with the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, 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 Mrs. RODGERS of Washington:

H.R. 6996. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the accelerated approval of a product for a serious or life-threatening disease or condition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. SCANLON (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. DEAN, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 6997. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to make fraudulent dealings in firearms and ammunition unlawful, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SPEIER (for herself, Mr. KATKO, Mr. ALLRED, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. CARSON, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. COHEN, Mr. COSTA, Ms. DEAN, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. HOULAHAN, Mr. KEATING, Mr. KILMER, Ms. KUSTER, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Ms. NORTON, Ms. OMAR, Ms. PINGREE, Ms. PLASKETT, Ms. PORTER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. TONKO, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. STEVENS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. COOPER, Ms. MENG, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. JONES, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. PRESSLEY, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. SOTO, and Ms. BARRAGÁN):

H.R. 6998. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide that it is unlawful to knowingly distribute private intimate visual depictions with reckless disregard for the individual's lack of consent to the distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 6999. A bill to ensure a complete analysis of the potential impacts of rules on small entities; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Small Business, 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. STEVENS (for herself, Ms. ROSS, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. ADAMS):

H.R. 7000. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the removal of the record of default from credit history upon obtaining a Federal Direct Consolidation Loan that discharges the defaulted loan; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Ms. TITUS (for herself and Mr. KATKO):

H.R. 7001. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide certain employment rights to reservists of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. WAGNER (for herself, Ms. BUSH, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. LONG, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri):

H.R. 7002. A bill to authorize the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri, to be illuminated by blue and yellow lights in support of Ukraine; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself and Mr. PERLMUTTER):

H.R. 7003. A bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to permit credit unions to serve certain underserved areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.J. Res. 75. A joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. LEVIN of Michigan (for himself, Ms. BUSH, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Ms. PRESSLEY):

H. Con. Res. 78. Concurrent resolution expressing support for the recognition of March 10, 2022, as ''Abortion Provider Appreciation Day''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. GREENE of Georgia (for herself, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, and Mr. BIGGS):

H. Res. 968. A resolution to amend the Rules of the House of Representatives to prohibit remote voting and voting by voice and to require a recorded vote on any question put before the House, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. PHILLIPS):

H. Res. 969. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that United States policy should encourage Russian soldiers to abandon Putin's war with Ukraine, and that Russian soldiers who defect should be granted expedited admission to the United States as refugees if they clear all applicable vetting and security procedures; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H. Res. 970. A resolution directing the Fine Arts Board to obtain a bust of the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelensky, for display in the House of Representatives wing of the United States Capitol; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. BEYER (for himself and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York):

H. Res. 971. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that corporations should commit to utilizing the benefits of gender diversity in boards of directors and other senior management positions; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

## MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

ML-140. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of New Jersey, relative to Senate Resolution No. 142, condemning the November 1984 anti-Sikh violence in India as genocide; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

ML-141. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 12, urging the Congress of the United States to protect consumers and their financial institutions from harmful and intrusive Internal Revenue Service bank account reporting requirements; jointly to the Committees on Financial Services and Ways and Means.

ML-142. Also, a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Colorado, relative to House Resolution 22-1004, urging Congress to adopt comprehensive voting rights legislation to protect the integrity of American democracy and the sacred right to vote; jointly to the Committees on House Administration and the Judiciary.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. HICE of Georgia:

H.R. 6967.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 18 of the Constitution, in that the legislation ''is necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the . . . Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. DOGGETT:

H.R. 6968.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. BANKS:

H.R. 6969.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress).

By Mr. BERGMAN:

H.R. 6970.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. BEYER:

H.R. 6971.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:

H.R. 6972.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Congress may also make laws that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution their powers enumerated under Article I.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia:

H.R. 6973.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution

By Mr. CASE:

H.R. 6974.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H.R. 6975.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18:

[The Congress shall have Power . . . ] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. DESAULNIER:

H.R. 6976.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8.

By Mrs. FLETCHER:

H.R. 6977.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

H.R. 6978.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: ''[The Congress shall have the power . . . ] To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.''

By Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois:

H.R. 6979.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 6980.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. HUDSON:

H.R. 6981.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. HUFFMAN:

H.R. 6982.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:

H.R. 6983.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3

Article I, Section 8, clause 18

By Mr. KEATING:

H.R. 6984.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 6985.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Ms. KUSTER:

H.R. 6986.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. LARSEN of Washington:

H.R. 6987.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section I—All Legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

By Mr. LEVIN of California:

H.R. 6988.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 6989.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section VIII

By Mr. MFUME:

H.R. 6990.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which specifies the powers of Congress; and, more specifically,

Article I, Section 8, clause 6 of the United States Constitution, which gives Congress the power ''to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures.''

By Mr. MOULTON:

H.R. 6991.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

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By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6992.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6993.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6994.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

By Mr. PERRY:

H.R. 6995.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII of the United States Constitution

By Mrs. RODGERS of Washington:

H.R. 6996.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

article I section 8, U.S. Constitution

By Ms. SCANLON:

H.R. 6997.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Ms. SPEIER:

H.R. 6998.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, which gives Congress the power to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. STEUBE:

H.R. 6999.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States;

To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures;

To provide for the Punishment of counterfeiting the Securities and current Coin of the United States;

To establish Post Offices and Post Roads;

To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries;

To constitute Tribunals inferior to the supreme Court;

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offenses against the Law of Nations;

To declare War, grant Letters of Marque and Reprisal, and make Rules concerning Captures on Land and Water;

To raise and support Armies, but no Appropriation of Money to that Use shall be for a longer Term than two Years;

To provide and maintain a Navy;

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

To provide for calling forth the Militia to execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections and repel invasions;

To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining, the Militia, and for governing such Part of them as may be employed in the Service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively, the Appointment of the Officers, and the Authority of training the Militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress;

To exercise exclusive Legislation in all Cases whatsoever, over such District (not exceeding ten Miles square) as may, by Cession of particular States, and the acceptance of Congress, become the Seat of the Government of the United States, and to exercise like Authority over all Places purchased by the Consent of the Legislature of the State in which the Same shall be, for the Erection of Forts, Magazines, Arsenals, dock-Yards, and other needful Buildings; And

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. STEVENS:

H.R. 7000.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Pursuant to clause 7 of Rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statement is submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 7001.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mrs. WAGNER:

H.R. 7002.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 7003.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to ''regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes.''

By Ms. DELAURO:

H.J. Res. 75.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for this legislation is clause 7 of section 9 of article I of the Constitution of the United States (the appropriation power), which states:

''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law. . . .''

In addition, clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution (the spending power) provides:

''The Congress shall have the Power . . . to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States . . .''

Together, these specific constitutional provisions establish the congressional power of the purse, granting Congress the authority to appropriate funds, to determine their purpose, amount, and period of availability, and to set forth terms and conditions governing their use.

## ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 259: Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. CLEAVER.

H.R. 263: Mr. BALDERSON.

H.R. 308: Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 426: Mr. BURGESS.

H.R. 498: Ms. PLASKETT.

H.R. 536: Mr. GOMEZ.

H.R. 684: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 763: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. NADLER.

H.R. 963: Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 1133: Mr. CÁRDENAS.

H.R. 1176: Ms. LEE of California.

H.R. 1179: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 1282: Mr. PAYNE and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 1284: Mr. ROY, Mr. DUNN, Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, and Mr. LOUDERMILK.

H.R. 1297: Mr. ALLEN.

H.R. 1694: Mr. NEGUSE.

H.R. 1696: Mr. MORELLE and Mr. RASKIN.

H.R. 1729: Mr. CAREY.

H.R. 1753: Ms. NEWMAN and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 1842: Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. KELLER, and Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 1884: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ and Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 1910: Mr. RESCHENTHALER.

H.R. 1972: Mr. CICILLINE.

H.R. 1977: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. HINSON, and Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 2179: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 2234: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.

H.R. 2436: Ms. SÁNCHEZ.

H.R. 2499: Ms. ROSS, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. RUSH, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. CARSON, Ms. DELBENE, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, MR. MALINOWSKI, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ.

H.R. 2549: Mr. PANETTA and Mr. RYAN.

H.R. 2664: Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 2670: Mr. NADLER, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 2698: Ms. CHENEY.
H.R. 2773: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 2814: Mr. COHEN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CRIST, and Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 2857: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 2965: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 3072: Ms. MENG.
H.R. 3079: Mr. WALBERG.
H.R. 3114: Mrs. HAYES, Ms. PORTER, and Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 3134: Mr. HUIZENGA.
H.R. 3215: Mrs. MCBATH.
H.R. 3288: Mr. CARSON and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 3294: Mr. MALINOWSKI and Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 3402: Mr. KILMER, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. STRICKLAND, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, and Mr. SCHRADER.
H.R. 3466: Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 3474: Ms. WILSON of Florida and Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 3522: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 3525: Ms. PRESSLEY.
H.R. 3572: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 3586: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. ELLZEY.
H.R. 3765: Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 3897: Mr. COMER.
H.R. 3940: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 4003: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 4075: Ms. WEXTON and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 4148: Mr. SOTO, Mrs. TRAHAN, Mr. CASTEN, Ms. ROSS, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 4151: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 4158: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 4186: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 4403: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 4421: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 4472: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 4693: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 4750: Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. RYAN, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 4786: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 4794: Mr. SABLAN.
H.R. 4886: Mr. CORREA and Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 4892: Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 5026: Mr. HARDER of California and Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 5129: Ms. WILD, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. FITZGERALD, and Mr. FEENSTRA.
H.R. 5141: Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. GOLDEN, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. MOOLENAAR, and Mrs. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 5218: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 5227: Mr. CROW.
H.R. 5232: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. MEIJER, Ms. ROSS, Mr. MOORE of Alabama, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mrs. WAGNER, and Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 5426: Ms. ROSS and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 5429: Mr. KIND.
H.R. 5441: Ms. PLASKETT.
H.R. 5473: Ms. OMAR, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 5527: Mr. GIMENEZ.
H.R. 5581: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana.
H.R. 5585: Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 5607: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 5623: Mr. ALLEN.
H.R. 5651: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 5654: Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 5723: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 5750: Ms. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. CRIST, Ms. SCHRIER, and Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 5754: Mr. ALLRED.
H.R. 5963: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 6050: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.R. 6145: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 6184: Mr. LATURNER, Ms. LETLOW, and Mr. RESCHENTHALER.
H.R. 6201: Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 6207: Ms. MATSUI and Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 6219: Mr. PANETTA, Ms. PRESSLEY, and Mr. KAHELE.
H.R. 6225: Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 6249: Ms. BUSH and Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ.
H.R. 6308: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 6375: Mr. COSTA, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 6408: Ms. SALAZAR and Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 6421: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 6464: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 6520: Mr. O'HALLERAN.
H.R. 6546: Ms. JOHNSON of Texas.
H.R. 6571: Mr. HARDER of California, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. CROW, Mr. COURTNEY, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 6573: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 6577: Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 6599: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 6613: Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. NEWMAN.
H.R. 6676: Mr. JACKSON and Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 6725: Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. COSTA, and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 6733: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 6748: Mr. CARTER of Texas, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, and Mr. BUCSHON.
H.R. 6759: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 6764: Mr. KELLER and Mr. BUDD.
H.R. 6771: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 6787: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 6800: Mr. GRIFFITH.
H.R. 6823: Mr. SABLAN.
H.R. 6825: Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 6833: Mr. MORELLE and Ms. MANNING.
H.R. 6840: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 6853: Mr. MOONEY.
H.R. 6854: Mr. COMER.
H.R. 6858: Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 6876: Ms. HOULAHAN, Ms. FOXX, and Mr. ARMSTRONG.
H.R. 6886: Mr. BILIRAKIS.
H.R. 6890: Mr. COURTNEY.
H.R. 6894: Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. FULCHER, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. WALBERG, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. GRIFFITH, and Mr. PENCE.
H.R. 6897: Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. KATKO, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 6905: Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 6919: Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. DUNN, and Mr. ARMSTRONG.
H.R. 6926: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 6934: Mr. HUFFMAN and Ms. NEWMAN.
H.R. 6940: Mr. JACKSON, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 6942: Mr. GIBBS, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.
H.R. 6945: Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. DAVIDSON, Mr. BROOKS, and Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 6946: Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. CUELLAR, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 6949: Ms. SCANLON, Ms. WILD, and Ms. HOULAHAN.
H.R. 6951: Mr. TURNER, Ms. KUSTER, and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 6954: Mr. JACKSON and Mr. COSTA.
H.R. 6961: Ms. UNDERWOOD.
H.J. Res. 53: Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.J. Res. 64: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. KILDEE, and Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H. Con. Res. 7: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H. Con. Res. 60: Mr. JONES.
H. Con. Res. 70: Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. LETLOW, and Mr. MALINOWSKI.
H. Con. Res. 76: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington.
H. Res. 50: Mr. MORELLE.
H. Res. 174: Mr. COURTNEY and Mr. YARMUTH.
H. Res. 366: Mrs. WALORSKI and Mr. CRENSHAW.
H. Res. 404: Ms. ADAMS and Mrs. BEATTY.
H. Res. 681: Mr. RASKIN and Mr. SHERMAN.
H. Res. 746: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H. Res. 833: Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. MANNING, and Mr. QUIGLEY.
H. Res. 878: Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. KEATING, and Mrs. LURIA.
H. Res. 881: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 915: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Ms. STRICKLAND.
H. Res. 934: Mr. NEWHOUSE.
H. Res. 942: Mr. NADLER and Mr. AGUILAR.
H. Res. 961: Mr. ROUZER, Mr. OWENS, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H. Res. 963: Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. PALAZZO, Mr. LATTA, Mr. ISSA, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mr. CRENSHAW.
H. Res. 964: Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mrs. HAYES, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. COHEN, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. RYAN.

## CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARRIF BENEFITS.

Under clause 9 of rule XXX, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Rules in H.R. 6968 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. MEEKS

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Foreign Affairs in H.R. 6968, ''Suspending Energy Imports from Russia Act'' do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. NADLER

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Judiciary in H.R. 6968 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. NEAL

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Ways and Means in H.R. 6968 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. DELAURO

H.J. Res 75, making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

## PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

PT-101. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the East Orange City Council, relative to Resolution I-23, calling on the President of the United States to take Executive Action to broadly cancel Federal Student Loan Debt; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

PT-102. Also, a petition of the Legislature of Rockland County, relative to Resolution No. 18, urging the New York State Legislature and the U.S. Congress to pass legislation that will address the negative impact that ''flushable'' wipes have on Rockland County Sewer District No. 1 and other sewer treatment operators across New York state; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

PT-103. Also, a petition of the Caddo Parish Commission, relative to Resolution No. 3, requesting Congress to take such actions as are necessary to eliminate provisions of Federal Law which require veterans to pay taxes on their Social Security benefits and otherwise providing with respect thereto; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

United States of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2022 No. 41

# Senate

*(Legislative day of Monday, March 7, 2022)*

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable TAMMY BALDWIN, a Senator from the State of Wisconsin.

## PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, Your majestic Name fills the Earth. Nature testifies to Your might, wisdom, and love. Lord, Your glory is higher than the Heavens.

As our lawmakers depend upon Your strength to silence the enemies of freedom, deliver us all from evil. Defend the righteous who cry to You even in the night seasons. Send Your angels to protect those who stand up against the fury of their enemies. Arise, O Lord. Wake up, and bring justice to our Nation and world.

We pray in Your powerful 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, March 8, 2022.*

*To the Senate:*

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TAMMY BALDWIN, a Senator from the State of Wisconsin, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
*President pro tempore.*

Ms. BALDWIN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

## RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### POSTAL SERVICE REFORM ACT OF 2022—Resumed

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3076) to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer (for Peters) amendment No. 4955, to modify the deadline for the initial report on the operations and financial condition of the United States Postal Service.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

EMMETT TILL ANTILYNCHING ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, in 1922, the first robust antilynching bill was successfully passed by the House of Representatives. Once it came to the Senate, a block of Southern segregationists mounted a filibuster to kill it in its tracks.

Over the decades, similar bills met similar fates. Throughout the 20th century, scores of antilynching bills were introduced, only to be promptly buried into obscurity. In 2018, Congress came closer than ever to finally passing antilynching legislation before it was thwarted at the eleventh hour.

But last night, finally—finally—after more than 200 failed attempts to declare lynching a Federal crime, the Senate succeeded in taking long, overdue action by passing the Emmett Till Antilynching Act.

Hallelujah. Congress has finally declared lynching a Federal crime, as it should have done more than a century ago. That it took so long is a permanent, bitter stain on American history; but, finally, a century's worth of efforts has now paid off.

To say this is a historic accomplishment is impossibly inadequate. Generations of civil rights leaders and advocates dedicated their lives to getting Congress to recognize the humane, obvious truth: that lynching was an intolerable injustice inflicted primarily on disenfranchised Black Americans.

Thousands upon thousands of Black Americans have been victims of lynch mobs across the country, and indifferent States have rarely responded, if ever. Many of the sworn officers of these States and localities not only ignored but often participated when these atrocities occurred.

Despicable. Horrible. America should be so ashamed of this chapter in her history. And while no single congressional action can fully erase the injustices committed against victims of lynching, last night was an important step in the never-ending work of perfecting our Union. Only by confronting the darkest elements of our history can we make straight the path toward a brighter and more just future.

I want to really applaud Senator BOOKER. He has been diligent and hardworking and valiant in getting this to happen. He had a great partner in Senator SCOTT—bipartisan. And on 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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House side, the person who lit this candle and kept it glowing even in the most disappointing of times was BOBBY RUSH. He never gave up.

Congress has finally taken action, and this bill now heads to President Biden's desk, finally—finally—for signature.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING AND CORONAVIRUS

Madam President, now on COVID, Republicans and Democrats continue making good progress toward reaching a deal to fund the government. We are almost there. We are very, very close, and, hopefully, it will be done in the next few hours.

This bill, the spending bill, comes at a consequential moment. War in Europe has focused the energies of Congress into getting something done and getting it done fast, quickly. But one crucial element of the funding bill is getting less attention, and it is as important as just about anything in this bill. That is approving a new round of COVID preparedness funding.

For all the important priorities we must address in this spending bill, I believe the COVID funding will go down as one of the most important—one of the most important—elements of the omnibus, and I have been pushing really hard to get it done, working across the aisle to convince our Republican colleagues that we need it.

Now that all the Federal COVID aid under the American Rescue Plan has run out, approving new COVID funding is about insurance—far better to prepare for new variants today than to play a frantic game of catchup tomorrow, when it would be too late. We cannot let it be said that America, after the third or fourth variant hits our shores, is unprepared; does not have adequate testing, therapeutics, vaccines. We cannot let that be said again.

The first time it happened, of course, we were unprepared. We didn't know what had happened. But, unfortunately, even in the second and third, President Trump's administration was not very eager to move forward, trying to ignore it, saying it didn't really present a danger, which, of course, it has.

So now Democrats and Republicans, thankfully, have come together, and both sides of the aisle have come to realize that new COVID funding today is about insurance—far better to prepare today than play a frantic game of catchup tomorrow, when it is too late. The funding will support more vaccines, testing, therapeutics, and healthcare workers, and that is why I have been pushing so hard to get it done.

Across the country, life is returning to normal, thankfully. Cases are falling. More people are going about without masks. Restaurants, churches, and stores are filling up. I see that in my hometown of New York. Most importantly, classrooms are full; schools are staying open.

Now that we are turning the corner, now that we are getting back to normal, the last thing we can afford to do is let our guard down, lest a new variant comes back with a vengeance and catapults us all back to square one, a place where we all do not want to be.

Sadly, we know from experience that another variant is a very real possibility. No one can say for certain how the virus will mutate, but today we have the tools and know-how to fight this virus the minute it hits our shores, while preserving as much of normal life as possible.

All that is needed is the Federal funding, and $15 billion of that funding will be in the omnibus bill. So that is why I pushed so hard to get COVID funding into the spending bill. I am encouraged to see that Members have come around to recognize its importance, and I hope we can get it done very, very soon.

Furthermore, I am pleased that we are likewise close—very close—to passing a strong and ample aid package that will help the people of Ukraine fight against Putin's immoral war. They desperately need humanitarian aid, as millions of people are without food, without heat, without shelter, without medicine. They desperately need the arms to defend themselves against brutal Russian aggression, often viciously aimed at civilians who are escaping. We pledged to get something big done, and in the coming hours I expect we will be able to announce that we have followed through.

H.R. 3076

Madam President, on another matter—a lot is going on in the Senate this week—I am pleased to report that as soon as today the Senate is set to deliver for the post office. The post office usually delivers for us, but today we are going to deliver for them.

Every single day, tens of millions of Americans rely on the post office for life's daily essentials. Seniors and veterans rely on it for their medication. Small business owners rely on it to keep their operations going. Small towns and rural Americans use it to stay connected, and every time we receive a wedding invitation, birthday message, or postcard from a relative, it is almost always the post office at work, making us happy, receiving those nice letters and birthday cards from brothers and sisters and relatives and friends from far-flung places.

But we all know the frustrations of waiting on packages that fail to arrive on time. We all know that when the post office is forced to cut hours of operation or delivery routes or lay off workers, the rest of us are worse off.

Thankfully, for the past few months, Democrats and Republicans have been working together in good faith to reform some of the most troubled parts of the Postal Service. Now, we are only one rollcall vote away from sending this bill to the President's desk, and that vote is likely to come today.

After the Senate votes on this bill, we will happily be able to say that, finally, postal reform is signed, sealed, and delivered for the American people. I look forward to getting this done and thank my colleagues, especially Senators PETERS and PORTMAN, for their bipartisan work.

COSTS

Madam President, on costs—the costs that the American people face when they buy things weekly through their daily lives—yesterday, we saw another instance of Republicans going out of the way to show the American people where their priorities lie.

A few months ago, the junior Senator from Florida callously called inflation a ''gold mine'' for the Republican Party. People are suffering and paying more, and the Senator from Florida says it is a ''gold mine'' for the Republicans?

A few weeks ago, we saw what he meant. That same Senator released a party platform that openly called for raising taxes on millions of American families, potentially by more than $1,000 a year.

People can't afford that.

And, yesterday, the junior Senator from Wisconsin called for the GOP to revive their failed efforts to rip away affordable healthcare for tens of millions of Americans—a fresh reminder of an old desire that Republicans have harbored for over a decade.

Cheerleading inflation, raising taxes on working Americans, repealing affordable healthcare: Is that the platform of today's Republican Party? At this point, perhaps the Senator from Wisconsin should join the Senator from Florida in creating a new ''Hurting Working Families Caucus'' so we can more easily track their truly repressive vision for the American people.

Meanwhile, Democrats believe we should be lowering costs for Americans, not raising them. We should be working on a bipartisan basis to fight inflation, not root for it to go up. So, tomorrow, Democrats will hold our annual DPCC retreat to discuss our plan to lower costs, building on historic job growth, and expand opportunity for the middle class.

Over the next few months, my colleagues will be holding hearings and markups on many of our cost-cutting proposals. Among the ideas we are working on are included bills to cap insulin costs at $35 a month, lowering the cost of meat at the grocery store, reforming unfair shipping practices that raise the costs of American goods for everybody, and fixing domestic supply chains.

These are issues that the American people need help with. It is what Democrats will maintain a focus on. And I thank my Republican colleagues for helping us remind the American people which party truly stands in their corner.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

UKRAINE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, as I mentioned yesterday, Senators had the chance to hear directly from Ukraine's President Zelenskyy over the weekend. He and his constituents—the brave people of Ukraine—have won the hearts and minds of all of us all across the world.

Their pain, of course, is Putin's fault, but as I and others warned for weeks before the invasion, that pain has been compounded by the West's hesitation and sluggishness in helping Ukraine prepare for this onslaught, which we could all see coming. This crisis was not only foreseeable; it was, in fact, foreseen.

Republicans spent months urging President Biden to put more lethal aid in Ukrainian hands before Russian invasion made those deliveries much more difficult. We urged the administration to reinforce our eastern flank NATO partners before Putin escalated his war against Ukraine rather than playing catchup. We called for heavier sanctions before Putin had fully committed his forces and his pride. We warned repeatedly that the Biden administration must not let these actions be slowed down to the speed of bureaucracy. But that is, of course, what happened.

As President Zelenskyy himself said publicly last week, while he appreciates all the Western help, much of it is ultimately arriving ''too late.''

The Biden administration is now finally doing many of the things they slow-walked months ago as too provocative or too escalatory: providing Stingers, sharing intelligence, deploying more forces to NATO's eastern flank, finally, getting out of the way of sanctioning Nord Stream 2.

Now, as supplies dwindle and safe resupply and transit corridors narrow, friends of Ukraine will have to work even harder to help the citizens and their government stay in the fight.

It has been obvious for some time that Ukraine would benefit from receiving Soviet-era aircraft and air defense systems from our eastern flank NATO partners that still maintain inventories of such weapons. The United States can help these allies worried about giving up such capabilities by helping to backfill with American-made and NATO-standard weapons. I understand the administration may be finally coming around to support this but, again, at the stately pace of bureaucracy. This needs to get done and get done yesterday.

(Mr. PADILLA assumed the Chair.)

Meanwhile, the Congress is acting; that includes additional security assistance funding for Ukraine and for our eastern flank NATO allies in the supplemental appropriations bill, along with funding for loan guarantees to help eastern flank countries buy American weapons to shore up our collective defenses.

I appreciate the Democratic leader working in good faith to accommodate my request that the funding bill significantly increase the security assistance drawdown fund available to the President and to backfill our DOD stockpiles that are helping our friends in harm's way. I hope we finalize those steps soon.

This supplemental is urgent, but the fact is, the White House has, thus far, taken steps to limit their own options and made them miss the window to provide impactful assistance. This administration not only reportedly refused a request prior to the conflict to increase the number of U.S. military trainers in the country but moved the advisers we had to the far west of the country and then pulled them from the country entirely, like they also pulled out our entire diplomatic mission.

These noncombat advisers could have helped facilitate more shipments of weapons to the field and more training to teach Ukrainians how to use them. They could have laid important logistical groundwork to ensure weapons could continue to flow through the frontlines after the conflict began.

In area after area, the record shows the Biden administration pulled their punches, even though everyone knew—knew—that the war was coming, and even so, the Ukrainians are mounting an incredible and brave resistance.

Imagine where these brave people might be now if the administration had moved at the speed of necessity rather than the snail's pace of bureaucracy. Now we must commit to keep lethal aid flowing.

We have to continue strengthening NATO and deepening our security partnerships and interoperability with other European partners. We need to encourage more commitments like the German Chancellor's recent announcement that they will massively step up their investment in their own defense and in NATO. And perhaps most important of all, we cannot have Washington politicians in the business of short-changing our own defense spending at the very time when we are pleading with Western Europe to increase theirs.

We have to lead by example and make the kind of robust investments needed for long-term competition with Russia and China.

In the meantime, the sobering reality is that Ukraine is very likely to see more and escalating brutalities in the days and the weeks ahead. The world remembers the butchery in Grozny and the cold-blooded targeting in Aleppo, and the world will remember this moment as Russia sics conscripts on Ukrainian civilians and arrests its own people when they object.

For all of the Kremlin's lies about Ukraine, about how it is supposedly just an extension of Russia and its people are really Russians, we now know for certain that Russians and Ukrainians do have, in fact, at least one thing in common: Vladimir Putin considers their lives equally disposable.

BIDEN ADMINISTRATION

Mr. President, now on a related matter, the price of gas jumped more in the past week than any week on record. This, of course, began long before Russia invaded Ukraine. Even before that, families across America were paying dramatically higher gas prices than they faced when President Biden took office. I expect our Democratic friends will now try to blame the entire increase in prices on our efforts to punish on Russia, but don't be fooled. This is more than a year in the making.

Back in November, President Biden's Secretary of Energy was asked about any efforts—any efforts—to ramp up production of our own abundant American energy, and she literally laughed at the question. ''That is hilarious,'' Secretary Granholm said.

The Secretary suggested that increasing domestic production would be futile because the market for oil is global. Well, it sure is. But right now the free world is considering making this market a little bit less global to punish Russia for its brutal conquests in Ukraine.

So it would sure be nice if America had gone into this crisis with more headroom on supply and on gas prices. Just 3 years ago, under Republican policies, we had become a net oil exporter for the first time since World War II.

But Democrats are completely committed to their ideological holy war on affordable energy. From the campaign trail, then-candidate Biden promised, ''I guarantee you we are going to end fossil fuel.'' And in office, the Biden administration has used its considerable Executive authority to actively target affordable American-made oil and natural gas.

On his first day in office, the President canceled the pipeline project that would have sped the safe transport of reliable fuel. The very next week, he suspended all new Federal leases on oil and natural gas exploration.

So Washington Democrats spent months trying to pass policies that would drive the most affordable, reliable, and abundant forms of America energy—and the jobs they support—literally into extinction.

Just yesterday, as even our Western European friends are realizing that green fantasies can't fuel their countries and are trying to turn back toward nuclear, coal, and domestic natural gas, Biden administration officials gave a press conference where they repeated the same—the very same—platitudes about renewables.

You really can't make this stuff up. The Democrats in charge of the United States of America want us to embrace the same failed strategies from which our European friends are frantically backpedaling as fast as they can.

So while the Ukrainians are fighting Russia, Democrats are trying to fight a war on the law of supply and demand. They only want to have to look at solar panel and windmills here at home. So they want to get our oil and gas from everywhere else, but many of the biggest players in the global market are countries that don't much care for the United States. And now the Biden administration's green hostility to domestic energy production has been going hat in hand begging our antagonists to increase production. After spending a year hammering America's own energy producers, the Biden administration appears to be commencing a world tour to try to buy oil from people who don't like us.

As I mentioned yesterday, the administration appears close to a deal that would help Iran enrich more nuclear material and enrich its economy by lifting oil export sanctions.

Reports also suggest U.S. officials have met with the Maduro regime with the aim of relaxing sanctions on Venezuelan oil as well. This administration wants to ramp up energy imports from Iran and Venezuela? That is the world's largest state sponsor of terror and a thuggish South American dictator, respectively.

So they would rather buy from these people than buy from Texas, Alaska, or Pennsylvania. Just let that sink in.

The administration is also apparently making similar overtures to Saudi Arabia. Obviously, the Saudis are not an adversary like these other countries, but I doubt the American people are thrilled to see President Biden trying to increase our dependence on Middle Eastern oil and OPEC while declaring America's own resources off limits.

A green light for the Arabian Gulf and a red one for the Gulf of Mexico—what sense does that make? The political left thinks that affordable energy is dirty and bad so they are happy to export the dirty work and import the oil. Let's ask our friends in Europe how that plays out.

Outsourcing even more production to dictators and theocrats is not the answer. Dumping more subsidies into solar panels and charging stations, praying everything works out, is not the answer. The answer is to let Americans produce American energy.

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

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

INFLATION

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, it took several months and the worst inflation in 40 years, but finally—finally—Democrats are acknowledging that we have an inflation problem.

The President actually acknowledged inflation in the State of the Union last week. But, unfortunately, while Democrats may finally be talking about inflation, they still don't seem to understand how we got here, and they are continuing to push a whole raft of terrible proposals that would hurt working families and make our inflation crisis even worse.

So how did we get here? Why are Americans currently struggling with huge grocery bills and big price increases on essential goods? It is true that supply chain issues and the reopening of economies after COVID shutdowns created certain inflationary pressure, but a big part of the reason things are so bad in the United States right now is because of the American Rescue Plan spending spree the Democrats passed last March.

When Democrats took office last January, inflation was at 1.4 percent, well within the Fed's target inflation rate of 2 percent. And it might have stayed there had Democrats not decided that they needed to pass a massive partisan $1.9 trillion spending spree under the guise of COVID relief—mere weeks, I might add—after Congress had already passed a major COVID bill. That is right. President Biden and congressional Democrats took office right after Congress had approved a fifth—fifth—bipartisan COVID relief bill, and it was abundantly clear that we were not in immediate need of trillions more in government spending.

But that didn't matter to Democrats. Now that they were in control of Congress and the White House, they wanted to take advantage of the COVID crisis. So in the name of COVID relief, they pushed through a massive partisan piece of legislation filled with unnecessary spending and handouts to Democratic interest groups.

And, of course, the results were predictable. The bill flooded the economy with unnecessary government spending, and the economy overheated as a result. In the words of Jason Furman in a January New York Times article, '' 'The United States has had much more inflation than almost any other advanced economy in the world,' said Jason Furman, an economist at Harvard University and former Obama administration economic adviser. The difference, he said, comes because 'the United States' stimulus is in a category of its own.' ''

Unfortunately, Democrats seem unable—or unwilling—to recognize that it was their policies that helped push us into our current inflation crisis. In fact, the President used his State of the Union Address to push for even more—more—excessive government spending, a sure way of making our inflation crisis even worse—and not just increased in spending but major new entitlements.

Yes, our Nation is massively in debt, inflation is soaring, and Democrats think now is a good time to create major new entitlements, and, of course, to raise taxes to pay for them. The President claims that he won't raise taxes on anyone making less than $400,000, but that is not actually the case. Analysis of Build Back Better proposals reveals more than one tax hike would hit Americans with incomes below $400,000. And then there are the indirect costs.

A centerpiece of the President's tax plans is increasing taxes on corporations. While that may sound like a tax hike on the uber rich, the truth is that the burden of corporate tax hikes would fall heavily on ordinary workers in the form of lower wages, decreased job opportunities and retirement savings, and a less vibrant economy.

The President likes to talk about tax fairness, about hiking taxes on corporations and wealthy Americans so that they pay ''their fair share.'' Of course, he ignores the fact that wealthy Americans pay a disproportionately large share of taxes in this country and that the Federal Government has seen a huge increase in corporate tax receipts, thanks in part to business growth in the wake of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act.

All that aside, I find the President's call for wealthy Americans to pay their fair share highly ironic considering the Democrats managed to include a tax break for wealthy Americans in their Build Back Better plan. That is right. The Democrats' SALT proposal would overwhelmingly—overwhelmingly—benefit affluent taxpayers in high-tax States. Apparently, making wealthy Americans pay their fair share only applies to wealthy Republican Americans or until wealthy Democrats start asking for tax breaks.

On the corporate tax side, in the State of the Union Address, the President highlighted the corporate minimum tax he is proposing. What he didn't mention was that his corporate minimum tax isn't actually a minimum tax at all. Thanks to the clean energy and affordable housing tax credits the President is advocating, among other credits, companies that take action on Democrats' preferred policies could end up completely evading Biden's so-called minimum tax. So much for making corporations pay their fair share.

In his State of the Union Address, the President highlighted ''the revitalization of American manufacturing.'' He said, ''Companies are choosing to build new factories here when just a few years ago, they would have gone overseas.'' He said that in the State of the Union speech.

The revitalization of American manufacturing is, indeed, something to celebrate. But, unfortunately, President Biden wants to undo the very tax policies that helped create the conditions for this manufacturing renaissance in the first place.

Before Republicans passed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017, we were experiencing a wave of inversions, which is a wonky way of saying that companies were moving their headquarters overseas. Why were companies moving

overseas? Because of the punishing corporate tax system we had in the United States. Prior to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, the United States had the highest corporate tax rate in the developed world. That put American businesses at a real disadvantage next to their foreign counterparts, and it created a significant incentive for U.S. companies to move jobs or their entire companies overseas. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act addressed this problem by lowering our Nation's massive corporate tax rate and bringing the U.S. international tax system into the 21st century.

How did it work? Well, in the wake of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, inversions stopped—stopped—and as the President pointed out, companies are building here in America. To quote the President of the National Association of Manufacturers:

> Reducing tax rates drove historic growth in the manufacturing sector.

Unfortunately, if the President has his way, this manufacturing renaissance would likely drastically slow or come to an end altogether. Hiking taxes on American companies, as the President wants to do, would once again put American companies at a competitive disadvantage next to their foreign counterparts.

If the President hikes corporate taxes, we won't be seeing a surge of new building in America or companies keeping jobs here at home. Instead, we will be seeing fewer American jobs and more jobs and companies heading overseas. Democrats have already wreaked a lot of economic harm on American families with their American Rescue Plan spending spree. And the other policies that they are pushing and the tax hikes and new entitlements the President outlined in his State of the Union Address would prolong our inflation crisis and do further damage to our economy and to American workers and families.

I am glad the Democrats are finally recognizing that inflation is a problem, but it would have been nice if they could also recognize how their spending helped get us into this mess in the first place and how their current tax hike and spending plans would hurt Americans and result in a less prosperous economy in the future.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

IRAN

Mr. HAGERTY. Mr. President, much of the news media today is focused on Russia's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine—and rightfully so—but not enough attention is being paid to negotiations that are happening today and have been happening in Vienna.

The Biden administration seems dead set on reviving, at any cost, the Iran nuclear deal. Worse, President Biden's chief negotiator Rob Malley—who, I observe, is not a Senate-confirmed official—outsourced our negotiations for reviving this flawed Iran deal to the Russians. This is outrageous.

Let me get this straight. We are working hand in glove with Vladimir Putin to reach a deal that will help Russia evade sanctions being imposed for its aggression in Ukraine and work with its ally Iran.

This is not the way to protect the safety and the interest of the American people.

This is what Russia's chief negotiator to the Iran talks had to say about what he has accomplished for the Biden administration:

> I am absolutely sincere in this regard when I say that Iran got much more than it could expect, much more.

He recently told reporters, adding:

> Realistically speaking, Iran got more than, frankly, I expected or others expected. This is a matter of fact.

Again, this is Russia's chief negotiator making this statement.

Most alarmingly, this revived deal would pave Iran's path to a nuclear weapon. News reports also suggest that the revived deal would quickly unleash $90 billion in frozen funds to Iran—again, the world's biggest state-sponsor of terrorism. Moreover, Iran can expect to earn roughly $50 billion annually in renewed oil exports.

It is unconscionable that the Biden administration appears more eager to unleash the energy production in Venezuela and Iran than right here in America. The Biden administration is so stubborn and blinded by its ideological green energy fantasies that it would rather work with terrorists and dictators—folks with some of the worst human rights records in history—than admit it was a mistake to abandon America's energy independence. This administration would rather work with killers than with American drillers.

As before, the Iranian regime will use this massive windfall of sanctions relief to fund terrorism and aggression against our ally Israel, against our Arab partners, and against Americans serving in the Middle East.

Let me be clear. The Trump administration was right to withdraw us from the Iran nuclear deal in May of 2018. But I am not here today to debate the pros and cons of resurrecting the Iran deal. We will likely have that debate in the days to come, probably sooner than most people think.

Rather, I am here today to argue for preserving the role that Congress—amid concerns that the Biden administration will not submit their new Iran nuclear deal for review and for an up-or-down vote—that Congress must maintain its role as required by U.S. law.

If news reports are to be believed, the Biden administration may be nearing the end of negotiations for an agreement to resuscitate the Iran deal. As Reuters reported recently:

> The draft text of the agreement, which is more than 20 pages long, stipulates a sequence of steps to be implemented . . .

In 2014 and 2015, many lawmakers passionately argued that the original Iran deal should have been submitted to the Senate as a treaty, requiring our advice and consent under the U.S. Constitution. But because the Obama administration refused to follow the Constitution, Congress was compelled to enact the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act, or INARA. INARA passed the Senate in a 99-to-1 vote—99 to 1. This is nearly unanimous, a bipartisan vote that reflects how frustrated the Senate is that the executive branch was trying to circumvent Congress on such an important matter. INARA clearly requires that any agreement—I repeat, any agreement—related to the nuclear program of Iran should be submitted to the Senate and to the House for congressional review, including for an up-or-down vote.

It is beyond debate that the Biden administration is required by law to submit any new agreement for reviving the Iran deal to Congress for congressional review, but the Biden administration has not clearly committed that it will submit whatever agreement it is negotiating in Vienna for our review and an up-or-down vote by Congress.

If the Biden administration refuses to submit its new Iran agreement to Congress, it will be ignoring the law and undermining the role of this body in foreign policy.

Last year, I was concerned this might happen. That is why I introduced the Iran Sanctions Relief Review Act of 2020. My bill borrows a provision from the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act, or CAATSA, an act that overwhelmingly passed Congress in 2017.

The CAATSA provision allows for congressional review and an up-or-down vote on any Presidential waiver of Russia's sanctions. My bill takes word-for-word that same provision and applies it to any Presidential waiver of Iran sanctions. This is important because any new agreement to revive the Iran deal will require once again the executive branch to waive Iran sanctions. In other words, my bill protects the role of Congress if the executive branch ignores INARA and refuses to submit the new agreement to the Senate and to the House.

So far, 37 Senators have cosponsored the Iran Sanctions Relief Review Act with me. This number is significant because 37 Senators would be more than enough to deny the Senate's advice and consent if the executive branch actually followed the Constitution and presented a new Iran agreement to the Senate as a treaty.

I urge my colleagues who have not yet cosponsored the Iran Sanctions Relief Review Act to join me and to do so. We must protect the first branch of government from an executive branch that seeks to encroach upon it or even to ignore it.

I also remind the Biden administration, the Iranian regime, and the world of a fact that should be patently obvious by now: Any agreement to revive the Iran nuclear deal that lacks the Senate's advice and consent under the

Constitution—that is, that lacks the support of 67 Senators—will not survive multiple Presidential administrations. It will be ripped up just like it was the last time. And I have zero doubt that, as before, the next Presidential administration will end this deal again and will snap back sanctions—with a vengeance—against the Iranian regime and those countries that were foolish enough to trade with it.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

POSTAL SERVICE REFORM ACT

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have come to the floor to speak in support of the Postal Service Reform Act, which is now pending before the Senate.

The mission of the U.S. Postal Service since the Continental Congress appointed Benjamin Franklin as our Nation's first Postmaster General in 1775 has been to ''bind the Nation together.''

So it sounds kind of like a pretty quaint, outdated idea, but it is actually serious; it is actually statutory.

And 39 U.S.C. tasks the Postal Service with binding our Nation together by delivering all of our mail to every American promptly, reliably, and efficiently, no matter where we live.

The Postal Service Reform Act will improve the Agency's ability to meet that requirement, including in large, geographically remote places, like Alaska, where it certainly has a significant impact on our lives.

We count on the Postal Service to deliver not only the letters and the magazines and the bills, but also necessities of life: food, medicine, business inventory, spare parts. Just about anything you could possibly think of for daily life comes to us in Alaska through the mail service.

The Postal Service is unique in its universal service obligation and the fact that it delivers both mail and packages to Americans in every community, whether you live in Key West, FL, or Utqiagvik, AK. No other Federal Agency or commercial enterprise does this.

But it is becoming more and more difficult for the Postal Service to accomplish the swift completion of their appointed rounds, as we recall.

And believe me, I certainly hear about the Postal Service's decreasing ability to provide its services promptly, reliably, and efficiently. I hear about it as soon as I get off the airplane when I get back home. I hear from individuals all over the State, telling me the concerns that they have about mail that is late or perhaps not delivered at all.

Our phones ring in our offices around the State because a small post office has been closed for a period of days because the postmaster has left, and there is no replacement available.

I hear about the long lines to pick up mail, the long lines to just even buy a stamp in some of our smaller communities that get inundated by tourists in the summer.

So we know. We hear the strains on our Postal Service. Despite postal workers' dedication, the fact of the matter is that the Agency is in trouble, and it needs the reforms that are contained in the bill that is pending before us.

While many Americans believe the Postal Service is supported by the American taxpayer, that is not the case. Congress only reimburses it for mailing audio books to the blind and ballots to overseas voters. That is it.

The Postal Service has to meet its payroll and fund retiree health benefits; maintain its facilities, equipment, and vehicles; deliver the mail to its destination on time with its own revenue from the sale of postage. But their financial instability is making those responsibilities harder and harder to fulfill.

So we are debating this legislation on the floor today to give the Postal Service the tools that it needs to be successful and to fulfill its essential mission and to hold the USPS accountable for improved performance because we all want to see that.

So this legislation that we will hopefully vote on later today is not without controversy. Reform legislation is never without controversy, but that is why I appreciate the opportunity to outline what I think are some of the positive provisions.

Importantly, the bill increases the Postal Service's accountability for on-time delivery and requires greater transparency in achieving the goal. The bill requires that mail delivery not only be prompt and economical but also consistent and reliable and provided in a manner that increases operational efficiency.

It requires the USPS to develop a new, searchable public performance dashboard that is updated weekly so both Congress and the public can keep a close eye on whether or not they are living up to our expectations.

It also requires new regular reporting to the Postal Regulatory Commission, the PRC, and to Congress on a variety of indicators, including the impacts of price changes and information about reliability, efficiency, and cost effectiveness, Postal workforce recruitment and retention, and how investments in equipment and infrastructure are impacting service.

In addition, the PRC and the Postal Service's inspector general must identify why there are inefficiencies in the collection, sorting, transportation, and delivery of large envelopes, newsletters, and magazines.

These findings will be reported to Congress and the Postmaster General. USPS would then have 6 months to put in place PRC-approved changes that will fix whatever faults may have been found.

The bill will also do what many of us have advocated for, which is reform the cost of healthcare for USPS employees and their retirees.

So it provides needed stabilization for the USPS health benefits system, and, hopefully, it will relieve the pressure on their budget and support sustainable benefits for employees and retirees. This is a key provision.

The bill also codifies an appropriations rider that has long required the USPS to integrate the delivery of letters and packages for 6-day delivery and includes a fair compromise on the attribution of costs for processing and delivering packages.

One of the—I guess—top complaints that I hear from Alaskans is that the cost of shipping via commercial package services is oftentimes more than the price of the item itself. Integrated delivery of mail and packages saves the U.S. Postal Service money by allowing it to be more efficient.

And while UPS and FedEx charge most Alaskans extra for delivering their packages, these companies then drop their packages off in Anchorage at that hub and let the Postal Service take care of what we call last mile delivery. Well, in Alaska, that often means the last several hundred miles.

Now, some are concerned that USPS subsidizes the cost of packages with revenue derived from delivering letters. But in fact, the law that we passed in 2006, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, forbids the Postal Service from cross-subsidizing revenue to make sure that it is competing fairly with commercial package carriers.

Current law also requires that package delivery covers all of its attributable costs, and while the Postal Regulatory Commission and the Federal courts have examined and upheld the cost attribution methodology, the Postal Service Reform Act requires yet another look, which I think is probably a fair compromise.

Importantly for Alaskans and for me, this legislation will not result in cost increases for the essential bypass mail program. This is what it says it is. It is essential. It is a program that allows rural Alaskans who live in communities that are not connected by roads—about 80 percent of our communities are in that situation—but allows them to receive pallets of food, whatever necessary mailable matter that comes from stores in Anchorage or Fairbanks, without millions of individual boxes of goods going through Postal facilities. And that benefits the consumer, and it saves the Postal Service tens of millions of dollars a year in operating costs and untold millions in facility costs.

While the Postal Service Reform Act directs the PRC to engage in another review of attributable costs, I have

been assured by both sides of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, by the PRC, and by the Postal Service that this provision will not impact bypass mail, and I certainly intend to hold them to their word.

Another concern that I want to address over this bill is allowing USPS to partner with State, local, and Tribal governments to provide nonpostal services. Now, I understand where this comes from, but this legislation specifically requires that any nonpostal services must cover their own costs without any degradation to regular Postal services.

So, in my view, if the U.S. Postal Service can help deliver additional services to the American public under these two caveats, then they should be allowed to do so.

So H.R. 3076 is a big step forward in helping the Postal Service achieve financial stability. It will enable the Agency to continue to bind the Nation together with efficient and cost-effective universal service and allow postal employees to achieve the swift completion of their appointed rounds. It is supported by a wide array of businesses, both large and small, all who rely on our Postal Service. It is supported by Postal employees, by retired Federal employees, and the Postal Service itself.

It has received overwhelming bipartisan support in the House of Representatives. I certainly hope that it will draw the same here in the Senate, and I want to commend the chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, as well as Ranking Member PORTMAN, for the good work that they have done in bringing this bill to us today.

(Ms. ROSEN assumed the Chair.)

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Madam President, now, while I am still here on the floor, I want to take just a moment and acknowledge that today, March 8, marks International Women's Day.

This is a day for us to recognize the achievements and the contributions that women are making in communities across the globe, and, as an Alaskan, I am going to start local first, because I have got so many, many phenomenal women in my State who are doing incredible things, and I am exceptionally proud of them.

I was home over the weekend. We were celebrating the start of the 50th running of the Iditarod race. This is an extraordinary feat of just strength and grit and determination and resilience.

There were 49 mushers that left Willow on Sunday; 17 of those mushers who will make the trek to Nome are women—17 women. So we have got a very, very strong field, but running a race like this, where it is the musher and your team of dogs going through the wilderness of Alaska—we have got deep snow throughout. The moose are not in a very cooperative mood right now. There are dangers along the trail, and who knows what the conditions are going to be like a week from now. And so it takes an extraordinary individual.

And to know the strength of women, as they have taken on the Iditarod—when award-winning or world-renowned winner Susan Butcher first won that race—she has won that race four times—but when she ran it about three decades ago, there was a popular bumper sticker that was going around the State at the time. It was, ''Alaska, where men are men and women win the Iditarod.'' We were pretty proud of Susan Butcher. We are hoping that our women do well and all of our mushers do well.

But like these female mushers who are racing, women leaders are virtually in every field, from healthcare to resource development, to fishing, to our universities, and everything in between, and many of us are very proud to know that they have become somewhat household names, some of them.

This year, we were able to celebrate Emma Broyles, a young woman from Anchorage, 20 years old. She became the first Alaskan and the first Korean American to ever be crowned Miss America in the 100-year history of that event. So we are very proud of her. I was able to celebrate with her this weekend at the Iditarod itself.

Another young woman that we have celebrated this past year is Lydia Jacoby. Lydia is from Seward, AK, and at 17, she competed in her first Olympics. She brought home the gold medal for this country, winning the 100-meter breaststroke race. So we were all eyes on Lydia. So proud of her.

And there are so many who deserve our thanks and our gratitude. I always like to give a shout-out to an exceptional leader in our State, who has provided critical leadership and guidance throughout the pandemic, Dr. Anne Zink.

It is so important to know that it is not necessarily finishing at the end of a race or a crown or a medal. It is just the endurance that goes with the day-to-day completion of your work.

I was on the floor just last month to recognize the work of Native civil rights advocate Elizabeth Peratrovich, who pushed the Territory of Alaska, our legislature at the time, to pass the first antidiscrimination act in the Nation. We did this in 1945. We are so proud of how she, as a Native woman leader, made our State and our Nation a more inclusive and more representative democracy.

So, today, on International Women's Day, it gives us an opportunity to recognize the impressive feats that women have taken on and have accomplished. It is a day to thank women for their daily contributions—again, both big, where they win the awards and they make the headlines, but also for those day-to-day contributions that they make to raising healthy, strong children, to being the fabric in the family, to being that contributor in the workplace.

But this isn't a day that we just look back and recognize those who have made great accomplishments. It is also a day that we look ahead at the work that we have to do to continue to advance equality and justice for all women.

Just down the hallway from here in the Rotunda is the Portrait Monument. We all see it; we walk by it; and maybe we don't even notice it anymore but take a look at it next time. We know the pioneering women who are represented on it: Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Susan B. Anthony.

But we need to look at it more carefully, and we need to remember there is a fourth bust that Adelaide Johnson did not sculpt, and the base of the monument is also unfinished. It is a reflection of the unfinished struggle for women's rights and equality.

So for all the progress that we have made, and we know it has been considerable, Madam President, as you are sitting in that chair and this woman from Alaska is addressing you—we have made great progress, but the struggle is unfinished.

The data documents the gaps in gender equality in our country, and too many women feel it firsthand in their daily lives. So on International Women's Day, I also want to remind the Senate of a couple important ways that we can help further women's rights.

And I am pleased that my colleague Senator CARDIN is on the floor at this moment because we have been working together. We have been working together to try to do this unfinished business when it comes to ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, to ensure women's equality is expressly recognized in our Constitution.

Three-quarters of the States have now ratified that amendment. Alaska did it back in 1972, Virginia most recently in 2020. I am hopeful that its time has come.

And to help facilitate that, Senator CARDIN and I have introduced a resolution to remove the arbitrary ratification deadline from the ERA so it can finally take effect. I think the Senate needs to take this resolution up and pass it like the House of Representatives did last year.

Another step—a critical step—that we must take now is the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act to help ensure that there is a path to justice for survivors of interpersonal violence.

I was very proud to introduce the new VAWA bill with Senator DURBIN, Senator ERNST, and Senator FEINSTEIN last month. I am pleased—so pleased—that we have 22 total cosponsors, 11 from each party.

Our bipartisan bill modernizes the nearly three decades' old Violence Against Women Act, and it reauthorizes important programs that provide services to survivors. It directs resources to prevent further violence and hold perpetrators accountable for their

actions. And it takes needed and important steps to address domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking.

I mentioned dating violence. We have a provision that I have included and we have named after an Alaskan victim of dating violence, and that is Breanna Moore.

We focused on improving access to medical forensics for victims of violence, including through training for medical professionals that will allow them to provide evidence-based and trauma-informed care.

We have a strong Tribal title in this VAWA bill. It builds on VAWA 2013 by closing the gaps in the law to protect Native people. The Tribal title also includes an Alaska pilot program which provides a targeted solution to help empower Tribes in a way that recognizes the unique and complex jurisdictional landscape that we have in my State. It is a recognition that Tribes are valuable partners. They are critical partners that can play a larger role in providing public safety while reducing the burden on my State.

As I have said many times before, there should be nothing—nothing—partisan about keeping people safe from violence. And our VAWA reauthorization is a result of many years of hard work and negotiations by advocates and stakeholders alike. I hope that we can consider this and pass this very, very soon.

I recognize the great work of Senator ERNST on our side and Senator DURBIN and Senator FEINSTEIN on the other side of the aisle. It has been an effort that is timely, is needed, and is necessary.

So I am happy to be able to recognize, for just a few moments on this International Women's Day—as we celebrate the many, many incredible women in our lives and in our country, we also recognize that our work for true equality remains unfinished, but we have got some good paths forward if we can just try.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, first, let me thank Senator MURKOWSKI for her leadership on behalf of women's issues here in the U.S. Senate. I join her in calling for the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women's Act. I am glad that she mentioned that. I join her as her partner in the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. We have to pass a resolution here extending the date. Senator MURKOWSKI has been a leader on all these issues.

During Women's History Month, I am using this time to point out the progress we have made. Senator MURKOWSKI mentioned that we have made tremendous progress on behalf of gender equality in the United States, but we still have a path in front of us. I was pleased to see Senator MURKOWSKI point out the challenges that still exist and the reason why we need to be active in regard to gender equity issues, including the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. So I thank her for her leadership, and I am glad to be her partner on many of these issues.

So today, we can celebrate the progress that has been made and call attention to the obstacles that exist. Throughout our Nation's history, generations of women have won hard-fought battles in pushing closer and closer toward securing full citizenship and all that entails.

Our Nation today is stronger from this progress, reaching new milestones in gender equality. President Biden announced earlier this month his historic selection of Judge Jackson to fill the role of the retiring Supreme Court Justice Breyer on the highest Court in our land. Judge Jackson would be the first Black woman to serve on the Court and only the fifth woman to serve as a Justice of the total of 115 who have served on the Supreme Court throughout our history.

I was pleased, along with Senator VAN HOLLEN, to recommend Lydia Griggsby to serve on the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland. She is the first Black female judge to serve in the State of Maryland.

Yes, we have a lot to celebrate during Women's History Month here in March.

During President Biden's recent State of the Union Address, which I attended, I was struck by the image of House Speaker NANCY PELOSI and Vice President KAMALA HARRIS flanking President Biden. Vice President HARRIS is our first woman and first woman of color to hold the second highest office in the land. Though they undoubtedly both experienced significant challenges and obstacles on their career path due to their gender, they are now serving in two of the highest ranking offices in our government.

President Biden has appointed one of the most diverse Cabinets in history, including the first women to serve as Treasury Secretary and Director of National Intelligence.

We have a lot to celebrate on our path for gender equality in America, but we still have more that needs to be done.

At the same time, structural disadvantages and inequalities on account of gender persist across so many areas here in America. As one example, as chair of the Small Business Entrepreneurship Committee, where the Presiding Officer also serves, I have been working over the course of the COVID–19 pandemic to understand the economic effects on small businesses and to help provide needed resources. In this role, I have seen firsthand the structural disadvantages experienced by women-owned small businesses and how they have been compounded by the challenges of this pandemic. We need to take action to help in regard to that issue.

Further, the Supreme Court actions to date in cases related to reproductive freedom indicate an alarming openness to overturning the precedents that have given women control over their own bodies and futures for decades. Among many other very important reasons, full reproductive autonomy is essential in ensuring that women are able to participate fully as citizens in all facets of our democracy.

I am pleased that President Biden established the first Gender Policy Council to advance gender equity across the entire Federal Government and that the Gender Policy Council issued the first-ever national gender strategy to support the full participation of all people, including women and girls in the United States and around the world.

Yes, we have unfinished business in regard to gender equity issues. I am committed to working to advance the Equal Rights Amendment that Senator MURKOWSKI talked about. The two of us are the lead sponsors of the resolution in this body that would remove the arbitrary time limit.

This simple amendment, the Equal Rights Amendment, first written by Alice Paul in 1923, states:

> Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of sex. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

I can't understand any objection to including that fundamental protection in the Constitution of the United States.

As President Biden stated in his Presidential Proclamation during this Women's History Month, ''But despite the progress being made, women and girls—especially women and girls of color—still face systemic barriers to full participation and wider gaps in opportunity and equality . . . The Congress sent the Equal Rights Amendment to the States for ratification 50 years ago and it is long past time that the principle of women's equality should be enshrined in our Constitution.''

And as Senator MURKOWSKI said, the requisite number of States have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution. The arbitrary time limit that was put on by Congress is the only reason we haven't had a certification process.

The vast majority of Americans agree with this principle today. A 2020 AP poll found that 74 percent of Americans—74 percent—favor the Equal Rights Amendment. A second spring poll conducted by Pew found that 78 percent of respondents were in support of adding women to the Constitution. In a nation as divided as ours has become, a principle with this level of support on this important topic compels our attention and our action.

Given that so much has changed since this amendment was first written and since it was first proposed by Congress to the States, it is worth explaining some of the practical effects it

could have if formalized today. First, it would expand legal recourse against gender discrimination. Second, it would empower those of us in Congress to enact stronger laws preventing gender discrimination across a wide array of issues. Third, it would require the Supreme Court—or courts—to use a higher standard of review than is currently applied in the cases of gender discrimination.

The ratification of the ERA could be expected to have effects across such diverse areas as pay discrimination, LGBTQ rights, gender-based and domestic violence, sexual harassment, and more. This constitutional amendment would provide a firmer foundation for existing laws and create new authority for Congress to pass laws in areas in which it has historically lacked a constitutional prerogative.

Our Constitution is a framework of, by, and for the people. It must be able to evolve to meet the changing views and beliefs of the people. Already a majority of the U.S. Senate has cosponsored the bipartisan resolution that I referred to, S.J. Res. 1, that Senator MURKOWSKI and I introduced to remove the procedural deadline that Congress once set to honor the clear will of the people and to make the legitimacy of our 28th Amendment clear beyond a doubt.

The House of Representatives has already passed this resolution twice. It is time for us to do the same. I look forward to the opportunity to bring this resolution to the floor in the coming months and would strongly urge every one of my colleagues to support that resolution. Thirty-eight States have already ratified it. Most Americans already think it is in our Constitution. Let's get that job done.

BICENTENNIAL BIRTH OF HARRIET TUBMAN

Madam President, March 8, as has been pointed out, is International Women's Day. It happens during the month of March, which is Women's History Month, here in the United States.

I wish to commemorate the bicentennial birth of one of Maryland's most iconic leaders, a true American hero who has inspired global human rights' defenders, and that is Harriet Tubman.

As we close this year's chapter of Black History Month and ring in Women's History Month, what better way to celebrate these annual observances than by honoring the valor, journey, and life of Harriet Tubman and her fight for freedom, which intersects with our modern-day fight for civil rights, climate action, and environmental justice.

Harriet Tubman was born Araminta Ross in Dorchester County, MD, along our Eastern Shore, around 1822. She was the ''Moses of her people,'' personally leading at least 70 enslaved people to freedom. She is a cherished daughter of Maryland. She did this at great personal sacrifice to her own safety and freedom on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

This year, in 2022, we observe the bicentennial of the start of her life as a key leader in the abolition and women's suffrage movements. She embodied extraordinary courage and took immeasurable risks as a soldier, spy, and conductor on the Underground Railroad, leading her family and communities to freedom. In an unjust country to her race, she was there, working for America's future and helping to liberate the enslaved people.

In Maryland, this year also marks the 5-year anniversary of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Visitor Center, which opened its doors to the public in 2017. In its first year, it drew nearly 100,000 visitors from every State and more than 70 countries, exceeding all expectations. It is inspirational to see this visitor center and to see her journey through life and what she was able to accomplish. One person can make a difference. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., told us frequently, ''Each one of us in this world can make a difference.'' Harriet Tubman made such a difference throughout her lifetime.

The visitor center houses exhibit space that shares Tubman's compelling story, surrounded by landscape and waterways preserved to resemble how they would have appeared to her over 200 years ago in her early life as an enslaved child, young woman, and freedom seeker. The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Monument and National Historical Park preserve these characteristics in her early home on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

The visitor center serves as an orientation center to the national monument and historical park and gateway to the larger Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Scenic Byway, which includes the Brodess Farm, where Harriet Tubman lived as a child; Bucktown General Store, where she first stood up against the oppressors as a young girl; and other places that were part of the Underground Railroad in Dorchester, Talbot, and Caroline Counties.

I recently introduced legislation with my colleagues in the Baltimore congressional delegation, S. 3744, reauthorizing the designations of the Baltimore National Heritage Area, which encompasses listings on the Underground Railroad network.

Harriet Tubman was not only a fierce defender for freedom from slavery but also for the women's rights movement, particularly for Black women. Following her treacherous journey to freedom, Harriet Tubman spoke on the importance of women's suffrage in New York, Washington, and Boston. In 1896, she was one of the first guests to speak at the National Association of Colored Women and was hailed a strong advocate. Women secured the right to vote in 1920 with the 19th Amendment, but it wasn't until 1965 that voting rights became a reality for Black women.

Let me conclude my comments on Women's History Month by once again quoting from President Biden.

As President Biden proclaimed Women's History Month this month, he said:

As we reflect on the achievements of women and girls across the centuries and pay tribute to the pioneers who paved the way, let us recommit to the fight and help realize the deeply American vision of a more equal society where every person has a shot at pursuing the American dream. In doing so, we will advance economic growth, our health and safety, and the security of our Nation and the world.

I yield the floor.

## RECESS

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now recess until 2:15 p.m.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 12:19 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

## POSTAL SERVICE REFORM ACT OF 2022—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Arkansas.

HONORING SERGEANT JOSHUA CAUDELL

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I have the privilege of being with my fellow Senator, TOM COTTON, as we rise today to honor two Arkansans who gave their lives in service to others recently.

Arkansas Department of Corrections Officer Sergeant Joshua Caudell was a member of the department's K–9 team who responded to a call to assist his fellow law enforcement officers with a disturbance call.

During the course of searching for a suspect, Sergeant Caudell was shot and later died from his injuries. Born in Little Rock and raised in Redfield and White Hall, Sergeant Caudell was a White Hall High School graduate of the class of 2011.

Service was something that defined his life. In high school, he participated in the school's ROTC program. He then went on to serve in the Army National Guard and is a 10-year veteran of the Arkansas Department of Corrections with a variety of units.

He also served his family with deep care and devotion. As a loving husband and father, Sergeant Caudell put his wife and children above all else. They shared a special bond and never left any doubt about how much they meant to each other.

His friends describe Sergeant Caudell as a kind, generous person who was a real-life hero. He loved to fish and grill, cheer on his daughter's softball team, ride horses with his fellow Department of Corrections field officers, and support the Arkansas Razorbacks.

His sacrifice in the name of protecting the community and enforcing the rule of law will never be forgotten.

We are so grateful for his example and willingness to do the tough and dangerous job of ensuring public safety.

HONORING JASON LANG

Madam President, sadly, the Natural State lost another first responder in

the last few days, West Memphis firefighter Jason Lang.

Lang was traveling to another city for an EMT training class when he stopped to provide assistance to others involved in a traffic accident. He was struck by an 18-wheeler while rendering aid.

Originally from Iowa, Jason Lang was an Eagle Scout and a volunteer firefighter who was just starting his adult life. We were fortunate that his path brought him to Arkansas, where he was eager to begin serving the West Memphis community.

Lang was an enthusiastic and promising young man who, on day one, wanted to be an integral part of the important work that first responders do to help support those in need. He learned that example from his own family, with a father who served as a police officer for decades and a brother who is a volunteer firefighter.

He may have only been with the West Memphis Fire Department for a few months, but his chief recalled viewing him as a future leader in the organization from the first time that they met. His heroic and selfless actions will be admired and appreciated for years to come.

Those who perform such acts do so without regard for their own safety, which is the hallmark of public service. So today, we remember both Sergeant Joshua Caudell and firefighter Jason Lang for what they gave to their respective communities: themselves, totally and unflinchingly.

We regret that their actions were necessary, but we will be forever grateful that these two men did not hesitate to put their own safety aside in the name of protecting and helping others.

I join with Senator COTTON and so many others to share our gratitude and admiration for these heroes, as well as our sorrow that they paid the ultimate price in the line of duty.

We pray for their loved ones and colleagues as they mourn these fallen guardians who served others to the very end.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, today, I stand with a heavy heart, alongside Senator BOOZMAN, to mourn the deaths of two great Arkansans, Arkansas Department of Corrections Sergeant Joshua Caudell and West Memphis firefighter Jason Lang. They both died as they lived: serving their fellow Arkansans.

Like every State, Arkansas is suffering terribly from the crime wave that has crashed across the country in the past 2½ years. Our men and women in law enforcement are on the frontline of this crisis, fighting against the forces of disorder, ridding our streets of poisonous drugs, facing down evil itself.

Sadly, too many in law enforcement have paid the ultimate price while protecting the innocent and fighting the guilty.

HONORING SERGEANT JOSHUA CAUDELL

Madam President, last Monday, another Arkansan lost his life as an officer in the line of duty.

The other week, Pulaski County Sheriff's deputies were asked to check on a woman who hadn't shown up to work that day. Her friends were concerned about her well-being and wanted to make sure she was safe. When the deputies arrived at the woman's house, an armed assailant opened fire, forcing them to take cover and call backup. The shooter managed to escape, and deputies then called in canine officers to find the would-be cop killer.

One of the officers assigned to this dangerous job was Sergeant Joshua Caudell. Sergeant Caudell helped track the shooter to a trailer not far away. Tragically, unknown to the officers, the shooter was lying in wait underneath the trailer. He once again opened fire on the police, this time hitting Sergeant Caudell and killing him.

Sergeant Caudell was 29 years old. He had a wife and three children. My prayers and Senator BOOZMAN's prayers reflect the prayers of all Arkansans going out to his family. We can only imagine their heartbreak and pain.

The heinous criminal who committed this murder is now in custody. He will face justice—stern, swift, and fair. And he must face the sternest justice possible because an attack on a law enforcement officer is also an attack on the rule of law, on order, on civilization itself.

Sadly, the slaying of Sergeant Caudell was not the only tragedy that befell our State in the last 2 weeks.

HONORING JASON LANG

Madam President, on Saturday, February 26, 20-year-old West Memphis firefighter Jason Lang was on his way to an EMT class when he saw that a stranger had gotten into a car accident. Exactly as you would expect from such a fine public servant, he pulled over, and he tried to help the crash victim. As he was selflessly helping the stranger, Jason was tragically struck by an 18-wheeler and killed.

Jason's death is a heartbreaking loss for our State. When Jason saw a fellow Arkansan in distress, he ran toward the danger. Every young boy and girl should aspire to serve their community with the same sense of bravery.

Today, all of Arkansas weeps red and blue. My heart and Senator BOOZMAN's heart goes out to all Arkansas firefighters and police officers who do so much for our State each and every day.

President Reagan said in his first inaugural address that ''those who say that we're in a time'' without heroes ''just don't know where to look.'' Jason Lang and Joshua Caudell were, indeed, heroes; and we can look to them, and we can honor their legacy. God bless them, God bless their families, and God bless the State of Arkansas.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—AMENDMENT NO. 4936

Mr. LEE. Madam President, the U.S. Postal Service is in dire trouble. The Government Accountability Office has listed its financial viability as high risk, and it has been in that status since 2009.

From 2007 until 2020, the Postal Service had losses of $86 billion and over $188 billion in unfunded liabilities and debt. From October to December of last year alone—just a few months—it lost $1.3 billion.

I think it is a mistake to rush postal reform now, when Congress should instead debate and consider the country's response to and role in the Ukraine-Russia situation. We could be responding to skyrocketing energy prices. Nevertheless, I do very much support dealing with the post office and reforming the post office. We have to do this.

Unfortunately, this bill falls far short in much more than just its timing. It does nearly nothing to make the Postal Service solvent.

I have offered 12 amendments. Sadly, my efforts, along with those of my Republican colleagues, have been blocked. But I can't just step aside without trying to make the bill better.

Today, I would like to briefly speak about just 2 of the 12 amendments I have filed, just two of them in particular, and ask that they be called up and voted on.

The first strikes a provision in the bill that would require the Postal Service to ''maintain an integrated network for the delivery'' of postal products and would require the disclosure of the rates that the USPS charges private companies for the last mile delivery of packages.

The term ''integrated network'' isn't defined in the bill, and it could be easily used to bundle or combine expenses, which would in turn allow the USPS to further disguise serious costs and make a proper accounting of certain products difficult or even impossible.

The simple idea of an ''integrated delivery network'' may seem benign—and the term itself sounds friendly enough—but words do matter. Words in context and their meaning, these are things that matter.

This particular legislative text with no clear definition is ripe for abuse. Because the Postal Service is required to deliver to every American, even on unprofitable routes, the Postal Service may be charging lower than market rates in its service contracts with private companies. This may not only shortchange the Postal Service, making further taxpayer bailouts likely, but it could also distort competition in the package delivery market.

The American public deserves a proper accounting of Postal Service rates, and my amendment will ensure this disclosure is provided in a fully transparent manner.

My second amendment prohibits the Postal Service from shipping any ''abortion inducing drug.'' Chemical

abortions have four times the complication rate of surgical abortions and are far more likely to send women to the emergency room. Unfortunately, in December of 2021—just a few months ago—the Food and Drug Administration permanently rescinded a longstanding regulation that required healthcare professionals to dispense chemical abortion pills to patients in person, allowing them to be sent through the mail without even basic precautions to protect the life and health of the mother.

Not only does this policy change threaten the lives and the health of women, but it raises the disturbing possibility that perpetrators of sexual abuse may be further enabled to hide their crimes from legal authorities and health professionals through mail-order abortion.

Furthermore, because taxpayer dollars—particularly, over the last few years—have funded the Postal Service's operations, American taxpayer resources are funding abortion and putting women at risk. Congress must put an end to this and exercise its authority to ensure that the U.S. Government does not encourage or facilitate the use of these dangerous and lethal abortion drugs.

I also support the efforts of my many colleagues. Senator SCOTT's amendment would alleviate some of the financial burdens that this bill would impose on taxpayers and the Medicare Program by forcing the Postal Service to reimburse Medicare for all of the additional costs that would be created by requiring future postal retirees to enroll in Medicare.

Congress and the Postal Service have historically made bad policy and business decisions, and now, instead of fixing those or otherwise meaningfully addressing them, it is simply shifting millions of workers from coverage historically provided by an independent Federal Agency onto taxpayers more broadly.

The Postal Service and the American people deserve a thoughtful bill, one that reforms its key challenges, setting the Agency up for long-term success.

But without any amendments to change the trajectory, this bill only kicks the can down the road without making the serious changes that are needed today.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment and call up my amendment No. 4936. Further, I ask that the amendment be reported by number, that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided on the amendment, and that the Senate then vote on adoption of the amendment with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, the Postal Service Reform Act before us here today represents consensus on essential reforms for the U.S. Postal Service, overdue for over a decade.

This legislation will ensure the Postal Service can provide long-term, reliable, 6-day-a-week service across the country, and put it on stable financial footing.

This amendment changes key service protections in the bill and adds new harmful provisions tailored to special interests of Postal Service competitors.

Our bill requires the Postal Service to maintain its current standard of delivery at least 6 days per week. It is absolutely essential to protect 6-day delivery so the Postal Service can continue serving as a critical lifeline for countless communities that rely on the mail for medications, for rent payments, for critical supplies, for Social Security checks, and so much more.

This amendment would change how the Postal Service operates today by altering their integrated network that allows mail and packages to be delivered together. This is more efficient for both the Postal Service and for their customers.

Instead, this amendment seeks to undermine the Postal Service's ability to compete against private carriers that do not have the same requirements to deliver to every single community in the United States of America.

The amendment would also force publication of contract information to Postal Service competitors. This would give away commercially sensitive information to private carriers and provide an unfair advantage, when the Postal Regulatory Commission already reviews every Postal Service contract to ensure both compliance as well as fairness.

I appreciated Senator PORTMAN's thoughtful comments against changing the key service protections in this bill. It is time to pass this bipartisan legislation as drafted and getting it signed into law.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, it is unfortunate that we are not able to vote on this. It is a simple measure, and contrary to the characterization by my friend and distinguished colleague, the Senator from Michigan, this is a simple transparency measure.

Look, the fact that there are people within the Postal Service reviewing the contracts doesn't solve the underlying problem. What we want is transparency. What we want to know is that the Postal Service isn't setting up contracts that are sweetheart deals to some companies, allowing them to be enriched on the backs of the American taxpayer and the consumer who uses the Postal Service. It is not too much to ask.

So it is unfortunate that we can't. All I want is a vote on that. We ought to be able to vote on it. It makes me wonder: What are they afraid of? What is the Postal Service so afraid of? What is the harm that can come from the American people knowing how these things operate? What is the harm that can come from striking a provision that is vague and ripe with opportunities for abuse—strike that and replace it with transparency provisions? We would all be better off. So that is unfortunate.

I do think we ought to consider that and also another amendment.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—AMENDMENT NO. 4937

Madam President, to that end, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment and call up amendment No. 4937; further, that the amendment be reported by number, that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided on the amendment, and that the Senate then vote on adoption of the amendment with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, this bill is limited to absolutely essential, consensus, bipartisan reforms that are necessary to ensure that the Postal Service can survive and can continue delivering for the American people.

Everything in this bill has bipartisan agreement. This bill passed the House by a vote of 342 to 92. It has broad support from the public, from the business community, and other stakeholders.

In contrast, this amendment is inflammatory and unnecessary to the postal bill. It is meant to be a poison pill. It would add abortion-inducing drugs to the list of nonmailable matter under postal law.

Under current law, the list of nonmailable matter includes items ranging from grenades to explosives, to controlled substances and narcotics.

However, the Postal Service is free to mail any FDA-approved drugs that are prescribed by healthcare providers and sent by either a pharmacy or a doctor.

There are no other FDA-approved medications that are prohibited from being mailed to patients in need.

This amendment is an attack on reproductive rights that would make it more difficult for women and families to safely access critical medical care, and it imposes an unnecessary hardship on women and families who are accessing their care using telemedicine, especially during a pandemic.

This amendment simply has no place in a bipartisan postal reform bill.

Madam President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, here again is an amendment. The Senate has to get back to the practice of amending bills. I understand not everybody is inclined to agree on it. I understand the abortion issue is tough for a

lot of people. They don't want to talk about it. But, look, until a few months ago, these weren't available through the mail system anyway. They still shouldn't be. I believe those who made that decision to allow that over the last few months were overlooking the health and safety concerns that had previously prohibited those things from happening.

Regardless, it really is unfortunate we can't even vote on this. I understand not everybody agrees on the substance of the amendment, but what previously made the Senate the world's greatest deliberative legislative body was the ability of any one Member to bring up an amendment and have it voted on. I think that is unfortunate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—AMENDMENT NO. 4933

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, first, I want to thank my colleague Senator LEE from Utah for his leadership on these issues, trying to make sure that the legislation we pass is legislation that we all have the opportunity to participate in.

I have been disappointed that I am on the committee that deals with the Postal Service and we didn't even have a vote on this. I didn't have any opportunity in the committee to propose an amendment. It doesn't look like I am going to have an opportunity here to have my colleagues vote on an amendment, and I don't think that is right.

The amendment I am going to talk about today is cosponsored by Senators JOHNSON, GRASSLEY, BRAUN, and LANKFORD, and I want to thank them for their support.

I absolutely support getting something done to reform the Postal Service and ensure more accountability to taxpayers. Unfortunately, the bill before us doesn't do that.

This legislation would add at least $6 billion in new costs to Medicare without any plan to pay for it—$6 billion and no plan to pay for it—and at least $5 billion to our Federal debt, a debt that is already surging above $30 trillion. I think we all should say that is unacceptable.

This bill doesn't reduce costs; it just shifts them from one unfunded government program to another unfunded government program.

Let's remember, Medicare costs are already skyrocketing. Further jeopardizing Medicare is a disservice to the 60 million Americans, including 4.5 million Floridians, who rely on it. My amendment would fix this. It would just require the Postal Service to pay for any new costs to Medicare that this bill will bring. This would ensure that Medicare isn't used like a piggy bank and that the taxpayer and future nonpostal retirees aren't forced to bear the burden of this postal bailout. And the Postal Service should pay their fair share.

I want to make this next point very clear. My amendment is germane. It deserves a simple majority vote. It deserves a vote. I am thankful I have the support of groups like 60 Plus and the Association of Mature American Citizens that represent the interests of America's seniors.

I urge my colleagues to support this.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment and call up amendment No. 4933; further, that the amendment be reported by number, that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided on the amendment, and that the Senate vote on adoption of the amendment with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Madam President, I oppose the Scott amendment, which would gut the bipartisan Postal Service Reform Act by nullifying the Medicare integration proposal.

Medicare integration is an absolutely key part of this bipartisan bill to provide long-term financial stability for the Postal Service. My colleague Senator PORTMAN spoke recently about why these criticisms of Medicare integration are simply unfounded.

This bill simply provides for future postal retirees, who have already paid into Medicare throughout their entire careers, to enroll in Part B and Part D. Roughly a quarter of postal retirees do not enroll in Medicare even though they are eligible. This means the Postal Service is stuck paying higher premiums.

This bill simply allows the Postal Service to do what other businesses and employers already do all across our country by integrating these retirees into Medicare. This saves the Postal Service money and saves taxpayer money. This bill reduces the deficit over 10 years by nearly $1.5 billion.

CBO has also made clear that the bill does not affect the Part A trust fund and will not have any effect on Medicare Part B or Part D premiums.

Postal workers are already eligible for Part A, and the number of new postal workers going into Part B will be fewer than 40,000 individuals, and that compares to 62 million people currently in the program.

The Postal Service Reform Act does not harm Medicare. It provides savings to the Postal Service and to taxpayers. It allows the Postal Service to survive, regain stable financial footing, and keep delivering for every single American. We need to stop delaying this bill. We need to pass the bill.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Madam President, reserving the right to object, here is what I believe: We need to do everything possible to protect Medicare recipients and stop bankrupting our essential programs.

Senator JOHNSON has told me repeatedly that he has been asking for years. The Postal Service says they are putting all this money into Medicare, and he has had a simple request: How much money is the Postal Service paying for Medicare, and what are the recipients at the Postal Service receiving in benefits? No one can ever give an answer.

I asked for a CBO score. They said this is going to cost at least $6 billion, and it is going to increase our deficit by at least $5 billion.

So we have an unfunded program in the Postal Service, and we are going to move it and hurt our Medicare recipients.

My amendment—and I was told that this would not cost Medicare anything, so my amendment is pretty simple: whatever the incremental costs to Medicare are should be paid by the Postal Service. I mean, it is the Postal Service retirees; they are the ones who ought to pay for it.

So I don't understand why we wouldn't want to do this. I was told it was not going to cost anything.

By the way, the CBO score that is out there already says it is going to increase our deficit, and it is going to put our Medicare Program in worse shape. They can only give us numbers for the first 10 years. After 10 years, the numbers are going to be worse than the numbers I told you about.

So what I don't get is, one, why didn't we vote on this in the committee? Why didn't we have an opportunity to do an amendment there? Why don't we have an amendment vote on this on the floor? It is common sense.

I would think all of us would want to make sure we are not going to bankrupt Medicare, and all of us want to make sure that if it is going to cost Medicare anything, the Postal Service should pay for it.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

NOMINATION OF KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, late last month, President Biden announced the nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, the next Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

As I said the day her nomination was announced, it is hard to think of a better jurist to replace highly regarded Justice Stephen Breyer. Over the past 10 days, we have all had a chance to learn about her record, and last week I met with her in my office. I would like to share what impressed me the most about her.

First is her breadth of experience. A graduate of Harvard Law School, she has worked in private legal practice. She served as a Federal public defender and served on the U.S. Sentencing Commission. She has clerked at every level of the Federal judiciary: for Judge Patti Saris on the District of Massachusetts, Judge Bruce Selya on the First Circuit, and Justice Breyer on the Supreme Court. That is an amazing resume.

She went on to serve as a Federal district court judge. Currently, she sits on the DC Circuit, often regarded as the second highest court in the land. And once confirmed, she will be only the second current Supreme Court Justice with experience as a trial court judge.

That means Judge Jackson will bring to the Court insights into the issues confronting Federal district courts every single day. And these same questions often make it to the Supreme Court for final review.

Second, I was impressed with her character and temperament. They are unimpeachable. During our conversation last week, we spoke about her family, her daughters, her upbringing, and the highlights of her career. I particularly enjoyed one story, which she has told before, about a letter that her daughter wrote to President Obama a few years ago. In it, she asked the President to appoint her mother to the Supreme Court. Well, it may have taken a bit longer than Judge Jackson's daughter anticipated, I can only imagine how proud she is today.

My conversation with Judge Jackson also made clear that she has the exact temperament we need on the Court. She is personable, humble, approachable. That last attribute is particularly important for a Supreme Court Justice.

The Supreme Court should not be shrouded in secrecy and mystery. Its process and its decisions should be clear and easily understood for the people in the Court as well as for the American public. With Judge Jackson on the Court, we can trust that will be true.

Third, Judge Jackson is clearly—clearly—within the judicial mainstream. She has a record of evenhandedness and impartiality, guided by the Constitution, the law, and the facts of the case. She is not a partisan or an ideologue. She is independent in her thinking, and she will maintain the Court's proper role.

Don't take my word for it. Judges and lawyers from across the political spectrum have said the same thing. Consider the support Judge Jackson enjoys from David Levi, who was appointed by President George H. W. Bush to serve on the Eastern District of California.

He wrote to the committee, and he said a Supreme Court nominee ''must be neutral, nonpartisan, exercise self-restraint, model civility, and approach each case with an open mind and with a determination to reach as just, wise, and correct a result as possible.''

And he concluded that ''[b]ased on what I know of Judge Jackson . . . I believe she has been that kind of a judge and will be that kind of a Justice.''

I could not agree more. Often, I have seen my colleagues on the other side of the aisle in their initial reaction to the judge—Judge Jackson—have said, well, I want to know more about her judicial philosophy. Certainly, they can draw their own conclusions, but I hope that they will read what David Levi had to say as well as other conservative jurists.

Sadly, Judge Jackson has already been subject to a number of baseless attacks so let's set the record straight. First, she has drawn criticism for refusing to comment when asked whether the Supreme Court should remain at its current size. Well, Judge Jackson's exactly right not to offer an opinion. As a nominee to the Supreme Court and a sitting judge on the DC Circuit, it would be totally inappropriate for her to opine on a public policy decision that only we can make in Congress.

Indeed, Judge Jackson's handling of this question mirrors the approach taken by Justice Amy Coney Barrett just a few months back when she was nominated to the Court.

At her hearing, when then-Judge Barrett was asked about the size of the Court, she then responded, it is ''a question left open to Congress'' and that if there were a ''specific constitutional question'' about the Court's size, she ''could not opine on it.''

Judge Jackson also has faced offensive questions from figures on the far right about her qualifications. This past Wednesday, FOX News talking head Tucker Carlson demanded that President Biden produce Judge Jackson's score on the LSAT exam.

Mr. Carlson said he wanted to see Judge Jackson's LSAT score to gauge if she was, in fact, ''a once in a generation legal mind.''

Isn't it interesting that Mr. Tucker Carlson never once asked for LSAT scores of President Trump's nominees to the Court: Neil Gorsuch, Brett Kavanaugh, or Amy Coney Barrett. He never once questioned their qualifications to sit on the Court or their academic credentials.

Let's be clear: Judge Jackson graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University and cum laude from Harvard Law School. Not bad. As an undergrad, she received the Harvard College Scholarship for Academic Achievement. Let me repeat that—academic achievement. And she served as supervising editor on the Harvard Law Review.

Mr. Carlson, of course, is notorious for his outrageous comments. I don't expect he is going to offer any apology to Judge Jackson, but I would urge all my Republican colleagues to disavow his remarks and disassociate themselves from the innuendo.

We also continue to hear false allegations that Judge Jackson was handpicked by so-called liberal dark money groups. Once again, that claim is completely divorced from reality. The truth is this: President Biden undertook a rigorous process to select Justice Breyer's successor, seeking the advice of a bipartisan group of Senators. And after weeks of consideration, he, and he alone, chose Judge Jackson.

President Biden's selection process was deliberative, collaborative, and it took seriously the Senate's advice and consent role. It did not involve dark money groups. I can't help but note the irony of this line of attack coming from the other side of the aisle.

After all, it was President Donald Trump who bragged—bragged—that groups like the Federalist Society and Heritage Foundation actually drove his selection process for the Supreme Court.

As a candidate, Trump said:

> We're going to have great judges, conservative, all picked by the Federalist Society.

Trump, never at a loss for words, made it very clear where he went to find his nominee.

And Don McGahn, the Trump administration's first White House Counsel, said about the Federalist Society in judicial selection:

> I've been a member of the Federalist Society since law school. Still am. So, frankly, it seems like it has been insourced.

''Insourced'' was his word.

And it is worth adding that Republicans, including Senator MCCONNELL, have blocked every single effort to address the presence of hard money—dark money in our political system. We should have full disclosure. I support that. We are ready to vote on the floor. The leader on the Republican side resists.

Judge Jackson also has faced baseless claims that she is a partisan Democrat just nominated to rubberstamp the Biden agenda. These claims have no basis in fact. She is evenhanded and impartial, confirmed by the Senate on a bipartisan basis three different times, including last year.

If Judge Jackson were such a partisan, why would so many prominent conservatives be supporting her? The short answer is they wouldn't.

But she has that support and plenty of it, including from former Republican Speaker of the House Paul Ryan; retired DC Circuit Judge Thomas Griffith, a George W. Bush retiree; retired Fourth Circuit Judge Michael Luttig, a George H. W. Bush appointee; Bill Burck, a prominent Republican attorney who worked in the George W. Bush administration; Charles Fried, who served as Solicitor General during the Reagan administration, and many more.

These conservative jurists and attorneys have endorsed her precisely because she is independent and fair-minded. She will not rubberstamp any President's agenda. These conservative leaders know that on the Court, Judge Jackson will be faithful to the Constitution and the rule of law.

Finally, we hear the false allegation that Judge Jackson will be ''soft on crime.'' Look at her life, look at her record and at the support she now has from the law enforcement community.

As Judge Jackson noted in accepting the President's nomination, she has two uncles and a brother who serve as police officers. One of her uncles was chief of police in Miami.

On the bench, she has approached each criminal case in a manner that we

would ask of every judge. Look at the law; look at the facts.

It is not surprising that she has garnered the support of multiple law enforcement groups. This nominee, who is attributed as being soft on crime, has the endorsement of the Fraternal Order of Police. They wrote the following about her:

> We are reassured that, should she be confirmed, she would approach her future cases with an open mind and treat issues related to law enforcement fairly and justly.

Wouldn't we all be proud to have that endorsement for our pursuits?

Superintendent David Brown of the Chicago Police Department wrote:

> I have no doubt that if confirmed, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson's appointment will make history by adding a powerful, moderate, and informed voice to the highest court in the land.

As Senators and the American people continue to learn more about Judge Jackson and her amazing record, I hope and expect they will reach the same conclusion that leaders have reached all across America's political spectrum. Judge Jackson will be a strong, fair, principled, evenhanded, and impartial Supreme Court Justice.

In closing, let me say that we have scheduled the hearings of the Judiciary Committee to begin on March 21. That is 24 days after President Biden announced his nominee.

The previous Justice nominated for the Supreme Court, Amy Coney Barrett, under President Trump, was brought to the committee for a hearing in 16 days. So we are certainly within the window and beyond it in producing Judge Jackson on the 24th day.

We are also providing materials that have been requested, including documents from the U.S. Sentencing Commission, of which Judge Jackson was a member.

She will produce 12,000 pages of documents that are going to chronicle what happened in the Commission while she was serving. They include minutes and the Board's discussions of the important issues that are before us.

Lucky for all of us, it is a very transparent Agency, and they have lived up to that transparency with this disclosure.

In the meantime, the judge is going to do her best to meet with as many Senators as possible. She has prioritized those members of the Senate Judiciary Committee on the right and on the left, Democrats and Republicans, as well as other leaders in the U.S. Senate.

She is available, and I am certain that if my colleagues are fair in their appraisal, they will come to the same conclusion that I have come to. She is an excellent choice to be Justice Breyer's successor on the Supreme Court.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

ENERGY

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, over the last few decades, globalization has completely reshaped the international economic order. Economies around the world have become interconnected, relying on one another from agricultural products to energy, to manufacturing capabilities.

It seemed to be the rule of thumb that whoever could produce a product at the lowest price got the business and the jobs that went along with it.

But we are increasingly seeing vulnerabilities that this interdependence creates with some of the clearest examples surfacing during the COVID–19 pandemic.

The United States, for example, leans heavily on China for masks, gloves, and gowns, personal protective equipment, and for ventilators—all of which were absolutely necessary during the beginning of the pandemic and continuing on until today. But for a long time, that wasn't a problem, until COVID–19 showed up.

I still remember the phone call I had with the Governor of Texas, my friend Greg Abbott. At the beginning of the pandemic, I said, ''Governor, what do you need?'' He said, ''We need testing and we need PPE,'' personal protective equipment, almost all of which is made overseas in China.

China, as it turns out, held on to most of the supply for its own hospitals and healthcare workers, leaving the rest of the world to compete for the limited supply that remained.

Suddenly, we were unable to provide our healthcare providers with the personal protective equipment they needed to protect themselves while they served others—namely, the rest of us, their patients.

As supply chain struggles grew and expanded, it wasn't just medical equipment that proved to be a problem. Everything from cleaning products to automobiles were impacted.

We began to realize that one of the biggest vulnerabilities is semiconductors, which are critical components for our most used products: things like smart phones, computers, televisions, cars, airplanes, cell towers, and just about everything else with an off-and-on switch.

Again, the source of our chip supply didn't used to be a problem. About three decades ago, the United States manufactured 37 percent of the world's semiconductors. But as our reliance on these chips has gone up, our production has gone down; and today, instead of 37 percent of the world's semiconductors, the United States produces only 12 percent of the global share.

Again, these microcircuits have become invaluable in this technological age because, literally, everything with an off-and-on switch requires semiconductors—and I mean everything.

The lion's share of semiconductor manufacturing—more than 60 percent of the world's supply—is in Taiwan, which, as we know, is being threatened with invasion by the People's Republic of China. But it is not just the threat of armed invasion that risks that supply chain; it is also the possibility of another pandemic or a natural disaster.

This flashing red light has prompted the Senate to take action by passing the CHIPS for America Act, which I introduced along with the senior Senator from Virginia, Mr. WARNER, which was designed to incentivize U.S. semiconductor manufacturing.

And in the coming weeks, I hope we can finally get a bill to the President's desk that funds these critical programs and puts us on a path to more domestic semiconductor manufacturing because of those risks to the supply chain.

In short, a crisis hit, it exposed our vulnerabilities, and we acted.

That is exactly what we need to do now regarding energy security. Let me explain.

In many ways, the risks we are seeing with the global energy supply today are similar to those risks we experienced with critical components like semiconductors. Much of the world relies on a single country for a critical product, and decisions made by a dictator could lead to that supply being cut off at a moment's notice.

When our allies are looking to adversaries for our most basic needs like heating, electricity, fuel, it creates huge vulnerabilities and sky-high prices at the same time.

This was underscored in January of 2009, when Russia effectively turned the gas off to Ukraine for almost 3 weeks. This affected at least 10 countries in Europe whose natural gas traveled through Ukraine. Russia is still the dominant gas supplier for Europe, including Ukraine. Last year, Russia supplied 40 percent of Europe's natural gas.

In 2020, Russia was the third largest producer of petroleum and other liquid fuels and the second largest producer of natural gas. This gives Vladimir Putin a tremendous amount of not only power but ready cash. And as we are seeing on our TV screens, that money is being used for the most nefarious of purposes: to kill innocent Ukrainian civilians.

After coming under intense pressure by both Democrats and Republicans, I am glad that the administration has finally announced a ban on Russian oil imports into the United States.

We know exactly where the money they get from selling this commodity is going, and we cannot continue to supply Putin with blood money.

I am disappointed it did take a while for the President to see the merits of this action and only after it was clear that Congress, on a bipartisan basis, was prepared to act.

Our colleagues in both Chambers have produced numerous proposals to ban Russian imports, while pushing the administration to take action.

Over the weekend, Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee announced a bipartisan bill to do just that, but the press release, once posted on the website, was quickly taken

down, strangely enough. Reporting indicates that the White House intervened to get that press release taken down off the House Ways and Means website because it didn't want to look like it was being boxed into taking action on Russian oil imports.

But to his credit, once the President saw the writing on the wall, he decided to take action, but he made it seem like it was his idea, even though we all know his hand was forced by bipartisan support in the Congress.

There has never been a more critical moment to reevaluate our reliance on rogue regimes for our energy supply. If we want to protect ourselves and our allies from the whims of a power-hungry dictator, we need to get serious about energy security.

In recent years, conversations about energy policy have been consumed by debates about the environmental impact of fossil fuels, which are important, but often, they are not well informed.

Some of our colleagues have proposed everything from fracking bans in the Green New Deal to net-zero carbon deadlines.

Well, those efforts may bring down America's share of global emissions, but it would come at a grave cost to global energy security. And the truth is, whether it is the Russians or the Chinese or India, developing nations with growing economies, they may pay lip service to some of the goals of a carbon-free future; but this is at the same time that China is building more coal-fired powerplants than any other nation on Earth.

So they really say one thing and do another, for fairly obvious reasons. They understand that constraining your own energy supply will have a negative impact on their economy and job growth and stability in each of those countries.

But I want to be clear: I support efforts to diversify our energy sources and reduce emissions. That is why in Texas we embraced what is called ''all of the above'' as an energy strategy that includes oil and gas, nuclear, wind, solar, you name it. We embrace all of it.

But we have learned a long time ago that solar and wind energy are dependent on the weather, for example, or the time of day, because the Sun doesn't always shine and the wind doesn't always blow. That is why you need a reliable base load of electricity and energy, primarily fuel from natural gas, some from nuclear and the like.

On top of that diversification of your energy supply which has proven to be so important and so successful in reducing emissions yet maintaining energy security, Texas companies are also making serious strides in energy innovation. We are finding new ways to sequester carbon emissions, for example, and other ways to make our most available and affordable energy sources cleaner.

I believe we need to do more to encourage innovation and diversification of our energy sources, but those efforts must not come at the cost of security.

Our top priority must be to ensure that the United States and our allies have reliable access to energy needed to keep the lights on and their economy running. And we need to stop Putin and other dictators from getting rich off of our dependence and holding democracies like Ukraine hostage.

Suffice it to say that the Biden administration has not addressed a plan to do that. From day one, the administration has taken actions that undermine America's energy security and send even more business to Russia and Saudi Arabia.

Only hours after being sworn in, President Biden cancelled the permit to the Keystone XL Pipeline and halted all new energy leasing and permitting on public lands and waters.

His administration has effectively discouraged investments in new production here at home, and the U.S. is producing significantly less oil. It is now down by 1.2 million barrels per day from pre-Biden administration days.

Without question, the most logical response to the current global energy crisis is to boost production of U.S. energy sources. We can reap the economic benefits of strong production here at home and supply our friends and allies with reliable energy around the world and, in the process, enhancing their energy security, making them less dependent on people like Vladimir Putin.

But producers aren't able to turn on a dime. They are not able to increase their capacity overnight; but it is important for us to begin to take the steps now to strengthen our domestic energy production in light of the developments in Ukraine and in Europe.

The sooner the Biden administration views oil and gas producers as necessary rather than expendable, the better off we will all be.

That is not what the White House has suggested, by the way. In fact, they seem to be suggesting a completely different route.

The Biden administration doesn't want to supply Europe with more American energy; he wants to help them shift their reliance from one oil-rich dictator to another. Good-bye, Russia; hello, Iran; hello, Venezuela. The administration is looking to other rogue regimes to supply the energy that should be produced here in America.

The White House is trying to revive the ill-considered Iran nuclear deal, and the White House press secretary acknowledged that a new deal would mean more oil from Iran for global markets.

It is reportedly considering a trip to Saudi Arabia to ask the Kingdom to pump more oil—not here in America, but go to Saudi Arabia, hat in hand, and say: Will you please produce more oil to help us bring down the price of gasoline?

We even hear that the Biden administration is trying to ease sanctions on Venezuela and funnel Putin's profits to Maduro.

The fact the Biden administration is beating down the doors of the Ayatollah, the Crown Prince, and Maduro rather than easing burdens on American producers is a bad joke. It is absurd. It makes no sense whatsoever.

Now, ideologues may oppose American fossil fuels, but the administration's reflexive opposition to U.S. producers is creating serious risks for our security, not to mention the high prices that consumers pay at the pump.

We are blessed to live in a resource-rich country, and there is no reason to put the energy security of the United States and our allies at risk because President Biden worries about angering the progressive radical left of his own political party.

If the Biden administration continues to wage war on American fossil fuels, it will create huge vulnerabilities for the United States and our allies.

Now, I am not suggesting we revive the 1970s oil export ban and implement isolationist energy policies, but we do need to take decisive action to reduce the world's reliance on authoritarian regimes.

Just as the pandemic led us to reevaluate vulnerable supply chains, this war in Ukraine has opened our eyes and, hopefully, given us the opportunity to reevaluate global energy security.

I hope this crisis will serve as a reset button for those energy security efforts, and I hope we can find some common ground between Democrats and Republicans to reconsider the ideological and reflexive opposition to American fossil fuels because the consequences in terms of world peace and energy security are too serious not to revisit those preconceived notions before the Ukrainian invasion.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor first to associate myself with the remarks of the distinguished senior Senator from Texas, and I agree completely with his comments regarding what is happening right now in Ukraine on the ground and what is happening with energy in America and our need to become energy independent again. To go from this current position of what had previously been energy dominance to now energy dependence—we need to return to the days of energy dominance for the United States because it is not just about our national security, it is about security for our friends and allies around the world so they don't have to be dependent on the likes of the killer and the thug Vladimir Putin.

So I come to the floor today to talk about what is going on in Ukraine and the war in Ukraine and the global implications thereof.

Right now, the world is watching in horror as Vladimir Putin continues

with his onslaught. Russia has now shelled two nuclear facilities. Russia continues to attack civilian targets. Russia has allegedly used cluster bombs near schools and hospitals. We know that dozens of children have been killed. Russian troops have even attacked an orphanage and a kindergarten. It is heartbreaking, and it is also barbarism straight out of Hell.

The world is right to be outraged by these vicious attacks, and we know how these attacks have been paid for. We know how Vladimir Putin has funded his aggression. These atrocities were all paid for through Russian energy. Energy is the reason that Vladimir Putin can afford to invade Ukraine. It is the cash cow that drives his military—oil and gas from Russia. Half of Russia's economy is based on energy, and nearly half of Europe's imports of energy come from Russia. So, as I said, energy is the cash cow that has funded the war.

Russia is the No. 2 producer of crude oil in the world, and Putin is the No. 1 rival to the United States in terms of energy production. Well, under Joe Biden as President, there has been a lot less competition for Vladimir Putin. It is not for lack of American energy resources, and it certainly is not for lack of American energy workers. No, it is because of the reckless policies of President Joe Biden and this administration.

On Friday last week, I was in Cheyenne, WY, at the State capital, where I spent 5 years as a State senator prior to coming to the U.S. Senate. Every member of the Wyoming Legislature, Republican and Democrat alike, understands fully that the resources we need to power our country are here in the United States. We have the energy in the ground. Yet this administration is not allowing us to use it. We have the workers ready to go, plenty in Wyoming and around the country. The Biden administration continues to block us from producing more American energy.

Those legislators I talked to on Friday—they know. Every one of them knows that on Joe Biden's first day in office, he killed the Keystone XL Pipeline. They know because they follow the news, and they know because Joe Biden bragged about it. He said: Look at me, I am going to kill the Keystone XL Pipeline. And he did with an Executive order on day No. 1.

Since then, he has blocked oil and gas leases on public land. Quarter after quarter after quarter—we are now in the fifth quarter in a row where he has blocked all oil and gas leases on public land. No auctions for those leases have been held.

He also stopped exploration in the Arctic. The Russians are exploring for energy in the Arctic, but, no, not Joe Biden. Nope. After you, Mr. Putin. You go get it and sell it. And we know how he is using the money. So Joe Biden decides he wants to handcuff America from doing the same thing—exploring for energy in the Arctic.

At the same time, it has become nearly impossible to build a natural gas pipeline in the United States. You say: No, it can't be possible. Well, the President's lackeys—lackeys—on the Federal Regulatory Commission recently decided to change their approval process for natural gas pipelines. As Putin's army surrounded Ukraine, Joe Biden's lackeys on the FERC changed the way they approved pipelines. They did it as inflation hit record-high numbers, with war looming in Europe. It is astonishing. JOE MANCHIN called them, as did I, as the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Energy Committee—called them in front of the committee last week, a hearing last Thursday—and asked them to explain themselves, why this attack on American energy.

You know, our country produced lots of oil before COVID. We are producing some now, but we are still a million barrels a day below where we were during the peak prior to COVID. So when supply and production at home is down, prices go up.

Earlier today, gasoline prices hit the highest price ever—ever—but prices were way up even before Russia invaded Ukraine. The day Joe Biden took office, gas prices were $2.38 per gallon nationwide. Today, the average is $4.17. It cost more than $5 a gallon in left-wing California. They may be happy to pay the price. People in Wyoming are not, where they drive lots of miles to and from work. In Wyoming, the number of miles driven is the highest per capita anywhere in the country.

We know what happens to families when gas prices go up and they have to put more money in the tank that could have otherwise been used for food, for clothing, for school supplies for the kids.

I understand that a gallon of gas in Los Angeles now is at $7.

Last year, a typical working family paid about $1,000 more to fill their tank over the course of the year than they did the year before Joe Biden became President. It is a direct result of the policies of this administration. And this year, it is likely to be a lot higher because this administration's policies, environmental-extremist driven, are making energy at home much more expensive.

So today, after 2 weeks into the war, Joe Biden has announced a ban on Russian oil. It is about time.

On Saturday, a number of us were in a Zoom call with President Zelenskyy, the brave, heroic, courageous President of Ukraine. He said:

> If [we] had started sanctions months ago, there would not have been a war.

Now the question is, What is going to replace the Russian oil? Because up until today, Joe Biden was eager to buy Russian oil—eager. So the question is, What is going to replace the Russian oil? Well, it darn well ought to be American oil. Democrats have basically floated a couple of proposals. Buy it from Iran, they say; buy it from Venezuela, they say; or don't buy any at all.

On Thursday, the Secretary of Transportation said a possibility was ''working out something with Iran.'' Remember those people? They are the ones who every Friday have a demonstration where they chant ''death to America'' and burn the American flag. He wants to work something out with them.

Let me remind the people who are watching that Iran is the No. 1 state sponsor of global terrorism. Iran is on the verge of a nuclear weapon. Now Democrats want to give Iran a windfall of American dollars.

The last time Democrats bribed Iran, the Secretary of State was John Kerry. He admitted right out that some of the money would go to terrorists, and we know that some of it did. Democrats signed the check anyway. Pallets of cash were delivered to Tehran. Now Democrats are talking about doing it all over again.

Oh, and think about John Kerry. What did he say in an interview with the BBC just a week and a half ago, as Russian troops were on the border surrounding Ukraine? He said he hoped that what was happening there ''did not distract''—''did not distract''—from the climate agenda. Oh yeah, we wouldn't want the death of all those people to distract from your agenda, Mr. Kerry, former Senator Kerry, former Secretary of State. But he is not just the former, he is the current climate spokesman for this administration. He is the voice of climate in this administration. So that must mean that Joe Biden doesn't want it to distract from his climate agenda either.

It is time to wake up.

Over the weekend, the Biden administration officials went to Venezuela. According to media reports, they discussed easing sanctions on Venezuelan oil.

Nicolas Maduro is one of the world's biggest cheerleaders for you know who? Vladimir Putin. He supports Russia's war in Ukraine. He apparently called the Kremlin to say that just this past week.

This means that the Biden administration is actually actively considering and pursuing, as they were on Saturday, replacing oil from Russia with oil from a Russian client state in our own hemisphere. It is bad energy policy. It is bad foreign policy. It almost seems to be something out of ''Alice in Wonderland.'' Yet, it still makes more sense than the third idea that Democrats are floating: Let's just let energy prices go higher and higher.

The White House Press Secretary said that we should just stop using oil altogether. She says the solution to high gas prices and war in Europe is just stop using gas. This is delusional. The idea that we can immediately transition away from oil and gas is a fairy tale. It is a dangerous fairy tale at that.

None of these three solutions proposed by the Democrats is in the best

interest of our Nation, our Nation's energy security, or our Nation's national security. Oil from Iran and oil from Venezuela is just as dangerous as oil from Russia. Changing our entire economy overnight is not an option in the real world.

There is only one answer that works, and that is the answer that the American people are pleading for. The solution to Russian oil is more American oil. We must replace Russian oil with American energy. To do that, we need to produce more. We have the resources. We have the workers. We have the expertise. What we need is the leadership out of the White House in Washington, DC, and we are not getting it.

We ought to produce enough American energy to supply our allies and, above all, to bring down prices for people here at home. That is why I have introduced legislation called the ESCAPE Act, to escape what is happening with this control of our energy and the increase in prices. It stands for Energy Security Cooperation With Allied Partners in Europe. This bill expedites the sale of American natural gas to our NATO allies.

I also led a letter with every Republican on the Energy Committee and sent it to President Biden the morning after his State of the Union Address. Our letter details 10 specific plans, 10 specific actions the President can take today to produce more American energy.

We are much better off producing and selling energy to our friends than being forced to buy it from our enemies.

What President Biden and the Democrats don't seem to believe is the undeniable truth that energy security is national security. For ourselves and for our allies, we need more American energy.

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

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

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that, at 4:50 p.m. today, all postcloture time be considered expired on H.R. 3076; that amendment No. 4955 be withdrawn; that the bill be considered read a third time; that if a budget point of order is raised and a motion to waive made, the Senate vote on the motion to waive; that if waived, the Senate vote on the passage of the bill; further, that upon disposition of H.R. 3076 that, notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate proceed to executive session and vote on the motions to invoke cloture on Calendar Nos. 547 and 719; that if cloture is invoked on any of these nominations, the Senate vote on confirmation of the nominations at a time to be determined by the majority leader or his designee following consultation with the Republican leader; finally, that there be 2 minutes for debate, equally divided in the usual form, prior to each vote, all without further intervening action or debate.

Also, in an effort to speed up the votes, I ask unanimous consent that all votes after the first vote be 10-minute votes. Members should be notified to get here and to stay around so we can get this done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor to the Senator from Iowa.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG COSTS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, many Iowans rely on pharmacists who operate independently or as part of a small community pharmacy chain. This is especially true in rural Iowa, but I will bet it is true in a lot of other rural States as well. In Iowa, we have over 300 independent pharmacists, and many work in multiple rural communities. These pharmacies are small businesses serving Iowa communities like Muscatine and Sioux City.

These pharmacies want a level playing field to compete with anyone whether that is a big chain or whether it is another independent pharmacy. Yet the pharmacists I hear from are being hurt by retroactive direct and indirect remunerations. I am going to refer to them as ''DIR'' fees. They have to work with pharmaceutical benefit managers in regard to those fees, and there are conflicts between them that I hear about all the time. This all deals with Part D Medicare plans. What I am talking about with regard to direct and indirect remunerations and these negotiated fees with PBMs are what are sometimes known as clawbacks.

Every day, seniors go to the drug store, and they probably always pay a copay. These seniors then rightfully believe that they are paying the lowest amount possible, but that is not always the case. After the patient pays and leaves the pharmacy, the Part D Medicare plan or a PBM, a pharmacy benefit manager, contacts the local pharmacist to claw back a certain amount paid. That is where this DIR fee comes in. This action actually lowers the cost of the drug, but the patient doesn't know it. Because of these DIR fees, seniors pay a lot more than they need to for the pills they get at the pharmacy.

One Iowa rural pharmacist told me that DIR fees, clawbacks, are not only costing the patient more in the form of a higher copay, they are also costing that local pharmacy. From 2010 to 2020, Part D Medicare plans and the PBMs increased the DIR fees by over—can you believe this?—104,000 percent. DIR fees now total over $9 billion a year. Pharmacists, especially those operating independently in rural areas but particularly in rural Iowa, whom I hear about, have told me, if DIR fee clawbacks do not get under control, pharmacists will not survive. Of course, we hear—maybe not every day, but we hear quite often—about those small pharmacists going out of business, and these DIR fees are often cited to us as one of the reasons. This will then leave Iowans without access to the local pharmacy for medication therapy management and for other care.

I have a bipartisan solution to solve this problem that ends DIR fee clawbacks.

In 2019, the senior Senator from Oregon and I negotiated and introduced a bill that we entitled the ''Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act,'' also known as Grassley-Wyden. I don't even care if it is known as Wyden-Grassley. The Grassley-Wyden ends DIR fee clawbacks. This will reduce out-of-pocket expenses and provide pharmacies with financial predictability. This move may even keep rural pharmacies viable.

On top of my legislative efforts in Grassley-Wyden, I commend the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for issuing a proposed rule to end DIR fee clawbacks. I am not sure that that proposed rule exactly does what the Grassley-Wyden bill does, but it is still a step in the right direction, and I welcome that. In welcoming it, I have submitted comments, asking the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to strengthen the proposed provision as much as the existing statute allows. Of course, we ought to finalize that proposed rule without delay.

In addition to ending DIR fee clawbacks, I am committed to passing Grassley-Wyden. I hope, now that Democrats worked on Build Back Better last year with provisions that they thought would reduce pharmaceutical drugs—and it doesn't seem to be moving—that, instead of going the partisan way, they would take a look at a bipartisan way of trying to get something done on prescription drugs and, at the same time, end the DIR fee clawback.

This bill, as a whole, besides dealing with the clawbacks, will lower prescription drug costs in a comprehensive manner. It actually takes on Big Pharma. You probably know that, in this body, there are some people who say we should just leave Big Pharma alone, but I know that they do wonderful work. I know they have to have their money for research, and I know they have to be able to market their products in a free market way, but when you have these big pharmaceutical price increases maybe a couple of times a year, it is time we do something about it.

Besides this clawback provision, Grassley-Wyden caps out-of-pocket expenses, eliminates the doughnut hole, and in dealing with these price increases every year, it caps rising prices at the inflation price index. It also

brings more sunshine and accountability, particularly to the pharmacy benefit managers.

Nobody seems to be able to tell us anything as to what goes on between the health insurance companies, the pharmaceutical companies, the PBMs, and the local pharmacists and then how that affects the consumer. We ought to know exactly where those moneys go and what those negotiations are, and Grassley-Wyden does something about that.

So I urge my colleagues to join Wyden and me in that effort.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

H.R. 3076

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, I have taken the opportunity—well, all the time I have been in Congress—to speak in support of Congress acting to reform and improve the Postal Service. I am here again today, and I am pleased with what I think is going to transpire here within the next hour. I again express my strong support for the Postal Service Reform Act, and I urge my colleagues to support this critical, important piece of legislation.

The U.S. Postal Service is an indispensable piece of American infrastructure nationwide. Back in my home State of Kansas, the rural communities are especially reliant on the Postal Service for the essential public services the Agency and its employees provide.

However, due to the closure of numerous rural processing facilities in Kansas and post office consolidations and closures, the quality of service and efficiency of the Postal Service has significantly declined. The reduced effectiveness of the Postal Service hurts Americans across the board, but it has the most detrimental impact on rural places like Kansas.

For as long as I have served in Congress, Kansans have detailed to me the adverse impact the declining quality of the U.S. Postal Service has had on their lives and have expressed the need for reforms to improve its efficacy.

The concerns I hear from Kansans are characteristic of the larger picture. The Postal Service is struggling to keep up with its service commitments while still maintaining fiscal stability. Over the past decade, the Postal Service has slowly—and sometimes quickly—eliminated services; and in that elimination of services, it created what I call a death spiral: shorter hours, fewer post offices, mail processing facilities further away and fewer of them.

This makes life extremely difficult for Kansans, especially rural and highly rural Kansans who rely upon the Postal Service to deliver essential items like medications because there simply isn't a pharmacy for pickup delivery nearby. And the customer looks for delivery services outside the U.S. Postal Service when the service is insufficient, and the Postal Service continues then to lose more revenue.

For as long as I have been in Congress, I think I have met with every Postmaster General, and I have really delivered two messages—one related to this point I am making right now, which is the solution to the Postal Service's financial condition can't simply be reducing the services. I have also suggested that instead of hiring high-priced consultants, the Postmaster General and the Postal Service should consult with their own employees about suggestions of how to deliver better service in a more effective and efficient way and save revenue.

Serving rural States like my own, I understand well the crippling impact that losing postal service would have on rural communities across the country; that is why I have repeatedly acted on my conversations with Kansans by encouraging congressional focus on Postal Service issues and have worked to get postal reform legislation passed for nearly a decade.

My colleague on the Senate floor with me this afternoon, Senator Tom Carper of Delaware, I have joined him on many occasions in the past several sessions of Congress. We are cosponsors—lead Republican and lead Democrat—in reform legislation, and I have met with him and the Postmaster General of the U.S. Postal Service numerous times. We recognize that smart reforms were needed to make certain the Postal Service could compete in this digital age, increase revenue, and not become a taxpayer liability.

Several provisions of the legislation that Senator CARPER and I have introduced are included in the Postal Service Reform Act we are considering today: the elimination of the prefunding requirements of retiree health benefits, allowing the Postal Service to enter into agreements with other governmental entities for new avenues of revenue, and making 6-day delivery permanent by law.

In so many instances in my conversations with Kansans at a townhall meeting or on the street or talking to the newspaper editor, the lack of timely delivery of the mail has become increasingly a problem; and what would one expect when the Postal Service is closing post offices, shortening its hours and, most importantly, closing processing facilities?

I hope to make the case to the U.S. Postal Service after passage of this legislation that the postal processing facilities that have been closed in Kansas should be considered for reopening—in fact, should be reopened. Today, the mail will leave a rural community, go to some neighboring State—Nebraska or Texas or Missouri—only to be returned to the postal patron who lives a block from the person who mailed the letter to begin with. We need the return of those postal processing facilities, and their departure had dramatic and consequential effects upon the Postal Service.

I am pleased that the efforts of my colleagues and I have culminated now in the Postal Service Reform Act. From listening to Kansans, I have recognized for years that Congress must act with the Postal Service on a more sustainable path, and this week, the Senate will finally address this longstanding issue—address it in a way that a bill will become law.

Congressional action on postal reform will allow the Postal Service to continue serving rural America without the possibility of imminent service reductions and the uncertainty of the future of the Agency.

From the veterans waiting on critical medications to be delivered from the VA, to the farmer in rural Kansas needing a part for his or her machinery, to the grandparent just waiting to send a birthday card to a grandchild, this legislation puts us on a path to making certain the Postal Service can continue to be relied on to deliver when it matters most.

I thank those who work in the post office and the Postal Service in my home State of Kansas, many of whom I know, and—despite the challenges presented because of the U.S. Postal Service's decisions over the past decade—have worked hard to make sure that the mail is delivered and delivered on time and make sure that their customer, the postal patron, is cared for.

To ensure the Postal Service maintains its vital public services, I urge my colleagues in the Senate to support the Postal Service Reform Act when it arrives on the Senate floor shortly for a vote.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I stand in solidarity with my friend from Kansas. I say to Senator MORAN: Thank you for your great leadership and for allowing me to be your wingman as we do our best, not just to save the Postal Service, but to make sure that they are robust and germane to the futures—germane to the future and integral to the future of our country as they have been for the last 200-plus years.

When folks in Delaware gathered—we had about 25 men who gathered in a place called Dover, DE, on December 7, 1787. We voted, after debating for 3 days a draft Constitution. We adopted it unanimously and sent it off to the other 12 Colonies.

One element in the Constitution that was sent to us from Philadelphia by our Founding Fathers was the creation of a Postal Service—a Postal Service. It has been mentioned before that the first Postmaster General was Ben Franklin, of all people. What the Founding Fathers had in mind was a way to bind us together as a country—to bind us together as a country. The idea of being able to communicate through the mail, that was important; the idea of fostering greater economic growth, that was important. But they also were looking for a way to pull us together as a new nation, and the Postal Service was integral to doing that.

Over the years, the Postal Service has changed. For the most part, I think it has changed in good ways. It used to be people got their mail by going to post offices that were maybe in the community where they lived or close to the community where they lived, but they had to go to the post office to get it.

Eventually, the mail was delivered to farms and to homes and to businesses across the country, and people didn't have to leave their homes to get the mail. There was a time, not that long ago, when we didn't have the internet, and if we wanted to communicate—we wanted to send letters to people or cards to people, a lot of gifts to people—we would use the Postal Service.

Today, we can use the internet. The internet doth taketh from the Postal Service—taketh and giveth away. A lot of folks, well, they just hit a ''send'' button for a birthday card or a Christmas card or any kind of holiday card. They used to send the actual cards; a lot of people don't do that anymore.

If you look at the financial condition of the Postal Service, one of the things that has happened most noticeably in the last 10, 15, 20 years is a drop in first class mail, and a large part of that is from the internet. I would like to say again the internet taketh and it giveth away.

One of the great things that comes out of the internet is that a lot of people are ordering items over the internet for purchase. A lot of people order food, but a lot of people order clothes; they order shoes; they order all kinds of things. And you know who has a chance to deliver it? The Postal Service. The Postal Service delivers, not just 1 day a week, but 7 days a week. They are omnipresent.

And as we hear Johnny Cash—every time I turn on my TV, I hear Johnny Cash singing ''I've Been Everywhere, Man,'' and the Postal Service still goes everywhere, man.

They also have a great partnership with—believe it or not—UPS and a great partnership with FedEx. FedEx and UPS, they don't want to go to every mailbox in the country every day. The Postal Service does it at least 6 days a week. And what the Postal Service does in a partnership with UPS and FedEx is take a handoff and deliver the last mile, last 5 miles, last 10 miles to the places that the Postal Service is going to go to anyway.

I mean, one of the challenges that the Postal Service has had to try to balance their books, their finances, comes—I remember when I was Governor of Delaware and going to the rating agencies, and the rating agencies said to us—before they lowered our credit rating a long time ago—they said: You don't have a pension fund. You haven't funded your pension costs for your pensioners. And so we created a pension fund fully funded.

After we had done that—later on, we finally got a AAA credit rating years later. One of the things they said is: You still haven't fully offset the healthcare costs for your pensioners. For us, that was a concern, but not an enormous concern, because our pensioners had access—they were covered under Medicare.

Unfortunately, for the Postal Service—the Postal Service has paid into Medicare for years for their employees. Unfortunately, when those retirees reach the age of 65, they don't have full access to the full benefits of Medicare. That is not right. These are benefits paid for by the employee of the Postal Service, and this legislation fixes that to make sure that the right thing is done. The benefits that have been paid for through Medicare are actually inured to and flow to the pensioners of the Postal Service.

The other thing that I would mention is 6-day service. I used to see—good service by the Postal Service would be maybe 1-day service for local maybe in the same city, 2-day service maybe to other parts of the State, 3-day service coast-to-coast; and the legislation that is before us today calls for delivery within 6 days. For me, that is not good enough, and my hope is we can come back and somehow better replace or better restore the term service.

Having said that, the Postal Service has a Board of Governors; and every now and then, Presidents have the opportunity to nominate people to serve on the Board of Governors. We have the opportunity to vote them up or down. We need people on the Board of Governors who are very good at figuring out: How do we help the Postal Service monetize the burden of going to every single mailbox in the country 6 days a week? How do we do that? How do we help the Postal Service turn that into financial opportunity, much as they have with UPS and FedEx? And are there other ways, as well? Delivering medicines is a great example there, and there are other examples—vote by mail. I think we are only scratching the surface on vote by mail. Those are all ideas that help the Postal Service monetize and realize revenue from this responsibility to go to every mailbox in the country.

One last thing I would mention that is not in this legislation is postal vehicles—postal vehicles. There are a bunch of them—I think well over 150,000 across the country. Almost every one is gas- and diesel-driven.

You have seen others—UPS, FedEx, Amazon, others with big fleets—are transitioning away from gas and diesel, and they are doing it rather quickly. We are seeing the same kind of transformation in the vehicles that we drive. Why is it important? Because we have way, way, way too much carbon dioxide in the air. It is creating not just climate change, but it is creating a climate crisis.

My State—we are the lowest lying State in the country. My State is sinking. The seas around us are rising. Down in Louisiana, every 100 minutes, they lose a piece of land to the ocean the size of a football field—every 100 minutes. If you go out on the West Coast, you had wildfires each year—last year bigger than my State. Temperatures in the Arctic Circle reached, I think, last year, 90 degrees—90 degrees. There were more named hurricanes in the last year than any year in history. The hottest summers on record.

Something is going on here, and what it is, is way too much carbon in the air. A lot of that carbon is coming from mobile sources, including the vehicles we drive, including the fleets like the Postal fleet. The Postal Service's fleet is about 25 years old on average. They have the opportunity here to update that. The cost of moving to electric vehicles and having charging stations is a cost that the Postal Service says—I think somewhat generously—that we, as taxpayers, need to help underwrite that cost.

Having said that, the Postal Service and their calculation for buying gas and diesel-fired vehicles to replace their fleet, I believe—my understanding is they are using, as an assumption for the cost of gas and diesel fleet, $2 a gallon charge for gas and diesel going forward—$2. We would like to see $2, wouldn't we? That is just basically understating by half the cost of gas and diesel for future of the fleet, and that needs to be fixed.

We have a great opportunity to make sure that the Postal Service is not just delivering the mail rain, snow, or shine, but they are also doing so in a way that helps us on the climate crisis side. We can do both, and we need to do both.

I will close by saying this: I want to thank and applaud the leadership of our chair and ranking member of the committee of jurisdiction here—our chair, GARY PETERS, and ranking member, ROB PORTMAN. Thank you and your staffs for your work on this and for a lot of other folks who have worked on this before—most certainly, JERRY MORAN and his team.

I especially want to thank the members of my staff who have worked on these issues forever.

And my friend SUSAN COLLINS—SUSAN is not on the floor right now, our Senator from Maine—but she has spent, God knows, plenty of time and effort working with me and others on these issues.

This is not the end. This is not the end in terms of what we need to do on Postal. This is maybe the beginning of the end; this the end of the beginning, but it is a good end of the beginning. We need to build on this and go forward on this, and I hope and pray that that is exactly what we do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I notice the arrival of Senator HAWLEY. I think we are both prepared at this point for me to make a unanimous consent request, and I would like to do so now.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 599, 477, and 472; that the nominations be confirmed; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I want to say at the outset that it is always a privilege to work with Senator REED on the Armed Services Committee in every capacity we get to work together, and I look forward to that going forward.

What we are being asked to do—the Senate is being asked to do today, however, is to fast-track nominees for leadership positions in the Department of Defense to carry out a foreign policy that is manifestly failing. This administration is careening from one crisis to another, endangering the security of the American people, endangering the security of the world.

When the Senator mentioned just a moment ago the situation in Ukraine, you don't have to look any further than there to see the crisis—the latest crisis that the Biden administration has led this Nation into.

To begin with, the administration failed to deter Vladimir Putin and his Russian invasion before it happened. They failed to actually check Putin when it would have really mattered.

How did they do this? Well, for starters, when President Biden came to office, he opened up Russia's pipelines, and then he shut down America's pipelines. He handed our energy independence that the Senator was just mentioning—he handed our energy independence away. He gave it away. And who stepped in to fill the void? The Russians.

What is Russia? It is not so much a country as it is a gas station, and Putin is pumping and pumping and pumping. What is financing his war in Ukraine? It is not least our energy policies that are giving away our energy independence, giving away our energy dominance, and green-lighting his energy production. That is what Joe Biden did when he first came to office—green-lighting his production, shutting down our production.

But what else? President Biden had the opportunity to provide lethal military aid to Ukraine last spring when the Ukrainians first requested it. He said no. In fact, I believe he said no repeatedly for much of the year last year. That turns out to have been a very poor decision.

Now, today, deterrence having failed, the Russians engaged in an illegal invasion of a sovereign nation, threatening the stability of Europe, the security of Europe, and, of course, endangering our own national security, what is the President doing? What is President Biden doing? Is he turning back on American energy production? Is he sanctioning the Russian energy sector? No.

Just today, finally, he was dragged kicking and screaming to finally agree that this country will no longer import Russia's blood oil. Remember, he had us importing over 670,000 barrels of Russian oil every single day. Today, he announced finally, belatedly, we won't do that anymore. But what is he doing instead? He is going to every petty dictator on the face of the map and begging them to make up the difference. We learned that the President's team has been in touch with Maduro's regime—the murderous Maduro regime—in Venezuela and is preparing to offer them a special package that will ease the restrictions, ease the sanctions, ease the punishment on that outlaw regime and get them to make up the difference in oil production from Russia.

We learned that the President is potentially planning a trip to Saudi Arabia to ask the Saudis to increase their oil production to make up the difference from the Russians. I wonder if the topic of Jamal Khashoggi will come up in those meetings. I certainly hope it will.

President Biden once said that he would make Saudi Arabia ''pay the price, and make them in fact the pariah that they are.'' I guess that is no longer the policy of the U.S. Government because here is what we are reduced to under this administration: We are reduced to begging our enemies—our enemies, the dictators of the world—we are reduced to begging them to bail out a foreign policy that is failing, not least because this administration will not allow American workers to turn on American energy.

I take it from the President's remarks and from the President's policy that he has no objection in principle to pumping more oil and gas. Apparently he doesn't, so this can't be about climate change. He is fine with more oil production but not in this country, not by American workers. Heaven forbid American workers be put back to work. Heaven forbid American workers actually earn more. Heaven forbid the American people be able to pay less at the pump, as Joe Biden's prices drive gas prices through the roof. No, this is the policy of weakness, fecklessness that this President has given us.

Let's not forget where it began. It began with Afghanistan. And that is the reason I am here on the floor today in particular.

It has been months now—months—since the fall of Afghanistan. This administration has lost two nations in the space of barely 6 months. The Afghanistan debacle is the worst foreign policy debacle in this country's history since Vietnam—although stay tuned, the way this administration is going—and what has this Congress done about it? Who has been held accountable for it?

I have come to this floor over and over and over to ask for accountability. Has someone been fired? No. Has someone been relieved of duty? No.

I was here just a few weeks ago after the Washington Post reported on a 2,000-page investigation done by Central Command into the fall of Afghanistan. Since that time, my team and I have been through all 2,000-plus pages.

I would just like to point out that we learned about this investigative report not from a hearing conducted by this body but from an investigative report by a newspaper. I am glad somebody has some interest in what happened in Afghanistan. Sadly, it seems not to be this Chamber.

Here are some of the things that we learned in this 2,000-page investigative report about Afghanistan:

We learned from GEN Scott Miller, who was the commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan in early 2021, that he was extremely worried from May 2 onward as he saw key districts fall. In fact, General Miller testified to us that he warned Secretary Austin and General Milley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, as early as March or April that the Afghan security forces might collapse rapidly once we withdrew forces.

Now this report documents it and says, indeed, there is evidence that he was very worried, that he was warning that the collapse of Afghanistan would come quickly, he was warning that it would be imminent. But what did the Biden administration do? Did they order the evacuation of our civilians? Did they plan for the possible fall of the Afghan Government? No. The report goes on to detail that the National Security Council and the State Department showed a total lack of urgency right up until the final hours before the fall of Kabul.

We learned that RDML Peter Vasely, who took over for General Miller last spring and commanded U.S. forces in Afghanistan during the final stages of the withdrawal, provided assessments weeks before the fall of Kabul that the trajectory of Afghanistan was in a downward spiral—this is a quote from the report—and was likely not recoverable.

The report goes on to say this: Rear Admiral Vasely ''was trying to get the Ambassador to see the security threat for what it really was.'' There were as many as 10 districts falling every day, getting closer and closer to Kabul. ''The embassy needed to position for withdrawal, but the Ambassador didn't get it.''

These are just a few of the details in this 2,000-page report showing that our military commanders warned over and over and over that Kabul was on the

verge of collapse, that the security dangers were mounting, that civilians needed to be evacuated, and that we needed to change course, and this administration did nothing. What happened as a result? Thirteen servicemembers are dead, including one from my own State.

I will never forget talking to his family, his father, less than 48 hours after this young man, LCpl Jared Schmitz, lost his life, along with 12 others who bravely served this country, giving the uttermost of their devotion. But it didn't have to be that way.

Here is my point: This body should be hearing from these commanders, from these men and women who have testified in this report, who have given evidence about what happened in Afghanistan. We should be hearing from them in public, under oath—no more private briefings; no more closed-session briefings. We should hear from Secretary Austin. We should hear from General Milley. We should hear from the commanders—General Miller—under oath. They should come and testify about this report.

We should do our job, and until we do, I will not consent to allow the Senate to bypass regular order and fast-track the nominations of yet more leadership positions to continue carrying on a failed policy. I will not do it.

There is a crisis in Ukraine. There is a crisis in Afghanistan. Crises multiply across the world at the hands of this administration, and still, this Congress refuses to reverse course and refuses to provide the most basic oversight that it is charged with providing.

I don't think it is too much to ask, in the face of this, in the face of these disasters, that we have the curiosity to at least have an open hearing, to at least ask who should be accountable and what should be done.

So I want to say again, I appreciate Senator REED's earnestness on this issue. I appreciate the fact that he doesn't control the floor.

My final point, I would note, as I look toward the clock here, last week, if my memory serves, of the 4 days we were in session, we took a total of four votes in the U.S. Senate last week. If these nominees were as important as they say they are, we could have voted last week. We could have voted earlier today.

Now, Senator REED doesn't control the floor, but I might just note to the majority leader that maybe instead of taking a vacation tomorrow, which I gather is the plan, that maybe the Senate ought to be here and working, and maybe we ought to be here and voting, because until there is some accountability for what happened in Afghanistan, for what is happening with this administration's foreign policy, I am going to ask the Senate to observe regular order and do its job and to vote.

With that, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I think one of the messages that the Senator from Missouri was trying to convey is ''do our job.'' One of our fundamental jobs is to review, vote on, and confirm or not confirm nominees to critical positions in the Department of Defense, and this effort has completely frustrated that goal of doing our job.

We have seen repeated blockage of nominees who are fully qualified, forcing votes—and the gentleman from Missouri is talking about we should have had votes this week—forcing votes because one or two people object. And, of course, the final outcome is 90 votes, 85 votes in favor of the nominee.

The will of the Senate was very clear: These people should be in their office, doing their jobs, helping us maintain our security, not subject to the whims and the will of one or two people.

The nominees I just referred to are three individuals nominated to critical positions within the Department of Defense. The Armed Services Committee held hearings on all three of these nominations months ago, and all three were reported out of the committee by voice vote. I am unaware of any objections to these nominees relating to their qualifications for the positions for which they have been nominated.

I need not remind my colleagues that with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, a war of choice against a modern, functioning democracy, how critical it is to have people in place in the Department of Defense.

It is very difficult to complain about the policy of the administration when there has been a deliberate attempt for more than a year to delay critical nominees from taking their position in that Department.

And, more importantly, I think this is a trend that was observed by the Commission on the National Defense Strategy under President Trump. It said:

> The implementation of the National Defense Strategy must feature empowered civilians fulfilling their statutory responsibilities, particularly regarding issues of force management. . . . Strong civilian oversight is an essential hallmark of civil-military relations codified in the Constitution and embraced throughout the nation's history.

What is frustrating that principle? Actions like today, where fully qualified individuals who pass by voice vote through the committee are held up. If there is a weakness—that has been identified by other sources in the National Defense Strategy at the Department of Defense—it is in one case the lack of sufficient civilian leadership and continuity, and that is exactly what this action today will continue to foster.

For example, Mr. Ashish Vazirani was reported out of committee on December 8 and would become the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the No. 2 official in the Department in charge of military and civilian policy and the readiness of our Armed Forces.

Mr. Alex Wagner was reported out of the committee in October of last year, and he would become the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, the senior official within the Department of the Air Force with responsibility for military and civilian personnel policy and the readiness of Air Force and Space Force personnel.

Ms. Rachel Jacobson was reported out of the committee in October of last year, and she would become the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Energy, Installation, and the Environment. She will be responsible for managing the Army's physical footprint and, particularly, she will oversee contracts that would increase installation resilience and the modernization of Army infrastructure, particularly with regard to energy, which is one of the issues that we are talking about with great emphasis today and in the proceeding several weeks.

All of these positions are critically important to the Department of Defense. And I am unaware of any substantive objection to these nominees on the basis of their qualifications. The sooner they assume their offices, the better for the Department's ability to tackle the challenges on behalf of servicemembers and their families.

I also think it is important to recognize some of that discussion about the situation in Ukraine. The Biden administration sent $650 million in aid—military assistance and aid—to the Ukrainian Government in the last year, far surpassing anything that was done in the Trump administration. In fact, we spent many hours here on the floor of the U.S. Senate in an impeachment proceeding based on what many of us thought was the attempt by then-President Trump to use military aid to extract a political concession from President Zelenskyy. That is quite a stark difference than what President Biden's administration has been doing for the last year.

There was a reference made to dealing with Saudi Arabia. Well, President Trump's first trip overseas was to Saudi Arabia to cavort with his friends, the Kings and Princes of Saudi Arabia. His son-in-law made multiple trips over there, and it wasn't in the spirit of condemnation; it was in the spirit of businesslike behavior, I would say. Khashoggi was killed by agents of MBS, the Crown Prince, but the details of the report were never released by the Trump administration. President Biden released those details, earning, I think, the enmity of the Crown Prince. So this story of the ineffectuality of the Biden administration is completely, in my view, without basis.

What we have seen—and I think the Presiding Officer recognizes it as a member of the Foreign Relations Committee—is probably the most sophisticated development of an alliance to oppose tyranny that we have seen in many, many years.

When the whole world is united by the diplomacy of this administration to stand up against Vladimir Putin—

and I must say practically the whole world. That is an amazing demonstration of diplomacy and statesmanship. And it happened because of the leadership of the President, the leadership of Secretary Blinken, the leadership of Secretary Austin. And, again, when you have Switzerland joining in sanctioning a country—the greatest neutral nation in the world—that is a remarkable accomplishment.

We still have a long way to go. The outcome is still very much uncertain, but to date, the President and his administration has done an extraordinary job.

Afghanistan is an issue that we have dealt with for 20 years. One of the first things we did was to ensure that in the National Defense Authorization Act, there was an independent study which will be conducted, but it is not going to focus on the last 2 weeks; it is going to focus on 20 years. It is going to assess whether the decision to invade Iraq was a critical strategic mistake—which I think it was. That is why I opposed it originally.

It is going to look at the Doha agreement, in which the Trump administration basically said, ''We are leaving,'' which gave the Taliban one of their greatest psychological and, indeed, in a way, military weapons because they went from village to village and said: Here it is, signed, sealed, and delivered. They are going. And when they go, who are you going to be with, Ghani or us?

So in any way to estimate the culpability, the responsibility of our role in Afghanistan, it will take that kind of 20-year look by independent experts who are concerned to find the truth, not to find a political argument.

I am just very disappointed that we are going to continue to avoid our duty to ensure that there are civilians in the Department of Defense who are able to carry out the policy of the United States, which is the basic principle of civil and military relations in the United States and in the Constitution of the United States.

ENERGY

Mr. President, retaining my time, I would now like to resume my comments with respect to the energy situation and the United States.

As I indicated previously, the invasion of Ukraine has revealed the vulnerability that our dependence on oil creates for our economy and for average Americans trying to fill up their cars and pay their heating bills.

The fact is, the United States has sufficient domestic production to meet our energy needs today. We are producing more oil and refined product than ever before. Oil production was up more than half a million barrels a day from January to December of last year and is expected to rise even more this year, which I would assume would mean that more and more Americans are working in the oilfields and elsewhere. In fact, I believe, last year, the workforce grew about 6.6 million jobs, which we hadn't seen in the last year or two of the Trump administration.

Unemployment now is hovering around 4 percent. Gross domestic product has been significant and much more so than the preceding several years. But we do have problems economically, and some of those problems are related to the international oil supply. Now, we certainly don't need Russian oil and I have said we should stop importing it and I am glad that this morning the President announced the United States will officially ban the importation of oil from Russia, denying Putin a key revenue source for his illegal war. This is something both Democrats and Republicans have called for, and the American people should know this policy choice will likely affect the price of gasoline.

But even if we don't use Russian oil, everyone needs to know that petroleum is traded on the world market, and the United States is part of that world market. The chaos Putin is sowing in Europe will continue to have an effect here regardless of where we get our oil. Our energy policy of overreliance on fossil fuels is a matter of national security, and it is time we embrace all that it entails.

The reality of a world market, combined with the impact on regular Americans who need to fill up their cars, means the United States will have to make some tough choices on whom we buy from if we are not buying from Russia. We will have to more carefully consider what we are exporting, how we will prevent profiteering, and what pain people should expect at the pump.

If the climate crisis, raging fires, historic droughts, and flooding aren't enough to convince our colleagues on the other side of the aisle of the need to kick our oil addiction, I hope the national security and economic vulnerabilities exposed by Russia's invasion of Ukraine will be enough. As long as we base our energy future on oil, we choose to make ourselves vulnerable.

Unfortunately, many of my Republican colleagues don't seem to recognize that reality. Instead, they focus on never-built pipelines geared toward exporting our oil, not using it here in the United States. Most of the oil that was going through the pipeline that President Biden—I think, because of many, many considerations—decided against was destined for exportation, not for use here in the United States, or they make claims about energy production under Democratic Presidents that either contort or suspend reality. It is time—to borrow the phrase from my Rhode Island colleague, Senator WHITEHOUSE—it is time to wake up. Indeed, their solution to higher gas prices is more oil dependency.

The bottom line is that we need to accelerate the transition to clean, renewable energy sources that aren't subject to worldwide scarcity and manipulation by our adversary. There are, however, things we should do in the short term to help consumers.

Again, the advocates for the oil companies, the advocates for special tax arrangements, the advocates to continue to pump oil and pump oil and pump oil are playing right, in my sense, into the hands of Putin because if our world economy is based on hydrocarbons, then Russia is going to make some money. If our world economy is based on other sources of power—alternative sources of power—then his cash register is going to ring close to zero.

I am pleased that President Biden listened to me and others in Congress and decided to tap into the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to help bring down the price of oil. He wisely coordinated the release of 60 million barrels with our international partners. The action sends a reassuring signal to markets, but we may need to release more to tamp down prices. We also need to insist that our Middle East partners do more to increase production to help stabilize prices and meet demand in Europe.

We should also ask domestic oil and gas producers to pitch in. Despite the other side of the aisle's claims about the economy, Big Oil is earning some of its highest profits in years. They are not simply passing on the cost—additional cost—to the consumer reluctantly and grudgingly and sadly. ExxonMobil and Chevron, for example, reported a combined net annual profit of nearly $38.6 billion in 2021, but are they investing those profits in new production, particularly when they have 14 million acres in unused leases? No. Instead, they are issuing higher dividends and buying back stock to boost share prices. These windfall profits should be used to help consumers, not their billionaire investors.

Of course, the easiest way to insulate ourselves from higher costs is to become more energy efficient. When we consume less, we pay less. That is why I have long advocated better fuel economy standards for cars and trucks, something that the last administration worked against. Yes, the Trump administration tried to derail an increase in gas mileage that the automobile companies were in favor of. Even when automakers said we should keep the tougher standards, Trump said no. Why? Let's be more dependent on gasoline. It is not only to this country's oil-producing benefit. Guess what. Putin benefits and others benefit.

Fortunately, the Biden administration has a broader vision for a clean energy future that eases the burden on consumers.

While there is much more to do, the bipartisan infrastructure law took important steps on this front. It invested $7.5 billion to build out a national network of electric vehicle charges, $5 billion for electric buses, and $90 billion to improve public transit systems.

It also includes $65 billion to upgrade our power infrastructure, including by building thousands of miles of new, resilient transmission lines to facilitate the expansion of renewable energy. And

we can't just look at transportation because consumers are also facing the pinch on home energy prices.

Now, last year, I worked to secure $4.5 billion in the American Rescue Plan for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program to help consumers pay their energy bills. In the coming days, we will pass an omnibus appropriations bill to provide base funding for that program, which still lacks the resources to help all who qualify for assistance. But we need to do more.

We also need to make other long-term investments. In his State of the Union Address last week, President Biden emphasized the need to weatherize homes and businesses to be more energy efficient, which in turn lowers energy costs and reduces greenhouse gases and emissions, and I cannot agree more.

It is why I have led the fight to fund the Weatherization Assistance Program, which received $3.5 billion in the bipartisan infrastructure law. This program has helped more than 7 million low-income families reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient.

It saves participants nearly $300 in energy bills a year, and a Department of Energy study found that in 1 year, it reduced carbon emissions by more than 2.2 million metric tons, the equivalent to taking more than a half a million cars off the road.

To make the most of this investment, this week, I introduced the Weatherization Assistance Program Improvement Act along with Senators COLLINS, COONS, and SHAHEEN. Our bill would make critical updates, including increasing eligibility, raising the per unit funding level for weatherization projects, and setting aside funding to make critical health and safety repairs in conjunction with weatherization projects. Together, these reforms will make the program more effective and will help it serve even more households across the country.

These are significant steps, but we need the full package of climate energy reforms that the President has been calling for, including tax credits and grants that would make clean energy, clean vehicles, and other clean technologies more affordable and better.

If we do these things, we will make a huge difference in the lives of Americans today and for generations to come.

Just a final thought, I think one of the greatest nightmares that Vladimir Putin has is a world that is powered by electricity, not generated by hydrocarbons, a world in which the gasoline and oil that he has in Russia is not worth $150 a barrel but $1.50 a barrel.

We can do it, and it will be one of the most significant national security endeavors when we accomplish that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

H.R. 3076

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I appreciate the comments from my colleague from Rhode Island. I would say ''all of the above'' energy, so I do support the energy efficiency he was talking about and other opportunities to ensure we have the ability to be energy independent. But at a time when the price per gallon is over $4, on average, we also need to produce more in this country.

And here we are at a time where we have an Executive order from the President, saying we are going to freeze all leases on public lands and waters. We have an Executive order from the President, obviously, stopping Keystone XL Pipeline.

We have an Executive action by the President to rewrite the policies with regard to permitting that are in the waters of the United States that are very important to energy projects. So we have got to do it all because, otherwise, without certainty, we are not going to get the oil and gas production we should have here to be able to substitute what we are getting from places like Russia.

The President did the right thing by banning the Russian oil, but we ought to also be doing the right thing with regard to North American production.

I stand today to support the Postal Service bill that is before us. We are nearing the end of a long journey to help the Postal Service and to help the Postmaster General to be able to implement needed reforms.

Last year, Senator PETERS—who I see is on the floor here—and I introduced the Senate version of the Postal Reform Act. We had 28 cosponsors, equally divided between Republicans and Democrats.

Why? Because the Postal Service is not a partisan issue. It is something that all of us should agree on. We need to save our Postal Service; otherwise, we are going to be in big trouble. In the next few years, I believe it would go insolvent otherwise. I believe we would be here talking about a big bailout. This is not a bailout. In fact, there is no appropriation in this legislation.

The post office is really important to my constituents—young, old, rural, urban, everybody. That is why we have seen such strong bipartisan support when this bill passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 342 to 92—that rarely happens in the House—and strong bipartisan support last night when the Senate cloture vote was 74 to 17.

Saving the post office is the right thing to do. Let's face it. The fact of the matter is, the Postal Service is delivering less and less more profitable first-class mail to more and more places. That economic model just does not work, and that is a recipe for ruin if we don't adjust to this new reality and make some necessary changes.

Is it hard to make changes? Of course, it is, but it is the right thing to do. We have talked about it for years here. Finally, we came together, Republican and Democrat, neither of us got exactly what we wanted, both had to make concessions, but we were actually doing the right thing for the country here in saving the post office.

And I regularly hear about this from my constituents across Ohio; I am sure you hear the same. You hear it from your veterans. You hear it from some of your rural residents who depend on the post office for a lot, including their lifesaving medications. Families rely on the post office to deliver their rent checks on time, to pay their utility bills, to get their Social Security checks.

In Ohio, we have got no-excuse absentee voting. That has worked really well for over a decade now. But if you are a voter in Ohio, you want to get your application in time, and you want to get your ballot in, in time. That all depends on the post office. Small businesses in Ohio reach their customers primarily through direct mail now; that is through the post office.

So this is really important that we put the post office on a sound financial footing. And, by the way, it can't be done just with an act of Congress.

What we are doing is complementing what the Postmaster General and the postal Board is doing in terms of serious reforms at the post office. They work together. In fact, the Postmaster General said this bill he strongly supports because it gives him the headroom he needs, the financial breathing room he needs to make the other important reforms to save the post office.

What do we do? First, we eliminate a very burdensome prefunding requirement for retiree health benefits. Congress mandated this a decade or so ago. Regardless of age, current employees have to be prefunded. This has crippled the post office financially. By the way, no other Federal Agency has to do this, and private sector companies don't do this. This is prefunding. The money will be there, but it is a matter of having to prefund it that is crippling the post office financially.

Second, we require the post office employees who are retiring, who have been paying into Medicare their entire careers, to enroll in Medicare Part B and to access Part D—something, by the way, that almost every private sector employer does. They are already in Part A.

Third, we require the Postal Service to maintain its current standard of a 6-day-a-week delivery through an integrated delivery network of mail and packages together so that those who rely on the Postal Service for their medications and other important needs are properly served. That 6-day-a-week delivery, by the way, is really important to my constituents and to a lot of your constituents if you talk to them about it, particularly in the rural areas.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that after all of this, this bill will result in a savings to the taxpayer. The savings over the next 10 years is $1.5 billion.

I would also like to note what this bill does not do because there has been

some misinformation out there. One, it does not appropriate new funds to the post office, period. Two, it does not change the accounting or costing structure for packages and letters so it does not disadvantage private-sector carriers. That is very important to me. This is the status quo that we are putting in place here. It does not change the accounting or costing structure for packages and letters.

Third, it does not allow the Postal Service to enter into new commercial services like postal banking. That is also very important to me.

And contrary to the claims of this bill's opponents, this bill does not impact the solvency of the Medicare hospital trust fund. That is the trust fund we all talk about. It is going belly-up in 2026. It does not affect it, period. CBO has actually written us something saying that, but it just makes sense. People are already in Part A. And this bill does not increase the Medicare Part B and Part D premiums based on the CBO analysis. Why? Partly because it is such a small number of people. Only 25 percent of postal employees were not already in Part B and Part D, so additional ones make very little difference. But part of it is they are paying their premiums.

So let's pass this bill. We also have a budget point of order before us that is coming up next. I want to be clear, again, CBO's estimated $1.5 billion savings over the 10-year budget window that we have to use around here. However, CBO has estimated that this legislation would likely increase on budget deficits by $5 billion or more in at least one of the four 10-year periods beginning in 2032.

I would like to make three quick points: First, none of this deficit is related to the Medicare hospital insurance trust fund for Part A. Again, that is the trust fund that we talk about a lot here because we are concerned about it, and it could be exhausted as early as 2026. CBO has said that trust fund will not be affected. Second, CBO's deficit only addresses on-budget direct spending. It actually excludes all future savings to the post office, which are off-budget.

Let me give you an example of that. The premiums that Postal Service employees are going to pay, that is not part of the calculation.

Third, and finally, this budget point of order ignores that postal workers are entitled to Medicare Part B and Part D like any other eligible American worker. The bill simply requires future Postal Service retirees to access these benefits; the 25 percent that don't already do it. Private-sector employers require their retirees to do the same thing. Of course, no one raises these budget points of orders on them.

Right now, the post office is in trouble, folks, and if we don't do something and do something significant, working with the post office to make their own internal reforms, we are going to be in big trouble as I said earlier.

Let's move forward on this bill. Let's make sure the post office is healthy going forward for all of our constituents.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be recognized for 5 minutes of remarks.

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

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, in just a few moments, each of our colleagues will have the opportunity to cast a historic vote to pass groundbreaking legislation that will ensure that the U.S. Postal Service can continue its nearly 250-year tradition of delivering service to the American people.

The Postal Service is one of our Nation's most trusted and storied institutions. Since the founding of the United States, the Postal Service has become a vital part of the fabric of our Nation for generations.

It has served as an indispensable public service that not only delivers critical mail, like medications and financial documents, but also helps families all across the country stay connected with each other.

The Postal Service is the only mail carrier that delivers to every community across our Nation and serves more than 160 million households—no matter how remote.

However, in recent years, we have seen how burdensome financial requirements drove the Postal Service to use cost-cutting measures that compromised delivery services. And that is why this bipartisan bicameral bill is so vital. It will help the Postal Service overcome unfair policies that threaten its ability to effectively service the American people.

Since introducing this bill, I have worked closely with my ranking member, ROB PORTMAN, and our 26 other Senate cosponsors from both sides of the aisle, as well as Chairwoman MALONEY and Ranking Member COMER on the House Committee on Oversight and Reform, to craft these consensus reforms and secure the strong bipartisan support we have seen in both the House and, hopefully soon, in the Senate.

I am grateful to each of my colleagues for their hard work and for their cooperation and their willingness to compromise during this process.

Our legislation, which it has been 15 years in the making, will eliminate the unnecessary requirement for the Postal Service to prefund the cost of retiree health benefits and will integrate postal retirees healthcare with Medicare.

Together, these reforms will save the Postal Service more than $49 billion and ensure this essential public service, which is dependent on revenues from products and service fees to fund its operations, is set on a path for long-term financial stability.

This historic legislation will also ensure every American knows what is going on with the mail in their community by requiring the Postal Service to post weekly local performance data online.

It will also ensure this vital institution continues to deliver mail at least 6 days a week. By passing the Postal Service Reform Act, we can ensure the Postal Service is able to provide reliable service to families and small businesses, veterans, seniors, and rural communities who rely on this essential service each and every day for years to come.

By passing this legislation tonight and quickly sending it to President Biden's desk, this body can show the Nation that Congress can indeed build consensus; we can work on a bipartisan basis and get things done for the American people. Together, we can enact historic, meaningful change and improve the lives of our constituents.

I urge my colleagues to vote in support of this long-overdue bill so that we can take a historic and significant step to bring the Postal Service into the future and ensure it can continue providing essential services to the American people, as it has done for nearly 250 years.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). Under the previous order, all postcloture time is expired, amendment No. 4955 is withdrawn, and the bill is considered read a third time.

The amendment (No. 4955) was withdrawn.

The bill was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

POINT OF ORDER

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, the pending measure, H.R. 3076, Postal Service Reform Act of 2022, would increase on-budget deficits by $5 billion or more in at least one of the four 10-year periods beginning in 2032.

This increase violates section 3101 of the 2016 budget resolution, which prohibits consideration of legislation that would cause a net increase in on-budget deficits in any of the four 10-year periods beyond the current budget window.

I raise a point of order under section 3101(b) of S. Con. Res. 11, the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

MOTION TO WAIVE

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, pursuant to section 3101(c) of the fiscal year 2016 budget resolution, I move to waive section 3101 of that resolution for purposes of the pending measure, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

There will be now 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on the motion to waive.

The Senator from Florida.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, as I have said repeatedly, I absolutely support getting something done to reform the Postal Service, but it cannot come at the expense to American taxpayers.

The Federal debt has already surged above $30 trillion, and it just keeps growing and growing.

I wrote to the Congressional Budget Office, asking what the future cost of this bill would be to Medicare and how it would impact the debt. While they could tell me there would be at least $5 billion in new deficits, they couldn't provide data past 2031, when Medicare will be most affected by this proposal.

Here is what we know for certain: This bill doesn't reduce costs; it just shifts them from one unfunded government program to another.

This bill adds at least $6 billion in new costs to Medicare, with no way to pay for it, and adds at least $5 billion to long-term Federal deficits. That is unacceptable. It is why I am raising a point of order today. We have to stop driving America deeper into debt and finally be accountable to the American taxpayers.

I urge my colleague to vote no on the budget point of order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, let me congratulate Senator PETERS and Senator PORTMAN for their work.

This is a bill that has been looked at and worked on for a very long time, and I am glad that in a few moments we are going to pass it.

I know that the people of Vermont and all over this country are increasingly concerned about the long delays they are experiencing in getting the mail they need. Senior citizens and veterans are not getting the prescription drugs they need on time. Working families have been forced to pay late fees because it is taking much longer than normal with the Postal Service to mail their bills. The Postal Service Reform Act is a step forward in addressing those concerns, and I am very proud to support this bill.

This is a bill that will save the Postal Service billions of dollars a year by ending the absurd Bush-era mandate forcing the Postal Service to prefund 75 years of future retiree health benefits for employees who haven't even been born yet. It protects 6-day delivery service and gives the Postal Service the ability to offer new consumer products and services.

The bottom line is, the Postal Service is enormously important to people all over this country. This bill strengthens the Postal Service and will guarantee that the people of our country get the quality service they demand.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON MOTION TO WAIVE

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

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 68, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 70 Leg.]

YEAS—68

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Baldwin | Gillibrand | Padilla |
| Bennet | Hassan | Peters |
| Blumenthal | Hawley | Portman |
| Blunt | Heinrich | Reed |
| Booker | Hickenlooper | Rosen |
| Boozman | Hirono | Rounds |
| Brown | Kaine | Sanders |
| Burr | Kelly | Schatz |
| Cantwell | King | Schumer |
| Capito | Klobuchar | Shaheen |
| Cardin | Leahy | Sinema |
| Carper | Luján | Smith |
| Casey | Manchin | Stabenow |
| Cassidy | Markey | Tester |
| Collins | Marshall | Tillis |
| Coons | McConnell | Van Hollen |
| Cortez Masto | Menendez | Warner |
| Cotton | Merkley | Warnock |
| Cramer | Moran | Warren |
| Daines | Murkowski | Whitehouse |
| Duckworth | Murphy | Wicker |
| Durbin | Murray | Wyden |
| Feinstein | Ossoff | |

NAYS—30

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Barrasso | Hoeven | Rubio |
| Blackburn | Hyde-Smith | Sasse |
| Braun | Johnson | Scott (FL) |
| Cornyn | Kennedy | Scott (SC) |
| Crapo | Lankford | Shelby |
| Cruz | Lee | Sullivan |
| Ernst | Lummis | Thune |
| Fischer | Paul | Toomey |
| Graham | Risch | Tuberville |
| Grassley | Romney | Young |

NOT VOTING—2

| | |
|---|---|
| Hagerty | Inhofe |

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas were 68, and the nays were 30. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on passage of the bill.

The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Postal Service bill before us. It is important reform. People know this needs to be done. The vote in the House of Representatives was 342 to 92. It has to be done because the Postal Service's business model just doesn't work—having to deliver more and more packages and fewer and fewer more profitable first-class mail pieces to more and more addresses. So we have got to do something to reform it.

Let me tell you what this bill does do and what it doesn't do—first of all, what it does not do. It is not an appropriation, so there is no money here going into the Postal Service from the taxpayer. It does not change the accounting or the cost structure for packages and letters. That way, it does not disadvantage the private sector carriers some were worried about. It also does not allow the Postal Service to enter into new commercial services like postal banking that we are against. Contrary to claims of some of the opponents, it actually does not impact the solvency of the trust fund. So the Medicare hospital trust fund we all worry about, predicted to expire in about 2026, this does not affect it at all. Postal Service employees are already in Part A. And it does not increase the Part B or the Part D premiums.

What this does do is it saves the post office, which is incredibly important to all of our constituents—to our veterans who get their prescription drugs through the mail, to people who are voting by mail, and to people who are relying on the Postal Service to provide them with what they need to be able to survive.

This is an important bill that has been worked on for 15 years. I thank my colleague Senator PETERS from Michigan for working on a bipartisan basis on this.

Let's get it done tonight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, every day, the U.S. Postal Service faithfully delivers for the American people. Today, the Senate is finally delivering for the post office.

Today, we can happily say that the postal reform is now signed, sealed, and delivered for the American people. Because of today's bill, the Postal Service will be stronger, more efficient, and better able to serve more people, and we did it on a bipartisan basis.

For over a decade, the USPS—one of the most important institutions in American life—has been on an ominous trajectory: shrinking revenues, fewer delivery routes, and finances in desperate need of a revamp. These problems led to late deliveries, reduced hours, and increased costs. And when the Postal Service suffers, America suffers.

Today, after much hard work, the Senate is providing the Postal Service a much needed reset. The legislation we are about to pass is the most significant step that Congress has taken in a long time to strengthen USPS. It will guarantee delivery services 6 days a week, put the Postal Service on a path to solvency, and will ensure that we care for our dedicated postal workers, all while saving dollars.

This postal reform bill is a win-win-win: a win for bipartisanship, a win for our postal workers, and most importantly, a win for the tens of millions of Americans who rely on the Postal Service every single day, from seniors to veterans, to small businesses, to rural Americans, to everyone in between.

I want to really give a special shout-out to my colleagues who made this possible for us to pass this bill. Senators PETERS and PORTMAN led the charge, Senator CARPER worked long in the vineyards on this bill, and so many others as well.

Of course, I want to thank the half a million postal workers who kept our country going every single day, especially during the pandemic. While so many other services were shut down

during COVID, the post office kept delivering goods and supplies and medicines across the economy. They are public servants of the highest order.

So it is a great day for our postal workers, and it is a great day for the American people.

The bill has been in the works for over a decade, and today, after so much work, we are all thrilled to have finally gotten it done.

VOTE ON H.R. 3076

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill 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 bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 79, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 71 Leg.]

YEAS—79

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Baldwin | Graham | Padilla |
| Barrasso | Grassley | Peters |
| Bennet | Hassan | Portman |
| Blumenthal | Hawley | Reed |
| Blunt | Heinrich | Rosen |
| Booker | Hickenlooper | Rounds |
| Boozman | Hirono | Sanders |
| Brown | Hoeven | Schatz |
| Burr | Kaine | Schumer |
| Cantwell | Kelly | Shaheen |
| Capito | Kennedy | Sinema |
| Cardin | King | Smith |
| Carper | Klobuchar | Stabenow |
| Casey | Leahy | Sullivan |
| Cassidy | Luján | Tester |
| Collins | Lummis | Thune |
| Coons | Manchin | Tillis |
| Cortez Masto | Markey | Van Hollen |
| Cotton | Marshall | Warner |
| Cramer | McConnell | Warnock |
| Daines | Menendez | Warren |
| Duckworth | Merkley | Whitehouse |
| Durbin | Moran | Wicker |
| Ernst | Murkowski | Wyden |
| Feinstein | Murphy | Young |
| Fischer | Murray | |
| Gillibrand | Ossoff | |

NAYS—19

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Blackburn | Lankford | Scott (FL) |
| Braun | Lee | Scott (SC) |
| Cornyn | Paul | Shelby |
| Crapo | Risch | Toomey |
| Cruz | Romney | Tuberville |
| Hyde-Smith | Rubio | |
| Johnson | Sasse | |

NOT VOTING—2

| | |
|---|---|
| Hagerty | Inhofe |

The bill (H.R. 3076) was passed.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session.

There will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided.

The Senator from Michigan.

CLOTURE MOTION WITHDRAWN

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the cloture motion on the Gonzalez nomination be withdrawn.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection?

Not hearing an objection, it is withdrawn.

The cloture motion, on the nomination of Ed Gonzalez, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, was withdrawn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER.

Who yields time?

Mr. SCHUMER. We yield back all time, Mr. President.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. All time is yielded back.

## CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 547, Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador.

Charles E. Schumer, Alex Padilla, Christopher Murphy, Edward J. Markey, Gary C. Peters, Brian Schatz, Jack Reed, Tammy Duckworth, John W. Hickenlooper, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tim Kaine, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Margaret Wood Hassan, Patrick J. Leahy, Debbie Stabenow.

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

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 78, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 72 Ex.]

YEAS—78

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Baldwin | Carper | Durbin |
| Barrasso | Casey | Ernst |
| Bennet | Cassidy | Feinstein |
| Blumenthal | Collins | Fischer |
| Blunt | Coons | Gillibrand |
| Booker | Cornyn | Graham |
| Brown | Cortez Masto | Grassley |
| Burr | Cramer | Hassan |
| Cantwell | Crapo | Heinrich |
| Capito | Daines | Hickenlooper |
| Cardin | Duckworth | Hirono |
| Hoeven | Murphy | Sinema |
| Kaine | Murray | Smith |
| Kelly | Ossoff | Stabenow |
| Kennedy | Padilla | Tester |
| King | Peters | Thune |
| Klobuchar | Portman | Tillis |
| Leahy | Reed | Toomey |
| Luján | Risch | Van Hollen |
| Manchin | Romney | Warner |
| Markey | Rosen | Warnock |
| McConnell | Rounds | Warren |
| Menendez | Sasse | Whitehouse |
| Merkley | Schatz | Wicker |
| Moran | Schumer | Wyden |
| Murkowski | Shaheen | Young |

NAYS—19

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Blackburn | Johnson | Scott (FL) |
| Boozman | Lankford | Scott (SC) |
| Braun | Lee | Shelby |
| Cotton | Lummis | Sullivan |
| Cruz | Marshall | Tuberville |
| Hawley | Paul | |
| Hyde-Smith | Rubio | |

NOT VOTING—3

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Hagerty | Inhofe | Sanders |

(Mr. KING assumed the Chair.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). On this vote, the yeas are 78 and the nays are 19.

The motion is agreed to.

## EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I am here today for two purposes. I will start with the first.

The first is to rise in support of advancing the nomination of Elizabeth Watson to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs at the Department of Labor.

Ms. Watson is a highly qualified nominee who was nominated in April of last year, almost a year ago now. She has spent most of her career advocating for workers through labor and economic policy.

Ms. Watson previously served as labor policy director and chief labor counsel on the House Committee on Education and Labor. Given her labor expertise and commitment to public service, she would be an enormous asset to the Department of Labor.

It is past due that the Senate confirm her nomination.

Ms. Watson is one of many excellent pro-worker nominees that have been put forward by the Biden-Harris administration.

Working families and unions built the American middle class, and working families and unions helped to make the Nation what it is today—the strongest, most powerful nation in the world.

Every worker in America deserves to be paid a living wage and treated with

dignity and respect. Over the past few decades, corporations have worked to undermine and weaken workers' fundamental rights to organize and collectively bargain. We should, for example, pass the PRO Act, which would safeguard and strengthen workers' fundamental right to organize and ensure that workers are able to decide whether or not to join a union through a fair process.

It would help restore fairness to an economy that has been rigged against workers for too long. We owe it to workers and families to create an economy that works for them, not for corporate interests. Pro-worker nominees, like Elizabeth Watson, will help us realize this goal. The Senate should advance her nomination.

So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 687, Elizabeth Schoff Watson, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor; that the nomination be confirmed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. BRAUN. Reserving the right to object, the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs works closely with congressional leaders and staff on a variety of issues, including legislative proposals, hearings, briefings, requests for information, and general topics. It is essential that the nominee is willing to work with both Democrats and Republicans in a bipartisan fashion.

Elizabeth Watson is currently the executive director of the Congressional Progressive Caucus Center—director of the Congressional Progressive Caucus Center—hardly a springboard of bipartisanship.

During the previous administration, Ms. Watson retweeted posts such as ''White supremacists don't belong in the White House,'' referring to President Trump.

Her past actions have cast doubt on her ability to be impartial and her willingness to work in a bipartisan manner.

My concerns with this nominee are not unique, and there are many other Members that have concerns as well. There should be a vote on this nominee.

Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

STURDY ACT

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I rise this evening to share the urgent need to pass a bipartisan bill, a piece of legislation we have been working on for years now that will save the lives of children.

Every year, emergency rooms across the country treat over 22,000 preventable injuries—22,000 preventable injuries—caused by falling furniture, like dressers or television sets. On average, roughly half—half—of those injured are children, and of the vast majority of those killed by furniture tip-overs, some 81 percent are children. Eighty-one percent of all those killed by furniture tip-overs are children.

The death of a child is an unspeakable loss. There is no way to calculate it, and if you haven't lived through it, I don't think any of us can understand what some families have lived through. Yet in America, the most powerful Nation on the Earth, in less than 20 years, more than 460 children have been killed by these furniture tip-overs, and that number is the reported fatality number.

Compounding the grief and loss that these families experience is the fact that these deaths might have been prevented.

The answer here is pretty simple: mandatory stability standards that would make our homes safer for our children. For years now, Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator BLUMENTHAL, Senator COTTON, and I have led a bipartisan effort to pass the STURDY Act.

Here is what all of the letters in that acronym stand for: The Stop Tip-overs of Unstable, Risky Dressers on Youth. We call it the STURDY Act.

The STURDY Act would require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to create a mandatory stability standard for furniture. That is all it does. It would create a mandatory stability standard. It would require companies to ensure their products are tested for safety and stability before being sold. It is a simple, commonsense requirement that will save the lives of children and prevent injuries.

Families in Pennsylvania and across the Nation have been waiting too long for the Senate to act. There are families like the Lamberts and the Collases who have experienced every parent's worst nightmare—the loss of a child. These families have given my staff permission for me to share their stories tonight on the Senate floor. These are two stories I will start with.

You can see on my left, Katie Lambert.

Katie Lambert, in 2005, was 3 years old, just 3 years old. Her mom Judy describes her as ''everything a three-year-old child should be—full of love and spontaneity.''

Katie loved Thomas the Tank Engine; she loved Buzz Lightyear; and, of course, she loved her older brothers.

Katie's family had just moved into their new home in Huntingdon Valley, PA, in Southeastern Pennsylvania. One day, Katie was playing in her room while her mom painted the room next-door. Suddenly, Judy heard an ''awful crash'' as she described it. Judy ran into the room to find 3-year-old Katie crushed beneath a tall, mirrored wardrobe. The wardrobe had been on carpet and was unstable.

Judy said:

> While we don't know what Katie was doing, she was probably dancing and watching herself in the mirrors. She may have bumped up against it or tried to open one of the doors or maybe the vibration of her dancing in the room was just enough to cause it to become unstable and fall forward on her.

That is what her mom Judy said.

You can see in this photograph a beautiful little child, Katie Lambert, who died on that day. As her mom Judy held her, waiting for an ambulance to arrive, Katie took her last breath. She would have been 21 years old this year, and Judy wonders what she would be like today. What would she look like as a young woman? What college would she have chosen and what career path? Would she like spicy food like her brothers do?

Judy Lambert wanted me to share a message today, and it is quoted right here on this poster:

> Please, do everything you can to ensure that no other family suffers the pain we do.

So said a mom about what we should do when we think of this child.

Then, Judy went on to say:

> I am begging you to pass the STURDY Act now.

We should listen to her words and act.

The second child I will talk about tonight is Curren Collas. Another family, the Collas family, experienced a similar tragedy in their home in West Chester, PA.

Curren was just 2 years old—2 years old—with blond hair and deep blue eyes that his mom Jackie described as ''soulful.'' Curren loved his cars. He would carefully display his collection of them in a perfect line.

In February of 2014, Jackie walked into Curren's bedroom to wake him for the day. She discovered Curren's five-drawer dresser had fallen on him. Curren was trapped between it and his bed. As she waited for an ambulance to arrive, Jackie tried to resuscitate Curren but was later told by the paramedics that he had no vital signs when they took over.

In the months after Curren's death, Jackie would sometimes stumble on his toy cars, hidden around the house—reminders of her spirited son, Curren.

Obviously, Jackie and her family's lives will never ever be the same.

Here is what she told us in memory of her son. She said:

> Even if I live until 100, it's going to be before Curren and after Curren.

Just two stories tell us all we need to know about why we have to pass this bill. We could tell a lot more from Pennsylvania and so many other States that are represented by those Senators I mentioned and represented by Senators from other States. There is no reason—no reason at all—for families to endure this unimaginable grief, but, tragically, families across the Nation share similar stories of losing children to these horrific furniture tipover accidents. You will hear more of their

stories from my colleagues in the days ahead.

In the memory of Katie and Curren and so many others who were lost to their families—killed in these tragedies—we must pass the STURDY Act. It is not complicated. It is not complicated at all. We must ensure that the furniture sold to consumers is tested—tested for safety and tested for stability. Congress must do all it can. We in the Senate must do all we can to ensure that no more children—no more children—are harmed or killed by furniture tipovers.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time on the Pagan nomination be considered expired, with all previous provisions remaining in effect.

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

## APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–81, appoints the following individual to serve as a member of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States: Robert M. Scher of the District of Columbia.

## LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

## EMMETT TILL ANTILYNCHING ACT

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Madam President, for the last 4 years I have worked hard with my friends across the aisle on antilynching legislation, legislation that has failed in this body 200 times. We passed it in 2019 under Republican leadership in this Senate, only for it to fall apart in the House.

Well, after more than a century of failed attempts, both Chambers of Congress have finally passed this historic piece of legislation. I am proud to say we did the right thing not for Republicans or Democrats, but for Americans who have watched their government fall short too many times.

While we cannot erase our Nation's past, today, we have taken a significant step toward a better future for all. This long overdue piece of legislation sends a clear message: We will not tolerate hatred and violence against our fellow Americans.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### TRIBUTE TO OFFICER ERIK CLARK

• Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, I rise today to honor a true hero from Olathe, KS Officer Erik Clark. His brave actions during an active shooter situation at Olathe East High School helped keep an already tragic situation from taking students' lives.

On Friday, March 4, a senior student at Olathe East was called into the administration office after a tip that he had brought in a gun to school. A few minutes into meeting with the assistant principal, the senior wouldn't open his backpack, prompting Officer Clark—the school's resource officer—to step into the situation. Shortly after Clark arrived, the student pulled out his weapon and began opening fire.

In a flurry, Clark responded and returned fire, ultimately shooting and subduing the student, but not without himself and the assistant principal being wounded as well. Both, however, have thankfully been discharged from the hospital. I pray that something like that may never happen in those halls or any others across America again, for even though there were no fatal wounds, the scars of trauma everyone at Olathe East will surely run deep.

Lastly, I want t thank this brave officer for being so courageous to dive headfirst into peril on that day. If it were not for Officer Clark, this situation could have turned out to be a much darker day in Olathe. As the son of a police chief, I know the risks our men and women in blue take on each day. I admire Officer Clark for continually working to ensure our safety. He has shown what true valor looks like, and Olathe East is safer because of him. I ask now that my colleagues show this same admiration and recognition for Officer Clark and that he may stay safe protecting his community.•

### TRIBUTE TO DR. KALEB STOPPEL

• Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President, I rise today to honor a school administrator that went above and beyond the service to his students, Dr. Kaleb Stoppel. His brave actions during an active shooter situation at Olathe East High School helped keep an already tragic situation from taking students' lives.

On Friday, March 4, a senior student at Olathe East was called into Dr. Stoppel's office after a tip was submitted saying the student brought a gun to the school. Dr. Stoppel first asked the student to open his backpack, which he did not comply with, prompting the school's resource officer to step into the situation. Shortly after the officer arrived, the student pulled out his weapon and began opening fire.

In a flurry, the officer returned fire, ultimately shooting and subduing the student, but not without himself and Dr. Stoppel being wounded as well. Both, however, have thankfully been discharged from the hospital. I pray that something like that may never happen in those halls or any others across America again, for even though there were no fatal wounds, the scars of trauma for everyone at Olathe East will surely run deep.

Lastly, I want to thank Dr. Stoppel for being so responsive to the situation and keeping students out of harm's way. Had he not investigated the tip, this tragedy surely would have been much graver. Olathe East is safer because of him. I ask now that my colleagues show this same admiration and recognition for Dr. Stoppel and that he may stay safe while educating our future leaders.•

## MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

## EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

## PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

### REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ISSUANCE OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S UNJUSTIFIED, UNPROVOKED, UNYIELDING, AND UNCONSCIONABLE WAR AGAINST UKRAINE, AND EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 14024 OF APRIL 15, 2021—PM 26

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with accompanying papers; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, I report that I have issued an Executive Order finding that the Russian Federation's unjustified, unprovoked, unyielding, and unconscionable war against Ukraine, including its recent further invasion in violation of international law, including the United Nations Charter, further threatens the peace, stability, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine, and thereby constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States.

As a result, I have prohibited the following: (i) the importation into the United States of the following products of Russian Federation origin: crude oil; petroleum; petroleum fuels, oils, and products of their distillation; liquefied natural gas; coal; and coal products; (ii) new investment in the energy sector in the Russian Federation by a United States person, wherever located; and (iii) any approval, financing, facilitation, or guarantee by a United States person, wherever located, of a transaction by a foreign person where the transaction by that foreign person would be prohibited by this section if performed by a United States person or within the United States.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *March 8, 2022.*

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:36 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5615. An act to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding to preserve homeland security capabilities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5616. An act to require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 658. An act to authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, and for other purposes.

## MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 5615. An act to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding to preserve homeland security capabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5616. An act to require reporting regarding accreditation of basic training programs of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## 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–3312. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Cuba that was originally declared in Proclamation 6867 of March 1, 1996; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3313. A communication from the General Counsel, National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Civil Monetary Penalty Annual Inflation Adjustment'' (RIN3147–AA24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3314. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled ''To authorize Coast Guard activities for fiscal year 2022, and for other purposes''; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3315. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Wireline Competition Bureau adopts final rules for the Affordable Connectivity Program, which builds upon the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program (EBB Program) for January 21, 2021'' ((FCC 22–2) (WC Docket Nos. 20–445 and 21–450)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3316. A communication from the Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism'' ((RIN3060–AK57) (CC Docket No. 02–6)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3317. A communication from the Associate Administrator for Policy, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Qualifications of Drivers; Vision Standard'' (RIN2126–AC21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3318. A communication from the Attorney Adviser, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Control of Alcohol and Drug Use: Coverage of Mechanical Employees and Miscellaneous Amendments'' (RIN2130–AC80) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3319. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Office of Economics and Analytics, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Auction of Construction Permits for Full Power Television Stations; Notice and Filing Requirements, Minimum Opening Bids, Upfront Payments, and Other Procedures for Auction 112; Bidding Scheduled to Begin June 7, 2022'' ((AU Docket No. 21–449) (DA 22–125)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3320. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Seabird Research Activities in Central California'' (RIN0648–BJ47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3321. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the U.S. Navy Training and Testing Activities in the Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT) Study Area'' (RIN0648–BJ30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3322. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Rocky Intertidal Monitoring Surveys Along the Oregon and California Coasts'' (RIN0648–BJ37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3323. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''2020 Annual Determination To Implement the Sea Turtle Observer Requirement'' (RIN0648–BI91) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3324. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''List of Fisheries for 2020'' (RIN0648–BI76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3325. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''List of Fisheries of 2021'' (RIN0648–BJ47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3326. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

''Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Navy Construction at Naval Station Norfolk in Norfolk, Virginia'' (RIN0648–BJ90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3327. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revisions to Hatchery Programs Included as Part of Pacific Salmon and Steelhead Species Listed Under the Endangered Species Act'' (RIN0648–XE804) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3328. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Species; Removal of Siderastrea glynni From the Federal List of Threatened and Endangered Species'' (RIN0648–XR115) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3329. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Swim With and Approach Regulation for Hawaiian Spinner Dolphins'' (RIN0648–AU02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3330. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan Regulations; Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Provisions; American Lobster Fishery'' (RIN0648–BJ09) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3331. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the U.S. Navy Training and Testing Activities in the Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing Study Area'' (RIN0648–BJ06) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3332. A communication from the Deputy Chief Financial Officer and Director for Financial Management, Office of the Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Civil Monetary Penalty Adjustments for Inflation'' (RIN0605–AA63) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3333. A communication from the Special Assistant of the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision of Critical Habitat for the Southern Resident Killer Whale Distinct Population Segment'' (RIN0648–BH95) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 16, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3334. A communication from the Chief Innovation Officer, Rural Development Innovation Center, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program'' received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3335. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Ipflufenoquin; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 8572–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3336. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Polyammonium Bisulfate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9420–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3337. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Oxirane, 2-(phenoxymethyl)-, polymer with oxirane, ether with 2,2′,2″- nitrilotris[ethanol] (3:1), diblock; Tolerance Exemption'' (FRL No. 9416–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 26, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3338. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fluopyram; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9454–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 26, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3339. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Potassium acetate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9550–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3340. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Adipic acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9551–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3341. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fluridone; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions'' (FRL No. 9459–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3342. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fatty Acids, Esters with Ethoxylated Triethanolamine; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9534–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3343. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Phosphoric Acid; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance'' (FRL No. 9380–01–OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–3344. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Jeffrey A. Rockwell, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3345. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Destruction of the United States Stockpile of Lethal Chemical Agents and Munitions for Fiscal Year 2021''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3346. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, an interim response to a reporting requirement regarding Military Child Care and Child Development Center Matters; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3347. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3348. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, an interim response to a reporting requirement regarding Military Child Care and Child Development Center Matters; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3349. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)'' (RIN0790–AK90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3350. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Admissions Policies and Procedures for the School of Medicine, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences'' (RIN0790–AL01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3351. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Privacy Act of 1974; Implementation'' (RIN0790–AK96) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3352. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

Staff and the Joint Staff Privacy Program'' (RIN0790–AK59) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3353. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Trade Agreements Threshold'' (RIN0750–AL50) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3354. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Admiral Robert P. Burke, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3355. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Jeffrey L. Harrington, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3356. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of General Kenneth F. McKenzie, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3357. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Financial Stability Oversight Council 2021 annual report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3358. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Termination of Waiver with Respect to Certain Persons Identified on the Protecting Europe's Energy Security Act Report''; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3359. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled'' HUD Office of Hearings and Appeals'' (RIN2501–AE00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3360. 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 ''Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Sanctions Regulations'' (31 CFR Part 586) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 28, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3361. 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 ''Russian Harmful Foreign Activities Sanctions Regulations'' (31 CFR Part 587) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3362. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Enterprise Regulatory Capital Framework—Prescribed Leverage Buffer Amount and Credit Risk Transfer'' (RIN2590–AB17) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 3, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3363. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's semiannual Monetary Policy Report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3364. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to Libya that was declared in Executive Order 13566 of February 25, 2011; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3365. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order in order to expand the scope of the national emergency with respect to Ukraine declared in Executive Order 13661 of June 26, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

## EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

George J. Tsunis, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Greece.

### FEDERAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION REPORT

NOMINEE: George J. Tsunis.

POST: Hellenic Republic.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Recipent, amount, report year, report type, entity type, receipt type description, contribution receipt date, YTD, election: Anna Eshoo for Congress, 2,800, 2019, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/18/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Anna Eshoo for Congress, 2,800, 2019, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/18/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Arbor Realty Trust Inc Political Action Committee (Artpac), 5,000 2017, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/14/2017, 0:00, 5,000 P; Arbor Trust Realty, Inc Pac, 5,000, 2020, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/29/2020, 0:00, 5,000, P; Baldwin Wisconsin Victory Fund, 5,000, 2018, 30G, Individual, Contribution, 10/14/2018 0:00, 5,000, G2018; Biden for President, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 4/29/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Biden for President, 2,800, 2020, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution Given to Join, 9/17/2020, 0:00, 5,600 G2020; Biden Victory Fund, 7,200, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/17/2020, 0:00, 7,200 P; Blumenauer for Congress, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 10/27/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Bob Casey for Senate Inc, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/3/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2024; Bob Casey for Senate Inc, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/3/2019, 0:00, 5,600 P2024; Charlie Crist for Congress, 1,800, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/31/2017, 0:00, 1,800, P2018; Chris Pappas for Congress, 2,700, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/16/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Cicilline Committee, 2,700, 2017, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/30/2017, 0:00, 2,700, P2018; Cicilline Committee, 1,000, 2021, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/2/2021, 0:00, 1,000, P2022; Cory 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/31/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Cory Booker for Senate, 5,500, 2020, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Cory Booker for Senate, −2,700, 2020, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Cory Booker for Senate, 100, 2020, Q2 Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Crapo Victory Committee, 2,800, 2020, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/14/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P.

DCCC, 5,000, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/15/2018, 0:00, 5,000 P.De Blasio, 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 5/21/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Democratic Party of Virginia, 5,400, 2018, M7, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 6/30/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 2,300, 2018, 12G, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 10/14/2018, 0:00, 2300, P; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 4,400, 2020, M10, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 9/17/2020, 0:00, 4,400, G2020; DNC Services Corp/Dem. Nat'l Committee, 2,500, 2018, M3, Individual, Contribution, 2/12/2018, 0:00, 2,500, G2018; DSCC, 35,500, 2019, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/5/2019, 0:00, 35,500, P; Duty And Country, 25,000, 2018, M5, Individual, Non-Federal Receipt From Persons, 4/30/2015, 0:00, 25,000, P; Fairness Pac, 5,000, 2019, MY, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 4/3/2019, 0:00, 5,000, P; Freedom Fund, 2,700, 2021, MY, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution Given to Join, 1/15/2021, 0:00, 2,700, P; Friends of Dick Durbin Committee, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 11/6/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Friends of John Barrasso, 2,800, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, G2024; Friends of John Barrasso, 2,800, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2024; Friends of Mark Warner, 2,700, 2018, Q1, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution Given to Join, 2/28/2018, 0:00, 5,400, G2020; Friends of Mark Warner, 2,700, 2018, Q1, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution Given to Join 2/28/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P2020; Friends of Raja for Congress, 1,000, 2018, 30G, Individual, Contribution, 11/6/2018, 0:00, 1,000, G2018; Friends of Schumer, 2,900, 2021, 01, Individual, Contribution, 3/18/2021, 0:00 5800 G2022; Friends of Schumer, 2,900, 2021, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/18/2021, 0:00 5800 P2022; Gillibrand 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/31/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Gillibrand for Senate, 2,700, 2018, Q1 Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/5/2018, 0:00, 5,400, G2018; Gillibrand for Senate, 2,700, 2018, (21 Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/5/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P2018.

IA/NC Senate 2020, 5,600, 2020, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/16/2020, 0:00, 5,600 P; Jeffries for Congress, 2,800, 2020, Q3, Individual, Earmarked, Contribution, 8/1/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020; Jim Risch for US Senate Committee, 1500, 2019, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 8/28/2019, 0:00, 1500, P2020; Jim Risch for US Senate Committee, 2,800, 2020 Q3 Individual, Contribution, 8/31/2020, 0:00, 4,300 G2020; Kaine for Virginia, 2,700, 2018, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 6/12/2018, 0:00, 5,400, Q2018; Kaine for Virginia, 2,700, 2018, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 6/12/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P2018; Kaine Victory Fund, 10,800, 2018, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 5/30/2018 0:00, 10,800 P; Leadership Alliance, 4,8025, 2018, Q3, Individual, Non-Federal Receipt From Persons, 8/7/2018, 0:00, 4,8025 P; Leadership Alliance, 48,025, 2018, Q3, Individual, Non-Federal Receipt From Persons, 8/29/2018, 0:00, 96050 P; Maloney for Congress, 2,700, 2018, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/27/2018, 0:00, 2,700 G2018; Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2021, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/7/2021, 0:00, 5,800, G2022; Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2021, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/7/2021, 0:00, 5,800 P2022; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/22/2017, 0:00, 400, G2018; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/22/2017, 0:00, 400,

P2018; Menendez for Senate, 2,800, 2020, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600 G2024; Menendez for Senate, 2,800, 2020, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 5,600 P2024; Menendez Victory Fund, 5,000 2018, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 5/21/2018, 0:00, 5,000 P; Menendez Victory Fund, 5,000, 2018, Q3, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/11/2018, 0:00, 15,000 P; Menendez Victory Fund, 5,000, 2018, Q3, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/29/2018, 0:00, 15,000 P.

Saddle PAC, 2,700, 2018, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 5/14/2018, 0:00, 2,700 P; Saddle PAC, 2,300, 2018, 30G, Individual, Contribution, 10/9/2018, 0:00, 5,000, P; Schiff for Congress, 2,700, 2018, 12P, Individual, Contribution, 5/14/2018, 0:00, 2,700, P2018; Shaheen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 12/2/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Shaheen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 12/2/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Shaheen Victory Fund 2020, 10,000, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/25/2020, 0:00, 10,000, P; Suozzi for Congress, 2,700, 2018, 12P, Individual, Contribution, 5/15/2018, 0:00, 2,700, P2018; Tammy Baldwin for Senate, 2,700, 2018, 12G, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 10/14/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Team Rand, 4,602, 2021, M5, Individual, Contribution, 4/1/2021, 0:00, 4,600, P; Ted Deutch for Congress Committee, 2,800, 2020, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 2/5/2020, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Ted Deutch for Congress Committee, 5,600, 2020, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 2/5/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Ted Deutch for Congress Committee, 2,800, 2020, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 2/5/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; The Markey Committee, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/2/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Tina Smith for Minnesota, 2,700, 2018, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 5/20/2018, 0:00, 2,700, P2018; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Contribution, 11/7/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Van Hollen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/23/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2022; Van Hollen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/23/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2022; Virginia Together, 5,400, 2018, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 2/5/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P; Winred, 2,800, 2020, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P; Winred, 5,600, 2020, 12G, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 10/2/2020, 0:00, 8,400, P; Zeldin for Congress, 2,800, 2020, 12G, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 10/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020; Zeldin Victory Committee, 2020 2,800, 2020 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020.

Biden for President, 2,800, 2019 Q2, Individual, Contribution, 4/29/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Booker Victory Fund, 2,800, 2020 30G, Individual, Contribution, 11/1/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P; Brindisi for Congress, 1,000, 2018, 12P, Individual, Contribution, 4/22/2018, 0:00, 1,000, P2018; Chris Pappas for Congress, 500, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/16/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Chris Pappas for Congress, 2,200, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/16/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Cory 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/31/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Cory Booker for Senate, 2,700, 2020, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 6/30/2020, 0:00, 2,700, P2020; Cory Booker for Senate, 2,800, 2020, 300, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 11/1/2020, 0:00, 5,500, G2020; Crapo Victory Committee, 2,800, 2020 12P, Individual, Contribution, 10/14/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P; De Blasio, 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q2, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/3/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Freedom Fund, 2,700, 2021, My Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 1/19/2021, 0:00, 2700, P; Friends of Mark Warner, 2,800, 2020, 12P, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/2/2020, 0:00, 5,600 G2020; Friends of Mark Warner, 2,800, 2020, 12P, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 6/2/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Friends of Schumer, 2,900, 2021, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/18/2021, 0:00, 5,800, G2022; Friends of Schumer, 2,900, 2021, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/18/2021, 0:00, 5,800, P2022; Gillbrand 2020, 2,800, 2019, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/31/2019, 0:00, 2,800, P2020; Gillbrand for Senate, 2,700, 2018, Q1 Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/20/2018, 0:00, 5,400, P2018; Gillibrand for Senate, 2,700, 2018, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/20/2018, 0:00, 5,400, G2018; IA/NC Senate 2020, 5,600, 2020, Q1, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 3/16/2020, 0:00, 5,600, P; Jim Risch for U.S. Senate Committee, 2,800, 2020, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 8/31/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020; Luba for Congress, 2,700, 2018, 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/10/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Maloney for Congress, 2,700, 2018, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/27/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018;

McConnell Senate Committee, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/31/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; McConnell Senate Committee, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Contribution, 12/31/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/29/2017, 0:00, 400, G2018; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 2017, Q1, Individual, Contribution, 3/29/2017, 0:00, 400, P2018; Menendez Victory Fund, 10,000, 2018, Q3, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/29/2018, 0:00, 15,000, P; Menendez Victory Fund, 5,000, 2018, Q2, Individual, Contribution, 5/21/2018, 0:00, 5,000, P; Mike Crapo for US Senate, 2,700, 2019, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 8/28/2019, 0:00, 2,700, P2022; Mike Crapo for US Senate, 100, 2021, Q1, Individual, Memo (Filers %, of Contribution, Given to Join, 10/14/2020, 0:00, 2,800, P2022; New Jersey Democratic State Committee, 5,000, 2018, M10, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 9/21/2018, 0:00, 5,000, P; New Jersey Democratic State Committee, 5,000, 2018, 300, Individual, Memo (Filer's % of Contribution, Given to Join, 9/30/2018, 0:00, 10,000, P; New Millennium PAC, 5,000, 2018, YE, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 9/30/2018, 0:00, 5,000, P; Nita Lowey for Congress, 2,700, 2018, Q3, Individual, Contribution, 9/24/2018, 0:00, 2,700, G2018; Rand Paul for US Senate, 1,200, 2021, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 4/5/2021, 0:00, 5,800, G2022; Rand Paul for US Senate, 2,900, 2021, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 4/1/2021, 0:00, 5,800, P2022; Rand Paul for US Senate, 1,700, 2021, Q2, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 4/1/2021, 0:00, 5,800, G2022; Reinventing A New Direction Political Action Committee, 1,700, 2021, M7, Individual, Memo (Filer's of Contribution, Given to Join, 4/5/2021, 0:00, 1,700, P; Shaheen for Senate, 2,800, 2019 YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 12/2/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2020; Shaheen for Senate 2,800, 2019 YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 12/2/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2020; Team Rand, 4,600, 2021 MS, Individual, Contribution, 4/1/2021, 0:00, 4,600, P; Van Hollen for Senate, 2,800, 2019 YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/23/2019, 0:00, 5,600, P2022; Van Hollen for Senate, 2,800, 2019, YE, Individual, Earmarked Contribution, 9/23/2019, 0:00, 5,600, G2022; Zeldin for Congress, 2,800, 2020, 12G, Individual, Memo (Filers % of Contribution, Given to Join, 10/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020; Zeldin Victory Committee, 2020, 2,800, 2020 12G, Individual, Contribution, 10/5/2020, 0:00, 2,800, G2020.

James C. O'Brien, of Nebraska, to be Head of the Office of Sanctions Coordination, with the rank of Ambassador.

Nominee: James C. O'Brien.

Post: State Sanctions Coordinator.

(To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate for my spouse, Mary P. O'Brien, and me.)

Amount, date, and donee: $250, 12/31/20, DSCC; $126, 12/31/20, ActBlue; $12.60, 12/31/20, ActBlue; $500, 11/15/20, Warnock; $500, 11/15/20, Ossoff; $1,000, 11/13/20, Ga. Sen. Vic.; $10, 11/13/20, ActBlue; $63, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $63, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $5, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $5, 10/30/20, ActBlue.

Please see additional contributions in the attachment.

O'Brien—Federal Political Contributions—Attachment November 2021

Amount, date, and donee: $250, 12/31/20, DSCC; $126, 12/31/20, ActBlue; $12.60, 12/31/20, ActBlue; $500, 11/15/20, Warnock; $500, 11/15/20, Ossoff; $1,000, 11/13/20, Ga. Sen. Vic.; $10, 11/13/20, ActBlue; $63, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $63, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $5, 10/30/20, ActBlue; $12, 10/5/20, ActBlue; $5, 9/30/20, ActBlue; $250, 9/30/20, Spanberger for Congress; $100, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $250, 9/29/20, Biden for Pres.; $100, 9/29/20, Montanans For Bullock; $500, 9/29/20, DSCC; $10, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $100, 9/29/20, Bullock For Senate; $5, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $5, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $5, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $50, 9/29/20, Jaime Harrison For Senate; $10, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $5, 9/21/20, ActBlue; $100, 9/21/20, Eastman for Congress; $100, 9/21/20, Gideon for Maine; $10, 9/21/20, ActBlue.

Amount, date, and donee: $538.44, 9/20/20, 14 Sen. candidates*; $50, 9/13/20, ActBlue; $1500, 9/13/20, Biden For Pres.; $1500, 9/13/20, Biden Victory Fund; $10, 9/13/20, ActBlue; $100, 9/13/20, Dem. Party Wisconsin; $10, 9/13/20, ActBlue; $15, 9/13/20, ActBlue; $550, 9/13/20, 11 Sen. Candidates**; $500, 8/14/20, Biden for Pres.; $500, 8/14/20, Biden Victory Fund; $500, 7/31/20, Biden for Pres.; $500, 7/31/20, Biden Victory Fund; $556, 6/30/20, 10 candidates***; $10, 6/30/20, ActBlue; $10, 6/30/20, ActBlue; $250, 6/30/20, Malinowski for Congress; $250, 6/30/20, Biden for President; $10, 6/3/20, ActBlue; $250, 6/3/20, Evelyn4NY (Farkas); $1000, 4/23/20, Biden For Pres.; $1150, 3/31/20, Evelyn4NY (Farkas); $500, 3/31/20, Evelyn4NY(Farkas); $10, 3/31/20, ActBlue; $500, 12/16/19, Evelyn4NY (Farkas); $2.50 9/6/19, ActBlue; $2.50, 9/6/19, ActBlue; $601.90, 5/20/19, Malinowski for Congress; $500, 3/25/19, Kamala For the People; $500, 11/4/18, Soderberg for Congress; $250, 11/4/18, Sinema for Arizona; $250, 11/4/18, Malinowski for Congress; $100, 11/4/18, ActBlue; $250, 10/15/18, Chris Hunter for Congress; $250, 10/15/18, Tom Malinowski for Congress; $1,018.37, 10/15/18, Tom Malinowski for Congress; $2,000, 9/17/18, Lauren Baer for Congress; $250, 8/27/18, Soderberg for Congress; $250, 6/30/18, Soderberg for Congress; $250, 6/30/18, Lauren Baer for Congress; $500, 6/30/18, Chris Hunter for Congress; $250, 6/30/18, Tom Malinowski for Congress; $500, 3/27/18, Lauren Baer for Congress; $250, 12/31/17, Delgado for Congress; $510, 12/29/17, Tom Malinowski for Congress; $500, 12/29/17, Lauren Baer for Congress; $540.66, 12/12/17, Lauren Baer for Congress; $120, 10/30/16, Hillary for America.

*ActBlue distributed this contribution equally to Jaime Harrison, Peters for Michigan, Alan Gross, Doug Jones, MJ For Texas, Ossoff for Senate, Gideon for Maine, Cal4NC, Bullock for Senate, Bollier for Kansas, Greenfield, Hickenlooper, and Warnock for Senate.

**ActBlue distributed this contribution equally to Jaime Harrison, Peters for Michigan, Alan Gross, Doug Jones, MJ For Texas, Ossoff for Senate, Gideon for Maine, Cal4NC, Bullock for Senate, Bollier for Kansas, Greenfield, Hickenlooper, and Warnock for Senate.

***ActBlue distributed this contribution equally to Jaime Harrison, Peters for Michigan, Alan Gross, Doug Jones, MJ For Texas, Ossoff for Senate, Gideon for Maine, Cal4NC, Bullock for Senate, Bollier for Kansas, Greenfield, Hickenlooper, and Warnock for Senate.

Mary P. O'Brien: amount, date, and donee: $100, 1/30/21, Arballo for Congress; $100, 10/28/

20, Arballo for Congress; $10, 10/15/20, ActBlue; $50, 10/15/20, Dr. Cameron Webb for Cong.; $50, 10/15/20, Voter Protection Project; $100, 10/1/20, Espy for Senate; $50, 9/29/20, Jaime Harrison for Senate; $100, 9/29/20, Greenfield for Iowa; $10, 9/29/20, ActBlue; $50, 9/29/20, Voter Protection Project; $100, 2/28/20, Mary Washington (Baltimore); $50, 10/31/19, LGBTQ Victory Fund; $100, 7/27/17, Danica Roem; $10, 7/27/17, ActBlue; $26.85, 10/25/16, Hillary Victory Fund; $5, 3/31/16, ActBlue; $50, 3/31/16, van Hollen for Senate; $2.50, 8/26/15, ActBlue; $25, 8/26/15, van Hollen for Senate; $2,700, 5/13/15, Hillary for America.

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Beth Van Schaack, of California, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice.

Nominee: Elizabeth Van Schaack (''Beth'').

Post: Ambassador-at-Large for Global Criminal Justice.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

Beth Van Schaack: $100, 1/25/2017, Kamala Harris; $125, 2/8/2017 Elizabeth Warren; $500, 2/8/2017, Elizabeth Warren; $500, 2/28/2017, Cory Booker; $100, 4/29/2017, Cory Booker; $1, 5/8/2017, Colin Allred; $1, 5/8/2017, Sharice Davids; $150, 7/3/2017, Kirsten Gillibrand; $250, 8/30/2017, Elissa Slotkin; $100, 10/31/2017, Lauren Baer; $50, 11/29/2017, Lauren Baer; $63 1/7/2018, Elissa Slotkin; $500, 2/2/2018, Ken Harbaugh; $1,000, 2/2/2018, Ken Harbaugh; $250, 2/23/2018, Max Rose; $50, 2/24/2018, Andy Kim; $100, 3/13/2018, Marie Newman; $1,000, 3/14/2018, Lauren Baer; $1,000, 3/14-2018, Tom Malinowski; $100, 3/15/2018, Erin Collier; $500, 3/24/2018, Ken Harbausgh; $500, 3/26/2018, Kirsten Gillibrand; $100, 3/30/2018, Erin Collier; $100, 4/25/2018, Cory Booker; $50, 5/25/2018, Tim Kaine; $500, 6/13/2018, Betsy Rader; $100, 6/15/2018, Tim Kaine; $500, 6/17/2018, Andy Kim; $500, 6/17/2018, Tom Malinowski; $500, 6/21/2018, Colin Allred; $150, 6/26/2018, Lauren Baer; $100, 7/17/2018, Juana Matias; $2,700, 7/27/2018; Abigail Spanberger; $2,700, 7/27/2018, Cindy Axne; $2,700, 7/27/2018, Jared Golden; $2,700, 7/27/2018, Richard Ojeda; $2,700, 7/29/2018, Dan Feehan; $500, 7/30/2018, Tom Malinowski; $250, 8/8/2018, Anthony Brindisi; $2,700, 8/25/2018, Dana Balter; $2,700, 8/25/2018, Kathleen Williams; $2,699, 8/25/2018, Lauren Underwood; $2,700, 8/25/2018, Sean Casten; $2,700, 8/25/2018, Sharice Davids; $1,000, 10/24/2018, Kristen Carlson; $500, 11/19/2018, Mike Espy; $1,000, 2/8/2019, Cory Booker; $100, 5/7/2019, Michael Bennet; $500, 5/12/2019, Seth Moulton; $1,000, 5/13/2019, Dan Baer; $2,000, 5/20/2019, Kamala Harris; $500, 5/30/2019, Kirsten Gillibrand; $250, 5/30/2019, Seth Moulton; $100, 5/31/2019, Beto O'Rourke; $500, 6/14/2019, Joe Biden; $500, 6/24/2019, Roger Misso; $100, 7/13/2019, Amy Klobuchar; $50, 8/31/2019 Adair Boroughs; $250, 9/4/2019, Andy Kim; $250, 9/15/2019, Roger Misso; $100, 9/19/2019, Anthony Brindisi; $13, 9/26/2019, Jeanne Shaheen; $500, 11/2/2019, Cory Booker; $500, 11/15/2019, Andy Kim; $63, 11/25/2019, Sara Gideon; $100, 12/14/2019, Amy Klobuchar; $100, 12/14/2019, Amy Klobuchar; $200, 12/19/2019, Michael Franken; $250 12/28/2019; Roger Misso; $500, 3/12/2020 Ross LaJeunesse; $500, 3/19/2020, Lauren Underwood; $100, 3/31/2020, Andy Kim; $500, 3/31/2020, Evelyn Farkas; $100, 3/31/2020, Lauren Underwood; $500, 3/31/2020, Sri Kulkami; $500, 3/31/2020, Tom Malinowski; $10, 4/21/2020, Tom Malinowski; $100, 4/22/2020, Sara Jacobs; $250, 4/24/2020, Cory Booker; $500, 6/10/2020, Tom Malinowski; $50, 6/11/2020, Joe Biden; $100, 6/22/2020, Josh Harder; $5, 6/22/2020, Joe Biden; $5, 6/22/2020, Joe Biden; $100, 6/27/2020, Anthony Brindisi; $50, 6/27/2020, Joe Biden; $25, 7/13/2020, Joe Biden; $1,000, 7/27/2020, Joe Biden; $250, 7/29/2020, Joe Biden; $250, 8/10/2020, Joe Biden; $10, 8/12/2020, Joe Biden; $50, 8/12/2020, Tom Malinowski; $10, 8/16/2020, Joe Biden; $5, 8/28/2020, Joe Biden; $500, 8/31/2020, Joe Biden; $25, 9/5/2020, Sima Ladjevardian; $500, 9/23/2020, Andy Kim; $50, 9/24/2020, Andy Kim; $500, 9/25/2020, Tom Malinowski; $500, 9/28/2020, Alan Gross; $500, 9/28/2020, Sara Gideon; $500, 9/28/2020, Steve Bullock; $250, 9/29/2020, Theresa Greenfield; $15, 9/30/2020, Joe Biden; $1,000, 10/1/2020, Joe Biden; $500, 10/5/2020, Anthony Brindisi; $100, 10/13/2020, Josh Hicks; $500, 10/15/2020, Dana Balter; $100, 10/15/2020, Steve Bullock; $100, 10/23/2020, MJ Hegar; $250, 11/5/2020, Joe Biden; $50, 11/5/2020, Lauren Underwood; $32, 11/7/2020, Alan Gross; $250, 11/9/2020, Jon Ossoff; $250, 11/9/2020, Raphael Warnock; $83, 12/10/2020, Jon Ossoff; $83, 12/10/2020, Raphael Warnock; $500, 1/8/2021, Nancy Pelosi; $100, 6/1/2021, Cory Booker; $500, 6/22/2021, Jerry Dickinson; $10, 1/25/2017, ActBlue; $10, 1/25/2017, ActBlue Federal Tips; $125, 2/8/2017, Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC); $100, 3/23/2017, DSCC; $100, 3/23/2017, LegitAction, Inc.; $25, 4/27/2017, DSCC; $24, 5/8/2017, ActBlue; $25, 7/19/2017, DSCC; $100, 12/27/2017, Swing Left; $100, 12/27/2017, LegitAction, Inc.; $500, 1/7/2018, Arena; $50, 1/18/2018, LegitAction, Inc.; $100, 1/29/2018, LegitAction Inc.; $100, 2/19/2018, Giffords PAC; $50, 3/8/2018, Giffords PAC; $50, 3/11/2018, Giffords PAC; $250, 3/15/2018, Democratic National Committee; $10, 3/15/2018, ActBlue; $100, 3/17/2018, Giffords PAC; $100, 3/18/2018, Giffords PAC; $100, 3/31/2018, LegitAction, Inc.; $100, 5/12/2018, Giffords PAC; $1,000, 5/16/2018, Flip the 49th; $10, 5/16/2018, ActBlue; $10, 5/16/2018, ActBlue Federal Tips; $1,000, 6/17/2018, Security 44; $5,000, 8/7/2018, Foreign Policy for America; $1,000, 10/24/2018, Civic Innovation Works Inc.; $250, 2/22/2019, Democratic National Committee; $250, 7/15/2019, Win the ERA Pac; $13, 9/26/2019, Legitpac; $3, 9/26/2019, ActBlue; $504, 11/25/2019, ActBlue; $1,000, 12/18/2019, Mind the Gap; $250, 1/8/2020, Democratic National Committee; $52, 3/17/2020, Democratic National Committee; $1, 4/21/2020, ActBlue; $10, 4/22/2020, ActBlue; $10, 5/17/2020, ActBlue; $10, 5/17/2020, Abolish the Electoral College; $3, 6/14/2020, Stop Republicans; $3, 6/14/2020, Stop Republicans; $15, 6/16/2020, Stop Republicans; $25, 6/26/2020, Congressional Black Caucus PAC; $500, 7/27/2020, More Like America; $100, 8/7/2020, The Squad Victory Fund; $15, 8/9/2020, Congressional Black Caucus PAC; $1,000, 8/21/2020, America Votes; $1,000, 8/21/2020, Vote Tripling PAC; $3, 8/22/2020, Congressional Black Caucus PAC; $1, 8/28/2020, ActBlue; $1, 8/28/2020, ActBlue Federal Tips; $50, 9/3/2020, Taking the Hill; $250, 9/12/2020, PowerPAC.org; $1, 9/20/2020, Daily Kos Liberation League; $500, 10/2/2020, The Squad Victory Fund; $100, 10/3/2020, Committee for Hispanic Causes; $100, 10/15/2020, Daily Kos; $500, 10/15/2020, More Like America; $1,000, 10/22/2020, Future Forward PAC; $500, 10/22/2020, More Like America; $20, 10/23/2020, ActBlue; $20, 10/23/2020, ActBlue Federal Tips; $50, 11/1/2020, Pennsylvania Democratic Party; $10, 11/4/2020, Daily Kos; $32 11/7/2020, Congressional Black Caucus PAC; $500, 11/9/2020, Georgia Senate Victory Fund; $83, 12/10/2020, Democratic National Committee; $250, 1/21/2021, Democratic National Committee; $4, 7/19/2021, ActBlue Federal Tips; $35, 7/19/2021, National Democratic Training Committee;

Brent Lang: $1,000, 5/9/2019, Cory Booker; $1,000, 5/10/2019, Brynne Kennedy; $10, 5/26/2019, Seth Moulton; $500, 8/22/2019, Brynne Kennedy; $100, 11/26/2019, Brynne Kennedy; $1,200, 2/25/2020, Brynne Kennedy; $100, 2/25/2020, Brynne Kennedy; $1,000, 5/18/2020, Brynne Kennedy; $500, 6/1/2020, Lauren Underwood; $500, 6/1/2020, Lauren Underwood; $2,800, 7/12/2020, Joe Biden; $700, 8/31/2020, Brynne Kennedy; $500, 9/30/2020, Lauren Underwood; $1000, 10/1/2020, Joe Biden.

Randi Charno Levine, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Portuguese Republic.

Nominee: Randi Charno Levine.

Post: Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Portuquese Republic.

Nominated: November 4, 2021.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

Manchin for West Virginia, 2,700, 4/23/2018, Levine, Randi; Manchin for West Virginia, 2,700, 4/23/2018, Levine, Randi; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 6/5/2018, Levine, Randi; Biden for President, 2,800, 7/3/2019, Levine, Randi; Cory 2020, 2,800, 9/24/2019, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Randi; Amy for America, 2,800, 10/31/2019, Levine, Randi; Schiff for Congress, 2,800, 12/23/2019, Levine, Randi; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 12/27/2019, Levine, Randi; Cal for NC, 2,800, 2/12/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 1,000, 5/18/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 1,000, 5/18/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 50,000, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 34,500, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi: DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 15,500, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Biden Action Fund, 100,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 91,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 9,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Action Fund, 25,000, 8/6/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp / Democratic National Committee, 25,000, 8/6/2020, Levine, Randi Beth.

Biden Victory Fund, 40,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 10,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 3,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic party 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party Federal, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020 Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida,, 666.67, 10/1/2020 Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi;

Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi.

North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 45,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 1,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi.

New Hampshire Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 15,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/712020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 2,666.67, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 666.67, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 200, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,800, 10/19/2020, Levine, Randi; SMP, 25,000, 10/20/2020, Levine, Randi B.; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 3,000, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Hiral for Congress, 1,000, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 66.67, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly Victory Fund, 1,250, 10/22/2020, Levine, Randi.

Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 1,000, 10/27/2020, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,800, 10/28/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,250, 10/29/2020, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Maggie for NH, 1,000, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Schiff Leads PAC, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Schiff for Congress, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Blumenthal Victory Fund, 5,800, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; New Yorkers for Tali, 5,100, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,900, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; Catherine Cortez Masto for Senate, 2,900, 5/21/2021, Levine, Randi; Shaun Donovan for Mayor, 5,100, 5/27/2021, Levine, Randi; Democratic National Committee (DNC), 18,250, 6/8/2021, Levine, Randi; Donnelly for Indiana, 1,000, 10/27/2017, Levine, Jeffrey; Crowley Leadership Fund, 2,700, 1/19/2018, Levine, Jeffrey; Crowley for Congress, 2,700, 1/26/2018, Levine, Jeffrey E.; Jobs, Education, & Families First—Jeff PAC, 5,000, 2/22/2018, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of David Weprin—ID# 16341, 500, 05/03/2018, Jeffrey Levine; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 08/09/2018, Jeffrey Levine; Ugenti-Rita for Senate, 1,000, 8/18/2018 Jeff Levine; Katz Nys (New York State)—ID# 14106, 2,500, 05/20/2019, Jeffrey E Levine; Biden for President, 2,800, 7/3/2019, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Jeffrey E.; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Jeffrey E.; Benjamin for New York—ID# 14412, 1,000, 11/14/2019, Jeffrey Levine; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 12/17/2019, Jeffrey Levine; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 12/18/2019, Levine, Jeffrey; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; DMFI PAC, 5,000, 3/26/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; Shaun Donovan for Mayor, 400, 7/30/2020, Levine, Jeffrey.

Kaminsky for New York—ID# 22504, 1,000, 09/29/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,800, 10/19/2020, Levine, Jeff; Mark Kelly Victory Fund, 1,250, 10/22/2020, Levine, Jeff; Betty for Phoenix City Council District 5, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Deb Stark for Phoenix, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Kate Gallego for Phoenix Mayor, 5,000, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Anna Kaplan for NY State Senate—ID# 6317, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,800, 10/28/2020, Levine, Jeff; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,250, 10/29/2020, Levine, Jeff; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 12/16/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Schiff Leads PAC, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Schiff for Congress, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey E.; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey E.; James Gennaro for City Council, 250, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Robert E. Cornegy, Jr. for Borough President, 320, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Eric Adams for Mayor, 400, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Blumenthal Victory Fund, 5,800, 5/11/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,900, 5/11/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kathryn Garcia for Mayor, 400, 5/19/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic National Committee (DNC), 18,250, 6/8/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kyrsten Sinema for Arizona, 5,800, 6/17/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kathy Hochul, 25,000, 09/20/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic Organization of Queens County, 1,000, 04/29/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic Organization of Queens County, 2,500, 04/20/2017, Levine, Jeffrey; Nysafah (Affordable Housing PAC, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 02/15/2017, Douglaston Development; Benjamin for New York—ID# 14412, 250, 03/16/2017, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nysafah (Affordable Housing PAC, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 02/27/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; Real Estate Board PAC—ID# 6884, 25,000, 10/31/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Jobs for New York—1D# 6924, 25,000, 10/31/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nys Senate Republican Campaign Committee (Nyssroc)—ID# 2480, 25,000, 11/01/2018, Douglaston Development LLC.

New York State Democratic Committee—ID# 11236, 15,000, 11/01/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nys Democratic Senate Campaign Committee (Nys Dscc)—ID# 160, 15,000, 11/02/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; Katz Nys (New York State)—ID# 16592, 5,000, 01/08/2019, Douglaston Development; Nysafah (Affordable Housing PAC, Ltd)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 03/26/2019, Douglaston Development LLC; Real Estate Board PAC—ID# 6884, 5,000, 10/27/2020, Douglaston Development, LLC; Rsa PAC—ID# 1156, 297, 4/3/2018, Clinton Management LLC.

Committee name, amount, date, and donee:

Manchin for West Virginia, 2,700, 4/23/2018, Levine, Randi; Manchin for West Virginia, 2,700, 4/23/2018, Levine, Randi; Menendez for Senate, 2,700, 6/5/2018, Levine, Randi; Biden for President, 2,800, 7/3/2019, Levine, Randi; Cory 2020, 2,800, 9/24/2019, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Randi; Amy for America, 2,800, 10/31/2019, Levine, Randi; Schiff for Congress, 2,800, 12/23/2019, Levine, Randi; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 12/27/2019, Levine, Randi; Cal for NC, 2,800, 2/12/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 1,000, 5/18/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 1,000, 5/18/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 50,000, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 34,500, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 15,500, 5/28/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Biden Action Fund, 100,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 91,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 9,000, 6/23/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Action Fund, 25,000, 8/6/2020, Levine, Randi; DNC Services Corp/Democratic National Committee, 25,000, 8/6/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Biden Victory Fund, 40,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 10,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 3,000, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi.

Colorado Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 2,666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of

Virginia, 2,666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 666.67, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 666.66 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi.

Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 666.66, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 200, 10/1/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 45,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi.

New Hampshire Democratic Party, 3,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 1,000, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee of Florida, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 66.67, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Texas Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Democratic Party of Virginia, 66.66, 10/3/2020, Levine, Randi; Biden Victory Fund, 15,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Ohio Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; North Carolina Democratic Party—Federal, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Colorado Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Wisconsin, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Nebraska Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi.

Texas Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Nevada State Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Pennsylvania Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi Beth; Georgia Federal Elections Committee, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Party of Virginia, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Democratic Executive Committee, of Florida, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; New Hampshire Democratic Party, 1,000, 10/7/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 2,666.67, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 666.67, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 200, 10/13/2020, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,800, 10/19/2020, Levine, Randi; SMP 25000 10/20/2020, Levine, Randi B.; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 3,000, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Hiral for Congress, 1,000, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 66.67, 10/21/2020, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly Victory Fund, 1,250, 10/22/2020, Levine, Randi; Michigan Democratic State Central Committee, 1,000, 10/27/2020, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,800, 10/28/2020, Levine, Randi; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,250, 10/29/2020, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,900, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Maggie for NH, 1,000, 2/22/2021, Levine, Randi; Schiff Leads PAC, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Schiff for Congress, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Randi; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021 Levine, Randi.

Blumenthal Victory Fund, 5,800, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; New Yorkers for Tali, 5,100, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,900, 5/11/2021, Levine, Randi; Catherine Cortez Masto for Senate, 2,900, 5/21/2021, Levine, Randi; Shaun Donovan for Mayor, 5,100, 5/27/2021, Levine, Randi; Democratic National Committee, (DNC), 18,250, 6/8/2021, Levine, Randi; Donnelly for Indiana, 1,000, 10/27/2017, Levine, Jeffrey; Crowley Leadership Fund, 2,700, 1/19/2018, Levine, Jeffrey Crowley for Congress, 2,700, 1/26/2018, Levine, Jeffrey E; Jobs, Education, & Families First—Jeff PAC, 5,000, 2/22/2018, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of David Wepnn—ID# 16341, 500, 05/03/2018, Jeffrey Levine; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5000, 08/09/2018, Jeffrey Levine; Ugenti-Rita for Senate, 1,000, 8/18/2018, Jeff Levine; Katz Nys (New York State)—ID# 14106, 2,500, 05/20/2019, Jeffrey E Levine; Biden for President, 2,800, 7/3/2019, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Jeffrey E; Friends of Schumer, 2,800, 10/21/2019, Levine, Jeffrey E; Benjamin for New York—ID# 14412, 1,000, 11/14/2019, Jeffrey Levine; Friends for Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 12/17/2019, Jeffrey Levine; Torres for Congress, 2,800, 12/18/2019, Levine, Jeffrey; Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Jeffrey.

Biden for President, 2,800, 3/4/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; DMFI PAC, 5,000, 3/26/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; Shaun Donovan for Mayor, 400, 7/30/2020, Levine, Jeffrey; Kaminsky For New York—ID# 22504, 1,000, 09/29/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,800, 10/19/2020, Levine, Jeff; Mark Kelly Victory Fund, 1,250, 10/22/2020, Levine, Jeff; Betty for Phoenix City Council District 5, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Deb Stark for Phoenix, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Kate Gallego for Phoenix Mayor, 5,000, 10/27/2020, Jeff Levine; Anna Kaplan For NY State Senate—ID# 6317, 2,500, 10/27/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Sean Patrick Maloney for Congress, 2,800, 10/28/2020, Levine, Jeff; Arizona Democratic Party, 1,250, 10/29/2020, Levine, Jeff; Friends For Kathy Hochul—ID# 16851, 5,000, 12/16/2020, Jeffrey Levine; Schiff Leads PAC, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Schiff for Congress, 2,900, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey E; Friends of Schumer, 100, 3/16/2021, Levine, Jeffrey E; James Gennaro for City Council, 250, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Robert E Cornegy, Jr for Borough President, 320, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Eric Adams for Mayor, 400, 5/5/2021, Levine, Jeffrey.

Blumenthal Victory Fund, 5,800, 5/11/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Mark Kelly for Senate, 2,900, 5/11/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kathryn Garcia for Mayor, 400, 5/19/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic National Committee (DNC), 18,250, 6/8/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kyrsten Sinema for Arizona, 5,800, 6/17/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Kathy Hochul, 25,000, 09/20/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic Organization of Queens County, 1,000, 04/29/2021, Levine, Jeffrey; Democratic Organization of Queens County, 2,500, 04/20/2017, Levine, Jeffrey; Nysafah (Affordable Housing Pac, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 02/15/2017, Douglaston Development; Benjamin For New York—ID# 14412, 250, 03/16/2017, Douglaston Development LLC; Nysafah (Affordable Housing Pac, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 02/27/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; Real Estate Board Pac—ID# 6884, 25,000, 10/31/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Jobs For New York—ID# 6924, 25,000, 10/31/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nys Senate Republican Campaign Committee (Nyssrcc)—ID# 2480, 25,000, 11/01/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; New York State Democratic Committee—ID# 11236, 15,000, 11/01/2018, Douglaston Development, LLC; Nys Democratic Senate Campaign Committee (Nys Dscc)—ID# 160, 15,000, 11/02/2018, Douglaston Development LLC; Katz Nys (New York State)—ID# 16592, 5,000, 01/08/2019, Douglaston Development LLC; Nysafah (Affordable Housing Pac, Ltd.)—ID# 2256, 1,000, 03/26/2019, Douglaston Development LLC; Real Estate Board Pac—ID# 6884, 5,000, 10/27/2020, Douglaston Development, LLC; Rsa Pac—ID# 1156, 297, 4/3/2018, Clinton Management LLC.

Laura Farnsworth Dogu, of Texas, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Honduras.

Nominee: Laura Farnsworth Dogu.

Post: Honduras.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, donee:

None, Laura F. Dogu; None, (deceased spouse) Murat Aydin Dogu.

N. Nickolas Perry, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Jamaica.

Nominee Noah Nickolas Perry.

Post Kingston.

(The following is a list of members of my immediate family. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee: Noah Perry, $150.00 11/04/21 ActBlue; Noah Perry, $100.00, 07/28/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $100.00, 06/27/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $100.00, 06/27/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/30/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/30/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/16/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/16/21, Friends of Schumer;

Noah Perry, $50.00, 04/29/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 04/29/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, 25.00, 04/17/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/17/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $25.00, 01/06/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 01/05/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 12/14/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 12/14/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 12/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 12/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 11/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 11/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/30/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/28/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/17/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 10/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 10/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/06/20, Biden for President, Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $50.00, 09/20/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $50.00, 09/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $35.00, 09/19/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/17/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/13/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/13/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 09/12/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 09/12/20 DSCC; Noah Perry, $5.00, 09/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $250.00, 09/03/20 DSCC; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $10.00, 08/12/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $10.00, 08/12/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $7.00, 08/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $33.00, 08/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $250.00, 08/03/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/03/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/21/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 07/01/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 06/27/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 06/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/08/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $29.00, 05/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/03/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/30/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 04/24/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 04/24/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/21/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 03/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 03/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $5.00, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/10/19, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 01/19/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 01/19/20, ActBlue.

Novalie Perry, $50.00, 06/02/20, ActBlue.

Joyce M. Perry, None, none, none.

FEDERAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS—
Noah Nickolas Perry

Contributions, amount, date, and donee: Noah Perry, $150.00, 11/04/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $100.00, 07/28/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $100.00, 06/27/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $100.00, 06/27/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/30/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/30/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/16/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/16/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $50.00, 04/29/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 04/29/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/17/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/17/21, Friends of Schumer; Noah Perry, $25.00, 01/06/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 01/05/21, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 12/14/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 12/14/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 12/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 12/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 11/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 11/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/30/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/28/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/17/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 10/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 10/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/06/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $50.00, 10/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 10/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $50.00, 09/20/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $50.00, 09/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $35.00, 09/19/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/17/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/13/20, Biden for President; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/13/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 09/12/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 09/12/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $5.00, 09/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 09/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $250.00, 09/03/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 08/23/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $10.00, 08/12/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $10.00, 08/12/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/05/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $7.00, 08/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $33.00, 08/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $250.00, 08/03/20, DSCC; Noah Perry, $25.00, 08/03/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/21/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 07/01/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 06/27/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 06/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/08/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $29.00, 05/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 05/04/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $50.00, 05/03/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/30/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 04/24/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 04/24/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/21/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/10/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 04/05/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 03/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 03/20/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $12.50, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $5.00, 02/06/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $25.00, 07/10/19, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 01/19/20, ActBlue; Noah Perry, $10.00, 01/19/20, ActBlue.

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Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Mallory A. Stewart, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance).

Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a term of two years.

C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Security and Non-Proliferation).

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

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

Foreign Service nomination of Scott Bruns.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Casey E. Bean and ending with Erich R. Kuss, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 17, 2021.

Foreign Service nomination of Ronald P. Verdonk.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Lisa M. Allen and ending with Jasmine M. Osinski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 17, 2021.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Stephen Anderson and ending with Eugene West, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 17, 2021. (minus 1 nominee: William Steuer)

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Randy W. Berry and ending with Lynne Marie Tracy, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 17, 2021.

Foreign Service nominations beginning with Kathy E. Body and ending with Jessica Hunter Zaman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on January 31, 2022.

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Robert Phillip Storch, of the District of Columbia, to be Inspector General, Department of Defense.

*Peter J. Beshar, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.

*Christopher Joseph Lowman, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Frank Calvelli, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

*Lester Martinez-Lopez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Agnes Schaefer, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

*Franklin R. Parker, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

By Mr. MANCHIN for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

*Shalanda H. Baker, of Texas, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Department of Energy.

*Asmeret Asefaw Berhe, of California, to be Director of the Office of Science, Department of Energy.

*Sara C. Bronin, of Connecticut, to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for a term expiring January 19, 2025.

*Joseph F. DeCarolis, of North Carolina, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration.

By Mr. WARNER for the Select Committee on Intelligence.

*Kenneth L. Wainstein, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. TILLIS (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. COTTON, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3772. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to limit foreign interference with respect to the right to file and maintain a patent infringement claim, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 3773. A bill to authorize the leases of up to 99 years for land held in trust for the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3774. A bill to address the disparate impact of climate change on women and support the efforts of women globally to address climate change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3775. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to enter into contracts with satellite-based companies to provide or propagate internet and mobile services in countries where the United States Government is engaged in, or providing support related to, contingency operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 3776. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to make fraudulent dealings in firearms and ammunition unlawful, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BURR):

S. 3777. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide that it is unlawful to knowingly distribute private intimate visual depictions with reckless disregard for the individual's lack of consent to the distribution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 3778. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to make premium and cost-sharing subsidies available to low-income Medicare part D beneficiaries who reside in Puerto Rico or another territory of the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. REED, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 3779. A bill to establish a clear and uniform process, on a nationwide basis, for replacing the London interbank offered rate in existing contracts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 3780. A bill to provide security assistance for Ukraine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. WARNOCK, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 3781. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exclude a basic allowance for housing from income for purposes of eligibility for the supplemental nutrition assistance program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 3782. A bill to prohibit the delivery of opioids by means of the dark web, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 3783. A bill to establish a critical mineral environmental processing and mining cleanup program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. 3784. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to submit to Congress a report relating to the blockchain-based service network of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WICKER:

S. 3785. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to eliminate the restriction on veterans concurrently serving in the Offices of Administrator and Deputy Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 3786. A bill to suspend normal trade relations treatment for the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 3787. A bill to prohibit the importation of petroleum products from the Russian Federation, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish an income tax credit for the sale or blending of certain fuels containing ethanol and to extend tax incentives for biodiesel and renewable diesel, to amend the Clean Air Act with respect to the ethanol waiver for Reid vapor pressure limitations under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 3788. A bill to address the homelessness and housing crises, to move toward the goal of providing for a home for all Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 538. A resolution expressing support for a second United States-Africa Leaders Summit as an important opportunity to strengthen ties between the United States and African partners and build on areas of mutual interest; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. Res. 539. A resolution directing the Architect of the Capitol to obtain and place a memorial plaque for the United States Capitol Police Officer William F. Evans at the north security kiosk of the Capitol; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. Res. 540. A resolution supporting the goals of International Women's Day; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. PETERS):

S. Con. Res. 32. A concurrent resolution expressing support for the recognition of March 10, 2022, as ''Abortion Provider Appreciation Day''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 212

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 212, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind.

S. 350

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 350, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs under part A of title XI of such Act relating to genetic diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 403

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes.

S. 488

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 488, a bill to provide for congressional review of actions to terminate or waive sanctions imposed with respect to Iran.

S. 563

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 563, a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit certain financial service providers who deny fair access to financial services from using taxpayer funded discount window lending programs, and for other purposes.

S. 564

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 564, a bill to prohibit Members of Congress from purchasing or selling certain investments, and for other purposes.

S. 618

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 618, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and extend the deduction for charitable contributions for individuals not itemizing deductions.

S. 775

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 775, a bill to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing-related misconduct, and for other purposes.

S. 819

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 819, a bill to enhance the security of the United States and its allies, and for other purposes.

S. 828

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 828, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend subpart 1 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to ensure that mental health screenings and assessments are provided to children and youth upon entry into foster care.

S. 864

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 864, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 910

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 910, a bill to create protections for financial institutions that provide financial services to cannabis-related legitimate businesses and service providers for such businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 990

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 990, a bill to reauthorize the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area.

S. 1093

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1093, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department the Veterans Economic Opportunity and Transition Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1116

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1116, a bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employees duty, and for other purposes.

S. 1450

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1450, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for expanded coverage of services furnished by genetic counselors under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1489

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1489, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to establish an Inspector General of the Office of the United States Trade Representative, and for other purposes.

S. 1615

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1615, a bill to limit the scope of regulations issued by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to control communicable diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 1748

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1748, a bill to modify the prohibition on recognition by United States courts of certain rights relating to certain marks, trade names, or commercial names.

S. 1782

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1782, a bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program to facilitate tree planting that reduces residential energy consumption, and for other purposes.

S. 2607

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2607, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the former hostages of the Iran Hostage Crisis of 1979–1981, highlighting their resilience throughout the unprecedented ordeal that they lived through and the national unity it produced, marking 4 decades since their 444 days in captivity, and recognizing their sacrifice to the United States.

S. 2653

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2653, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2653, supra.

S. 2705

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2705, a bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish Tribal Wildlife Corridors, and for other purposes.

S. 2779

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2779, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a Task Force on Maternal Mental Health, and for other purposes.

S. 2854

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) were added as cosponsors of S. 2854, a bill to allow for the transfer and redemption of abandoned savings bonds.

S. 3108

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 3108, a bill to provide counsel for unaccompanied children, and for other purposes.

S. 3176

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3176, a bill to establish a cause of action for those harmed by exposure to water at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, and for other purposes.

S. 3210

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3210, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend to Black veterans of World War II, and surviving spouses and certain direct descendants of such veterans, eligibility for certain housing loans and educational assistance administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 3447

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3447, a bill to authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

S. 3593

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3593, a bill to amend titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend certain telehealth services covered by Medicare and to evaluate the impact of telehealth services on Medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

S. 3614

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr.

RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3614, a bill to prohibit the importation of seafood and seafood products from the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

S. 3700

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3700, a bill to provide for appropriate cost-sharing for insulin products covered under Medicare part D and private health plans.

S. 3741

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3741, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for the private interim storage of spent nuclear fuel, and for other purposes.

S. 3754

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3754, a bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil and petroleum products from the Russian Federation, to impose sanctions with respect to persons involved in the importation of such crude oil and petroleum products who have engaged in acts of corruption or who are responsible for serious human rights abuses, and for other purposes.

S. 3757

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 3757, a bill to prohibit the importation of crude oil, petroleum, petroleum products, liquefied natural gas, and coal from the Russian Federation.

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3757, supra.

S. 3760

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3760, a bill to continue the temporary waiver of interest on State unemployment loans during the pandemic to provide additional relief, and for other purposes.

S. 3765

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3765, a bill to provide assistance to American fisheries participants to comply with Federal regulations to protect the endangered North Atlantic right whale by reducing the risk of incidental entanglement in fishing gear.

S. RES. 513

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 513, a resolution recognizing the growing threats against women and children, religious and ethnic minorities, and LGBTQI persons in Afghanistan and against allies of such individuals, such as civil society leaders and activists, scholars, former government officials, journalists, and media workers, and expressing solidarity with and reaffirming the dire need to protect vulnerable and minority populations and their allies in Afghanistan under Taliban rule.

S. RES. 534

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 534, a resolution condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities and reaffirming support for the students of historically Black colleges and universities.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3774. A bill to address the disparate impact of climate change on women and support the efforts of women globally to address climate change, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Women and Climate Change Act of 2022. This bill affirms the U.S. commitment to supporting a group of people who are most often negatively impacted by climate change, yet too often left out of decisionmaking and policy development—women. The bill creates a Federal interagency working group, established by the Department of State, that will collect data and develop policies and strategies to address the effects of climate change on women both at home and abroad. Communities all across the United States and the world are currently feeling the impacts of climate change. The time to empower women to respond to this crisis is now. As we commemorate International Women's Day today, we are reminded of the important roles that women play in communities across the world and seize this opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to working towards equity.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNFCC, highlights that the majority of the world's poor is made up of women who rely on natural resources in their daily lives and are least likely to be able to respond to extreme weather events. These women disproportionately face the brunt of climate change impacts, yet too often have little power or say over how they, their families, and their communities are able to combat climate change. UNFCC notes that when women are allowed a role in developing strategies that address climate change, it often results in great responsiveness to local needs, enabling resilience and capacity building, and delivering peace across communities.

The rising costs of climate change to communities at home and abroad, both in terms of fatalities and expenses, are sobering. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, last year the United States alone experienced 20 weather and climate disasters that cost at least $1 billion each, netting a $145 billion price tag and resulting in 688 deaths. Data from NOAA indicates a trend of increasing billion-dollar disasters each decade since the 1980s, with the expectation that the trend will continue.

According to Christian Aid, a relief agency in the United Kingdom working to address poverty, the 10 worst global climate disasters in 2021 cost $170 billion. These included Hurricane Ida, which impacted the east coast of the United States and resulted in at least 95 deaths, flooding in Europe that caused 240 fatalities, and July floods in China that killed over 300 individuals.

The latest report issued by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, IPCC, last month highlights the consequences that the world will face if countries do not take immediate and significant action to address climate change. These consequences include extreme heat, floods, wildfire, drought, and famine that could result in malnutrition and displacement of people across the globe. The report also noted that between 2010 and 2020, extreme weather events fueled by climate change killed 15 times the number of people in poor countries as in wealthier nations. The report underscores how women will continue to face mounting challenges as the world experiences more severe and costly climate-fueled disasters. Women play a critical role in combating climate change—both within their communities and on a global scale. By including them at all levels, from planning to implementation, and providing them with the platform and support to carry out these strategies, we have the opportunity to create fair, effective, and sustainable solutions to respond to the climate crisis.

This bill is a companion to H.R. 260, which was introduced by my colleague Representative BARBARA LEE early last year. I thank her for her leadership on this bill and look forward to continuing our work to see that women all across the world are empowered to help confront this global crisis.

Groups in support of this bill include Sierra Club, Planned Parenthood, the Women's Environment and Development Organization, Madre, Outdoor Afro, California Environmental Voters, Oxfam America, League of Conservation Voters, and Schools for Climate Action.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 3788. A bill to address the homelessness and housing crises, to move toward the goal of providing for a home for all Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Housing Act for All Act of 2022, which I introduced today.

The homelessness and housing crises have worsened in recent years. As of January 2020, more than 580,000 individuals in the country, disproportionately people of color, were experiencing homelessness. Rates of unsheltered homelessness have increased over the last few years, and people experiencing unsheltered homelessness have a mortality rate four to nine times higher than that of the general public. A lack of affordable housing and housing assistance programs have contributed to homelessness. There is a shortage of 6.8 million affordable rental homes in the United States. Even before the pandemic, one in four renters spent half of their monthly income on rent, and nearly a million tenants were evicted each year. I believe every person has a right to housing.

That is why I am proud to introduce this bill, which represents a comprehensive approach to tackling housing and homelessness. If enacted, it would invest in and align Federal resources to support those experiencing housing instability. To address the homelessness and housing crises, we must invest in policies that support strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and ensure quality affordable homes for all.

Specifically, this bill will address the affordable housing shortage by investing in the housing trust fund, the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program, Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program, and the HOME Program. It establishes a Commission to focus on racial equity in housing and homelessness.

It will address homelessness by investing in housing choice vouchers project-based rental assistance, emergency solutions grants, and continuums of care. It will create grant programs to strengthen mobile crisis intervention teams; to support hotel and motel conversions to permanent supportive housing with services; to aid libraries in supporting persons experiencing homelessness; and to provide people living in vehicles with a safe place to park overnight and facilitate a transition to stable housing. And it commissions a report on the connection between evictions and emergency rental assistance during the pandemic, so we can make smarter policy moving forward.

When I have traveled around the State—from LA County to Inland Empire, to Fresno, to San Diego, to San Francisco—to get a sense of the needs for housing in different communities, some key elements stood out. On the production side, there is a need for more dedicated funding for affordable housing from the Federal Government. There is also missing middle housing for families, especially people of color. And there is not enough housing near transit. That is why my bill focuses on supporting inclusive, transit-oriented development. When I talked to researchers about keeping families housed, one main point they made is that we don't have enough data on renters and evictions, and that is why I wanted to include a section of the bill on data—so we can make evidence-based policies. Right now, the cost to build low-income housing in California is very high because of land and material costs as well as the fragmented way that funding gets doled out in California. That is why I included a section to provide technical assistance for localities navigating Federal and State housing funding sources.

The COVID–19 pandemic has underscored the need for affordable, safe, and supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness. Because of the pandemic, many lost their housing, while others struggled to make rent for the first time. Some didn't know where to turn as shelters faced capacity limits and food banks saw overwhelming demand. These hardships were especially prevalent for those who had already been marginalized—including communities of color, low-income communities, and those with disabilities.

As we begin to recover from the pandemic, it is our job to rebuild a more inclusive and equitable world for all. A just recovery includes expanding affordable housing options to provide people with a sense of stability. It also means respecting the dignity and supporting the health of all community members. Affordable housing is essential infrastructure. Every person deserves dignity, security, and space of their own.

I want to thank Representatives LIEU and CARBAJAL for introducing this bill with me, and I hope our colleagues will join us in support of this solution to our housing and homelessness crises.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 538—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A SECOND UNITED STATES-AFRICA LEADERS SUMMIT AS AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN TIES BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND AFRICAN PARTNERS AND BUILD ON AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST

Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 538

Whereas meaningful and consistent high-level multilateral engagement between the United States and Africa is necessary for the foreign policy of the United States to keep pace with the rapid transformation and demographic shifts in Africa and to ensure that the United States understands and responds to the dynamism and ambitions of its African partners;

Whereas successive United States' Presidential administrations and Congress have identified strategic competition with the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and other malign actors as a threat to the national security priorities of the United States that requires building and maintaining networks of bilateral and multilateral partners and allies, including countries in Africa;

Whereas the People's Republic of China, the European Union, India, Japan, the Russian Federation, and Turkey, among others, have held high-level summits with African leaders to discuss policy priorities and deepen economic, political, and security partnerships;

Whereas, during August 4 through 6, 2014, President Barack Obama hosted the first and only United States-Africa Leaders Summit (referred to in this preamble as the ''2014 Summit'') in Washington, D.C., with African leaders representing 50 countries, the African Union Commission, and various private sector and civil society leaders under the theme ''Investing in the Next Generation'';

Whereas the 2014 Summit provided a forum for African leaders to engage in frank exchanges with the Government of the United States and congressional leaders, business executives, and members of civil society regarding—

(1) development and economic challenges;

(2) trade, investment, and economic cooperation;

(3) democracy, human rights, and governance; and

(4) peace and regional security;

Whereas, on February 5, 2021, at the 34th Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly, President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., outlined the vision of his administration for a United States-Africa partnership to strengthen relationships and build on mutual interests and respect with the governments, people (including people of the African Diaspora), and regional multilateral institutions of Africa;

Whereas, on November 19, 2021, during a speech to the Economic Community of West African States in Abuja, Nigeria, Secretary of State Antony Blinken announced that the United States would host a second United States-Africa Leaders Summit ''to drive the kind of high-level diplomacy and engagement that can transform relationships and make effective cooperation possible''; and

Whereas a well-organized and resourced second United States-Africa Leaders Summit, with an established mechanism for continuity and follow-up, will create a platform upon which the United States and African partners can better structure United States-Africa relationships, deliver on commitments, solve problems, and work together as partners on areas of mutual interest: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the administration of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., hosting a second United States-Africa Leaders Summit (referred to in this resolution as the ''Summit'') as a vital opportunity to strengthen ties between the United States and African partners;

(2) underscores the importance of bipartisan, bicameral congressional participation in the Summit;

(3) commits to working with the heads of state, civil society, private sector, and the African Diaspora to build stronger ties with the United States and pursue mutual interests; and

(4) urges the Biden administration—

(A) to conduct adequate and diverse consultation with African leaders, the African Diaspora, educational institutions, private sector and civil society organizations of the United States and Africa, and public policy institutions in planning the Summit;

(B) to consider hosting the Summit in a location outside of Washington, D.C., that will—

(i) draw broad participation from State governors and high-level corporate leadership in the United States; and

(ii) clarify that the private sector, rather than governments, is the primary driver of the commercial relationship between the United States and African countries;

(C) to consider facilitating trips by African leaders to other cities in the United States and inviting like-minded partners from Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and the Western Hemisphere to participate as observers;

(D) to ensure that sessions focused on trade and investment between the United States and Africa include adequate facilitation of business-focused deal-making with African governments, the African Diaspora, and private sector through Prosper Africa and other similar initiatives;

(E) to include a theme for the Summit that focuses on shared democracy, governance, and human rights concerns and priorities;

(F) to create opportunities during the Summit for direct congressional engagement and to ensure the participation of multiple cabinet members, including members who do not traditionally work on foreign policy, trade, and investment;

(G) to hold bilateral one-on-one presidential engagements during the Summit to build stronger personal relationships with African leaders while also solidifying commitments and areas of mutual interest;

(H) to issue a formal declaration or communique after the Summit describing commitments and a roadmap for future engagement; and

(I) to create a formal mechanism, with appropriate funding and personnel resources, to track and follow up on the implementation of pledges made at the Summit and build upon such commitments for future summits.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 539—DIRECTING THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL TO OBTAIN AND PLACE A MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER WILLIAM F. EVANS AT THE NORTH SECURITY KIOSK OF THE CAPITOL

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 539

Whereas William ''Billy'' F. Evans was born on February 18, 1980 in North Adams, Massachusetts;

Whereas Officer Billy Evans joined the United States Capitol Police on March 7, 2003 and served with distinction in the Capitol Division in the First Responder Unit;

Whereas Officer Billy Evans was protecting the United States Capitol on April 2, 2021 when he was run over by a driver, who hit Officer Evans and another officer;

Whereas Officer Billy Evans died on April 2, 2021 in the heroic performance of his duties as a United States Capitol Police Officer while protecting the Capitol and the Members and staff of, and visitors to, Congress; and

Whereas Officer Billy Evans lay in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol on April 13, 2021: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*,

**SECTION 1. MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER WILLIAM F. EVANS.**

(a) NORTH SECURITY KIOSK PLAQUE.—By not later than April 2, 2022, the Architect of the Capitol shall obtain a memorial plaque for Officer William ''Billy'' F. Evans and place the plaque at the north security kiosk of the United States Capitol, near the intersection of Delaware Avenue NE and Constitution Avenue NE.

(b) RULES COMMITTEE APPROVAL.—Before the Architect of the Capitol may obtain a plaque under subsection (a), the Architect of the Capitol shall submit the plans for the plaque, including the design and text of the plaque, to the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate for approval by the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee, acting jointly.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 540—SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. DUCKWORTH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 540

Whereas, as of March 2022, there are approximately 3,803,000,000 women and girls in the world, making up ½ of the world's population;

Whereas women and girls around the world—

(1) have fundamental human rights;

(2) play a critical role in providing and caring for their families and driving positive change in their communities;

(3) contribute substantially to food security, economic growth, the prevention and resolution of conflict, and the sustainability of peace and stability;

(4) are affected in different and often disproportionate ways by global, country, and community circumstances, including economic downturns, global health concerns, conflict, migration, and climate events; and

(5) must have meaningful protections and opportunities to more fully participate in and lead the political, social, and economic lives of their communities and countries;

Whereas the advancement and empowerment of women and girls around the world is a foreign policy priority for the United States and is critical to the achievement of global peace, prosperity, and sustainability;

Whereas, on October 6, 2017, the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 (22 U.S.C. 2152j et seq.) was enacted into law, which includes requirements for a government-wide ''Women, Peace, and Security Strategy'' to promote and strengthen the participation of women in peace negotiations and conflict prevention overseas, enhanced training for relevant United States Government personnel, and follow-up evaluations of the effectiveness of the strategy;

Whereas the United States Strategy on Women, Peace, and Security, dated June 2019, recognizes that—

(1) the ''[s]ocial and political marginalization of women strongly correlates with the likelihood that a country will experience conflict'';

(2) there is a ''tremendous amount of untapped potential among the world's women and girls to identify, recommend, and implement effective solutions to conflict'', and there are ''benefits derived from creating opportunities for women and girls to serve as agents of peace via political, economic, and social empowerment''; and

(3) barriers to the meaningful participation of women and girls in conflict prevention and resolution efforts ''include under-representation in political leadership, pervasive violence against women and girls, and persistent inequality in many societies'';

Whereas, according to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (commonly referred to as ''UN Women''), peace negotiations are more likely to end in a peace agreement when women and women's groups play a meaningful role in the negotiation process;

Whereas, according to a study by the International Peace Institute, a peace agreement is 35 percent more likely to last at least 15 years if women participate in the development of the peace agreement;

Whereas, according to the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the Department of State, the full and meaningful participation of women in criminal justice professions and security forces vastly enhances the effectiveness of the resulting workforces;

Whereas, despite the contributions of women to society, hundreds of millions of women and girls around the world continue to be denied the right to participate freely in civic and economic life, lack fundamental legal protections, and remain vulnerable to exploitation and abuse;

Whereas, every year, approximately 12,000,000 girls are married before they reach the age of 18, which means that—

(1) nearly 33,000 girls are married every day; or

(2) nearly 23 girls are married every minute;

Whereas, despite global progress, it is predicted that by 2030 more than 150,000,000 more girls will marry before reaching the age of 18, and approximately 2,400,000 girls who are married before reaching the age of 18 are under the age of 15;

Whereas girls living in countries affected by conflict or other humanitarian crises are often the most vulnerable to child marriage, and 9 of the 10 countries with the highest rates of child marriage are considered fragile or extremely fragile;

Whereas, on August 15, 2022, the Taliban entered Kabul, Afghanistan, and toppled the elected government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, resulting in de facto Taliban rule over the people of Afghanistan;

Whereas the Taliban has prohibited girls and young women from receiving secondary education and has restricted access to primary and university education;

Whereas, according to the United Nation's Children's Fund (commonly referred to as ''UNICEF'')—

(1) approximately ¼ of girls between the ages of 15 and 19 have been victims of some form of physical violence;

(2) approximately 120,000,000 girls worldwide, slightly more than 1 in 10, have experienced forced sexual acts; and

(3) an estimated 1 in 3 women around the world has experienced some form of physical or sexual violence;

Whereas the overall level of violence against women is a better predictor of the peacefulness of a country, the compliance of a country with international treaty obligations, and the relations of a country with neighboring countries than indicators measuring the level of democracy, level of wealth, or level of institutionalization of the country;

Whereas, despite the achievements of individual female leaders and evidence that democracy and equality under the law form a mutually reinforcing relationship in which

higher levels of equality are strongly correlated with the relative state of peace of a country, a healthier domestic security environment, and lower levels of aggression toward other countries—

(1) women around the world remain vastly underrepresented in—

(A) national and local legislatures and governments; and

(B) other high-level positions; and

(2) according to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, women account for only 25.6 percent of national parliamentarians and 21 percent of government ministers;

Whereas the ability of women and girls to realize their full potential is critical to the ability of a country to achieve strong and lasting economic growth, self-reliance, and political and social stability;

Whereas, although the United Nations Millennium Project reached the goal of achieving gender parity in primary education in most countries in 2015, the COVID–19 global pandemic has set back gender equality in education and more work remains to be done to achieve gender equality in primary and secondary education, and particularly in secondary education worldwide as gender gaps persist and widen, by addressing—

(1) discriminatory practices;

(2) harmful cultural and social norms;

(3) inadequate sanitation facilities, including facilities to manage menstruation;

(4) child, early, and forced marriage;

(5) poverty;

(6) early pregnancy and motherhood;

(7) conflict and insecurity; and

(8) other factors that favor boys or devalue girls' education;

Whereas, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization—

(1) approximately 132,000,000 girls between the ages of 6 and 17 remain out of school;

(2) girls living in countries affected by conflict are 2.5 times more likely to be out of primary school than boys;

(3) girls are twice as likely as boys to never set foot in a classroom; and

(4) up to 30 percent of girls who drop out of school do so because of adolescent pregnancy or child marriage;

Whereas women around the world face a variety of constraints that severely limit their economic participation and productivity and remain underrepresented in the labor force;

Whereas the economic empowerment of women is inextricably linked to a myriad of other human rights that are essential to the ability of women to thrive as economic actors, including—

(1) living lives free of violence and exploitation;

(2) achieving the highest possible standard of health and well-being;

(3) enjoying full legal and human rights, such as access to registration, identification, and citizenship documents, and freedom of movement;

(4) access to formal and informal education;

(5) access to, and equal protection under, land and property rights;

(6) access to fundamental labor rights;

(7) the implementation of policies to address disproportionate care burdens; and

(8) receiving business and management skills and leadership opportunities;

Whereas, pursuant to section 3(b) of the Women's Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment Act of 2018 (22 U.S.C. 2151–2(b)), it is the international development cooperation policy of the United States—

(1) to reduce gender disparities with respect to economic, social, political, educational, and cultural resources, as well as wealth, opportunities, and services;

(2) to strive to eliminate gender-based violence and mitigate its harmful effects on individuals and communities, including through efforts to develop standards and capacity to reduce gender-based violence in the workplace and other places where women work;

(3) to support activities that secure private property rights and land tenure for women in developing countries, including—

(A) supporting legal frameworks that give women equal rights to own, register, use, profit from, and inherit land and property;

(B) improving legal literacy to enable women to exercise the rights described in subparagraph (A); and

(C) improving the capacity of law enforcement and community leaders to enforce such rights;

(4) to increase the capability of women and girls to fully exercise their rights, determine their life outcomes, assume leadership roles, and influence decision making in households, communities, and societies; and

(5) to improve the access of women and girls to education, particularly higher education opportunities in business, finance, and management, in order to enhance financial literacy and business development, management, and strategy skills;

Whereas the Millennium Challenge Corporation (commonly referred to as the ''MCC''), an independent United States foreign assistance agency, recognizes that inequality and the exclusion of women from economic opportunities can inhibit efforts to promote economic growth and reduce poverty and decrease a country's economic growth trajectory, which is why the gender policy of the MCC requires gender inequalities to be identified and considered in every stage of agreements with participating countries;

Whereas, according to the World Health Organization, global maternal mortality decreased by approximately 44 percent between 1990 and 2015, yet approximately 830 women and girls continue to die from preventable causes relating to pregnancy or childbirth each day, and 99 percent of all maternal deaths occur in developing countries;

Whereas, according to the United Nations, of the 830 women and adolescent girls who die every day from preventable causes relating to pregnancy and childbirth, 507 die each day in countries that are considered fragile because of conflict or disaster, accounting for approximately ⅗ of all maternal deaths worldwide;

Whereas the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reports that women and girls comprise approximately ½ of the 67,200,000 refugees and internally displaced or stateless individuals in the world;

Whereas the initial days of the Russian invasion of Ukraine that began on February 24, 2022, have resulted in a disproportionate number of women and children seeking safety outside of Ukraine;

Whereas those women and girls, like women and girls in all humanitarian emergencies, including those subject to forced displacement, face increased and exacerbated vulnerabilities to—

(1) gender-based violence, including rape, child marriage, domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual exploitation and assault;

(2) disruptions in education and livelihood;

(3) lack of access to health services; and

(4) food insecurity and malnutrition;

Whereas malnutrition poses a variety of threats to women and girls specifically, as malnutrition can weaken their immune systems, making them more susceptible to infections, and affects their capacity to survive childbirth, and children born of malnourished women and girls are more likely to have cognitive impairments and higher risk of disease throughout their lives;

Whereas it is imperative—

(1) to alleviate violence and discrimination against women and girls; and

(2) to afford women and girls every opportunity to be equal members of their communities; and

Whereas March 8, 2022, is recognized as International Women's Day, a global day—

(1) to celebrate the economic, political, and social achievements of women in the past, present, and future; and

(2) to recognize the obstacles that women face in the struggle for equal rights and opportunities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals of International Women's Day;

(2) recognizes that the fundamental human rights of women and girls have intrinsic value that affect the quality of life of women and girls;

(3) recognizes that the empowerment of women and girls is inextricably linked to the potential of a country to generate—

(A) economic growth and self-reliance;

(B) sustainable peace and democracy; and

(C) inclusive security;

(4) recognizes and honors individuals in the United States and around the world, including women human rights defenders, activists, and civil society leaders, who have worked throughout history to ensure that women and girls are guaranteed equality and fundamental human rights;

(5) recognizes the unique cultural, historical, and religious differences throughout the world and urges the United States Government to act with respect and understanding toward legitimate differences when promoting any policies;

(6) reaffirms the commitment—

(A) to end discrimination and violence against women and girls;

(B) to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of women and girls;

(C) to pursue policies that guarantee the fundamental human rights of women and girls worldwide; and

(D) to promote meaningful and significant participation of women in every aspect of society and community, including conflict prevention, protection, peacemaking, and peacebuilding;

(7) supports sustainable, measurable, and global development that seeks to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; and

(8) encourages the people of the United States to observe International Women's Day with appropriate programs and activities.

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 32—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF MARCH 10, 2022, AS ''ABORTION PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY''

Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 32

Whereas March 10 has been established as a day to show appreciation for the essential, high-quality care that abortion providers and clinic staff provide to their communities and those traveling to their communities, and to celebrate their courage, compassion, and dedication to their work;

Whereas this date is established in honor of Dr. David Gunn, who was killed outside

his abortion clinic in Pensacola, Florida, by a white supremacist, antiabortion extremist, in the first known instance of murder of an abortion provider on March 10, 1993;

Whereas abortion providers and clinic staff play a critical role in a world where people must be able to make essential and time-sensitive decisions about their bodies, lives, and futures;

Whereas abortion providers and clinic staff help to ensure that all people who can become pregnant can make their own decisions about their bodies and their pregnancies, and support their patients' decisions by treating them with dignity, empathy, compassion, and respect;

Whereas abortion providers and clinic staff play an essential role within the reproductive justice framework, which was created by a group of Black women in 1994, who determined the necessity of adopting a human rights framework that demands every person has the human right to bodily autonomy, which includes if, when, and how to have children, to not have children, and to parent the children they have in safe and sustainable communities;

Whereas people seeking abortion care across the United States also rely on the work of abortion funds and practical support organizations to access abortion care for themselves and their families;

Whereas abortion funds and practical support organizations that rely on donations face increasing demand as people are forced into the vicious cycle of having to travel longer distances, find childcare or lodging, and raise money to obtain an abortion and cover associated costs;

Whereas restrictions on accessing abortion care have far-reaching consequences in both deepening existing inequities caused by structural racism and systemic discrimination in the maternal health care system and worsening health outcomes for pregnant people, people giving birth, and their families;

Whereas abortion care restrictions in some States have forced many abortion clinics to shut down, such that 90 percent of counties in the United States today do not have an abortion provider, the number of independent abortion clinics in the United States has declined by ⅓ since 2012, and efforts to undermine critical supports for patients, including family planning supports, have further threatened the work of abortion providers;

Whereas restricting access to abortion care creates and increases the out-of-pocket costs and logistical burdens that patients face to get care while exposing the remaining abortion providers and staff to increased levels of harassment and politically motivated restrictions;

Whereas the National Abortion Federation's 2020 statistics on violence and disruption found an alarming escalation in incidents of obstruction, vandalism, and trespassing at abortion clinics, with abortion providers reporting an increase in death threats and threats of harm from 92 incidents in 2019 to 200 in 2020;

Whereas Black, indigenous, and other providers and patients of color face heightened levels of threats, harassment, and violence as compared to their white counterparts;

Whereas 2021 marked the worst year for abortion rights since Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113 (1973), was decided, and the passage and enforcement of restrictions on abortion access and the criminalization of abortion has emboldened antiabortion individuals and groups to continue to harass providers and the patients they care for;

Whereas the Supreme Court of the United States is now (as of the date of adoption of this resolution) considering Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, 141 S.Ct. 2619 (2021), a case that the justices could use to overturn or severely undermine Roe v. Wade, and at the same time has refused to block Texas's blatantly unconstitutional ban on abortion at approximately 6 weeks of pregnancy, allowing Texas to ban the majority of abortions in the State;

Whereas the ripple effects of Texas's abortion ban have been felt by communities and abortion providers across the country as abortion clinics try to absorb the massive influx of Texas's patients who have the resources to travel and are seeking abortion care elsewhere;

Whereas, should the Supreme Court overturn or severely undermine Roe v. Wade, Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming could act as soon as possible to prohibit abortion and criminalize abortion providers;

Whereas Roe v. Wade alone has never been sufficient to ensure that all people, especially Black people, indigenous people, people of color, working class and low-income people, LGBTQIA+ people, people who are immigrants, younger people, people with disabilities, geographically isolated people, and people with multimarginal identities, can get the abortion care they need;

Whereas the unraveling or overturning of Roe v. Wade threatens the ability of abortion providers and the clinic staff who support them to serve their patients; and

Whereas in the face of multifaceted attacks on their work, abortion providers remain an essential and valued part of their communities, providing high-quality, compassionate, and necessary health care, and courageously delivering this care despite pressures, restrictions, political interference, and violent threats to their personal safety: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),* That Congress—

(1) recognizes March 10, 2022, as ''Abortion Provider Appreciation Day'' to celebrate the courage, compassion, and high-quality care that abortion providers and clinic staff offer to patients and their families across the country;

(2) lauds communities across the country who are proud to be home to abortion providers and clinic staff;

(3) affirms Congress's commitment to ensuring the safety of abortion providers, their ability to continue providing the essential care their patients need, and the right of their patients to access abortion care no matter where they live, free from fear of violence, criminalization, or stigma; and

(4) declares a vision for a future where access to abortion is liberated from restrictions and bans universally, and affirms Congress's commitment to working toward this goal in partnership with providers, patients, advocates, and their communities.

## AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I have nine 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, March 8, 2022, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 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, March 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a joint hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, at 2 p.m., to conduct a closed business meeting.

## DIRECTING THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL TO OBTAIN AND PLACE A MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR UNITED STATES CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER WILLIAM F. EVANS AT THE NORTH SECURITY KIOSK OF THE CAPITOL

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 539, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 539) directing the Architect of the Capitol to obtain and place a memorial plaque for United States Capitol Police Officer William F. Evans at the north security kiosk of the Capitol.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. CASEY. I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 539) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

## SOUTH FLORIDA CLEAN COASTAL WATERS ACT OF 2021

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 203, S. 66.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 66) to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. PORTMAN. Madam President, I am proud to be a champion of the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act—or HABHRCA—program. The program was first created in 1998 to help address harmful algal blooms in water bodies across the country. Congress recognized the devastating impact of harmful algal blooms, both ecologically and economically, and the importance of providing resources to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to advance scientific understanding of harmful algal blooms, as well as the ability to detect, monitor, assess, and predict bloom events.

In 2014 and again in 2018, I worked with then-Senator Bill Nelson to reauthorize the program in a bipartisan way. And in the 2014 legislation, I worked to ensure that freshwater bodies, specifically the Great Lakes, were a focus for the program for the first time. Since then, I have worked to secure funding for the HABHRCA program through the annual appropriations process.

I am pleased to report that, today, NOAA's work through the HABHRCA program is being used by my constituents and others across the Great Lakes basin. For example, I hear from the fishing and charter boat industries that they rely on NOAA's biweekly forecasts to monitor the location of the blooms so they know what areas of the lake to avoid in order to continue operating their tourism and fishing businesses.

It also helps our drinking water systems prevent contamination in drinking water because they are able to anticipate additional treatment needs if the location of the bloom is near a water intake valve. This will help prevent crises similar to the 2014 water crisis in Toledo, OH, in which nearly half a million people lost access to safe drinking water because a harmful algal bloom contaminated the city's water supply.

As cochair of the Senate Great Lakes Task Force, I am committed to ensuring our Great Lakes communities have the resources they need to create jobs and protect the water quality and health of the lakes.

My colleague from Florida, Senator Rubio, has a bill that would amend the HABHRCA program to require NOAA to conduct harmful algal bloom and hypoxia work specifically for the South Florida ecosystem. I am supportive of this legislation and of efforts to address harmful algal blooms across the country, so long as it does not take away or divert resources that are used in the Great Lakes.

To that end, I ask for unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a letter from NOAA Administrator Spinrad committing that the work done in South Florida, such as would be the case with passage of Senator RUBIO's legislation, S. 66, the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act, would have no impact on the resources and work currently being conducted to support the Great Lakes.

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

MARCH 3, 2022.

Hon. ROBERT PORTMAN,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR SENATOR PORTMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding the importance of maintaining harmful algal bloom (HAB) and hypoxia research and monitoring activities in the Great Lakes region. I appreciate the discussion that you and I had about this issue last week.

As you know, NOAA has monitored and forecast cyanobacteria bloom location and concentration in Lake Erie since 2009. The early seasonal ''rolling'' outlook beginning in May estimates bloom severity based on measurements of phosphorous loading from the Maumee River combined with long-range forecasts and historical records. The Lake Erie HAB Seasonal Forecast issued in early summer allows coastal managers, lake users, and drinking water facility operators to make informed decisions based on the potential severity of the bloom. In addition, the Lake Erie HAB forecast issued twice a week during bloom season (July–October) provides the current bloom extent and 5-day outlooks of where the bloom will travel and what concentrations are likely to be seen, allowing managers to determine whether to take preventive actions.

As we discussed, NOAA is committed to continuing this important work and to pursuing improvements to Lake Erie HAB detection, monitoring, and forecasting to keep communities in the Great Lakes region safe. Additional proposals to complete HABs work in the South Florida ecosystem will not impact the resources necessary for Great Lakes HABs work through the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998. The President's Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request includes an increase for NOAA's Coastal Science and Assessment programs that, if appropriated, will support these efforts and build capacity in other areas.

We appreciate your interest and look forward to our continued partnership. If you have further questions, please contact Makeda Okolo, Director of NOAA's Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs.

Sincerely,

DR. RICHARD W. SPINRAD,
*Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator.*

Mr. CASEY. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (S. 66) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 66

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

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the ''South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2021''.

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

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–383; 33 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.) is amended—

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

(2) by inserting after section 604 the following:

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

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

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

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

''(3) the Florida Reef Tract.

''(b) INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.—

''(1) INTERIM INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 540 days after the date of enactment of the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2021, the Task Force, in accordance with the authority under section 603, shall complete and submit to Congress and the President an interim integrated assessment.

''(2) FINALIZED INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2021, the Task Force shall finalize, and submit to Congress and the President, the interim integrated assessment required by paragraph (1).

''(3) CONTENTS OF INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT.—The integrated assessment required by paragraphs (1) and (2) shall examine the causes, consequences, and potential approaches to reduce harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and the status of, and gaps within, current harmful algal bloom and hypoxia research, monitoring, management, prevention, response, and control activities that directly affect the region by—

''(A) Federal agencies;
''(B) State agencies;
''(C) regional research consortia;
''(D) academia;
''(E) private industry;
''(F) nongovernmental organizations; and
''(G) Indian tribes (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)).
''(c) ACTION PLAN.—
''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years and 180 days after the date of the enactment of the South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act of 2021, the Task Force shall develop and submit to Congress a plan, based on the integrated assessment under subsection (b), for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida.
''(2) CONTENTS.—The plan submitted under paragraph (1) shall—
''(A) address the monitoring needs identified in the integrated assessment under subsection (b);
''(B) develop a timeline and budgetary requirements for deployment of future assets;
''(C) identify requirements for the development and verification of South Florida harmful algal bloom and hypoxia models, including—
''(i) all assumptions built into the models; and
''(ii) data quality methods used to ensure the best available data are utilized; and
''(D) propose a plan to implement a remote monitoring network and early warning system for alerting local communities in the region to harmful algal bloom risks that may impact human health.
''(3) REQUIREMENTS.—In developing the action plan, the Task Force shall—
''(A) consult with the State of Florida, and affected local and tribal governments;
''(B) consult with representatives from regional academic, agricultural, industry, and other stakeholder groups;
''(C) ensure that the plan complements and does not duplicate activities conducted by other Federal or State agencies, including the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force;
''(D) identify critical research for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal bloom events and their effects;
''(E) evaluate cost-effective, incentive-based partnership approaches;
''(F) ensure that the plan is technically sound and cost-effective;
''(G) utilize existing research, assessments, reports, and program activities;
''(H) publish a summary of the proposed plan in the Federal Register at least 180 days prior to submitting the completed plan to Congress; and
''(I) after submitting the completed plan to Congress, provide biennial progress reports on the activities toward achieving the objectives of the plan.''.
(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT AND CORRECTION.—The table of contents in section 2 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–383) is amended by striking the items relating to title VI and inserting the following new items:

''TITLE VI—HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA

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

## CHANGING AGE-DETERMINED ELIGIBILITY TO STUDENT INCENTIVE PAYMENTS ACT

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 219, S. 2299.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2299) to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CASEY. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. CASEY. I know of no further debate on the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 2299) was passed, as follows:

S. 2299

*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 ''Changing Age-Determined Eligibility To Student Incentive Payments Act'' or the ''CADETS Act''.

**SEC. 2. AGE REQUIREMENT FOR THE STUDENT INCENTIVE PAYMENT PROGRAM OF THE STATE MARITIME ACADEMIES.**

Section 51509 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:
''(i) AGE REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary may make an agreement under this section only with a qualified student who will meet the age requirement for enlistment in the Navy Reserve at the time of graduation from the academy.''.

Mr. CASEY. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

## ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 10; and that following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate be in a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

Mr. CASEY. The Senate will not be in session tomorrow.

## RECESS UNTIL THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022, AT 10 A.M.

Mr. CASEY. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand in recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:12 p.m., recessed until Thursday, March 10, 2022, at 10 a.m.

## NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

PAUL M. ROSEN, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR INVESTMENT SECURITY, VICE THOMAS PETER FEDDO.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

DAVID APPLEGATE, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, VICE JAMES REILLY.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

EVELYN WANG, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY–ENERGY, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE LANE GENATOWSKI.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

JOSEPH GOFFMAN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE WILLIAM L. WEHRUM.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ROBERT A. WOOD, OF NEW YORK, TO BE AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

KATE ELIZABETH HEINZELMAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, VICE COURTNEY ELWOOD.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be rear admiral*

REAR ADM. (LH) JEFFREY T. ANDERSON
REAR ADM. (LH) ANTHONY C. CARULLO
REAR ADM. (LH) RICHARD J. CHEESEMAN, JR.
REAR ADM. (LH) CRAIG A. CLAPPERTON
REAR ADM. (LH) CHRISTOPHER M. ENGDAHL
REAR ADM. (LH) ROBERT M. GAUCHER
REAR ADM. (LH) CARL A. LAHTI
REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN V. MENONI
REAR ADM. (LH) WILLIAM P. PENNINGTON
REAR ADM. (LH) CURT A. RENSHAW
REAR ADM. (LH) SCOTT F. ROBERTSON
REAR ADM. (LH) MILTON J. SANDS III
REAR ADM. (LH) CHRISTOPHER J. SWEENEY
REAR ADM. (LH) DOUGLAS C. VERISSIMO

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be rear admiral*

REAR ADM. (LH) JOHN S. LEMMON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be rear admiral*

REAR ADM. (LH) NICHOLAS M. HOMAN
REAR ADM. (LH) MICHAEL J. VERNAZZA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

*To be rear admiral*

REAR ADM. (LH) THOMAS J. MOREAU

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT SAMUEL DUVALL

### HON. MARK DESAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with Speaker NANCY PELOSI to recognize the life of Robert Samuel ''Sam'' DuVall, legendary San Francisco restauranteur.

Born in Mississippi, Sam graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1962. During his time in college, Sam hosted dinner parties for his friends, introducing them to different kinds of food and unknowingly honing the hospitality that would foster his future career. Following graduation, Sam moved to San Francisco in 1964, which he ultimately made his home. While passing an empty storefront one day in 1967, Sam decided to open a restaurant, Front Room Pizza. He conducted research by eating pizza throughout San Francisco and hiring the best pizza chef he could find. With the opening of Front Room Pizza, Sam started a more than 50–year career as a restaurateur, during which he opened 30 restaurants.

One of Sam's most famous restaurants, Izzy's Steakhouse, opened in 1987 and became a gathering place for the community. Patrons were welcomed, not only with comforting meals, but also by Sam's renowned warmth and generosity. The restaurant was awarded Legacy Status on its 30th anniversary as part of an initiative to recognize iconic establishments in San Francisco. Sam's legacy lives on through his daughter, Samantha, who heads The DuVall Family Restaurant Group and continues operations of Izzy's. Another one of Sam's restaurant's, Elite Cafe, opened in 1981 and is known locally as the first New Orleans-style restaurant in San Francisco. Due to his love of traveling, jazz, and art, Sam's restaurants embodied his many passions and gave diners an immersive experience that allowed them to escape the bustling city.

Sadly, Sam passed away on November 1, 2020 at the age of 80. He was a cherished member of our communities and he will be deeply missed. Please join us in honoring Sam for his many contributions to the San Francisco Bay Area.

## BAILEY OWENS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bailey Owens for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Bailey Owens is a student at Exel Academy and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Bailey Owens is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Bailey Owens for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## RECOGNIZING NICK PERBIX OF ELK RIVER, MINNESOTA

### HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nick Perbix of Elk River, Minnesota, for his participation in the 2022 Winter Olympics. Nick represented the United States as a defenseman on our men's ice hockey team. He carries on a legacy of talented Minnesotans who share this sport with the world.

I am proud to count such an amazing athlete among my constituents in the Sixth District. I congratulate Nick and thank him for representing our great state and country at the 2022 Winter Olympics.

## HONORING CAPTAIN TIM CELLI

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Captain Tim Celli in celebration of his outstanding career in the Clearlake Police Department.

Captain Celli was raised in Clearlake, California, attending Burns Valley Elementary School, Oak Hill Middle School, and Lower Lake High School. His interest in law enforcement began at an early age and led him to become a youth explorer in 1986. After graduating high school, Captain Celli joined the California National Guard in 1993, serving as a military policeman in the 649th Military Police Company.

The next year, Captain Celli graduated from the police academy and began serving as a reserve police officer in the city of Waterford, California. In 1995, Captain Celli returned home to Clearlake and served as a reserve police officer and community service officer until 1999, when he was promoted to a full-time police officer. In his new role, he served as patrol officer, detective, field training officer, narcotics agent, explorer advisor, and president of the Clearlake Police Officers' Association.

In 2005, he was promoted to sergeant, supervising both the patrol unit and the Crime Suppression Unit, which was formed to address violent crime in Clearlake, California. In 2012, Captain Celli was promoted to Lieutenant, based on his excellent supervisory skills and his devotion to the community. In October 2015, Captain Celli took on the role of as interim chief of police, which he served as for over two years. In this role, he improved community engagement, introduced a dedicated traffic enforcement officer, addressed violent crime associated with illegal cannabis grows, and oversaw the department's response to numerous major fires.

In addition to being a devoted officer of the Clearlake Police Department, Captain Celli is an active community member through his participation in the Lion's Service Club and a devoted husband to his wife, Amanda, who he has been married to for 24 years. Additionally, he has served as a coach of youth football, high school football, and youth wrestling in Lake County. Captain Celli is retiring after a 26-year career in law enforcement.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Captain Celli has dedicated his life to the people of Clearlake through his public service. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

## BERENICE MANUEL SAUCEDO

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Berenice Manuel Saucedo for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Berenice Manuel Saucedo is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Berenice Manuel Saucedo is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Berenice Manuel Saucedo for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## HONORING VILLA DEL MAR RESTAURANT

### HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Villa Del Mar Restaurant of McAllen, Texas, an international family business celebrating 35 years of business.

Mr. Homero and Mrs. María Cristina Garza de Villarreal opened Villa Del Mar in Reynosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico in 1987. In 2005, the Villarreal family opened its first location in McAllen, Texas, quickly setting the standard for Mexican seafood in the Rio Grande Valley. Since then, Villa Del Mar Restaurant has united two countries and its people through their delicious cuisine.

Villa Del Mar stands as a living testament to the success that can come when passion and hard work meet opportunity. The Villarreal family has faithfully served our community and now serves as an inspiration for all Texans aspiring to succeed in business. Now, after a total of 35 years of service to the people of South Texas, I am proud to acknowledge their contributions to our region on the House floor. Villa Del Mar is a staple of Valley cuisine, and because of their hard work, it will continue to be one of South Texans' favorite restaurants.

Madam Speaker, I stand here today to acknowledge the countless achievements and successes of Villa Del Mar Restaurant and the Villarreal family, who have devoted their lives to giving the people of South Texas the highest quality of seafood and service. South Texas will be forever grateful.

## ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAKU AND SUMGAIT POGROMS

### HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, as the Representative of America's largest and oldest Armenian population, I rise today to commemorate the Baku and Sumgait Pogroms and to reaffirm that the U.S. stands on the side of democracy and peace—and that means standing with the Armenian people.

Over 30 years ago, as the lines of the Soviet Union were fading, the people of Artsakh were united and voted for greater independence from Azerbaijan. But this peaceful movement for self-determination was followed by premeditated and government-sponsored attacks. Over the next two years, the Armenian population of Artsakh was repeatedly victim to brutal and racially motivated pogroms. Hundreds were murdered, and thousands were displaced in Baku, Sumgait and Kirovabad.

These pogroms were a direct assault on the right of self-determination in Artsakh, And it is an assault that is continuing today. In the fall of 2020, as the world was struggling to contain the corona virus pandemic, Azerbaijan launched yet another war of aggression against the peaceful people of Artsakh, destroying homes and villages and once again displacing thousands.

This violence is unacceptable, which is why I immediately called for a cease fire and have called for an end to U.S. military assistance to Azerbaijan. We must also ensure the humanitarian needs of the Armenian people are being met, which is something I have pushed Samantha Power, the Administrator of USAID, to help us do.

Having had the privilege of visiting Artsakh in October 2019, I've seen the pride of the people there and I know how strong they are. That is why I know that, just as their spirit could not be defeated after the Sumgait and Baku pogroms, it will not be defeated today.

I am proud to stand with the Armenian people in their fight for democracy and human rights and stand united in rejecting the violence from Azerbaijan that has destroyed too many lives.

## DIVINITY DELMASTRO

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Divinity Delmastro for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Divinity Delmastro is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Divinity Delmastro is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Divinity Delmastro for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## HONORING 2022 ''FORCE OF NATURE'' AWARD WINNER CAROL BROWNER

### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Carol Browner, on being awarded the "Force of Nature" award by global non-profit Pure Earth. Her lifetime of dedication to protecting the environment and fighting for vulnerable populations makes Ms. Browner a true force of nature. Her significant contributions to environmental progress and sustainability are worthy of commendation.

Born in Miami, Florida, she is a graduate of the University of Florida and the University of Florida College of Law. At home in South Miami, Ms. Browner grew up around nature and developed her love and appreciation for our environment and their natural resources early on by spending time visiting the nearby Everglades. Her first role was in the Florida House of Representatives as General Counsel, working to revise the Conservation and Recreational Lands Program. She later moved to Washington, DC to advocate for the environment and ended up working on Capitol Hill. She worked for Senator Lawton Chiles, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and as Legislative Director for Senator Al Gore. She then returned to her home state of Florida to serve as Secretary of Environmental Regulation.

After the election of President Bill Clinton, Ms. Browner was nominated for the position of Environmental Protection Agency Administrator. She was unanimously confirmed by the Senate on January 21, 1993. During this time, she notably helped strengthen the Clean Air Act and upped the United States position in the fight against global warming. After the end of the Clinton administration, she joined the Albright Group where she continued her works as an advocate for strengthening environmental regulations and fighting climate change. At the start of a new Democratic administration in 2009, President Barack Obama named her Director of the White House Office of Energy and Climate Change Policy. She helped negotiate the new automobile emission standards in 2009 and was a leader during the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill of 2010. During the Obama administration, she secured a historic investment in clean energy and established the first ever greenhouse gas reduction standards. Ms. Browner now serves on the board of directors for environmental groups, including as Chair for the League of Conservation Voters.

Ms. Browner's accomplishments are numerous and impactful, and in every place that she has served, she has done all in her power to create positive change and put beneficial climate policy in action. She has been on the front lines of environmental policy for the past three decades and shows no sign of stopping anytime soon. She was named winner of the "Force of Nature Award" for this year because of her ongoing efforts to protect children from environmental hazards, and for her recent establishment of the Protecting Every Child's Potential lead contamination prevention initiative.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Carol Browner as this year's "Force of Nature" award winner. We are grateful for her continued work on behalf of our environment and congratulate her on this great honor.

## TRIBUTE TO SISTER THERESA HARPIN—CALIFORNIA'S 24TH CONGRESSIONAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR

### HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, each year, through the Women of the Year Award, my office extends special recognition to women on the Central Coast who have made a difference in our community. I would like to recognize one outstanding Women of the Year Award recipient, Sister Theresa Harpin of San Luis Obispo, California.

With over 40 years as a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Sister Theresa looks at the world through the lens of

"everyone is our dear neighbor." While Cal Poly's Newman Catholic Center brought the gifted educator to the Central Coast, it is through her social and restorative justice work that she has truly made her mark.

On the heels of her energetic work with students and community parishes, and following medical leave for serious illness, she brought the "Get on the Bus" program to California Men's Colony in San Luis Obispo County. A bus filled with the children and spouses of prisoners travels to the prison for a reunion party that offers hope for the families.

Sister Theresa has worked with the SLO County Sheriff, the California Department of Corrections, Parole and the Courts to make restorative justice a reality in San Luis Obispo County. This tireless, well respected community leader believes offenders were once victims whose own traumas were never addressed. She is devoted to healing those injuries so that once released, prisoners can move forward to productive lives.

Her fervent dedication to helping the incarcerated led to founding Restorative Partners, a program providing re-entry services to the incarcerated. Sister Theresa is a certified facilitator for the Alternatives to Violence Project, the Aggression Replacement Training and the Thinking for A Change Program. She has implemented and taught non-judgmental techniques and most importantly, restorative justice, which provides healing for all parties, both victim and offender.

Restorative Partners, founded over an In N Out Burger conversation with Sheriff Ian Parkinson, celebrates its tenth anniversary this year. The successful program has brought together law enforcement, private business and faith-based organizations, under the shared mission to "get to the source" of individual's issues and move forward.

In just ten years, Restorative Partners has expanded mentorship to help returning citizens navigate reentry. With an eye on the high cost of living on the Central Coast, RP now provides re-entry homes for men and women, including Anna's Home for Women and Children, which reunites formerly incarcerated mothers with their children while offering a drug treatment program. The challenges of COVID created an entirely new set of needs, chief among them domestic violence treatment and expanded drug and alcohol treatment. With Sister Theresa's leadership, Restorative Partners continues to evolve and offer life-changing support. What began started as an in-custody service, the non-profit organization has grown to meet any need of families affected by incarceration and the challenges of re-entry. And it is working: the recidivism rate for those Sister Theresa works with is only 10 percent.

Sister Theresa is an incredible presence in our community. I am honored to recognize Sister Theresa for her continued commitment to residents of San Luis Obispo County. I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 24th Congressional District, Sister Theresa Harpin, for her incredible service to her community.

## ELLYSIA VEGA

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ellysia Vega for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ellysia Vega is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ellysia Vega is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ellysia Vega for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## TROY WADE EULOGY

### HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments and celebrate the life of Troy E. Wade.

Robert Oppenheimer once said of the great physicist Niels Bohr about his contribution to the development of the atomic bomb: "It was a heroic time. It was not the doing of any one man; it involved the collaboration of scores of scientists from many different lands. But from first to last, the deeply creative, subtle and critical spirit of Niels Bohr guided, restrained, deepened, and finally transmuted the enterprise."

I believe the same thing could be said of Troy Wade and the nuclear weapons testing program. He guided, restrained, deepened, and transmuted the enterprise for policy makers, posterity, and for me personally.

Troy certainly guided and transmuted the testing program for policy makers in his many positions in state and federal government, including as President Reagan's Assistant Secretary of Energy for Defense Programs. As NTS historian Darwin Morgan said, "He was not a Washington stuffed shirt." Instead, he was known to be a listener and used tact and tolerance to move his agenda which was always to protect this country and help promote peace.

This was confirmed when I had a political event at Desert Research Institute during my first campaign for Congress. Troy was there to keep an eye on things and reassure the sweet little lady docents that the secret service dogs were not going to run off with the prehistoric bones in the museum. When Vice President Biden arrived, before I could introduce them, he said, "Oh, I know Troy Wade. I sat across the table from him many times in the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee. He was a tough but fair negotiator. A straight shooter, someone you could trust." Obviously, no introduction was necessary.

Troy also translated the testing program for posterity. He wanted people to know the story, the whole story, of the test site and the men and women on the front lines who helped us win the Cold War. To this end, Troy leaned on Nick and Chuck and Bruce and Linda who refinanced their houses (without telling their spouses, although I bet Mary knew) to fund an atomic testing museum. The museum, thankfully, was a success. It is Smithsonian-sanctioned and draws thousands of visitors annually, from local school children to foreign dignitaries alike. And it indeed tells the whole story. In addition to bomb replicas, it relates the plight of the downwinders and offers a wonderful exhibit on the impact of the bomb on U.S. popular culture.

Troy and I got in a bit of trouble, however, when I introduced a bill in the state legislature to create a special license plate to raise money for the museum. We wanted to put a mushroom cloud on it. As George Knapp quipped on Channel 8 News, it "would kick sand in the face of any other plate on the road." Governor Guinn, unfortunately, vetoed our choice and we settled for the stylized atom design offered today.

Finally, Troy transmuted the enterprise for me personally. He patiently answered questions as I did research for my book and often steered me in the right direction. He helped me secure AEC documents and records for the public reading room of the museum and he spoke to my classes. Most importantly, he became my friend. I often referred to Troy as the "ultimate cold warrior". I hope he took it as a compliment, because that's certainly how I meant it. Like so many of his family, friends, and coworkers, I will miss him very much. As will a grateful Nation.

## CONGRATULATING WILLIAM C. BAKER ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House to join me in recognizing William C. Baker for his thirty-nine years of environmental advocacy as President of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF). Will has demonstrated a sincere passion for improving the health of the Bay and ensuring that its environmental resources are preserved for future generations. Will has been a good friend, and I've been proud to work closely with him throughout the years to fight for a cleaner and healthier Chesapeake Bay.

Since he first began his distinguished career with the CBF as an intern in 1976, Will worked relentlessly to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay. Will became president in 1982, inheriting an immediate crisis: the 1982 Chesapeake Bay Study had just concluded that the Bay was dying. He spoke to the United States Senate, urging senators not only to maintain the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) presence on the Bay but to establish an office to coordinate and monitor restoration efforts among the states in its watershed. Thanks to

his advocacy and hard work, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, the EPA, and the Chesapeake Bay Commission together signed the Chesapeake Bay Agreement and committed jointly to clean up the Bay.

During Will's tenure as president, the CBF reached new heights of success. His work helped expand the CBF's membership to over 300,000 and inspired so many Marylanders to share his passion for preserving one of our nation's greatest natural treasures. He raised the CBF's national profile, and the Save the Bay movement received international attention. Under Will's leadership, the CBF received the 1992 Presidential Medal for Environmental Excellence—our nation's highest environmental honor—for its environmental education program. He was instrumental in the CBF's efforts to help restore the Bay's oyster population, which is critical not only to preserving a fragile ecosystem but also to sustaining and supporting one of the key aquaculture industries in our state. Although challenges remain, the CBF's efforts have greatly improved the Bay's health and continue to drive efforts forward today to ensure that generations of Marylanders and Americans will be able to treasure the Chesapeake in the future.

Madam Speaker, I offer Will my congratulations on retiring from public service after a career of great contribution to the well-being of Maryland's beloved Chesapeake Bay. I hope all of my colleagues will join me in recognizing William C. Baker as he celebrates this milestone and in wishing him all the best in the future.

## IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES A. CONAHAN, GREATER WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK MAN OF THE YEAR

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, today I honor James A. Conahan who will be named the 2022 Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Man of the Year at the organization's annual gathering on Friday, March 11, 2022. James joins an impressive cohort of men recognized by the Friendly Sons as Man of the Year, including his father who was honored in 2002.

James, born and raised in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, is the son of James Francis and Clare Conahan. He graduated from E.L. Meyers High School with the Class of 1981 and went on to attend King's College, earning a degree in health care management and playing baseball for the Monarchs.

James began his career in the health care field at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital in Kingston, Pennsylvania, where he worked as the manager of the sterile processing and distribution department. Following his work at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital, he joined the staff at Scranton Community Medical Center, now Geisinger CMC, as the operating room materials manager. For the past 24 years, James has worked as an executive sales account manager for 3M Medical Solutions Division where he serves the acute hospital market.

James has been a longtime supporter and member of the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, promoting and preserving Irish heritage in our region. He has served as president and president advisor, and he is the current chair of the Annual Golf Committee and Scholarship Committee, which supports a scholarship for local college students of Irish descent. He has been, and continues to be, involved in many of the Friendly Sons' endeavors, including the guest bartender program, the annual Wilkes-Barre St. Patrick's Day celebration, and the Irish teacher's program. In 2014, he was awarded the prestigious Michael ''Mickey'' Hayden Memorial Award by past president and Hayden's grandson, Patrick Peters, for his commitment preserving the region's Irish heritage.

In addition to his service to the Friendly Sons, James has been a familiar face throughout the community, lending his time and expertise to organizations in the area. As a former collegiate baseball player, he shared his love and knowledge of the game as an official for the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) and as president of the Wyoming Valley Chapter of the PIAA Baseball Umpires. He spent ten years on the board of the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority as chair of the Personnel Committee and assistant treasurer. As a lifelong resident of Wilkes-Barre, James has been actively involved in promoting the growth and development of the city. He currently sits on the boards of the Wilkes-Barre Parking Authority and Wilkes-Barre Municipal Authority. He also serves as ad hoc chair of the Wilkes-Barre Redevelopment Authority.

It is an honor to join with the Greater Wilkes-Barre Friendly Sons of St. Patrick in recognizing James as the Man of the Year. He has been a great champion of the City of Wilkes-Barre and the preservation of Irish American heritage in the region. I wish him all the best on St. Patrick's Day.

## RECOGNIZING BEN MEYERS OF DELANO, MINNESOTA

### HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ben Meyers, from my hometown of Delano, Minnesota. During the 2022 Winter Olympics, Ben played on the United States men's ice hockey team as a forward.

Ben comes to Team USA from the University of Minnesota, where he is a junior. He serves as the team captain for the Gophers.

I congratulate Ben on making it to the Olympics. We're lucky to have such a talented young athlete in our backyard.

## EVAN YELLOWFOX

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Evan Yellowfox for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Evan Yellowfox is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Evan Yellowfox is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Evan Yellowfox for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

## CONGRATULATING CONNIE MILLER ON 45 YEARS AT THE BROWN HOUSE

### HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Connie Miller of Auburn, who just celebrated her 45th year working at The Brown House restaurant.

Known for delicious ice cream and savory coney hot dogs, The Brown House has served the community of Auburn since 1949 when it first opened as a concession stand at the DeKalb County Free Fall Fair. Few things have changed about it since.

Two weeks before her 16th birthday in 1977, Connie started working at The Brown House. At the time, she was a sophomore working part time and did not intend to be there long. She was hired by owners Tom and Marcia Armstrong, who would operate the business for a total of 43 years until their respective retirement in 2019—yet further proof of the restaurant's continuity.

Connie is definitive when asked what she enjoys most about her job. ''People,'' she says. When regulars patron the restaurant, they talk with her and ask about her on the occasion she is not there. She provides more than just a well-prepared meal, but a smile and fellowship to friends and patrons—in her eyes, one in the same.

People like Connie make our community and country great. As American hero Agnes Meyer Driscoll once said, ''Fortunate are the people whose roots are deep.'' Few people's roots run deeper in Auburn than Connie, and our community is eternally grateful for it.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, due to an emergency landing and the necessary cleanup at the airport, my flight to D.C. was significantly delayed.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 58 and YEA on Roll Call No. 59.

## ILIA ORTIZ BAEZA

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ilia Ortiz Baeza for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ilia Ortiz Baeza is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ilia Ortiz Baeza is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ilia Ortiz Baeza for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## HONORING REAR ADMIRAL RAYMOND CHARLES SMITH, JR.

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Rear Admiral Raymond Charles Smith, Jr. in celebration of his outstanding career in the U.S. Navy.

Rear Admiral Raymond Charles Smith, Jr. was born and raised in Vallejo, California, graduating from St. Vincent's High School in 1961. Admiral Smith began his career in the Navy in 1962. Shortly after enlisting, he attended the U.S. Naval Academy, which he graduated from in 1967. Later, in 1974, he earned a master's degree in Physical Oceanography from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Admiral Smith served as First Lieutenant on USS *Floyd B. Parks* for two years before participating in Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL Training. After graduating from his SEAL Training in 1970, Admiral Smith served in a variety of positions on Underwater Demolition Team Thirteen, including as Ordinance Officer, Operations Officer, and Platoon Commander.

In August 1990, he deployed to the Arabian Gulf in response to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, where he led Naval Special Warfare Task Group Central during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Then in June 1992, he assumed command of Naval Special Warfare Command at Coronado, California, where he was responsible for over 2,300 SEALs and support personnel. From 1996 to 1998, Admiral Smith moved to Tampa, Florida, and served as both Director of Resources and the Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Special Operations Command. He retired from active duty in 2001 after 34 years of service.

During his retirement, Admiral Smith devoted himself to his three passions: family, fitness, and community service. Admiral Smith was described as a great husband, father, and friend. He was married to his wife, Kathleen, for 54 years, with whom he had three sons: Raymond III, Nate, and Adam. Admiral Smith passed away peacefully at his home in Coronado, California, on February 6,2022.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Rear Admiral Raymond Charles Smith, Jr. dedicated his life to military service and our country. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

## WYATT WILSON

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wyatt Wilson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Wyatt Wilson is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Wyatt Wilson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Wyatt Wilson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

## IN RECOGNITION OF SHEN YUN

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Shen Yun, and welcome it back to Lincoln Center for its 17th anniversary. Shen Yun is a classical Chinese dance and music company with the mission of preserving traditional Chinese culture. The name Shen Yun means ''the beauty of divine beings dancing.'' Shen Yun preserves, memorializes, and revitalizes ancient Chinese stories and traditions, introducing this rich culture and art form to New Yorkers and many other people around the world.

In 2006, a group of Chinese artists, persecuted by the Chinese Communist Party for practicing Falun Dafa, founded Shen Yun to preserve their traditions and ancient history, which has been under threat since the Cultural Revolution. These artists chose to gather in New York, a testament to this city's status as a haven for the arts, culture, and freedom. Shen Yun creates a new performance each year dedicated to these principles.

Shen Yun's performances draw from historical Chinese stories and legends such as Mulan and Journey to the West. Its dances are accompanied by traditional Chinese instruments such as the pipa, suona, and dizi.

Three of Shen Yun's performers were recipients of the Chinese Ministry of Culture's ''National First-Class Performer Awards''.

Shen Yun currently has seven troupes that travel and perform all around the world. The troupes perform in over 130 cities in North America, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Latin America. In their first three years of touring, over 1 million people attended Shen Yun performances.

I congratulate them for their unwavering devotion not only to putting on a fantastic show, but to preserving cultural treasures for future generations.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Shen Yun for celebrating thousands of years of Chinese culture and history through traditional dance, orchestration, costumes, and more.

## RECOGNIZING MADDIE ROONEY OF ANDOVER, MINNESOTA

### HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maddie Rooney of Andover, Minnesota, for her participation in the 2022 Winter Olympics. Maddie joined Team USA and played as goalkeeper on the women's ice hockey team.

Maddie comes to the Olympic team from the University of Minnesota Duluth Bulldogs women's ice hockey program. In 2018, she was awarded the Bob Allen Women's Player of the Year Award from USA Hockey.

Her training and hard work paid off: She helped bring home a silver medal for the United States. I congratulate Maddie on this great result at the 2022 Winter Games.

## JANCY MENDOZA MANCIA

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jancy Mendoza Mancia for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jancy Mendoza Mancia is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jancy Mendoza Mancia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jancy Mendoza Mancia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## PAYING TRIBUTE TO RETIRED BIG BEAR LAKE MAYOR NEAL HERTZMANN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS PASSING

### HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the passing of Neal Hertzmann, a constituent of my district and former Mayor of my hometown of Big Bear Lake, California. Neal was an exceptional and dedicated public servant. He served Big Bear Lake as its mayor from 1994 to 1998 and served Southern California for over twenty years including as a member of the Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power Board, a Councilman for the City of Big Bear Lake, and as Big Bear Lake's representative on the League of California Cities, just to name a few of his roles. In each position, Neal never lost sight of the unique qualities that make each of us proud to call our community home.

In addition to his extensive public service, Neal was an innovative mechanical engineer by trade, and diligently worked on several of the Falcon missiles for Hughes Aircraft, which were among the very first operational guided air-to-air missiles adopted by the United States Air Force. His creative originality and expertise also proved vital in the development and success of the Surveyor program, which consisted of seven unmanned lunar missions launched between May 1966 and January 1968, five of which successfully soft-landed on the lunar surface. The legendary success of the Apollo 11 mission would not have been possible if not for the crucial developments pioneered by great men like Neal.

Throughout his life, Neal sought opportunities to directly engage with neighbors, to meet new people, and to lend a helping hand wherever he could. I am honored to have had the chance to know him and call him my friend, and I can say from firsthand experience how impactful his continuous dedication has been for our community. My prayers are with his family and the City of Big Bear Lake as we mourn the loss of this dedicated public servant.

## HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT PETER BLUME, JR.

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I rise today in recognition of the loss of a champion of his community—Fire Police Lieutenant Peter Blume, Jr., of Vernon, Connecticut. Pete, as he was known, tragically left this world, still active in his service as a first responder, on March 2, 2022, at the age of 53. A guardian to his fellow service members, Lieutenant Pete Blume has served with the Fire Police company for the last six years. He was known for his particularly infectious degree of optimism and was eating to all.

Born to Carolyn Bolk Blume and Peter Blume on December 24, 1968, in South Windsor, Pete was destined to live out his life as a source of energy within eastern Connecticut's communities. Upon graduating from South Windsor High, Pete went on to Eastern Connecticut State University where he achieved a degree in physical education in 1991. A true steward of the community, he devoted the next nearly 20 years of his life to teaching as an elementary school physical education teacher for Ashford and Union, Connecticut. He was deeply passionate toward the growth of our region's youngest generation, engaging with students as a youth program leader, the coach for the Ashford boys' basketball team and even by taking on the title of Chef Blume as a cook for Union's annual spaghetti dinner fundraiser.

Amidst his earlier days in teaching, Pete fostered a relationship with the love of his life, Wendy, who he married in 1996. It was through their relationship that Pete's love for raising children transformed him into quite the family man, with the birth of their two children Allison and Timothy. Together, the family moved to Vernon, Connecticut where the children became an inspiration to Pete, catalyzing an entirely new era of community involvement. It was throughout this new era that Pete grew in his already known love for youth sports, coaching and volunteering for his kids' teams in Vernon Little League, Vernon Soccer and Vernon Basketball.

Pete's involvement with the Town of Vernon did not stop with his coaching the next generation. As we all know, he took an interest in and joined the Vernon Fire Department as a fire police officer, becoming the man responsible for the safety of fellow first responders at the scene of an incident. Pete was the perfect man for the job—he was the kind of person who would give you the shut off his back if you needed it. As such, he was known for bringing an unmatched sense of diligence and care to the role, which he took incredibly seriously. For Pete, the safety of those who displayed similar care toward his own neighbors was paramount. He was most recently recognized for his diligence, becoming a lst Lieutenant with the Vernon Fire Police company which he again served with for more than six years.

Madam Speaker, we ask firefighters and their families to do an enormously important job across our community, our state, and our nation. Standing by every day of the year at all hours, Pete, Vernon's "gentle giant," has given true example to the dedication that first responders arm themselves with while serving their respective communities. In Pete's case, he was also armed with a heart the size of Vernon. These brave men and women unquestionably deserve the very best we can offer as a small form of gratitude for their sacrifice. While we mourn the void left by Pete's loss, we find consolation in the memory he leaves behind. He is survived by his loving family, namely, his wife Wendy, who is also a teacher in Manchester. his two children Timothy and Allison Blume, his mother Carolyn Blume, his brother, David Blume, and his sister Kristin McCauley. While his family will undoubtedly carry the legwork in extending the reach of his memory, I ask that my colleagues join me in supporting this effort, thanking Pete for a life of service and setting his name and character further into stone.

## MEADOW MONDRAGON

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Meadow Mondragon for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Meadow Mondragon is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Meadow Mondragon is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Meadow Mondragon for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

## PASSING OF DOROTHY L.W. SMITH

### HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise on International Women's Day to honor the life of Ms. Dorothy L.W. Smith, a dedicated educator and San Diego community leader who passed at the age of 82 on February 16th. Ms. Smith was a native of Capleville, Tennessee. She attended the Historically Black College, Philander Smith College, and later received her Doctorate degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California.

In 1969 Ms. Smith and her husband Carl moved to California where she began her career as a teacher. After moving to California, she taught at Long Beach City College, Grossmont Community College, and later San Diego City College, where she was a professor for 24 years. While teaching at San Diego City College she designed various courses, including one entitled "Black Women in Literature and the Media." This course has now been taught in the San Diego Community College District for more than 45 years. She also lectured at San Diego State University, where she taught courses in teacher education, rhetoric, and writing. She also lectured at San Diego State University where she taught courses in teacher education, rhetoric, and writing.

In 1981, she was elected to serve on the board of the San Diego Unified School District, becoming the first African American woman to be elected to the board. She served on the school board for eight years and twice was the President of the board. In March of 2019, she was recognized and elected to the San Diego Women's Hall of Fame in the Trailblazer category. Today, we celebrate her life and her commitment as an educator and mentor to future teachers.

## IN RECOGNITION OF HARDIN WATKINS

### HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Hardin Watkins' recent retirement as City Manager of Burlington, North Carolina.

With his retirement on March 4, 2022, Mr. Watkins ended a 32-year career in public service. For the past six of those years, he has diligently worked to better the lives of the people of Burlington. Residents and city employees alike will miss his wealth of experience and institutional knowledge.

A native of Hendersonville, North Carolina, Mr. Watkins attended the University of North Carolina where he earned both his Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy Analysis and his Masters of Public Administration. After completing his education, he accepted a position as a city planner in Bennettsville, South Carolina. He was soon offered a new challenge in Decatur, Georgia, where he was hired as an assistant to the city manager. Mr. Watkins was rewarded for his hard work and dedication to the communities he served, and he was offered the position of City Manager of Suwanee, Georgia. However, after nearly a decade in that role, he returned to his home state in 2007 to manage the Town of Garner, North Carolina. Finally, in 2016, he was hired as the City Manager of Burlington.

The breadth of his work to improve the City of Burlington is remarkable. Within his six years at the helm of city government, Mr. Watkins was instrumental in creating the city's Economic Development Department, establishing the Community Police Advisory Team, and launching Link Transit in Burlington. Residents of Burlington will also be thankful for his efforts to restore the city's antique Dentzel carousel and overhaul the city's publicly owned golf course.

Although Mr. Watkins has begun a new stage of life, he does not intend to idle in his retirement. Instead, he intends to continue his long record of improving communities. But perhaps most importantly, he will have well-deserved time to spend with his family.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Hardin Watkins for his three decades of public service and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

## TRINITY GARCIA

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Trinity Garcia for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Trinity Garcia is a student at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Trinity Garcia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Trinity Garcia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## SHADOW WOLVES ENHANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 7, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5681 the Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act, to authorize the reclassification of the tactical enforcement officers (commonly known as the ''Shadow Wolves'') in the Homeland Security Investigations tactical patrol unit operating on the lands of the Tohono O'odham Nation as special agents.

The ''Shadow Wolves'' are a Native American tactical patrol unit assigned to Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) unit in Sells, Arizona located on the Tohono O'odham Nation and was established by Congress in 1974.

These officers specialize in the interdiction of human and drug smugglers in the rugged terrain of the Sonoran Desert.

Under this bill, Shadow Wolves serving in these positions would be reclassified as GS–1811 special agents.

As GS–1811 special agents, these officers would gain the statutory authority to carry firearms, conduct searches & seizures, make arrests, and receive a pay increase from an average of $37,000 a year to $50,000.

Under existing authority, ''Shadow Wolves'' can only be hired as tactical officers at a lower paygrade, and those who wish to become HIS special agents receive no special consideration, which has caused pay and mobility limitations.

Due to these limitations, the Shadow Wolves program is at risk of becoming non-operational as officers retire.

There are currently eight Shadow Wolves employed by ICE, five of whom meet the training requirements for conversion to the new pay status.

The Act would also require the Secretary of Homeland Security to develop a strategy to retain existing Shadow Wolves, recruit new officers to the unit, and expand comparable units along the Canadian and Mexican borders.

One year after the development of the strategy by the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) would be required to submit a report, as well as annually for the following 2 years, that will assess the effectiveness of this strategy and provide recommendations for improvement.

I would like to personally thank the eight members of the Native American Tactical Patrol Unit in the Tohono O'odham Nation for their work on preventing human trafficking and drug smuggling along our borders. Their work is of vital importance to the security of our Nation and our citizens.

And on behalf of the constituents of the 18th Congressional District of Texas, I would also like to thank all tactical enforcement officers from the United States Secret Service, United States Drug Enforcement Administration, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Homeland Security Investigations.

It is our duty as Members of Congress to ensure that these officers are receiving fair pay for the hard work that they have undertaken.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support this legislation and urge all Members to vote in favor of H.R. 5681, the Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF JENIFER JEAN WRIGHT JOHNSON

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the life of Jenifer Jean Wright Johnson. Jean passed away on February 6th, 2022.

Jean was born on January 25, 1938, in Roanoke, Alabama. She attended classes at Jacksonville Teachers College on the GI Bill and met her husband, Earl ''PeeWee'' Johnson at a school dance.

The two were married on March 5th, 1957, at West Side Baptist Church. They were blessed with four children.

After Jean graduated college, she worked as a substitute teacher. She took a job at Johnston Junior High in Anniston as the physical education teacher responsible also for the cheerleaders and girls' sports teams.

A few years later, she was approached by church elders and city council members from Jacksonville to start a low-income day care program. She worked to help raise funding to update the former Eastwood High School as well as working with the State of Alabama help secure funding.

On September 30, 1970, the Jacksonville Day Care Center opened and also created a summer program. Jean took over as Director of East Alabama Child Development Centers and was responsible for over 20 day care centers across 11 counties.

Jean had a heart for children and a great love for accessories. She will be missed.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Jean's life of service.

## DHS BASIC TRAINING ACCREDITATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 7, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5616, the ''DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021'' which addresses issues involving accreditation and law enforcement training, research, and development at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

This bill requires DHS to report annually to the congressional homeland security committees on the accreditation status for each basic training program within DHS.

If a basic training program loses accreditation, the relevant DHS component shall notify the department within 30 days after such loss.

H.R. 5616 also would require the DHS Science and Technology Directorate to carry out research and development to enhance state, local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement access to training on homeland security threats.

Program level academic accreditation requires a discipline to have identified and vetted a set of student learning outcomes.

Without accreditation it remains extremely difficult for a discipline to demonstrate true legitimacy because there would be an absence of standards associated with the curriculum and teaching methods.

Professional legitimacy requires that, integrated with the discipline, is a recognized accreditation process which helps develop incentives for academic programs to adopt accreditation into a widespread practice.

There is a recognized need for responders from all disciplines, including public sector responders and private sector security professionals, to have the knowledge, skills and abilities that allow them to participate in Homeland Protection activities.

Homeland Protection activities are common to both the public and private sector and include prevention, preparedness, protection, mitigation, response and recovery from, ''all hazards'', including terrorism.

Employers must know that their employees and prospective employees have demonstrated competency in the area of Homeland Protection.

Professionals must have a predetermined blend of experience and education, show completed course work in the knowledge areas required by the Certification Board and take an online course and pass the Homeland Protection Professional test.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that meeting the reporting requirements of the bill would cost DHS less than $500,000 over the 2022 through 2026 period.

For programs that are not accredited, the Secretary must provide the reasons for not obtaining or maintaining accreditation, the activities, taken to achieve accreditation, and the anticipated timeline for accreditation of the program.

Unfortunately, several DHS law enforcement basic training programs are not accredited, including the U.S. Border Patrol Academy, Customs and Border Protection's Field Operations Academy Officer Basic Training Program, and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' Officer Basic Training Program.

In some cases, programs have been unaccredited for several years, e.g., the Border Patrol Academy submitted an initial application in 2006 but did not pursue accreditation further.

As the Chairwoman of the Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security Subcommittee, I believe efficient training can and will save lives, and that Department of Homeland Security officers deserve the highest standards of preparation.

Proper training is the only way our authorities can safely and effectively carry out their missions.

Madam Speaker, we need to ensure that our DHS officers are properly trained and educated on their basic trainings.

I urge all members to join me in voting to pass H.R. 5616, the ''DHS Basic Training Accreditation Improvement Act of 2021'', which is critical to ensuring the safety of all Americans.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF FRANK CROW

### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 8, 2022*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the life of Frank Crow who passed away on February 23, 2022, doing what he loved to do—spending time outside on a snowmobile in Gallatin National Forest in Yellowstone National Park.

Frank lived in Jacksonville, Alabama, and was born on June 11, 1956. Everyone knew when Frank Crow entered the room because he always ended up being the center of attention. Not surprisingly, he even exited this world as the center of attention.

Frank was born in Ludwigshafen, Germany, as the first of two children. After traveling the world as a military brat, his family relocated to Oneonta, Alabama, where he graduated with the class of 1974 from Oneonta High School.

He received his undergraduate from Jacksonville State University in 1977, where he was an active member of the Sigma Nu Fraternity. Frank served in the U.S. Army for 12 years with training as an Airborne Ranger Infantryman ''Grunt''. His leadership talents were used with two company commands and two overseas tours (Germany and Korea). His attention to detail and vision groomed his soldiers to raise the bar and exceed in all areas. He exited the military with the rank of Major in 1989. He loved this country. After leaving the Military, Frank received two Masters' Degrees from Jacksonville State University. He also enjoyed substitute teaching and coaching football at Jacksonville High School.

He lived a robust and full life. He was blessed with a loving family and wonderful friends. He loved being outside, hunting, fishing, skiing, motorcycling and snowmobile riding. His talent for helping Veterans was his passion. He loved receiving calls from the individuals he helped with positive news from the VA. Many of the veterans he helped appreciated his knowledge of the process that aided in the veterans increased benefits. ''After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.'' 1 Peter 5:10

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Frank's life of service and dedication to our country and our Veterans. He will be greatly missed.

## HOMELAND SECURITY CAPABILITIES PRESERVATION ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 7, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5615 the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a plan to make Federal assistance available to certain urban areas that previously received Urban Area Security Initiative funding and were removed from the program.

Then, the DHS Secretary is required to submit a plan to Congress on how to make Federal assistance available to former UASI jurisdictions to help them take on the costs of preserving UASI-funded homeland security programs.

In the wake of September 11, 2001, there was a recognition that U.S. urban centers could be terrorist targets and did not have the resources to develop core capabilities to prevent, protect against, and respond to terrorist attacks and other catastrophic events on their own.

Over the past 18 years, UASI has played an instrumental role in helping these cities prevent and respond to terrorist threats and attacks.

As a member of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery, I received testimony from Orlando Police Chief Orlando Rolon that addressed this issue.

Police Chief Rolon testified that, for local law enforcement who are on the ''front lines of responding to any emergency, whether it be a terrorist attack, natural disaster, or global pandemic, FEMA preparedness grants are critical resources that bolster law enforcement's ability to prevent and respond to terrorist attacks and other associated threats.''

Year-to-year changes in the terrorism risk picture, fluctuations in grant funding levels, and changes in DHS' risk formula can result in jurisdictions suddenly falling out of the program, after years of critical investment.

The sudden loss of Federal support for maintaining essential homeland security capabilities can place great strain on cities that may not have the resources to cover these costs.

Jurisdictions that lost UASI grant funding often seek to continue partnering with DHS to ensure that they can maintain the security capabilities they achieved with UASI. These jurisdictions could be helped under H.R. 5615.

This bill will help jurisdictions preserve their level of security capabilities by directing DHS to develop a plan for how to support the transition of costs associated with maintaining UASI-funded homeland security core capabilities.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support this legislation and urge all Members to vote for the H.R. 5615, Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act.

# *Daily Digest*

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Senate passed H.R. 3076, Postal Service Reform Act.**

# Senate

## *Chamber Action*

***Routine Proceedings, pages S1023–S1068***

**Measures Introduced:** Seventeen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3772–3788, S. Res. 538–540, and S. Con. Res. 32.

**Pages S1058–59**

**Measures Passed:**

***Postal Service Reform Act:*** By 79 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. 71), Senate passed H.R. 3076, to provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, after taking action on the following amendment and motion proposed thereto:

**Pages S1023–31, S1031–1048**

Withdrawn:

Schumer (for Peters) Amendment No. 4955, to modify the deadline for the initial report on the operations and financial condition of the United States Postal Service. **Page S1046**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 68 yeas to 30 nays (Vote No. 70), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to waive section 3101 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016, with respect to the bill. Subsequently, the point of order that the bill was in violation of section 3101 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2016, was not sustained, and thus the point of order fell.

**Pages S1046–47**

***Officer Evans Memorial Plaque:*** Senate agreed to S. Res. 539, directing the Architect of the Capitol to obtain and place a memorial plaque for the United States Capitol Police Officer William F. Evans at the north security kiosk of the Capitol.

**Page S1066**

***South Florida Clean Coastal Waters Act:*** Senate passed S. 66, to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida.

**Pages S1066–67**

***CADETS Act:*** Senate passed S. 2299, to modify the age requirement for the Student Incentive Payment Program of the State maritime academies.

**Page S1067**

**Appointments:**

***Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States:*** The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to the provisions of Public Law 117–81, appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States: Robert M. Scher of the District of Columbia.

**Page S1050**

**Message from the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act and the National Emergencies Act, a report relative to the issuance of an Executive Order with respect to the Russian Federation's unjustified, unprovoked, unyielding, and unconscionable war against Ukraine, and expanding the scope of the national emergency with respect to the Russian Federation originally declared in Executive Order 14024 of April 15, 2021; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–26) **Pages S1050–51**

**Gonzalez Nomination—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Ed Gonzalez, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, be withdrawn. **Page S1048**

**Pagan Nomination—Agreement:** Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Maria L. Pagan, of Puerto Rico, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative (Geneva Office), with the rank of Ambassador. **Pages S1048–50**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 78 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. EX. 72), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1048**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, or his designee, following consultation with the Republican Leader. **Page S1039**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all post-cloture time on the nomination be considered expired, with all previous provisions remaining in effect. **Page S1050**

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

Paul M. Rosen, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Investment Security.

David Applegate, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey.

Evelyn Wang, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, Department of Energy.

Joseph Goffman, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Robert A. Wood, of New York, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during his tenure of service as Alternate Representative of the United States of America for Special Political Affairs in the United Nations.

Kate Elizabeth Heinzelman, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency.

18 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

**Pages S1067–68**

**Messages from the House:** **Page S1051**

**Measures Referred:** **Page S1051**

**Executive Communications:** **Pages S1051–53**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Pages S1053–59**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S1059–61**

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** **Pages S1061–65**

**Additional Statements:** **Page S1050**

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** **Page S1065**

**Record Votes:** Three record votes were taken today. (Total—72) **Pages S1047–48**

**Recess:** Senate convened at 10:30 a.m. and recessed at 7:12 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, March 10, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1067.)

# *Committee Meetings*

*(Committees not listed did not meet)*

## BUSINESS MEETING

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Robert Phillip Storch, of the District of Columbia, to be Inspector General, Lester Martinez-Lopez, of Florida, and Christopher Joseph Lowman, of Virginia, both to be an Assistant Secretary, Peter J. Beshar, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force, Franklin R. Parker, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Agnes Schaefer, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, and Frank Calvelli, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

## DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine United States Strategic Command and United States Space Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Admiral Charles A. Richard, Commander, United States Strategic Command, and General James H. Dickinson, Commander, United States Space Command, both of the Department of Defense.

## DOD CYBER OPERATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Subcommittee on Cybersecurity received a closed briefing on Department of Defense cyber operations from Mieke Eoyang, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Cyber Policy, Office of the Under Secretary for Policy, Rear Admiral Ronald A. Foy, USN, Deputy Director for Global Operations, J39, Joint Staff, and Major General Kevin B. Kennedy, USAF, Director of Operations, United States Cyber Command, all of the Department of Defense.

## MANDATORY ARBITRATION

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine mandatory arbitration in financial service products, including S. 3577, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the tax exemption of the International Olympic Committee and similar organizations, after receiving testimony from Paul Bland, Public Justice, Baltimore, Maryland; Remington A. Gregg, Public Citizen, and Steven P. Lehotsky, U.S.

Chamber of Commerce, both of Washington, D.C.; Todd Zywicki, George Mason University Antonin Scalia School of Law, Arlington, Virginia; and Myriam Gilles, Yeshiva University Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, New York, New York.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Shalanda H. Baker, of Texas, to be Director of the Office of Minority Economic Impact, Asmeret Asefaw Berhe, of California, to be Director of the Office of Science, and Joseph F. DeCarolis, of North Carolina, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, all of the Department of Energy, and Sara C. Bronin, of Connecticut, to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Security and Non-Proliferation), George J. Tsunis, of New York, to be Ambassador to Greece, James C. O'Brien, of Nebraska, to be Head of the Office of Sanctions Coordination, with the rank of Ambassador, Beth Van Schaack, of California, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, Randi Charno Levine, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic, Laura Farnsworth Dogu, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Honduras, N. Nickolas Perry, of New York, to be Ambassador to Jamaica, and Mallory A. Stewart, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Verification and Compliance), all of the Department of State, Adriana Debora Kugler, of Maryland, to be United States Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Erin Elizabeth McKee, of California, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and routine lists in the Foreign Service.

**RUSSIA'S INVASION OF UKRAINE**

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine Russia's invasion of Ukraine, focusing on assessing the United States and international response, after receiving testimony from Victoria Nuland, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs.

**HATE CRIMES**

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine combating the rise in hate crimes, after receiving testimony from Kristen Clarke, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice; Rabbi Charlie Cytron-Walker, Congregation Beth Israel, Colleyville, Texas; Walter M. Kimbrough, Dillard University, New Orleans, Louisiana, on behalf of the United Negro College Fund; Orlando Martinez, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles, California; and Elan S. Carr, The Heritage Foundation, and Maya M. Berry, Arab American Institute, both of Washington, D.C.

**BUSINESS MEETING**

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Kenneth L. Wainstein, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, Department of Homeland Security.

# House of Representatives

## *Chamber Action*

**Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced:** 37 public bills, H.R. 6967–7003; and 6 resolutions, H.J. Res. 75; H. Con. Res. 78; and H. Res. 968–971, were introduced. **Pages H1372–74**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H1375–76**

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5547, to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to require eligible recipients of certain grants to develop a comprehensive economic development strategy that directly or indirectly increases the accessibility of affordable, quality care-based services, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–259, Part 1); and

H.R. 6445, to amend the Small Business Act to require an annual report on entrepreneurial development programs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–260, Part 1). **Page H1372**

**Speaker:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Hayes to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1333**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 11:35 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H1344**

**People-to-People Partnership for Peace Fund Advisory Board—Appointment:** Read a letter from Representative McCarthy, Minority Leader, in which he appointed the following member to the People-to-People Partnership for Peace Fund Advisory Board: Mrs. Dina Powell McCormick of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. **Page H1346**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities (''HBCUs'') and reaffirming support for HBCUs and their students: H. Con. Res. 70, amended, condemning threats of violence against historically Black colleges and universities (''HBCUs'') and reaffirming support for HBCUs and their students, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 418 yeas with none voting ''nay'', Roll No. 61; and **Pages H1346–52, H1356–57**

Condemning the heinous terrorist attack on Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas, on January 15, 2022: H. Res. 881, amended, condemning the heinous terrorist attack on Congregation Beth Israel in Colleyville, Texas, on January 15, 2022. **Pages H1352–55**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 1:16 p.m. and reconvened at 6:30 p.m. **Page H1355**

**Suspension—Proceedings Resumed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Monday, March 7th:

***Shadow Wolves Enhancement Act:*** H.R. 5681, to authorize the reclassification of the tactical enforcement officers (commonly known as the ''Shadow Wolves'') in the Homeland Security Investigations tactical patrol unit operating on the lands of the Tohono O'odham Nation as special agents, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 387 yeas to 33 nays, Roll No. 60. **Pages H1355–56**

**Recess:** The House recessed at 9:59 p.m. and reconvened at 12:30 a.m. **Page H1371**

**Presidential Message:** Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress of the issuance of an Executive Order regarding the prohibition of the importation into the United States of products of Russian Federation origin-referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 117–100). **Page H1358**

**Senate Referrals:** S. 2089 was held at the desk. S. 66 was held at the desk. S. 2299 was held at the desk. **Pages H1344, H1358**

**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H1344 and H1358.

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Two yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1355–56 and H1356–57.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 12:30 a.m.

# *Committee Meetings*

## A 2022 REVIEW OF THE FARM BILL: RURAL DEVELOPMENT

*Committee on Agriculture:* Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit held a hearing entitled ''A 2022 Review of the Farm Bill: Rural Development''. Testimony was heard from Xochitl Torres Small, Under Secretary for Rural Development, Department of Agriculture.

## NATIONAL SECURITY CHALLENGES AND U.S. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

*Committee on Armed Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''National Security Challenges and U.S. Military Activity in North and South America''. Testimony was heard from Melissa G. Dalton, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense; General Laura Richardson, U.S. Army, Commander, U.S. Southern Command; and General Glen D. VanHerck, U.S. Air Force, Commander, U.S. Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command.

## CHARGING FORWARD: SECURING AMERICAN MANUFACTURING AND OUR EV FUTURE

*Committee on Energy and Commerce:* Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled ''Charging Forward: Securing American Manufacturing and Our EV Future''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## THE INFLATION EQUATION: CORPORATE PROFITEERING, SUPPLY CHAIN BOTTLENECKS, AND COVID–19

*Committee on Financial Services:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''The Inflation Equation: Corporate Profiteering, Supply Chain Bottlenecks, and COVID–19''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

## SHIFTING THE POWER: USAID'S EFFORTS TO SUPPORT LOCALLY-LED DEVELOPMENT

*Committee on Foreign Affairs:* Subcommittee on International Development, International Organizations and Global Corporate Social Impact held a hearing entitled ''Shifting the Power: USAID's Efforts to Support Locally-Led Development''. Testimony was

heard from Michele Sumilas, Assistant to the Administrator, Bureau for Policy, Planning, and Learning, U.S. Agency for International Development.

### REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY IN THE COVID–19 ERA

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled ''Reimagining Public Safety in the COVID–19 Era''. Testimony was heard from Nicholas W. Brown, U.S. Attorney, Western District of Washington; Satana Deberry, District Attorney, Durham County, North Carolina; Edgardo Garcia, Chief of Police, Dallas Police Department, Texas; Sylvester Turner, Mayor, Houston, Texas; and public witnesses.

### EXAMINING THE HISTORY OF FEDERAL LANDS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBAL CO-MANAGEMENT

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Examining the History of Federal Lands and the Development of Tribal Co-Management''. Testimony was heard from Charles Sams III, Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

### KLAMATH RIVER BASIN CONDITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES

*Committee on Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing entitled ''Klamath River Basin Conditions and Opportunities''. Testimony was heard from Steve Guertin, Deputy Director for Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

### FEDERAL CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

*Committee on Science, Space, and Technology:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Federal Climate Adaptation and Resilience for the 21st Century''. Testimony was heard from Richard Spinrad, Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce; Ingrid Kolb, Director, Office of Management, and Chief Sustainability Officer, Department of Energy; Joel Carney, Assistant Administrator, Office of Strategic Infrastructure, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and Alfredo Gomez, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office.

### OVERVIEW OF THE SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH AND SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAMS

*Committee on Small Business:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Overview of the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Programs''. Testimony was heard from John Williams, Director of Innovation and Technology, Office of Investment and Innovation, U.S. Small Business Administration.

### STAKEHOLDER VIEWS ON SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD REAUTHORIZATION

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials held a hearing entitled ''Stakeholder Views on Surface Transportation Board Reauthorization''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

### WORLDWIDE THREATS

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Worldwide Threats''. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Scott Berrier, Director, Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense; William Burns, Director, Central Intelligence Agency; Avril Haines, Director, Office of the Director of National Intelligence; General Paul Nakasone, Director, National Security Agency, Department of Defense; and Christopher Wray, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice. A portion of this hearing was closed.

## *Joint Meetings*

### VSO LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATIONS

*Joint Hearing:* Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs concluded a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of multiple veterans service organizations, after receiving testimony from Paul E. Dillard, Lawrence Montreuil, Ralph Bozella, Katie Purswell, James LaCoursiere, and Joe Sharpe, all of The American Legion; Charles Brown, Paralyzed Veterans of America; Jared Lyon, Student Veterans of America; Commander Rene A. Campos, USN (Ret.), Military Officers Association of America; Claire Manning-Dick, Gold Star Wives of America, Inc.; Brigadier General Roy Robinson, (Ret.), National Guard Association of the United States; Bonnie Carroll, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors; Jennifer L. Dane, Modern Military Association of America; and Jan Thompson, American Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor Memorial Society.

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 2022

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

### Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

### House

*Committee on Appropriations,* Subcommittee on Defense, budget hearing entitled ''United States European Command'', 10 a.m., HVC–301. This hearing is closed.

*Committee on Armed Services*, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''National Security Challenges and U.S. Military Activities in the Indo-Pacific Region'', 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on Energy and Commerce*, Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, hearing entitled ''Changing Times: Revisiting Spring Forward, Fall Back'', 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

*Committee on Small Business*, Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development, hearing entitled ''Skill, Upskill, and Reskill: Analyzing New Investments in Workforce Development'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

*Select Committee on the Climate Crisis*, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Confronting Climate Impacts: Federal Strategies for Equitable Adaptation and Resilience'', 9:30 a.m., 210 Cannon and Zoom.

*Next Meeting of the* SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, March 10

Senate Chamber

**Program for Thursday:** Senate will be in a period of morning business.

*Next Meeting of the* HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Wednesday, March 9

House Chamber

**Program for Wednesday:** To be announced.

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