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House of Representatives

The House met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MCEACHIN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
March 29, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable A. DONALD MCEACHIN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House Representatives.

PRAYER

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

Eternal God, on this 50th anniversary of the Vietnam war, we pray Your divine blessing on those veterans who left hearth and home to respond to the call of our Nation. We give tribute to their faithfulness to the ideals of freedom and democracy, even when the winds of war blew with increasing uncertainty.

We pray for those who, in the ambiguity of conflict, found themselves faced with unimaginable ethical dilemmas and who are now left with indelible moral trauma. Bless those who yet tend to lingering physical and emotional injury. Give each of them peace when the nightmares overwhelm and the echoes of battle resound in their slumber.

May all who returned unwelcome find themselves received into Your warm embrace and upheld by Your loving and everlasting arms.

Grant eternal rest to those comrades whose names are ever memorialized on granite walls and gravestones across the country. May they now know Your peace.

Holy and merciful God, mend the wounds of war, both seen and unseen, individual and corporate, that as we commemorate this anniversary, we would acknowledge the cost of war and honor the value of peace.

In the everlasting strength of Your name we pray.
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 New Mexico (Ms. HERRELL) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. HERRELL led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST ROGER DEARMYER

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

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise on National Vietnam War Veterans Day to honor U.S. Army Specialist Roger Dearmyer, a western New York native and Purple Heart recipient who passed in December 2021.

Roger deployed to Vietnam in 1966 with the Fourth Infantry Division of

the United States Army. Spending much of his deployment in the jungles of Vietnam, he was injured in action in April 1967.

Roger returned home and served as an Erie County sheriff's deputy for 31 years.

He remained active in the veteran community as a member of the Fourth Infantry Division Association and the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 187.

In 2019, we presented Roger with the medals he earned while serving, including a Purple Heart, a Vietnam Service Medal with a triple Bronze Star attachment, and a Combat Infantryman Badge.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Roger Dearmyer, a man who lived a life of service to his family, his community, and his country.

CONGRATULATING IOWA'S HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL ALL-STATE HONOREES

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of several young ladies from my district.

In early March, the Iowa high school women's basketball State championships were held in Des Moines. These young women took to the court, gave it their all, and made their schools proud. I was thrilled to see several young women recently earned all-State honors from the Des Moines Register.

Kelsey Joens of Iowa City was named to the All-Iowa Elite team. Halle Vice of Pleasant Valley was named to the Class 5A team, and Callie Levin of Solon was named to the Class 4A team. Kaylee Corbin of Louisa-Muscataine and Kelsey Drake of Wilton were named to the Class 2A team.

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

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



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In addition, Jasmine Barney of Iowa City Liberty, Macy Daufeldt of West Liberty, Journey Houston of Davenport North, Allie Meadows of Central DeWitt, Meena Tate of Iowa City West, and Taylor Veach of Central DeWitt earned honorable mention recognition.

Congratulations to all of these young women on achieving these honors.

Thirty-two years ago today, our daughter, Taylor, burst into our lives. Thank you to Taylor, our Little Miss Sunshine, for all the immeasurable joy she has brought to her father and me.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO FIX SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, clearly, the COVID pandemic has struck America extraordinarily hard. Nearly a million Americans have died from COVID-19, but it has been especially hurtful to our elderly. More than 720,000 of the people who have perished were over the age of 65.

This underscores all the more reason why the United States Congress needs to fix Social Security. Congress has not addressed the issue of extending Social Security for more than 50 years. It is long overdue that the United States Congress live up to its responsibility and make sure it enhances the benefits.

A gallon of milk cost 72 cents in 1971. You-all know what it costs today, as well as the price of gas, prescription drugs, and the cost of rent, et cetera. Yet, Social Security has not been enhanced in more than 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, this is exactly why the United States Congress needs to act. I am proud of the proposal of President Biden and the fact that Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust will be brought to the floor.

HONORING KKOB RADIO ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

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

Ms. HERRELL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor New Mexico's first radio station, KKOB, which this year celebrates their 100th anniversary in broadcasting.

KKOB was founded in 1922 by Ralph Goddard and has remained in the Land of Enchantment.

KKOB has won four Marconi Awards from the National Association of Broadcasters and, since 2000, has received "Station of the Year" 12 times from the New Mexico Broadcasters Association.

To celebrate their 50th birthday, in 1972, the radio station invited an adventurous bunch of hot air balloon operators to the Coronado Mall parking lot, creating a tradition that has now become known as the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta.

KKOB is the leading voice for southwest New Mexico, sharing news, sports, traffic, weather, opinions, and the occasional joke—some good, some bad, some just dad jokes. They have loved our community for over 100 years.

I commend KKOB's dedication to New Mexico, and I look forward to their next century of broadcasting.

MOURNING THE LOSS OF SERGEANT DANIEL MARTINEZ

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the untimely loss of Sergeant Daniel Martinez.

I express my deepest condolences to my friends and neighbors, the Martinez family. There is no greater pain than that of losing a child, and there are no words I can provide to mend your pain. But I want you to know that the entire Southwest Side of the region has your back.

Sergeant Daniel Martinez served his country with pride, forming close bonds with his fellow marines during his 4 years of service.

He will be remembered as a young man with a sense of humor who enjoyed watching movies and television with his siblings and loved to travel.

Daniel will be remembered by his family and our community for his commitment to his country. Above all, he will be remembered for his kindness and devotion to his family and friends.

Rest in peace, Daniel.

THANKING HEIDI GALLEGOS

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

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Brea Chamber of Commerce CEO and President Heidi Gallegos for her dedicated service to our community.

Heidi served in the Los Angeles Police Department for 11 years and on the Board of Trustees for Rowland Unified School District for 12 years. Most recently, she guided the Brea Chamber of Commerce through the Great Recession and the COVID-19 lockdowns. Despite unprecedented economic challenges, Heidi led the chamber to build reserves and remain successful.

She consistently operates with integrity, energy, and compassion and has established a reputation for strong, trusted leadership.

I thank Heidi for all that she has done for our community. I am proud to call her a friend, and I wish her a joyful retirement.

HEALTHCARE WORKER MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

(Ms. PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, our frontline healthcare workers face a mental health crisis. One in five healthcare providers experienced mental health problems during the pandemic. This should concern every American.

On March 30, National Doctors' Day, we recognize that to protect our public health, we must protect the well-being of our health workers.

When doctors and nurses struggle with their mental health, they struggle to care for us. Nearly half of healthcare workers, 47 percent, are considering leaving their roles in the next 3 years. We need their talent, dedication, and expertise.

Congress recently passed a law that will connect doctors and nurses with mental health resources, but we can and must do more.

Healthcare workers helped keep us safe during the pandemic. We have a responsibility to get them the healthcare that they need.

PRESERVE TITLE 42

(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, a few weeks ago, I went to the southern border, and I was shocked and appalled to hear about the humanitarian crisis, the violence, and the drug smuggling firsthand, on-site.

President Biden's and the Democrats' open border policies have allowed a record number of illegal immigrants and illegal drugs to enter our country.

There are staggering numbers of encounters at the border each month, and more illegal immigrants are, unfortunately, slipping past in areas without a fence or enough Border Patrol.

Now, the Biden administration is thinking about repealing one of the more effective methods of deporting illegal immigrants, title 42.

Title 42 is a public health law that authorizes U.S. border agents to promptly send back migrants and illegal immigrants if they pose a health risk to Americans and are from a country with a communicable disease outbreak.

During the height of the COVID crisis, they want to let them in by repealing title 42. It will mean even more illegal immigration into this country and eliminate one of the few tools that the administration has used to expel illegal immigrants.

The audacity of this administration that has tried to force vaccine mandates on Americans, force them to still wear masks on airplanes and at airports, and at the same time allowing unlimited illegal immigration. We must preserve title 42.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS WEEK

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

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this last week of March as National Area Health Education Centers, or AHEC, week.

The AHEC program is vital to this country and for Nevadans because we are facing an unprecedented shortage of healthcare providers. The doctor shortage in southern Nevada is nearing crisis levels, which means longer wait times, fewer choices, and less access to quality healthcare.

The size of Nevada's physician workforce ranks near last in this country. As our community continues to expand, the challenges continue to grow.

To solve this crisis, underserved communities like Las Vegas need to expand the resources we offer so that medical providers can learn and grow their careers right here.

That is exactly what AHECs do. They are part of the solution. The Nation's 300 federally funded AHECs are in nearly every State and in multiple U.S. territories. In the past 5 years, they have trained 2 million healthcare professionals.

Please join me in saluting AHECs as they continue to be committed to prepare, plan, and train for a better healthcare future.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 4521. An act to provide for a coordinated Federal research initiative to ensure continued United States leadership in engineering biology.

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AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR THE NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL SERVICE AND THE NATIONAL HONOR GUARD AND PIPE BAND EXHIBITION

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure be discharged from further consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 74, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

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

There was no objection.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 74

SECTION 1. USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and its auxiliary shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, the 41st Annual National Peace Officers Memorial Service (in this resolution referred to as the "Memorial Service"), on the Capitol Grounds, in order to honor the law enforcement officers who died in the line of duty during 2021.

(b) DATE OF MEMORIAL SERVICE.—The Memorial Service shall be held on May 15, 2022, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate, with preparation for the event to begin on May 10, 2022, and takedown completed on May 16, 2022.

SEC. 2. USE OF THE CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL HONOR GUARD AND PIPE BAND EXHIBITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Grand Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police and its auxiliary shall be permitted to sponsor a public event, the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition (in this resolution referred to as the "Exhibition"), on the Capitol Grounds, in order to allow law enforcement representatives to exhibit their ability to demonstrate Honor Guard programs and provide for a bagpipe exhibition.

(b) DATE OF EXHIBITION.—The Exhibition shall be held on May 14, 2022, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate jointly designate.

SEC. 3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board, the event shall be—

- (1) free of admission charge and open to the public; and
- (2) arranged not to interfere with the needs of Congress.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsors of the Memorial Service and Exhibition shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the events.

SEC. 4. EVENT PREPARATIONS.

Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, the sponsors referred to in section 3(b) are authorized to erect upon the Capitol Grounds such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment, as may be required for the Memorial Service and Exhibition.

SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 5104(c) of title 40, United States Code, concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol Grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol Grounds, in connection with the events.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DISPENSING WITH CALL OF PRIVATE CALENDAR ON TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2022, AND TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the call of the Private Calendar be dispensed with on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 and Tuesday, May 3, 2022.

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

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

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

DON YOUNG COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6865) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6865

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

- Sec. 101. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 102. Authorized levels of military strength and training.
- Sec. 103. Shoreside infrastructure and facilities.
- Sec. 104. Availability of amounts for acquisition of additional cutters.

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

Subtitle A—Military Personnel Matters

- Sec. 201. Authorized strength.
- Sec. 202. Continuation of officers with certain critical skills on active duty.
- Sec. 203. Number and distribution of officers on active duty promotion list.
- Sec. 204. Coast Guard behavioral health policy.
- Sec. 205. Improving representation of women and of racial and ethnic minorities among Coast Guard active-duty members.

Subtitle B—Operational Matters

- Sec. 206. Pilot project for enhancing Coast Guard cutter readiness through condition-based maintenance.
- Sec. 207. Unmanned systems strategy.
- Sec. 208. Budgeting of Coast Guard relating to certain operations.
- Sec. 209. Report on San Diego maritime domain awareness.
- Sec. 210. Great Lakes winter shipping.
- Sec. 211. Center of expertise for Great Lakes oil spill search and response.
- Sec. 212. Study on laydown of Coast Guard cutters.

Subtitle C—Other Matters

- Sec. 213. Responses of Commandant of the Coast Guard to safety recommendations.
- Sec. 214. Conveyance of Coast Guard vessels for public purposes.
- Sec. 215. Acquisition life-cycle cost estimates.

- Sec. 216. National Coast Guard Museum funding plan.
 Sec. 217. Report on Coast Guard explosive ordnance disposal.
 Sec. 218. Pribilof Island transition completion actions.
 Sec. 219. Notification of communication outages.

TITLE III—MARITIME

Subtitle A—Shipping

- Sec. 301. Nonoperating individual.
 Sec. 302. Oceanographic research vessels.
 Sec. 303. Atlantic Coast port access routes briefing.

Subtitle B—Vessel Safety

- Sec. 304. Fishing vessel safety.
 Sec. 305. Requirements for DUKW-type amphibious passenger vessels.
 Sec. 306. Exoneration and limitation of liability for small passenger vessels.
 Sec. 307. Automatic identification system requirements.

Subtitle C—Shipbuilding Program

- Sec. 308. Qualified vessel.
 Sec. 309. Establishing a capital construction fund.

TITLE IV—FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

- Sec. 401. Short title.
 Sec. 402. Purposes.
 Sec. 403. Service contracts.
 Sec. 404. Shipping exchange registry.
 Sec. 405. Data collection.
 Sec. 406. National shipper advisory committee.

- Sec. 407. Annual report and public disclosures.
 Sec. 408. General prohibitions.
 Sec. 409. Prohibition on unreasonably declining cargo.

- Sec. 410. Detention and demurrage.
 Sec. 411. Assessment of penalties.
 Sec. 412. Investigations.
 Sec. 413. Injunctive relief.
 Sec. 414. Technical amendments.
 Sec. 415. Authorization of appropriations.
 Sec. 416. NAS study on supply chain industry.

- Sec. 417. Temporary emergency authority.
 Sec. 418. Terms and vacancies.

TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS

Subtitle A—Navigation

- Sec. 501. Restriction on changing salvors.
 Sec. 502. Providing requirements for vessels anchored in established anchorage grounds.
 Sec. 503. Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force.
 Sec. 504. Limitation on recovery for certain injuries incurred in aquaculture activities.

Subtitle B—Other Matters

- Sec. 505. Information on type approval certificates.
 Sec. 506. Passenger vessel security and safety requirements.
 Sec. 507. Cargo waiting time reduction.
 Sec. 508. Limited indemnity provisions in standby oil spill response contracts.
 Sec. 509. Port Coordination Council for Point Spencer.
 Sec. 510. Western Alaska oil spill planning criteria.
 Sec. 511. Nonapplicability.
 Sec. 512. Report on enforcement of coastwise laws.
 Sec. 513. Land conveyance, Sharpe Army Depot, Lathrop, California.
 Sec. 514. Center of Expertise for Marine Environmental Response.
 Sec. 515. Prohibition on entry and operation.
 Sec. 516. St. Lucie River railroad bridge.

- Sec. 517. Assistance related to marine mammals.

- Sec. 518. Manning and crewing requirements for certain vessels, vehicles, and structures.

TITLE VI—SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

- Sec. 601. Definitions.
 Sec. 602. Convicted sex offender as grounds for denial.

- Sec. 603. Sexual harassment or sexual assault as grounds for suspension or revocation.

- Sec. 604. Accommodation; notices.
 Sec. 605. Protection against discrimination.
 Sec. 606. Alcohol prohibition.
 Sec. 607. Surveillance requirements.
 Sec. 608. Master key control.
 Sec. 609. Safety management systems.
 Sec. 610. Requirement to report sexual assault and harassment.

- Sec. 611. Civil actions for personal injury or death of seamen.

- Sec. 612. Administration of sexual assault forensic examination kits.

TITLE VII—TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING PROVISIONS

- Sec. 701. Technical corrections.
 Sec. 702. Transportation worker identification credential technical amendments.

- Sec. 703. Reinstatement.
 Sec. 704. Determination of budgetary effects.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION

- SEC. 101. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**
 Section 4902 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

- (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking “years 2020 and 2021” and inserting “years 2022 and 2023”;

- (2) in paragraph (1)—
 (A) in subparagraph (A)—
 (i) by striking “\$8,151,620,850 for fiscal year 2020” and inserting “\$9,282,360,000 for fiscal year 2022”; and
 (ii) by striking “\$8,396,169,475 for fiscal year 2021” and inserting “\$10,210,596,000 for fiscal year 2023”;

- (B) in subparagraph (B) by striking “\$17,035,000” and inserting “\$17,723,520”; and
 (C) in subparagraph (C) by striking “\$17,376,000” and inserting “\$18,077,990”;

- (3) in paragraph (2)—
 (A) in subparagraph (A)—
 (i) by striking “\$2,794,745,000 for fiscal year 2020” and inserting “\$3,312,114,000 for fiscal year 2022”; and
 (ii) by striking “\$3,312,114,000 for fiscal year 2021” and inserting “\$3,477,600,000 for fiscal year 2023”;

- (B) in subparagraph (B)—
 (i) by striking “\$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2020” and inserting “\$20,400,000 for fiscal year 2022”; and
 (ii) by striking “\$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2021” and inserting “\$20,808,000 for fiscal year 2023”;

- (4) in paragraph (3)—
 (A) by striking “\$13,834,000 for fiscal year 2020” and inserting “\$14,393,220 for fiscal year 2022”; and
 (B) by striking “\$14,111,000 for fiscal year 2021” and inserting “\$14,681,084 for fiscal year 2023”;

- (5) in paragraph (4)—
 (A) by striking “\$205,107,000 for fiscal year 2020” and inserting “\$213,393,180 for fiscal year 2022”; and
 (B) by striking “\$209,209,000 for fiscal year 2021” and inserting “\$217,661,044 for fiscal year 2023”.

- SEC. 102. AUTHORIZED LEVELS OF MILITARY STRENGTH AND TRAINING.**
 Section 4904 of title 14, United States Code, is amended—

- (1) in subsection (a) by striking “fiscal years 2020 and 2021” and inserting “fiscal years 2022 and 2023”; and

- (2) in subsection (b) by striking “fiscal years 2020 and 2021” and inserting “fiscal years 2022 and 2023”.

SEC. 103. SHORESIDE INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated under section 4902(2)(A) of title 14, United States Code, for each of fiscal years 2022 and 2023, up to \$585,000,000 shall be authorized for the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to fund the acquisition, construction, rebuilding, or improvement of Coast Guard shoreside infrastructure and facilities necessary to support Coast Guard operations and readiness.

(b) **BALTIMORE COAST GUARD YARD.**—Of the amounts set aside under subsection (a), up to \$175,000,000 shall be authorized to improve facilities at the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, Maryland, including improvements to piers and wharves, dry dock, capital equipment utilities, or dredging necessary to facilitate access to such Yard.

(c) **TRAINING CENTER CAPE MAY.**—Of the amounts set aside under subsection (a), up to \$60,000,000 shall be authorized to fund Phase I, in fiscal year 2022, and Phase II, in fiscal year 2023, for the recapitalization of the barracks at the United States Coast Guard Training Center Cape May in Cape May, New Jersey.

(d) **MITIGATION OF HAZARD RISKS.**—In carrying out projects with funds authorized under this section, the Coast Guard shall mitigate, to the greatest extent practicable, natural hazard risks identified in any Shore Infrastructure Vulnerability Assessment for Phase I related to such projects.

(e) **FORT WADSWORTH, NEW YORK.**—Of the amounts set aside under subsection (a), up to \$1,200,000 shall be authorized to fund a construction project to—

- (1) complete repairs to the United States Coast Guard Station, New York, waterfront, including repairs to the concrete pier; and

- (2) replace floating piers Alpha and Bravo, the South Breakwater and Ice Screen, the North Breakwater and Ice Screen, and the seawall.

SEC. 104. AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS FOR ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL CUTTERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated under—

- (1) section 4902(2)(A)(i) of title 14, United States Code, as amended by section 101 of this title, for fiscal year 2022;

(A) \$300,000,000 shall be authorized for the acquisition of a twelfth National Security Cutter; and

(B) \$210,000,000 shall be authorized for the acquisition of 3 Fast Response Cutters; and

(2) section 4902(2)(A)(ii) of title 14, United States Code, as amended by section 101 of this title, for fiscal year 2023;

(A) \$300,000,000 shall be authorized for the acquisition of a twelfth National Security Cutter; and

(B) \$210,000,000 shall be authorized for the acquisition of 3 Fast Response Cutters.

(b) **TREATMENT OF ACQUIRED CUTTER.**—Any cutter acquired using amounts authorized under subsection (a) shall be in addition to the National Security Cutters and Fast Response Cutters approved under the existing acquisition baseline in the program of record for the National Security Cutter and Fast Response Cutter.

(c) **GREAT LAKES ICEBREAKER ACQUISITION.**—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated under section 4902(2)(A)(ii) of title 14, United States Code—

- (1) for fiscal year 2022, \$350,000,000 shall be authorized for the acquisition of a Great

Lakes icebreaker at least as capable as Coast Guard Cutter *Mackinaw* (WLBB-30); and

(2) for fiscal year 2023, \$20,000,000 shall be authorized for the design and selection of icebreaking cutters for operation in the Great Lakes, the Northeastern United States, and the Arctic, as appropriate, that are at least as capable as the Coast Guard 140-foot icebreaking tugs.

(d) DRUG AND MIGRANT INTERDICTION.—Of the Fast Response Cutters authorized for acquisition under subsection (a), at least 1 shall be used for drug and migrant interdiction in the Caribbean Basin (including the Gulf of Mexico).

TITLE II—COAST GUARD

Subtitle A—Military Personnel Matters

SEC. 201. AUTHORIZED STRENGTH.

Section 3702 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) The Secretary may vary the authorized end strength of the Coast Guard Selected Reserves for a fiscal year by a number equal to not more than 3 percent of such end strength upon a determination by the Secretary that varying such authorized end strength is in the national interest.

“(d) The Commandant may increase the authorized end strength of the Coast Guard Selected Reserves by a number equal to not more than 2 percent of such authorized end strength upon a determination by the Commandant that such increase would enhance manning and readiness in essential units or in critical specialties or ratings.”.

SEC. 202. CONTINUATION OF OFFICERS WITH CERTAIN CRITICAL SKILLS ON ACTIVE DUTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 21 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2165 the following:

“§ 2166. Continuation on active duty; Coast Guard officers with certain critical skills

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant may authorize an officer in a grade above grade O-2 to remain on active duty after the date otherwise provided for the retirement of such officer in section 2154 of this title, if the officer possesses a critical skill, or specialty, or is in a career field designated pursuant to subsection (b).

“(b) CRITICAL SKILLS, SPECIALTY, OR CAREER FIELD.—The Commandant shall designate any critical skill, specialty, or career field eligible for continuation on active duty as provided in subsection (a).

“(c) DURATION OF CONTINUATION.—An officer continued on active duty pursuant to this section shall, if not earlier retired, be retired on the first day of the month after the month in which the officer completes 40 years of active service.

“(d) POLICY.—The Commandant shall carry out this section by prescribing policy which shall specify the criteria to be used in designating any critical skill, specialty, or career field for purposes of subsection (b).”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 21 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2165 the following:

“2166. Continuation on active duty; Coast Guard officers with certain critical skills.”.

SEC. 203. NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF OFFICERS ON ACTIVE DUTY PROMOTION LIST.

(a) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF OFFICERS.—Section 2103(a) of title 14, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(a) MAXIMUM TOTAL NUMBER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The total number of Coast Guard commissioned officers on the active duty promotion list, excluding warrant officers, shall not exceed—

“(A) 7,100 in fiscal year 2022;

“(B) 7,200 in fiscal year 2023;

“(C) 7,300 in fiscal year 2024; and

“(D) 7,400 in fiscal year 2025 and each subsequent fiscal year.

“(2) TEMPORARY INCREASE.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Commandant may temporarily increase the total number of commissioned officers permitted under such paragraph by up to 2 percent for no more than 60 days following the date of the commissioning of a Coast Guard Academy class.

“(3) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 30 days after exceeding the total number of commissioned officers permitted under paragraph (1), and each 30 days thereafter until the total number of commissioned officers no longer exceeds the number of such officers permitted under paragraph (1), the Commandant shall notify the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate of the number of officers on the active duty promotion list on the last day of the preceding 30-day period.”.

(b) OFFICERS NOT ON ACTIVE DUTY PROMOTION LIST.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 51 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 5113. Officers not on active duty promotion list

“Not later than 60 days after the date on which the President submits to Congress a budget pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, the Commandant shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate the number of Coast Guard officers serving at other Federal entities on a reimbursable basis but not on the active duty promotion list.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 51 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: “5113. Officers not on active duty promotion list.”.

SEC. 204. COAST GUARD BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY.

(a) INTERIM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall establish an interim behavioral health policy for members of the Coast Guard equivalent to the policy described in section 5.28 (relating to behavioral health) of Department of Defense Instruction 6130.03, volume 2, “Medical Standards for Military Service: Retention”.

(b) TERMINATION.—The interim policy established under subsection (a) shall remain in effect until the date on which the Commandant issues a permanent behavior health policy for members of the Coast Guard which is, to the extent practicable, equivalent to such section 5.28.

SEC. 205. IMPROVING REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN AND OF RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES AMONG COAST GUARD ACTIVE-DUTY MEMBERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall—

(1) determine which recommendations in the RAND representation report can practicably be implemented to promote improved representation in the Coast Guard of—

(A) women; and

(B) racial and ethnic minorities; and

(2) submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the actions the Com-

mandant has taken, or plans to take, to implement such recommendations.

(b) CURRICULUM AND TRAINING.—The Commandant shall update, to reflect actions described under subsection (a)(2), the curriculum and training materials used at—

(1) officer accession points, including the Coast Guard Academy and the Leadership Development Center;

(2) enlisted member accession at the United States Coast Guard Training Center Cape May in Cape May, New Jersey; and

(3) the officer, enlisted member, and civilian leadership courses managed by the Leadership Development Center.

(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “RAND representation report” means the report titled “Improving the Representation of Women and Racial/Ethnic Minorities Among U.S. Coast Guard Active-Duty Members” issued by the Homeland Security Operational Analysis Center of the RAND Corporation on August 11, 2021.

Subtitle B—Operational Matters

SEC. 206. PILOT PROJECT FOR ENHANCING COAST GUARD CUTTER READINESS THROUGH CONDITION-BASED MAINTENANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall conduct a pilot project to enhance cutter readiness and reduce lost patrol days through the deployment of commercially developed condition-based program standards for cutter maintenance, in accordance with the criteria set forth in subsection (b).

(b) CRITERIA FOR CONDITION-BASED MAINTENANCE EVALUATION.—In conducting the pilot project under subsection (a), the Commandant shall—

(1) select at least 1 legacy cutter asset and 1 class of cutters under construction with respect to which the application of the pilot project would enhance readiness;

(2) use commercially developed condition-based program standards similar to those applicable to privately owned and operated vessels or vessels owned or operated by other Federal agencies (such as those currently operating under the direction of Military Sealift Command);

(3) create and model a full ship digital twin for the cutters selected under paragraph (1);

(4) install or modify instrumentation capable of producing full hull, mechanical, and electrical data necessary to analyze cutter operational conditions with active maintenance alerts; and

(5) deploy artificial intelligence, prognostic-based integrated maintenance planning modeled after standards described in paragraph (2).

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Commandant shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives—

(1) an interim report not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act on the progress in carrying out the pilot project described in subsection (a); and

(2) a final report not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act on the results of the pilot project described in subsection (a) that includes—

(A) options to integrate commercially developed condition-based program standards for cutter maintenance to Coast Guard cutters; and

(B) plans to deploy commercially developed condition-based program standards for cutter maintenance to Coast Guard cutters.

SEC. 207. UNMANNED SYSTEMS STRATEGY.

(a) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of

this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a detailed description of the strategy of the Coast Guard to implement unmanned systems across mission areas, including—

(1) the steps taken to implement actions recommended in the consensus study report of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine published on November 12, 2020, titled “Leveraging Unmanned Systems for Coast Guard Missions: A Strategic Imperative”;

(2) the strategic goals and acquisition strategies for proposed uses and procurements of unmanned systems;

(3) a strategy to sustain competition and innovation for procurement of unmanned systems and services for the Coast Guard, including defining opportunities for new and existing technologies; and

(4) an estimate of the timeline, costs, staff resources, technology, or other resources necessary to accomplish the strategy.

(b) PILOT PROJECT.—

(1) AUTONOMOUS CONTROL AND COMPUTER VISION TECHNOLOGY.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard, acting through the Blue Technology Center of Expertise, shall conduct a pilot project to retrofit an existing Coast Guard small boat with—

(A) commercially available autonomous control and computer vision technology; and

(B) such sensors and methods of communication as are necessary to demonstrate the ability of such control and technology to assist in conducting search and rescue, surveillance, and interdiction missions.

(2) COLLECTION OF DATA.—The pilot project under paragraph (1) shall evaluate commercially available products in the field and collect operational data to inform future requirements.

(3) BRIEFING.—Not later than 6 months after completing the pilot project required under paragraph (1), the Commandant shall brief the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate on the evaluation of the data derived from the project.

SEC. 208. BUDGETING OF COAST GUARD RELATIONSHIP TO CERTAIN OPERATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 51 of title 14, United States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“§5114. Expenses of performing and executing defense readiness mission activities

“The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall include in the annual budget submission of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31, a dedicated budget line item that adequately represents a calculation of the annual costs and expenditures of performing and executing all defense readiness mission activities, including—

“(1) all expenses related to the Coast Guard’s coordination, training, and execution of defense readiness mission activities in the Coast Guard’s capacity as an Armed Force (as such term is defined in section 101 of title 10) in support of Department of Defense national security operations and activities or for any other military department or defense agency (as such terms are defined in such section);

“(2) costs associated with Coast Guard detachments assigned in support of the Coast Guard’s defense readiness mission; and

“(3) any other expenses, costs, or matters the Commandant determines appropriate or otherwise of interest to Congress.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 51 of title 14, United States Code,

is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“5114. Expenses of performing and executing defense readiness mission activities.”

SEC. 209. REPORT ON SAN DIEGO MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report containing—

(1) an overview of the maritime domain awareness in the area of responsibility of the Coast Guard sector responsible for San Diego, California, including—

(A) the average volume of known maritime traffic that transited the area during fiscal years 2020 through 2022;

(B) current sensor platforms deployed by such sector to monitor illicit activity occurring at sea in such area;

(C) the number of illicit activity incidents at sea in such area that the sector responded to during fiscal years 2020 through 2022;

(D) an estimate of the volume of traffic engaged in illicit activity at sea in such area and the type and description of any vessels used to carry out illicit activities that such sector responded to during fiscal years 2020 through 2022; and

(E) the maritime domain awareness requirements to effectively meet the mission of such sector;

(2) a description of current actions taken by the Coast Guard to partner with Federal, regional, State, and local entities to meet the maritime domain awareness needs of such area;

(3) a description of any gaps in maritime domain awareness within the area of responsibility of such sector resulting from an inability to meet the enduring maritime domain awareness requirements of the sector or adequately respond to maritime disorder;

(4) an identification of current technology and assets the Coast Guard has to mitigate the gaps identified in paragraph (3);

(5) an identification of capabilities needed to mitigate such gaps, including any capabilities the Coast Guard currently possesses that can be deployed to the sector;

(6) an identification of technology and assets the Coast Guard does not currently possess and are needed to acquire in order to address such gaps; and

(7) an identification of any financial obstacles that prevent the Coast Guard from deploying existing commercially available sensor technology to address such gaps.

SEC. 210. GREAT LAKES WINTER SHIPPING.

(a) GREAT LAKES ICEBREAKING OPERATIONS.—

(1) GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on Coast Guard icebreaking in the Great Lakes.

(B) ELEMENTS.—The report required under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) evaluate—

(I) the economic impact related to vessel delays or cancellations associated with ice coverage on the Great Lakes;

(II) the impact the standards proposed in paragraph (2) would have on Coast Guard operations in the Great Lakes if such standards were adopted;

(III) the fleet mix of medium icebreakers and icebreaking tugs necessary to meet the standards proposed in paragraph (2); and

(IV) the resources necessary to support the fleet described in subclause (III), including billets for crew and operating costs; and

(i) make recommendations to the Commandant for improvements to the Great Lakes icebreaking program, including with respect to facilitating shipping and meeting all Coast Guard mission needs.

(2) PROPOSED STANDARDS FOR ICEBREAKING OPERATIONS.—The proposed standards, the impact of the adoption of which is evaluated in subclauses (II) and (III) of paragraph (1)(B)(i), are the following:

(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the ice-covered waterways in the Great Lakes shall be open to navigation not less than 90 percent of the hours that vessels engaged in commercial service and ferries attempt to transit such ice-covered waterways.

(B) In a year in which the Great Lakes are not open to navigation, as described in subparagraph (A), because of ice of a thickness that occurs on average only once every 10 years, ice-covered waterways in the Great Lakes shall be open to navigation at least 70 percent of the hours that vessels engaged in commercial service and ferries attempt to transit such ice-covered waterways.

(3) REPORT BY COMMANDANT.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the Comptroller General submits the report under paragraph (1), the Commandant shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report that includes the following:

(A) A plan for Coast Guard implementation of any recommendation made by the Comptroller General under paragraph (1)(B)(ii) with which the Commandant concurs.

(B) With respect to any recommendation made under paragraph (1)(B)(ii) with which the Commandant does not concur, an explanation of the reasons why the Commandant does not concur.

(C) A review of, and a proposed implementation plan for, the results of the fleet mix analysis under paragraph (1)(B)(i)(III).

(D) Any proposed modifications to current Coast Guard standards for icebreaking operations in the Great Lakes.

(4) PILOT PROGRAM.—During the 5 ice seasons following the date of enactment of this Act, the Coast Guard shall conduct a pilot program to determine the extent to which the current Coast Guard Great Lakes icebreaking cutter fleet can meet the proposed standards described in paragraph (2).

(b) DATA ON ICEBREAKING OPERATIONS IN THE GREAT LAKES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commandant shall collect, during ice season, archive, and disseminate data on icebreaking operations and transits on ice-covered waterways in the Great Lakes of vessels engaged in commercial service and ferries.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Data collected, archived, and disseminated under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) Voyages by vessels engaged in commercial service and ferries to transit ice-covered waterways in the Great Lakes that are delayed or canceled because of the nonavailability of a suitable icebreaking vessel.

(B) Voyages attempted by vessels engaged in commercial service and ferries to transit ice-covered waterways in the Great Lakes that do not reach their intended destination because of the nonavailability of a suitable icebreaking vessel.

(C) The period of time that each vessel engaged in commercial service or ferry was delayed in getting underway or during a transit of ice-covered waterways in the Great

Lakes due to the nonavailability of a suitable icebreaking vessel.

(D) The period of time elapsed between each request for icebreaking assistance by a vessel engaged in commercial service or ferry and the arrival of a suitable icebreaking vessel and whether such icebreaking vessel was a Coast Guard or commercial asset.

(E) The percentage of hours that Great Lakes ice-covered waterways were open to navigation while vessels engaged in commercial service and ferries attempted to transit such waterways for each ice season after the date of enactment of this Act.

(F) Relevant communications of each vessel engaged in commercial service or ferry with the Coast Guard or commercial icebreaking service providers with respect to subparagraphs (A) through (D).

(G) A description of any mitigating circumstance, such as Coast Guard Great Lakes icebreaker diversions to higher priority missions, that may have contributed to the amount of time described in subparagraphs (C) and (D) or the percentage of time described in subparagraph (E).

(3) VOLUNTARY REPORTING.—Any reporting by operators of commercial vessels engaged in commercial service or ferries under this section shall be voluntary.

(4) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Commandant shall make the data collected, archived, and disseminated under this subsection available to the public on a publicly accessible internet website of the Coast Guard.

(5) CONSULTATION WITH INDUSTRY.—With respect to the Great Lakes icebreaking operations of the Coast Guard and the development of the data collected, archived, and disseminated under this subsection, the Commandant shall consult operators of—

- (A) vessels engaged in commercial service; and
- (B) ferries.

(c) REPORT ON COMMON HULL DESIGN.—Section 8105 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Commandant shall submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the operational benefits and limitations of a common hull design for icebreaking cutters for operation in the Great Lakes, the Northeastern United States, and the Arctic, as appropriate, that are at least as capable as the Coast Guard 140-foot icebreaking tugs.”.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMERCIAL SERVICE.—The term “commercial service” has the meaning given such term in section 2101 of title 46, United States Code.

(2) GREAT LAKES.—The term “Great Lakes”—

(A) has the meaning given such term in section 118 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1268); and

(B) includes harbors adjacent to such waters.

(3) ICE-COVERED WATERWAY.—The term “ice-covered waterway” means any portion of the Great Lakes in which vessels engaged in commercial service or ferries operate that is 70 percent or greater covered by ice, but does not include any waters adjacent to piers or docks for which commercial icebreaking services are available and adequate for the ice conditions.

(4) OPEN TO NAVIGATION.—The term “open to navigation” means navigable to the extent necessary to—

- (A) meet the reasonable demands of shipping;
- (B) minimize delays to passenger ferries;
- (C) extricate vessels and persons from danger;
- (D) prevent damage due to flooding; and
- (E) conduct other Coast Guard missions, as required.

(5) REASONABLE DEMANDS OF SHIPPING.—The term “reasonable demands of shipping” means the safe movement of vessels engaged in commercial service and ferries transiting ice-covered waterways in the Great Lakes to their intended destination, regardless of type of cargo.

SEC. 211. CENTER OF EXPERTISE FOR GREAT LAKES OIL SPILL SEARCH AND RESPONSE.

Section 807(d) of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (14 U.S.C. 313 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘Great Lakes’ means—

- “(1) Lake Ontario;
- “(2) Lake Erie;
- “(3) Lake Huron (including Lake St. Clair);
- “(4) Lake Michigan;
- “(5) Lake Superior; and
- “(6) the connecting channels (including the following rivers and tributaries of such rivers: Saint Mary’s River, Saint Clair River, Detroit River, Niagara River, Illinois River, Chicago River, Fox River, Grand River, St. Joseph River, St. Louis River, Menominee River, Muskegon River, Kalamazoo River, and Saint Lawrence River to the Canadian border).”.

SEC. 212. STUDY ON LAYDOWN OF COAST GUARD CUTTERS.

Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, shall conduct a study on the laydown of Coast Guard Fast Response Cutters to assess Coast Guard mission readiness and to identify areas of need for asset coverage.

Subtitle C—Other Matters

SEC. 213. RESPONSES OF COMMANDANT OF THE COAST GUARD TO SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 721. Responses to safety recommendations

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the submission to the Commandant of the Coast Guard of a recommendation by the National Transportation Safety Board relating to transportation safety, the Commandant shall submit to the Board a written response to each recommendation, which shall include whether the Commandant—

- “(1) concurs with the recommendation;
- “(2) partially concurs with the recommendation; or
- “(3) does not concur with the recommendation.

“(b) EXPLANATION OF CONCURRENCE.—A response under subsection (a) shall include—

- “(1) with respect to a recommendation to which the Commandant concurs, an explanation of the actions the Commandant intends to take to implement such recommendation;
- “(2) with respect to a recommendation to which the Commandant partially concurs, an explanation of the actions the Commandant intends to take to implement the portion of such recommendation with which the Commandant partially concurs; and
- “(3) with respect to a recommendation to which the Commandant does not concur, the

reasons why the Commandant does not concur with such recommendation.

“(c) FAILURE TO RESPOND.—If the Board has not received the written response required under subsection (a) by the end of the time period described in such subsection, the Board shall notify the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate that such response has not been received.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 7 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 720 the following:

“721. Responses to safety recommendations.”.

SEC. 214. CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD VESSELS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES.

(a) REDESIGNATION AND TRANSFER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 914 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-281) is transferred to chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, inserted after section 508, redesignated as section 509, and amended so that the enumerator, section heading, typeface, and typestyle conform to those appearing in other sections in title 46, United States Code.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-281) is amended by striking the item relating to section 914.

(B) TITLE 46.—The analysis for chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 508 the following:

“509. Conveyance of Coast Guard vessels for public purposes.”.

(b) CONVEYANCE OF COAST GUARD VESSELS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES.—Section 509 of title 14, United States Code (as transferred and redesignated under subsection (a)), is amended—

(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—At the request of the Commandant, the Administrator of the General Services Administration may transfer ownership of a Coast Guard vessel or aircraft to an eligible entity for use for educational, cultural, historical, charitable, recreational, or other public purposes if such transfer is authorized by law.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “as if such a request were being processed” after “vessels”; and

(ii) by inserting “, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022” after “Code of Federal Regulations”; and

(B) in paragraph (2) by inserting “, as in effect on the date of enactment of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022” after “such title”.

SEC. 215. ACQUISITION LIFE-CYCLE COST ESTIMATES.

Section 1132(e) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraphs (2) and (3) and inserting the following:

“(2) TYPES OF ESTIMATES.—For each Level 1 or Level 2 acquisition project or program, in addition to life-cycle cost estimates developed under paragraph (1), the Commandant shall require that—

“(A) such life-cycle cost estimates be updated before—

“(i) each milestone decision is concluded; and

“(ii) the project or program enters a new acquisition phase; and

“(B) an independent cost estimate or independent cost assessment, as appropriate, be

developed to validate such life-cycle cost estimates developed under paragraph (1).”.

SEC. 216. NATIONAL COAST GUARD MUSEUM FUNDING PLAN.

Section 316(c)(4) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking “the Inspector General of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating” and inserting “a third party entity qualified to undertake such a certification process”.

SEC. 217. REPORT ON COAST GUARD EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the viability of establishing an explosive ordnance disposal program (hereinafter referred to as the “Program”) in the Coast Guard.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall contain, at a minimum, an explanation of the following with respect to such a Program:

(1) Where within the organizational structure of the Coast Guard the Program would be located, including a discussion of whether the Program should reside in—

- (A) Maritime Safety and Security Teams;
- (B) Maritime Security Response Teams;
- (C) a combination of the teams described under subparagraphs (A) and (B); or
- (D) elsewhere within the Coast Guard.

(3) The vehicles and dive craft that are Coast Guard airframe and vessel transportable that would be required for the transportation of explosive ordnance disposal elements.

(4) The Coast Guard stations at which—

(A) portable explosives storage magazines would be available for explosive ordnance disposal elements; and

(B) explosive ordnance disposal elements equipment would be pre-positioned.

(5) How the Program would support other elements within the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and in wartime, the Department of Defense to—

- (A) counter improvised explosive devices;
- (B) counter unexploded ordnance;
- (C) combat weapons of destruction;
- (D) provide service in support of the President; and
- (E) support national security special events.

(6) The career progression of Coast Guardsman participating in the Program from—

- (A) Seaman Recruit to Command Master Chief Petty Officer;
- (B) Chief Warrant Officer 2 to that of Chief Warrant Officer 4; and
- (C) Ensign to that of Rear Admiral.

(7) Initial and annual budget justification estimates on a single program element of the Program for—

(A) civilian and military pay with details on military pay, including special and incentive pays such as—

- (i) officer responsibility pay;
- (ii) officer SCUBA diving duty pay;
- (iii) officer demolition hazardous duty pay;
- (iv) enlisted SCUBA diving duty pay;
- (v) enlisted demolition hazardous duty pay;
- (vi) enlisted special duty assignment pay at level special duty-5;
- (vii) enlisted assignment incentive pays;
- (viii) enlistment and reenlistment bonuses;
- (ix) officer and enlisted full civilian clothing allowances;

(x) an exception to the policy allowing a third hazardous duty pay for explosive ordnance disposal-qualified officers and enlisted; and

(xi) parachutist hazardous duty pay;

(B) research, development, test, and evaluation;

(C) procurement;

(D) other transaction agreements;

(E) operations and support; and

(F) overseas contingency operations.

SEC. 218. PRIBILOF ISLAND TRANSITION COMPLETION ACTIONS.

(a) EXTENSIONS.—Section 524 of the Pribilof Island Transition Completion Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-120) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(5) by striking “5 years” and inserting “6 years”; and

(2) in subsection (c)(3) by striking “60 days” and inserting “120 days”.

(b) ACTUAL USE AND OCCUPANCY REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report describing—

(1) the degree to which Coast Guard personnel and equipment are deployed to St. Paul Island, Alaska, in actual occupancy of the facilities, as required under section 524 of the Pribilof Island Transition Completion Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-120); and

(2) the status of the activities described in subsections (c) and (d) until such activities have been completed.

(c) AIRCRAFT HANGER.—The Secretary may—

(1) enter into a lease for a hangar to house deployed Coast Guard aircraft if such hangar was previously under lease by the Coast Guard for purposes of housing such aircraft; and

(2) may enter into an agreement with the lessor of such a hangar in which the Secretary may carry out repairs necessary to support the deployment of such aircraft and the cost such repairs may be offset under the terms of the lease.

(d) FUEL TANK.—

(1) DETERMINATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall determine whether the fuel tank located on St. Paul Island, Alaska, that is owned by the Coast Guard is needed for Coast Guard operations.

(2) TRANSFER.—Subject to paragraph (3), if the Secretary determines such tank is not needed for operations, the Secretary shall, not later than 90 days after making such determination, transfer such tank to the Alaska Native Village Corporation for St. Paul Island, Alaska.

(3) FAIR MARKET VALUE EXCEPTION.—The Secretary may only carry out a transfer under paragraph (2) if the fair market value of such tank is less than the aggregate value of any lease payments for the property on which the tank is located that the Coast Guard would have paid to the Alaska Native Village Corporation for St. Paul Island, Alaska, had such lease been extended at the same rate.

(e) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any rights of the Alaska Native Village Corporation for St. Paul to receive conveyance of all or part of the lands and improvements related to Tract 43 under the same terms and conditions as prescribed in section 524 of the Pribilof Island Transition Completion Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-120).

SEC. 219. NOTIFICATION OF COMMUNICATION OUTAGES.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that—

(1) contains a plan for the Coast Guard to notify mariners of radio outages for towers owned and operated by the Coast Guard in District 17;

(2) address in such plan how the Coast Guard in District 17 will—

(A) disseminate outage updates regarding outages on social media at least every 48 hours;

(B) provide updates on a publicly accessible website at least every 48 hours;

(C) develop methods for notifying mariners where cellular connectivity does not exist;

(D) generate receipt confirmation and acknowledgment of outages from mariners; and

(E) develop and advertise a web-based communications update hub on AM/FM radio for mariners; and

(3) identifies technology gaps necessary to implement the plan and provide a budgetary assessment necessary to implement the plan.

TITLE III—MARITIME

Subtitle A—Shipping

SEC. 301. NONOPERATING INDIVIDUAL.

Section 8313(b) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) is amended by striking “the date that is 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act” and inserting “January 1, 2025”.

SEC. 302. OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH VESSELS.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report detailing the total number of vessels known or estimated to operate or to have operated under section 50503 of title 46, United States Code, during each of the past 10 fiscal years.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following elements:

(1) The total number of foreign-flagged vessels known or estimated to operate or to have operated as oceanographic research vessels (as such term is defined in section 2101 of title 46, United States Code) during each of the past 10 fiscal years.

(2) The total number of United States-flagged vessels known or estimated to operate or to have operated as oceanographic research vessels (as such term is defined section 2101 of title 46, United States Code) during each of the past 10 fiscal years.

SEC. 303. ATLANTIC COAST PORT ACCESS ROUTES BRIEFING.

Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 30 days thereafter until the requirements of section 70003 of title 46, United States Code, are fully executed with respect to the Atlantic Coast Port Access Route, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall brief the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate on any progress made to execute such requirements.

Subtitle B—Vessel Safety

SEC. 304. FISHING VESSEL SAFETY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 45 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in section 4502(f)(2) by striking “certain vessels described in subsection (b) if requested by the owner or operator; and” and inserting “vessels described in subsection (b) if—

“(A) requested by an owner or operator; or
 “(B) the vessel is—
 “(i) at least 50 feet overall in length;
 “(ii) built before July 1, 2013; and
 “(iii) 25 years of age or older; and”;
 (2) in section 4503(b) by striking “Except as provided in section 4503a, subsection (a)” and inserting “Subsection (a)”;

(3) by repealing section 4503a.
 (b) ALTERNATIVE SAFETY COMPLIANCE AGREEMENTS.—Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section shall be construed to affect or apply to any alternative compliance and safety agreement entered into by the Coast Guard that is in effect on the date of enactment of this Act.
 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections in chapter 45 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 4503a.

SEC. 305. REQUIREMENTS FOR DUKW-TYPE AMPHIBIOUS PASSENGER VESSELS.

(a) REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall issue regulations for DUKW-type amphibious passenger vessels operating in waters subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, as defined in section 2.38 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act).
 (b) DEADLINE FOR COMPLIANCE.—The regulations issued under subsection (a) shall take effect not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of this Act.
 (c) REQUIREMENTS.—The regulations required under subsection (a) shall include the following:

- (1) A requirement that operators of DUKW-type amphibious passenger vessels provide reserve buoyancy for such vessels through passive means, including watertight compartmentalization, built-in flotation, or such other means as determined appropriate by the Commandant, in order to ensure that such vessels remain afloat and upright in the event of flooding, including when carrying a full complement of passengers and crew.
- (2) A requirement that an operator of a DUKW-type amphibious passenger vessel—
 (A) review and notate the forecast of the National Weather Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in the logbook of the vessel before getting underway and periodically while underway;
 (B) proceed to the nearest harbor or safe refuge in any case in which a watch or warning is issued for wind speeds exceeding the wind speed equivalent used to certify the stability of such DUKW-type amphibious passenger vessel; and
 (C) maintain and monitor a weather monitor radio receiver at the operator station of the vessel that is automatically activated by the warning alarm device of the National Weather Service.
- (3) A requirement that—
 (A) operators of DUKW-type amphibious passenger vessels inform passengers that seat belts may not be worn during waterborne operations;
 (B) before the commencement of waterborne operations, a crew member shall visually check that the seatbelt of each passenger is unbuckled; and
 (C) operators or crew maintain a log recording the actions described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).
- (4) A requirement for annual training for operators and crew of DUKW-type amphibious passenger vessels, including—
 (A) training for personal flotation and seat belt requirements, verifying the integrity of the vessel at the onset of each waterborne departure, identification of weather hazards, and use of National Weather Service resources prior to operation; and
 (B) training for crew to respond to emergency situations, including flooding, engine

compartment fires, man-overboard situations, and in water emergency egress procedures.

(d) CONSIDERATION.—In issuing the regulations required under subsection (a), the Commandant shall consider whether personal flotation devices should be required for the duration of the waterborne transit of a DUKW-type amphibious passenger vessel.

(e) INTERIM REQUIREMENTS.—Beginning on the date on which the regulations under subsection (a) are issued, the Commandant shall require that operators of DUKW-type amphibious passenger vessels that are not in compliance with such regulations shall be subject to the following requirements:

- (1) Remove the canopies and any window coverings of such vessels for waterborne operations, or install in such vessels a canopy that does not restrict horizontal or vertical escape by passengers in the event of flooding or sinking.
- (2) If a canopy and window coverings are removed from any such vessel pursuant to paragraph (1), require that all passengers wear a personal flotation device approved by the Coast Guard before the onset of waterborne operations of such vessel.
- (3) Reengineer such vessels to permanently close all unnecessary access plugs and reduce all through-hull penetrations to the minimum number and size necessary for operation.
- (4) Install in such vessels independently powered electric bilge pumps that are capable of dewatering such vessels at the volume of the largest remaining penetration in order to supplement an operable Higgins pump or a dewatering pump of equivalent or greater capacity.
- (5) Install in such vessels not fewer than 4 independently powered bilge alarms.
- (6) Conduct an in-water inspection of any such vessel after each time a through-hull penetration of such vessel has been removed or uncovered.
- (7) Verify through an in-water inspection the watertight integrity of any such vessel at the outset of each waterborne departure of such vessel.
- (8) Install underwater LED lights that activate automatically in an emergency.
- (9) Otherwise comply with any other provisions of relevant Coast Guard guidance or instructions in the inspection, configuration, and operation of such vessels.

SEC. 306. EXONERATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY FOR SMALL PASSENGER VESSELS.

(a) RESTRUCTURING.—Chapter 305 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—
 (1) by inserting the following before section 30501 the following:
 “Subchapter I—General Provisions”;
 (2) by inserting the following before section 30503:
 “Subchapter II—Exoneration and Limitation of Liability”;

and
 (3) by redesignating sections 30503 through 30512 as sections 30521 through 30530, respectively.
 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 30501 of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:
“§ 30501. Definitions
 “In this chapter:
 “(1) COVERED SMALL PASSENGER VESSEL.—The term ‘covered small passenger vessel’—
 “(A) means a small passenger vessel, as defined in section 2101 that is—
 “(i) not a wing-in-ground craft; and
 “(ii) carrying—
 “(I) not more than 49 passengers on an overnight domestic voyage; and

“(II) not more than 150 passengers on any voyage that is not an overnight domestic voyage; and
 “(B) includes any wooden vessel constructed prior to March 11, 1996, carrying at least 1 passenger for hire.

“(2) OWNER.—The term ‘owner’ includes a charterer that mans, supplies, and navigates a vessel at the charterer’s own expense or by the charterer’s own procurement.”.
 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 30501 in the analysis for chapter 305 of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:
 “30501. Definitions.”.

(d) APPLICABILITY.—Section 30502 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting “as to covered small passenger vessels, and” before “as otherwise provided”.

(e) PROVISIONS REQUIRING NOTICE OF CLAIM OR LIMITING TIME FOR BRINGING ACTION.—Section 30526 of title 46, United States Code, as redesignated by subsection (a), is amended—
 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “and covered small passenger vessels” after “seagoing vessels”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “6 months” and inserting “2 years”; and
 (3) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “one year” and inserting “2 years”.

(f) TABLES OF SUBCHAPTERS AND TABLES OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections for chapter 305 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—
 (1) by inserting before section 30501 the following:
 “SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROVISIONS”;

(2) by inserting after section 30502 the following:
 “SUBCHAPTER II—EXONERATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY”;

and
 (3) by redesignating the items relating to sections 30503 through 30512 as items relating to sections 30521 through 30530, respectively.
 (g) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title 46, United States Code, is further amended—
 (1) in section 14305(a)(5), by striking “section 30506” and inserting “section 30524”;
 (2) in section 30523(a), as redesignated by subsection (a), by striking “section 30506” and inserting “section 30524”;
 (3) in section 30524(b), as redesignated by subsection (a), by striking “section 30505” and inserting “section 30523”; and
 (4) in section 30525, as redesignated by subsection (a)—
 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “sections 30505 and 30506” and inserting “sections 30523 and 30524”;

(B) in paragraph (1) by striking “section 30505” and inserting “section 30523”; and
 (C) in paragraph (2) by striking “section 30506(b)” and inserting “section 30524(b)”.

SEC. 307. AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR FISHING VESSELS TO HAVE AUTOMATIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEMS.—Section 70114(a)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—
 (1) by striking “, while operating on the navigable waters of the United States,”;
 (2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (D) as clauses (i) through (iv);
 (3) by inserting before clauses (i) through (iv), as redesignated by paragraph (2), the following:
 “(A) While operating on the navigable waters of the United States;” and
 (4) by adding at the end the following:
 “(B) A vessel of the United States that is more than 65 feet overall in length, while engaged in fishing, fish processing, or fish tendering operations on the navigable waters of the United States or in the United States exclusive economic zone.”.

(b) in paragraph (1) by striking “section 30505” and inserting “section 30523”; and
 (c) in paragraph (2) by striking “section 30506(b)” and inserting “section 30524(b)”.

(3) by inserting before clauses (i) through (iv), as redesignated by paragraph (2), the following:
 “(A) While operating on the navigable waters of the United States;” and
 (4) by adding at the end the following:
 “(B) A vessel of the United States that is more than 65 feet overall in length, while engaged in fishing, fish processing, or fish tendering operations on the navigable waters of the United States or in the United States exclusive economic zone.”.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce for fiscal year 2022, \$5,000,000, to remain available until expended, to purchase automatic identification systems for fishing vessels, fish processing vessels, fish tender vessels more than 50 feet in length, as described under this section and the amendments made by this section.

Subtitle C—Shipbuilding Program

SEC. 308. QUALIFIED VESSEL.

(a) ELIGIBLE VESSEL.—Section 53501(2) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(iii) by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B)(v) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) a ferry, as such term is defined in section 2101; and

“(D) a passenger vessel or small passenger vessel, as such terms are defined in section 2101, that has a passenger capacity of 50 passengers or greater.”

(b) QUALIFIED VESSEL.—Section 53501(5) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(iii) by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (B)(v) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) a ferry, as such term is defined in section 2101; and

“(D) a passenger vessel or small passenger vessel, as such terms are defined in section 2101, that has a passenger capacity of 50 passengers or greater.”

SEC. 309. ESTABLISHING A CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION FUND.

Section 53503(b) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting “(including transportation on a ferry, passenger vessel, or small passenger vessel, as such terms are defined in section 2101, that has a passenger capacity of 50 passengers or greater)” after “short sea transportation”.

TITLE IV—FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022”.

SEC. 402. PURPOSES.

Section 40101 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraphs (2) through (4) and inserting the following:

“(2) ensure an efficient and competitive transportation system for the common carriage of goods by water in the foreign commerce of the United States that is, as far as possible, in harmony with fair and equitable international shipping practices;

“(3) encourage the development of a competitive and efficient liner fleet of vessels of the United States capable of meeting national security and commerce needs of the United States;

“(4) support the growth and development of United States exports through a competitive and efficient system for the common carriage of goods by water in the foreign commerce of the United States and by placing a greater reliance on the marketplace; and

“(5) promote reciprocal trade in the common carriage of goods by water in the foreign commerce of the United States.”

SEC. 403. SERVICE CONTRACTS.

Section 40502 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (7) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (8) by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(9) any other essential terms or minimum contract requirements that the Federal Maritime Commission determines necessary or appropriate.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(g) SERVICE CONTRACT REQUIREMENT.—With respect to service contracts entered into under this section, a common carrier shall establish, observe, and enforce just and reasonable regulations and practices relating to essential terms and minimum contract requirements the Commission determines are necessary or appropriate under subsection (c)(9).”

SEC. 404. SHIPPING EXCHANGE REGISTRY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 405 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 40504. Shipping exchange registry

“(a) IN GENERAL.—No person may operate a shipping exchange involving ocean transportation in the foreign commerce of the United States unless the shipping exchange is registered as a national shipping exchange under the terms and conditions provided in this section and the regulations issued pursuant to this section.

“(b) REGISTRATION.—A person shall register a shipping exchange by filing with the Federal Maritime Commission an application for registration in such form as the Commission, by rule, may prescribe containing the rules of the exchange and such other information and documents as the Commission, by rule, may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest.

“(c) EXEMPTION.—The Commission may exempt, conditionally or unconditionally, a shipping exchange from registration and licensing under this section if the Commission finds that the shipping exchange is subject to comparable, comprehensive supervision and regulation by the appropriate governmental authorities in the home country of the shipping exchange.

“(d) REGULATIONS.—In issuing regulations pursuant to subsection (a), the Commission shall set standards necessary to carry out subtitle IV for registered national shipping exchanges, including the minimum requirements for service contracts established under section 40502, and issue licenses for registered national shipping exchanges.

“(e) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ‘shipping exchange’ means a platform, digital, over-the-counter or otherwise, which connects shippers with common carriers (both vessel-operating and non-vessel-operating) for the purpose of entering into underlying agreements or contracts for the transport of cargo, by vessel or other modes of transportation.”

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The registration requirement under section 40504 of title 46, United States Code (as added by this section), shall take effect on the date on which the Federal Maritime Commission issues regulations required under subsection (d) of such section.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 405 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“40504. Shipping exchange registry.”

SEC. 405. DATA COLLECTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 411 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 41110. Data collection

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Common carriers covered under this chapter shall submit to the Federal Maritime Commission a calendar quarterly report that describes the total import and export tonnage and the total loaded and empty 20-foot equivalent units per vessel

(making port in the United States, including any territory or possession of the United States) operated by such common carrier.

“(b) PROHIBITION ON DUPLICATION.—Data required to be reported under subsection (a) may not duplicate information—

“(1) submitted to the Corps of Engineers pursuant to section 11 of the Act entitled ‘An Act authorizing the construction, repair, and preservation of certain public works on rivers and harbors, and for other purposes’, approved September 22, 1922 (33 U.S.C. 555), by an ocean common carrier acting as a vessel operator; or

“(2) submitted pursuant to section 481 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1481) to U.S. Customs and Border Protection by merchandise importers.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 411 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“41110. Data collection.”

SEC. 406. NATIONAL SHIPPER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

(a) NATIONAL SHIPPER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 42502(c)(3) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting “, including customs brokers or freight forwarders” after “ocean common carriers” each place such term occurs.

(b) ANALYSIS.—The analysis for chapter 425 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 42501 the following:

“Sec.”

SEC. 407. ANNUAL REPORT AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURES.

(a) REPORT ON FOREIGN LAWS AND PRACTICES.—Section 46106(b) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5) by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (6)—

(A) by striking “under this part” and inserting “under chapter 403”; and

(B) by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) an identification of any anticompetitive or nonreciprocal trade practices by ocean common carriers;

“(8) an analysis of any trade imbalance resulting from the business practices of ocean common carriers, including an analysis of the data collected under section 41110; and

“(9) an identification of any otherwise concerning practices by ocean common carriers, particularly such carriers that are—

“(A) State-owned or State-controlled enterprises; or

“(B) owned or controlled by, is a subsidiary of, or is otherwise related legally or financially (other than a minority relationship or investment) to a corporation based in a country—

“(i) identified as a nonmarket economy country (as defined in section 771(18) of the Tariff Act of (U.S.C. 1677(18))) as of the date of enactment of this paragraph;

“(ii) identified by the United States Trade Representative in the most recent report required by section 182 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2242) as a priority foreign country under subsection (a)(2) of that section; or

“(iii) subject to monitoring by the Trade Representative under section 306 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2416).”

(b) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 46106 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) PUBLIC DISCLOSURES.—The Federal Maritime Commission shall publish, and annually update, on the website of the Commission—

“(1) all findings by the Commission of false certifications by common carriers or marine

terminal operators under section 41104(a)(15); and

“(2) all penalties imposed or assessed against common carriers or marine terminal operators, as applicable, under sections 41107, 41108, and 41109, listed by each common carrier or marine terminal operator.”.

(2) CONFORMING AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading for section 46106 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting “**and public disclosure**” after “**report**”.

(B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 461 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item related to section 46106 and inserting the following:

“46106. Annual report and public disclosure.”.

SEC. 408. GENERAL PROHIBITIONS.

Section 41102 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) PROHIBITION ON RETALIATION.—A common carrier, marine terminal operator, or ocean transportation intermediary, either alone or in conjunction with any other person, directly or indirectly, may not retaliate against a shipper, a shipper’s agent, or a motor carrier by refusing, or threatening to refuse, cargo space accommodations when available, or resort to other unfair or unjustly discriminatory methods because the shipper has patronized another carrier, has filed a complaint, or for any other reason.

“(e) CERTIFICATION.—A common carrier or marine terminal operator shall not charge any other person demurrage or detention charges under a tariff, marine terminal schedule, service contract, or any other contractual obligation unless accompanied by an accurate certification that such charges comply with all rules and regulations concerning demurrage or detention issued by the Commission. The certification requirement only applies to the entity that establishes the charge, and a common carrier or marine terminal operator that collects a charge on behalf of another common carrier or marine terminal operator is not responsible for providing the certification, except that an invoice from a common carrier or marine terminal operator collecting a charge on behalf of another must include a certification from the party that established the charge.”.

SEC. 409. PROHIBITION ON UNREASONABLY DECLINING CARGO.

(a) UNREASONABLY DECLINING CARGO.—Section 41104 of title 46, United States Code, is amended in subsection (a)—

(1) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(3) engage in practices that unreasonably reduce shipper accessibility to equipment necessary for the loading or unloading of cargo;”;

(2) in paragraph (12) by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(3) in paragraph (13) by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(14) fail to furnish or cause a contractor to fail to furnish containers or other facilities and instrumentalities needed to perform transportation services, including allocation of vessel space accommodations, in consideration of reasonably foreseeable import and export demands; or

“(15) unreasonably decline export cargo bookings if such cargo can be loaded safely and timely, as determined by the Commandant of the Coast Guard, and carried on a vessel scheduled for the immediate destination of such cargo.”.

(b) RULEMAKING ON UNREASONABLY DECLINING CARGO.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding to define the term “unreasonably decline” for the purposes of subsection (a)(15) of section 41104 of title 46, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)).

(2) CONTENTS.—The rulemaking under paragraph (1) shall address the unreasonableness of ocean common carriers prioritizing the shipment of empty containers while excluding, limiting, or otherwise reducing the shipment of full, loaded containers when such containers are readily available to be shipped and the appurtenant vessel has the weight and space capacity available to carry such containers if loaded in a safe and timely manner.

SEC. 410. DETENTION AND DEMURRAGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 41104 of title 46, United States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) CERTIFICATION.—Failure of a common carrier to include a certification under section 41102(e) alongside any demurrage or detention charge shall eliminate any obligation of the charged party to pay the applicable charge.

“(e) DEMURRAGE AND DETENTION PRACTICES AND CHARGES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law and not later than 30 days of the date of enactment of this subsection, a common carrier or marine terminal operator, shall—

“(1) act in a manner consistent with any rules or regulations concerning demurrage or detention issued by the Commission;

“(2) maintain all records supporting the assessment of any demurrage or detention charges for a period of 5 years and provide such records to the invoiced party or to the Commission on request; and

“(3) bear the burden of establishing the reasonableness of any demurrage or detention charges which are the subject of any complaint proceeding challenging a common carrier or marine terminal operator demurrage or detention charges as unjust and unreasonable.

“(f) PENALTIES FOR FALSE OR INACCURATE CERTIFIED DEMURRAGE OR DETENTION CHARGES.—In the event of a finding that the certification under section 41102(e) was inaccurate, or false after submission under section 41301, penalties under section 41107 shall be applied if the Commission determines, in a separate enforcement proceeding, such certification was inaccurate or false.”.

(b) RULEMAKING ON DETENTION AND DEMURRAGE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Maritime Commission shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding to establish rules prohibiting common carriers and marine terminal operators from adopting and applying unjust and unreasonable demurrage and detention rules and practices.

(2) CONTENTS.—The rulemaking under paragraph (1) shall address the issues identified in the final rule published on May 18, 2020, titled “Interpretive Rule on Demurrage and Detention Under the Shipping Act” (85 Fed. Reg. 29638), including the following:

(A) Establishing clear and uniform definitions for demurrage, detention, cargo availability for retrieval and associated free time, and other terminology used in the rule, including establishing a definition for cargo availability for retrieval that accounts for government inspections.

(B) Establishing that demurrage and detention rules are not independent revenue sources but incentivize efficiencies in the ocean transportation network, including the retrieval of cargo and return of equipment.

(C) Prohibiting the consumption of free time or collection of demurrage and deten-

tion charges when obstacles to the cargo retrieval or return of equipment are within the scope of responsibility of the carrier or their agent and beyond the control of the invoiced or contracting party.

(D) Prohibiting the commencement or continuation of free time unless cargo is available for retrieval and timely notice of cargo availability has been provided.

(E) Prohibiting the consumption of free time or collection of demurrage charges when marine terminal appointments are not available during the free time period.

(F) Prohibiting the consumption of free time or collection of detention charges on containers when the marine terminal required for return is not open or available.

(G) Requiring common carriers to provide timely notice of—

(i) cargo availability after vessel discharge;

(ii) container return locations; and

(iii) advance notice for container early return dates.

(H) Establishing minimum billing requirements, including timeliness and supporting information that shall be included in or with invoices for demurrage and detention charges that will allow the invoiced party to validate the charges.

(I) Requiring common carriers and marine terminal operators to establish reasonable dispute resolution policies and practices.

(J) Establishing the responsibilities of shippers, receivers, and draymen with respect to cargo retrieval and equipment return.

(K) Clarifying rules for the invoicing of parties other than the shipper for any demurrage, detention, or other similar per container charges, including determining whether such parties should be billed at all.

(c) RULEMAKING ON MINIMUM SERVICE STANDARDS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding to incorporate subsections (d) through (f) of 41104 of title 46, United States Code, (as added by section 410) which shall include the following:

(1) The obligation to adopt reasonable rules and practices related to or connected with the furnishing and allocation of adequate and suitable equipment, vessel space accommodations, containers, and other instrumentalities necessary for the receiving, loading, carriage, unloading and delivery of cargo.

(2) The duty to perform the contract of carriage with reasonable dispatch.

(3) The requirement to carry United States export cargo if such cargo can be loaded safely and timely, as determined by the Commandant of the Coast Guard, and carried on a vessel scheduled for such cargo’s immediate destination.

(4) The requirement of ocean common carriers to establish contingency service plans to address and mitigate service disruptions and inefficiencies during periods of port congestion and other market disruptions.

SEC. 411. ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES.

(a) ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES.—Section 41109 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by inserting “or, in addition to or in lieu of a civil penalty, order the refund of money” after “this part”; and

(B) by inserting “or refund of money” after “conditions, a civil penalty”;

(2) in subsection (c) by inserting “or refund of money” after “civil penalty”;

(3) in subsection (e) by inserting “or order a refund of money” after “civil penalty”; and

(4) in subsection (f) by inserting “or who is ordered to refund money” after “civil penalty is assessed”.

(b) **ADDITIONAL PENALTIES.**—Section 41108(a) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 41104(1), (2), or (7)” and inserting “subsections (d) or (e) of section 41102 or paragraph (1), (2), (7), (14), or (15) of section 41104(a)”.

(c) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 41309 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by inserting “or refund of money” after “payment of reparation”; and

(B) by inserting “or to whom the refund of money was ordered” after “award was made”; and

(2) in subsection (b) by inserting “or refund of money” after “award of reparation”.

(d) **AWARD OF REPARATIONS.**—Section 41305(c) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting “or (c)” after “41102(b)”; and

(2) by inserting “, or if the Commission determines that a violation of section 41102(e) was made willfully or knowingly” after “of this title”.

SEC. 412. INVESTIGATIONS.

Section 41302 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking “or agreement” and inserting “, agreement, fee, or charge”.

SEC. 413. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.

Section 41307(b) to title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in the heading by striking “AND THIRD PARTIES”; and

(B) by striking the second sentence; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) **THIRD PARTY INTERVENTION.**—The court may allow a third party to intervene in a civil action brought under this section.”.

SEC. 414. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) **FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION.**—The analysis for chapter 461 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the first item relating to chapter 461.

(b) **ASSESSMENT OF PENALTIES.**—Section 41109(c) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 41104(1) or (2)” and inserting “paragraph (1) or (2) of section 41104(a)”.

(c) **NATIONAL SHIPPER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**—Section 42502(c)(3) of title 46, United States Code is amended by striking “REPRESENTATION” and all that follows through “Members” and inserting “REPRESENTATION.—Members”.

SEC. 415. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 46108 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking “\$29,086,888 for fiscal year 2020 and \$29,639,538 for fiscal year 2021” and inserting “\$32,603,492 for fiscal year 2022 and \$35,863,842 for fiscal year 2023”.

SEC. 416. NAS STUDY ON SUPPLY CHAIN INDUSTRY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences under which the National Academy of Sciences shall conduct a study on the United States supply chain that examines data constraints that impede the flow of maritime cargo and add to supply chain inefficiencies and that identifies data sharing systems that can be employed to improve the functioning of the United States supply chain.

(b) **CONTENTS.**—The study required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) the identification of where bottlenecks or chokepoints are most prominent within the United States supply chain;

(2) the identification of what common shipping data is created with each hand-off of a

container through the United States supply chain and how such data is stored and shared;

(3) the identification of critical data elements used by any entity covered by subsection (c), including the key elements used for various supply chain business processes;

(4) a review of the methodology used to store, access, and disseminate shipping data across the United States supply chain and evaluation of the inefficiencies in such methodology;

(5) an analysis of existing and potential impediments to the free flow of information among entities covered by subsection (c), including—

(A) identification of barriers that prevent carriers, terminals, and shippers from having access to commercial data; and

(B) any inconsistencies in—

(i) terminology used across data elements connected to the shipment, arrival, and unloading of a shipping container; and

(ii) the classification systems used across the United States supply chain, including inconsistencies in the names of entities covered by subsection (c), geographical names, and terminology;

(6) the identification of information to be included in an improved data sharing system designed to plan, execute, and monitor the optimal loading and unloading of maritime cargo; and

(7) the identification of existing software and data sharing platforms available to facilitate propagation of information to all agents involved in the loading and unloading of maritime cargo and evaluate the effectiveness of such software and platforms if implemented.

(c) **COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.**—In conducting the study required under subsection (a), the National Academy of Sciences shall collect information from—

(1) vessel operating common carriers and non-vessel operating common carriers;

(2) marine terminal operators;

(3) commercial motor vehicle operators;

(4) railroad carriers;

(5) chassis providers;

(6) ocean transportation intermediaries;

(7) custom brokers;

(8) freight forwarders;

(9) shippers and cargo owners;

(10) the National Shipper Advisory Committee;

(11) relevant government agencies, such as the Federal Maritime Commission, the Surface Transportation Board, and the United States Customs and Border Protection;

(12) to the extent practicable, representatives of foreign countries and maritime jurisdictions outside of the United States; and

(13) any other entity involved in the transportation of ocean cargo and the unloading of cargo upon arrival at a port.

(d) **FACILITATION OF DATA SHARING.**—In carrying out the study under subsection (a), the National Academy of Sciences may solicit information from any relevant agency relating to the United States supply chain.

(e) **REPORT.**—Not later than 18 months after entering into an arrangement with the Secretary under subsection (a), the National Academy of Sciences shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, and make available on a publicly accessible website, a report containing—

(1) the study required under subsection (a);

(2) the information collected under subsections (b) and (c), excluding any personally identifiable information or sensitive business information; and

(3) any recommendations for—

(A) common data standards to be used in the United States supply chain; and

(B) policies and protocols that would streamline information sharing across the United States supply chain.

SEC. 417. TEMPORARY EMERGENCY AUTHORITY.

(a) **PUBLIC INPUT ON INFORMATION SHARING.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Federal Maritime Commission shall issue a request for information seeking public comment regarding—

(A) whether congestion of the common carriage of goods has created an emergency situation of a magnitude such that there exists a substantial adverse effect on the competitiveness and reliability of the international ocean transportation supply system;

(B) whether an emergency order described in subsection (b) would alleviate such an emergency situation; and

(C) the appropriate scope of such an emergency order, if applicable.

(2) **CONSULTATION.**—During the public comment period under paragraph (1), the Commission may consult, as the Commission determines to be appropriate, with—

(A) other Federal departments and agencies; and

(B) persons with expertise relating to maritime and freight operations.

(b) **AUTHORITY TO ISSUE EMERGENCY ORDER REQUIRING INFORMATION SHARING.**—On making a unanimous determination described in subsection (c), the Commission may issue an emergency order requiring any common carrier or marine terminal operator to share directly with relevant shippers, rail carriers, or motor carriers information relating to cargo throughput and availability, in order to ensure the efficient transportation, loading, and unloading of cargo to or from—

(1) any inland destination or point of origin;

(2) any vessel; or

(3) any point on a wharf or terminal.

(c) **DESCRIPTION OF DETERMINATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A determination referred to in subsection (b) is a unanimous determination by the Commission that congestion of common carriage of goods has created an emergency situation of a magnitude such that there exists a substantial adverse effect on the competitiveness and reliability of the international ocean transportation supply system.

(2) **FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.**—In issuing an emergency order under subsection (b), the Commission shall ensure that such order includes parameters relating to temporal and geographic scope, taking into consideration the likely burdens on ocean carriers and marine terminal operators and the likely benefits on congestion relating to the purposes described in section 40101 of title 46, United States Code.

(d) **PETITIONS FOR EXCEPTION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A common carrier or marine terminal operator subject to an emergency order issued under this section may submit to the Commission a petition for exception from 1 or more requirements of the emergency order, based on a showing of undue hardship or other condition rendering compliance with such a requirement impractical.

(2) **DETERMINATION.**—Not later than 21 days after the date on which a petition for exception under paragraph (1) is submitted, the Commission shall determine whether to approve or deny such petition by majority vote.

(3) **INAPPLICABILITY PENDING REVIEW.**—The requirements of an emergency order that is the subject of a petition for exception under

this subsection shall not apply to a petitioner during the period for which the petition is pending.

(e) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) TERM.—An emergency order issued under this section shall remain in effect for a period of not longer than 60 days.

(2) RENEWAL.—The Commission may renew an emergency order issued under this section for an additional term by a unanimous determination by the Commission.

(f) SUNSET.—The authority provided by this section shall terminate on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMON CARRIER.—The term “common carrier” has the meaning given such term in section 40102 of title 46, United States Code.

(2) MOTOR CARRIER.—The term “motor carrier” has the meaning given such term in section 13102 of title 49, United States Code.

(3) RAIL CARRIER.—The term “rail carrier” has the meaning given such term in section 10102 of title 49, United States Code.

(4) SHIPPER.—The term “shipper” has the meaning given such term in section 40102 of title 46, United States Code.

SEC. 418. TERMS AND VACANCIES.

Section 46101(b) of title 46, United States Code, is amended by—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “one year” and inserting “2 years”; and

(B) by striking “2 terms” and inserting “3 terms”; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking “of the individual being succeeded” and inserting “to which such individual is appointed”; and

(B) by striking “2 terms” and inserting “3 terms”; and

(C) by striking “the predecessor of that” and inserting “such”.

TITLE V—MISCELLANEOUS

Subtitle A—Navigation

SEC. 501. RESTRICTION ON CHANGING SALVORS.

Section 311(c)(3) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(c)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(C) An owner or operator may not change salvors as part of a deviation under subparagraph (B) in cases in which the original salvor satisfies the Coast Guard requirements in accordance with the National Contingency Plan and the applicable response plan required under subsection (j).

“(D) In any case in which the Coast Guard authorizes a deviation from the salvor as part of a deviation under subparagraph (B) from the applicable response plan required under subsection (j), the Commandant shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report describing the deviation and the reasons for such deviation.”

SEC. 502. PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR VESSELS ANCHORED IN ESTABLISHED ANCHORAGE GROUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 70006 of title 46, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 70006. Anchorage grounds

“(a) ANCHORAGE GROUNDS.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall define and establish anchorage grounds in the navigable waters of the United States for vessels operating in such waters.

“(2) RELEVANT FACTORS FOR ESTABLISHMENT.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall take into account all relevant factors concerning navigational safe-

ty, protection of the marine environment, proximity to undersea pipelines and cables, safe and efficient use of Marine Transportation System, and national security.

“(b) VESSEL REQUIREMENTS.—Vessels, of certain sizes or type determined by the Secretary, shall—

“(1) set and maintain an anchor alarm for the duration of an anchorage;

“(2) comply with any directions or orders issued by the Captain of the Port; and

“(3) comply with any applicable anchorage regulations.

“(c) PROHIBITIONS.—A vessel may not—

“(1) anchor in any Federal navigation channel unless authorized or directed to by the Captain of the Port;

“(2) anchor in near proximity, within distances determined by the Coast Guard, to an undersea pipeline or cable, unless authorized or directed to by the Captain of the Port; and

“(3) anchor or remain anchored in an anchorage ground during any period in which the Captain of the Port orders closure of the anchorage ground due to inclement weather, navigational hazard, a threat to the environment, or other safety or security concern.

“(d) SAFETY EXCEPTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a vessel from taking actions necessary to maintain the safety of the vessel or to prevent the loss of life or property.”

(b) REGULATORY REVIEW.—

(1) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall complete a review of existing anchorage regulations and identify regulations that may need modification—

(A) in the interest of marine safety, security, and environmental concerns, taking into account undersea pipelines, cables, or other infrastructure; and

(B) to implement the amendments made by this section.

(2) BRIEFING.—Upon completion of the review under paragraph (1), but not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide a briefing to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives that summarizes the review.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 700 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 70006 and inserting the following:

“70006. Anchorage grounds.”

(d) APPLICABILITY OF REGULATIONS.—The amendments made by subsection (a) may not be construed to alter any existing rules, regulations, or final agency actions issued under section 70006 of title 46, United States Code, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act until all regulations required under subsection (b) take effect.

SEC. 503. AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES TASK FORCE.

(a) RECREATIONAL VESSEL DEFINED.—Section 1003 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4702) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (13) through (17) as paragraphs (15) through (19), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (12) the following:

“(13) ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Virgin Islands of the United States;

“(14) ‘recreational vessel’ has the meaning given that term in section 502 of the Federal

Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1362);”

(b) OBSERVERS.—Section 1201 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4721) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) OBSERVERS.—The chairpersons designated under subsection (d) may invite representatives of nongovernmental entities to participate as observers of the Task Force.”

(c) AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES TASK FORCE.—Section 1201(b) of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4721(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (10); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (6) the following:

“(7) the Director of the National Park Service;

“(8) the Director of the Bureau of Land Management;

“(9) the Commissioner of Reclamation; and”

(d) AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES PROGRAM.—Section 1202 of the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4722) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Task Force may provide technical assistance and recommendations for best practices to an agency or entity engaged in vessel inspections or decontaminations for the purpose of—

“(A) effectively managing and controlling the movement of aquatic nuisance species into, within, or out of water of the United States; and

“(B) inspecting recreational vessels in a manner that minimizes disruptions to public access for boating and recreation in non-contaminated vessels.

“(5) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out paragraph (4), including the development of recommendations, the Task Force may consult with—

“(A) State fish and wildlife management agencies;

“(B) other State agencies that manage fishery resources of the State or sustain fishery habitat; and

“(C) relevant nongovernmental entities.”; and

(2) in subsection (k) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022, the Task Force shall submit a report to Congress recommending legislative, programmatic, or regulatory changes to eliminate remaining gaps in authorities between members of the Task Force to effectively manage and control the movement of aquatic nuisance species.”

(e) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701 et seq.) is further amended—

(1) in section 1002(b)(2), by inserting a comma after “funded”;

(2) in section 1003, in paragraph (7), by striking “Canadian” and inserting “Canadian”;

(3) in section 1203(a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(F), by inserting “and” after “research.”; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “encourage” and inserting “encouraged”;

(4) in section 1204(b)(4), in the paragraph heading, by striking “ADMINISTRATIVE” and inserting “ADMINISTRATIVE”; and

(5) in section 1209, by striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “section 1202(a)”.

SEC. 504. LIMITATION ON RECOVERY FOR CERTAIN INJURIES INCURRED IN AQUACULTURE ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 30104 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before the first sentence; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) LIMITATION ON RECOVERY BY AQUACULTURE WORKERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection (a), the term ‘seaman’ does not include an individual who—

“(A) is an aquaculture worker if State workers’ compensation is available to such individual; and

“(B) was, at the time of injury, engaged in aquaculture in a place where such individual had lawful access.

“(2) AQUACULTURE WORKER DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ‘aquaculture worker’ means an individual who—

“(A) is employed by a commercial enterprise that is involved in the controlled cultivation and harvest of aquatic plants and animals, including—

“(i) the cleaning, processing, or canning of fish and fish products;

“(ii) the cultivation and harvesting of shellfish; and

“(iii) the controlled growing and harvesting of other aquatic species;

“(B) does not hold a license issued under section 7101(c); and

“(C) is not required to hold a merchant mariner credential under part F of subtitle II.”

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to an injury incurred on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

Subtitle B—Other Matters

SEC. 505. INFORMATION ON TYPE APPROVAL CERTIFICATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title IX of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 904. INFORMATION ON TYPE APPROVAL CERTIFICATES.

“The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall, upon request by any State, the District of Columbia, or territory of the United States, provide all data possessed by the Coast Guard pertaining to challenge water quality characteristics, challenge water biological organism concentrations, post-treatment water quality characteristics, and post-treatment biological organism concentrations data for a ballast water management system with a type approval certificate approved by the Coast Guard pursuant to subpart 162.060 of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–282) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 903 the following:

“904. Information on type approval certificates.”

SEC. 506. PASSENGER VESSEL SECURITY AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

Section 3507(k)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A) by striking “at least 250” and inserting “250 or more”; and

(2) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) has overnight accommodations for 250 or more passengers; and”

SEC. 507. CARGO WAITING TIME REDUCTION.

(a) INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.—The President shall, acting through the Supply Chain Disruptions Task Force established under Executive Order 14017 (relating to supply chains) of February 24, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg.

11849) (hereinafter referred to as the “Task Force”), carry out the duties described in subsection (c).

(b) DUTIES.—In carrying out this section, the Task Force shall—

(1) evaluate and quantify the economic and environmental impact of cargo backlogs;

(2) evaluate and quantify the costs incurred by each Federal agency represented on the Task Force, and by State and local governments, due to such cargo backlogs;

(3) evaluate the responses of each such Federal agency to such cargo backlogs; and

(4) not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act—

(A) develop a plan to—

(i) significantly reduce or eliminate such cargo backlog; and

(ii) reduce nationwide cargo processing delays, including the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach; and

(B) submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report containing the plan developed under subparagraph (A).

(c) REPORT OF THE COMMANDANT.—No later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on cargo backlogs that includes—

(1) an explanation of the extent to which vessels carrying cargo are complying with the requirements of chapter 700 of title 46, United States Code;

(2) the status of the investigation on the cause of the oil spill that occurred in October 2021 on the waters over the San Pedro Shelf related to an anchor strike, including the expected date on which the Marine Casualty Investigation Report with respect to such spill will be released; and

(3) with respect to such vessels, a summary of actions taken or planned to be taken by the Commandant to—

(A) provide additional protections against oil spills caused by anchor strikes; and

(B) address other safety concerns and environmental impacts.

SEC. 508. LIMITED INDEMNITY PROVISIONS IN STANDBY OIL SPILL RESPONSE CONTRACTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsections (b) and (c), a contract for the containment or removal of a discharge entered into by the President under section 311(c) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(c)) shall contain a provision to indemnify a contractor for liabilities and expenses incidental to the containment or removal arising out of the performance of the contract that is substantially identical to the terms contained in subsections (d) through (h) of section H.4 (except for paragraph (1) of subsection (d)) of the contract offered by the Coast Guard in the solicitation numbered DTCG89–98–A–68F953, dated November 17, 1998.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—The provision required under subsection (a) shall include a provision that the obligation to indemnify is limited to funds available in the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund established by section 9509(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 at the time the claim for indemnity is made.

(2) UNCOMPENSATED REMOVAL.—A claim for indemnity under a contract described in subsection (a) shall be made as a claim for uncompensated removal costs under section 1012(a)(4) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(4)).

(3) LIMITATION.—The total indemnity for a claim under a contract described in sub-

section (a) may not be more than \$50,000 per incident.

(c) APPLICABILITY OF EXEMPTIONS.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the United States shall not be obligated to indemnify a contractor for any act or omission of the contractor carried out pursuant to a contract entered into under this section where such act or omission is grossly negligent or which constitutes willful misconduct.

SEC. 509. PORT COORDINATION COUNCIL FOR POINT SPENCER.

Section 541 of the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–120) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b) by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following:

“(1) BSNC (to serve as Council Chair).

“(2) The Secretary of Homeland Security.

“(3) An Oil Spill Response Organization that serves the area in which such Port is located.

“(4) The State.”;

(2) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (B) by adding “and” at the end; and

(B) by striking subparagraphs (C) and (D) and inserting the following:

“(C) land use planning and development at Point Spencer in support of the following activities within the Bearing Sea, the Chukchi Sea, and the Arctic Ocean:

“(i) Search and rescue.

“(ii) Shipping safety.

“(iii) Economic development.

“(iv) Oil spill prevention and response.

“(v) National security.

“(vi) Major marine casualties.

“(vii) Protection of Alaska Native archaeological and cultural resources.

“(viii) Port of refuge, arctic research, and maritime law enforcement.”;

(3) by amending subsection (c)(3) to read as follows:

“(3) Facilitate coordination among members of the Council on the development and use of the land and coastline of Point Spencer, as such development and use relate to activities of the Council at the Port of Point Spencer.”; and

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking “Operations and management costs” and inserting the following:

“(1) DETERMINATION OF COSTS.—Operations and management costs”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) FUNDING.—To facilitate the mooring buoy system in Port Clarence and to assist the Council in the development of other oil spill prevention and response infrastructure, including reactivating the airstrip at Point Spencer with appropriate technology and safety equipment in support of response operations, there is authorized to be made available \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2025 from the interest generated from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund.”

SEC. 510. WESTERN ALASKA OIL SPILL PLANNING CRITERIA.

(a) WESTERN ALASKA OIL SPILL PLANNING CRITERIA.—Section 311(j)(5) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)(5)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(J)(i) Except as provided in clause (iv) (including with respect to Cook Inlet), in any case in which the Secretary has determined that the national planning criteria established pursuant to this subsection are inappropriate for a vessel operating in the area of responsibility of the Western Alaska Captain of the Port Zone, a response plan required under this paragraph with respect to a discharge of oil for the vessel shall comply with the planning criteria established under clause (ii), which planning criteria shall, with respect to a discharge of oil from the

vessel, apply in lieu of any alternative planning criteria approved for vessels operating in such area.

“(i) The President shall establish planning criteria for a worst case discharge of oil, and a substantial threat of such a discharge, within the area of responsibility of Western Alaska Captain of the Port Zone, including planning criteria for the following:

“(I) Oil spill response resources that are required to be located within such area.

“(II) Response times for mobilization of oil spill response resources and arrival on the scene of a worst case discharge of oil, or substantial threat of such a discharge, occurring within such area.

“(III) Pre-identified vessels for oil spill response that are capable of operating in the ocean environment and required to be located within such area.

“(IV) Real-time continuous vessel tracking, monitoring, and engagement protocols that detect and address vessel operation anomalies.

“(V) Vessel routing measures consistent with international routing measure deviation protocols.

“(VI) Ensuring the availability of at least one oil spill removal organization that is classified by the Coast Guard and that—

“(aa) is capable of responding in all operating environments in such area;

“(bb) controls oil spill response resources of dedicated and nondedicated resources within such area, through ownership, contracts, agreements, or other means approved by the President, sufficient to mobilize and sustain a response to a worst case discharge of oil and to contain, recover, and temporarily store discharged oil; and

“(cc) has pre-positioned oil spill response resources in strategic locations throughout such area in a manner that ensures the ability to support response personnel, marine operations, air cargo, or other related logistics infrastructure.

“(VII) Temporary storage capability using both dedicated and non-dedicated assets located within such area.

“(VIII) Non-mechanical oil spill response resources, to be available under contracts, agreements, or other means approved by the President, capable of responding to both a discharge of persistent oil and a discharge of non-persistent oil, whether the discharged oil was carried by a vessel as fuel or cargo.

“(IX) With respect to tank barges carrying non-persistent oil in bulk as cargo, oil spill response resources that are required to be carried on board.

“(X) Ensuring that oil spill response resources required to comply with this subparagraph are separate from and in addition to resources otherwise required to be included in a response plan for purposes of compliance with salvage and marine firefighting planning requirements under this subsection.

“(XI) Specifying a minimum length of time that approval of a response plan under this subparagraph is valid.

“(XII) Ensuring compliance with requirements for the preparation and submission of vessel response plans established by regulations pursuant to this paragraph.

“(iii) The President may approve a response plan for a vessel under this subparagraph only if the owner or operator of the vessel demonstrates the availability of the oil spill response resources required to be included in the response plan under the planning criteria established under clause (ii).

“(iv) Nothing in this subparagraph affects—

“(I) the requirements under this subsection applicable to vessel response plans for vessels operating within the area of responsi-

bility of the Western Alaska Captain of the Port Zone within Cook Inlet, Alaska;

“(II) the requirements applicable to tank vessels operating within Prince William Sound Captain of the Port Zone that are subject to section 5005 of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2735); or

“(III) the authority of a Federal On-Scene Coordinator to use any available resources when responding to an oil spill.

“(v) The Secretary shall review any determination that the national planning criteria are inappropriate for a vessel operating in the area of responsibility of Western Alaska Captain of the Port Zone not less frequently than once every five years.

“(vi) For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘Western Alaska Captain of the Port Zone’ means the area described in section 3.85–15 of title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of enactment of this subparagraph.”

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF ALASKA OIL SPILL PLANNING CRITERIA.—

(1) DEADLINE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall establish the planning criteria required to be established under subparagraph (J) of section 311(j)(5) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)(5)), as added by this section.

(2) CONSULTATION.—In establishing such planning criteria, the President shall consult with the State of Alaska, owners and operators of vessels subject to such planning criteria, oil spill removal organizations, Alaska Native organizations, and environmental nongovernmental organizations located within the State of Alaska.

(3) VESSELS IN COOK INLET.—Unless otherwise authorized by the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard, a vessel may only operate in Cook Inlet, Alaska, under a vessel response plan that meets the requirements of the national planning criteria established pursuant to section 311(j)(5) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)(5)).

(c) CONGRESSIONAL REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall submit to Congress a report regarding the status of implementing the requirements of subparagraph (J) of section 311(j)(5) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321(j)(5)), as added by this section.

SEC. 511. NONAPPLICABILITY.

Requirements under sections 3507(d), 3507(e), 3508, and 3509 of title 46, United States Code, shall not apply to the passenger vessel *American Queen* (U.S. Coast Guard Official Number 1030765) or any other passenger vessel—

(1) on which construction identifiable with the specific vessel begins prior to the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) to which sections 3507 and 3508 would otherwise apply when such vessels are operating inside the boundary line.

SEC. 512. REPORT ON ENFORCEMENT OF COASTWISE LAWS.

The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to Congress a report describing any changes to the enforcement of chapters 121 and 551 of title 46, United States Code, as a result of the amendments to section 4(a)(1) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1333(a)(1)) made by section 9503 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283).

SEC. 513. LAND CONVEYANCE, SHARPE ARMY DEPOT, LATHROP, CALIFORNIA.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Maritime Administration shall complete

the land conveyance required under section 2833 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–283).

SEC. 514. CENTER OF EXPERTISE FOR MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commandant of the Coast Guard, in consultation with the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, shall establish a Center of Expertise for Marine Environmental Response (referred to in this section as the “Center of Expertise”) in accordance with section 313 of title 14, United States Code.

(b) LOCATION.—The Center of Expertise shall be located in close proximity to—

(1) an area of the country with quick access to State, Federal, and international waters, port and marine environments, coastal and estuary environments, and the intercoastal waterway;

(2) multiple Coast Guard sea and air stations;

(3) multiple Federal agencies that are engaged in coastal and fisheries management;

(4) one or more designated national estuaries;

(5) State coastal and wildlife management agencies; and

(6) an institution of higher education with adequate marine science search laboratory facilities and capabilities and expertise in coastal marine ecology, ecosystems, environmental chemistry, fish and wildlife management, coastal mapping, water resources, and marine technology development.

(c) FUNCTIONS.—The Center of Expertise shall—

(1) monitor and assess, on an ongoing basis, the state of knowledge regarding training, education, and technology development for marine environmental response protocols in State, Federal, and international waters, port and marine environments, coastal and estuary environments, and the intercoastal waterway;

(2) identify any significant gaps in research related to marine environmental response protocols, including an assessment of major scientific or technological deficiencies in responses to past incidents in these waterways that are interconnected, and seek to fill such gaps;

(3) conduct research, development, testing, and evaluation for marine environmental response equipment, technologies, and techniques to mitigate and respond to environmental incidents in these waterways;

(4) educate and train Federal, State, and local first responders in—

(A) the incident command system structure;

(B) marine environmental response techniques and strategies; and

(C) public affairs; and

(5) work with academic and private sector response training centers to develop and standardize marine environmental response training and techniques.

(d) MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE DEFINED.—In this section, the term “marine environmental response” means any response to incidents that—

(1) impacts—

(A) the marine environment of State, Federal or international waterways;

(B) port and marine environments;

(C) coastal and estuary environments; or

(D) the intercoastal waterway; and

(2) promotes—

(A) the protection and conservation of the marine environment;

(B) the health of fish, animal populations, and endangered species; and

(C) the resilience of coastal ecosystems and infrastructure.

SEC. 515. PROHIBITION ON ENTRY AND OPERATION.**(a) PROHIBITION.—**

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as otherwise provided in this section, during the period in which Executive Order 14065 (87 Fed. Reg. 10293, relating to blocking certain Russian property or transactions), or any successor Executive Order is in effect, no vessel described in subsection (b) may enter or operate in the navigable waters of the United States or transfer cargo in any port or place under the jurisdiction of the United States.

(2) LIMITATIONS ON APPLICATION.—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The prohibition under paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to vessel described in subsection (b) if the Secretary of State determines that—

(i) the vessel is owned or operated by a Russian national or operated by the government of the Russian Federation; and

(ii) it is in the national security interest not to apply the prohibition to such vessel.

(B) **NOTICE.**—Not later than 15 days after making a determination under subparagraph (A), the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate written notice of the determination and the basis upon which the determination was made.

(C) **PUBLICATION.**—The Secretary of State shall publish a notice in the Federal Register of each determination made under subparagraph (A).

(b) **VESSELS DESCRIBED.**—A vessel referred to in subsection (a) is a vessel owned or operated by a Russian national or operated by the government of the Russian Federation.

(c) **INFORMATION AND PUBLICATION.**—The Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, shall—

(1) maintain timely information on the registrations of all foreign vessels owned or operated by or on behalf of the Government of the Russian Federation, a Russian national, or a entity organized under the laws of the Russian Federation or any jurisdiction within the Russian Federation; and

(2) periodically publish in the Federal Register a list of the vessels described in paragraph (1).

(d) NOTIFICATION OF GOVERNMENTS.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State shall notify each government, the agents or instrumentalities of which are maintaining a registration of a foreign vessel that is included on a list published under subsection (c)(2), not later than 30 days after such publication, that all vessels registered under such government's authority are subject to subsection (a).

(2) **ADDITIONAL NOTIFICATION.**—In the case of a government that continues to maintain a registration for a vessel that is included on such list after receiving an initial notification under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall issue an additional notification to such government not later than 120 days after the publication of a list under subsection (c)(2).

(e) **NOTIFICATION OF VESSELS.**—Upon receiving a notice of arrival under section 70001(a)(5) of title 46, United States Code, from a vessel described in subsection (b), the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall notify the master of such vessel that the vessel may not enter or operate in the navigable waters of the United States or transfer cargo in any port or place under the jurisdiction of the United States, unless—

(1) the Secretary of State has made a determination under subsection (a)(2); or

(2) the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating allows

provisional entry of the vessel, or transfer of cargo from the vessel, under subsection (f).

(f) **PROVISIONAL ENTRY OR CARGO TRANSFER.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating may allow provisional entry of, or transfer of cargo from, a vessel, if such entry or transfer is necessary for the safety of the vessel or persons aboard.

SEC. 516. ST. LUCIE RIVER RAILROAD BRIDGE.

The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall take such actions as are necessary to implement any recommendations for the St. Lucie River railroad bridge made by the Coast Guard in the document titled “Waterways Analysis and Management System for Intra-coastal Waterway Miles 925-1005 (WAMS #07301)” published by Coast Guard Sector Miami in 2018.

SEC. 517. ASSISTANCE RELATED TO MARINE MAMMALS.

(a) **MARITIME ENVIRONMENTAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**—Section 50307(b) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)(D) by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2) by striking the period and insert “; and”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) technologies that quantifiably reduce underwater noise from marine vessels, including noise produced incidental to the propulsion of marine vessels.”

(b) **ASSISTANCE TO REDUCE IMPACTS OF VESSEL STRIKES AND NOISE ON MARINE MAMMALS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 541 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 54102. Assistance to reduce impacts of vessel strikes and noise on marine mammals

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator of the Maritime Administration, in coordination with the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating, may make grants to, or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements with, academic, public, private, and nongovernmental entities to develop and implement mitigation measures that will lead to a quantifiable reduction in—

“(1) impacts to marine mammals from vessels; and

“(2) underwater noise from vessels, including noise produced incidental to the propulsion of vessels.

“(b) **ELIGIBLE USE.**—Assistance under this section may be used to develop, assess, and carry out activities that reduce threats to marine mammals by—

“(1) reducing—

“(A) stressors related to vessel traffic; and

“(B) vessel strike mortality, and serious injury; or

“(2) monitoring—

“(A) sound; and

“(B) vessel interactions with marine mammals.

“(c) **PRIORITY.**—The Administrator shall prioritize assistance under this section for projects that—

“(1) is based on the best available science on methods to reduce threats related to vessels traffic;

“(2) collect data on the reduction of such threats;

“(3) reduce—

“(A) disturbances from vessel presence;

“(B) mortality risk; or

“(C) serious injury from vessel strikes; or

“(4) conduct risk assessments, or tracks progress toward threat reduction.

“(d) **BRIEFING.**—The Administrator shall provide to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-

resentatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, an annual briefing that includes the following:

“(1) The name and location of each entity receiving a grant under this section.

“(2) The amount of each such grant.

“(3) A description of the activities carried out with assistance provided under this section.

“(4) An estimate of the impact that a project carried out with such assistance has on the reduction of threats to marine mammals.

(e) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026, to remain available until expended.”

(2) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The analysis for chapter 541 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“54102. Assistance to reduce impacts of vessel strikes and noise on marine mammals.”

(c) **NEAR REAL-TIME MONITORING AND MITIGATION PROGRAM FOR LARGE WHALES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Part of A of subtitle V of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“CHAPTER 507—MONITORING AND MITIGATION

“Sec.

“50701. Near real-time monitoring and mitigation program for large whales.

“50702. Pilot project.

“§ 50701. Near real-time monitoring and mitigation program for large whales

“(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Administrator of the Maritime Administration, in consultation with the Commandant of the Coast Guard, shall design and deploy a near real-time large whale monitoring and mitigation program (in this section referred to as the Program) informed by the technologies, monitoring methods, and mitigation protocols developed pursuant to the pilot program required under section 50702.

“(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of the Program will be to reduce the risk to large whales of vessel collisions and to minimize other impacts.

“(c) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In designing and deploying the Program, the Administrator shall—

“(1) prioritize species of large whales for which vessel collision impacts are of particular concern;

“(2) prioritize areas where such vessel impacts are of particular concern;

“(3) develop technologies capable of detecting and alerting individuals and enforcement agencies of the probable location of large whales on a near real-time basis, to include real time data whenever possible;

“(4) inform sector-specific mitigation protocols to effectively reduce takes of large whales; and

“(5) integrate technology improvements as such improvements become available.

“(d) **AUTHORITY.**—The Administrator may make grants or enter into and contracts, leases, or cooperative agreements as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section on such terms as the Administrator considers appropriate, consistent with Federal acquisition regulations.

“§ 50702. Pilot project

“(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Administrator of the Maritime Administration shall carry out a pilot monitoring and mitigation project for North Atlantic right whales (in this section referred to as the ‘Pilot Program’) for purposes of informing a cost-effective, efficient, and results-oriented near real-

time monitoring and mitigation program for large whales under 50701.

“(b) PILOT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the pilot program, the Administrator, in coordination with the Commandant of the Coast Guard, using best available scientific information, shall identify and ensure coverage of—

“(1) core foraging habitats of North Atlantic right whales, including—

“(A) the South of the Islands core foraging habitat;

“(B) the Cape Cod Bay Area core foraging habitat;

“(C) the Great South Channel core foraging habitat; and

“(D) the Gulf of Maine; and

“(2) important feeding, breeding, calving, rearing, or migratory habitats of North Atlantic right whales that co-occur with areas of high risk of mortality, serious injury, or other impacts to such whales, including from vessels or vessel strikes.

“(c) PILOT PROJECT COMPONENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022, the Administrator, in consultation with the Commandant, Tribal governments, and with input from affected stakeholders, shall design and deploy a near real-time monitoring system for North Atlantic right whales that—

“(A) comprises the best available detection and survey technologies to detect North Atlantic right whales within core foraging habitats;

“(B) uses dynamic habitat suitability models to inform the likelihood of North Atlantic right whale occurrence in core foraging habitat at any given time;

“(C) coordinates with the Integrated Ocean Observing System and Coast Guard vessel traffic service centers, and may coordinate with Regional Ocean Partnerships to leverage monitoring assets;

“(D) integrates historical data;

“(E) integrates new near real-time monitoring methods and technologies as they become available;

“(F) accurately verifies and rapidly communicates detection data;

“(G) creates standards for allowing ocean users to contribute data to the monitoring system using comparable near real-time monitoring methods and technologies; and

“(H) communicates the risks of injury to large whales to ocean users in a way that is most likely to result in informed decision making regarding the mitigation of those risks.

“(2) NATIONAL SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS.—All monitoring methods, technologies, and protocols under this section shall be consistent with national security considerations and interests.

“(3) ACCESS TO DATA.—The Administrator shall provide access to data generated by the monitoring system deployed under paragraph (1) for purposes of scientific research and evaluation, and public awareness and education, including through the NOAA Right Whale Sighting Advisory System and WhaleMap or other successive public web portals, subject to review for national security considerations.

“(d) MITIGATION PROTOCOLS.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Commandant, and with input from affected stakeholders, develop and deploy mitigation protocols that make use of the near real-time monitoring system deployed under subsection (c) to direct sector-specific mitigation measures that avoid and significantly reduce risk of serious injury and mortality to North Atlantic right whales.

“(e) REPORTING.—

“(1) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of

the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022, the Administrator, in consultation with the Commandant, shall submit to the appropriate Congressional Committees and make available to the public a preliminary report which shall include—

“(A) a description of the monitoring methods and technology in use or planned for deployment;

“(B) analyses of the efficacy of the methods and technology in use or planned for deployment for detecting North Atlantic right whales;

“(C) how the monitoring system is directly informing and improving North American right whale management, health, and survival;

“(D) a prioritized identification of technology or research gaps;

“(E) a plan to communicate the risks of injury to large whales to ocean users in a way that is most likely to result in informed decision making regarding the mitigation of those risks; and

“(F) additional information, as appropriate.

“(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 6 years after the date of the enactment of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022, the Administrator, in consultation with the Commandant, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and make available to the public a final report, addressing the components in subparagraph (A) and including—

“(A) an assessment of the benefits and efficacy of the near real-time monitoring and mitigation program;

“(B) a strategic plan to expand the pilot program to provide near real-time monitoring and mitigation measures;

“(i) to additional large whale species of concern for which such measures would reduce risk of serious injury or death; and

“(ii) in important feeding, breeding, calving, rearing, or migratory habitats of whales that co-occur with areas of high risk of mortality or serious injury of such whales from vessel strikes or disturbance;

“(C) a prioritized plan for acquisition, deployment, and maintenance of monitoring technologies;

“(D) the locations or species for which the plan would apply; and

“(E) a budget and description of funds necessary to carry out the strategic plan.

“(f) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—The Administrator may make grants enter into contracts, leases, or cooperative agreements as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section on such terms as the Administrator considers appropriate, consistent with Federal acquisition regulations.

“(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this section \$17,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

“(h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section and section 50701:

“(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means the Committee Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

“(2) CORE FORAGING HABITATS.—The term ‘core foraging habitats’ means areas with biological and physical oceanographic features that aggregate Calanus finmarchicus and where North Atlantic right whales foraging aggregations have been well documented.

“(3) NEAR REAL-TIME.—The term ‘near real-time’ means detected activity that is visual, acoustic, or in any other form, of North Atlantic right whales that are transmitted and reported as soon as technically feasible after such detected activity has occurred.

“(4) LARGE WHALE.—The term ‘large whale’ means all Mysticeti species and species within the genera *Physeter* and *Orcinus*.’.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for subtitle V of title 46, United States Code is amended by adding after the item related to chapter 505 the following:

“507. Monitoring and Mitigation 50701”.

SEC. 518. MANNING AND CREWING REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN VESSELS, VEHICLES, AND STRUCTURES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF LIMITED EXEMPTIONS FROM MANNING AND CREW REQUIREMENT.—Chapter 81 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 8108. Exemptions from manning and crew requirements

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide an exemption described in subsection (b) to the owner or operator of a covered facility if each individual who is manning or crewing the covered facility is—

“(1) a citizen of the United States;

“(2) an alien lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence; or

“(3) a citizen of the nation under the laws of which the vessel is documented.

“(b) REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR EXEMPTION.—An exemption under this subsection is an exemption from the regulations established pursuant to section 30(a)(3) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1356(a)(3)).

“(c) LIMITATIONS.—An exemption under this section—

“(1) shall provide that the number of individuals manning or crewing the covered facility who are described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a) may not exceed two and one-half times the number of individuals required to man or crew the covered facility under the laws of the nation under the laws of which the covered facility is documented; and

“(2) shall be effective for not more than 12 months, but may be renewed by application to and approval by the Secretary.

“(d) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for an exemption or a renewal of an exemption under this section, the owner or operator of a covered facility shall apply to the Secretary with an application that includes a sworn statement by the applicant of all information required for the issuance of the exemption.

“(e) REVOCATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary—

“(A) may revoke an exemption for a covered facility under this section if the Secretary determines that information provided in the application for the exemption was false or incomplete, or is no longer true or complete; and

“(B) shall immediately revoke such an exemption if the Secretary determines that the covered facility, in the effective period of the exemption, was manned or crewed in a manner not authorized by the exemption.

“(2) NOTICE REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall provide notice of a determination under subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) to the owner or operator of the covered facility.

“(f) REVIEW OF COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary shall periodically, but not less than once annually, inspect each covered facility that operates under an exemption under this section to verify the owner or operator of the covered facility’s compliance with the exemption. During an inspection under this subsection, the Secretary shall require all crew members serving under the exemption to hold a valid transportation security card issued under section 70105.

“(g) PENALTY.—In addition to revocation under subsection (e), the Secretary may impose on the owner or operator of a covered

facility a civil penalty of \$10,000 per day for each day the covered facility—

“(1) is manned or crewed in violation of an exemption under this subsection; or

“(2) operated under an exemption under this subsection that the Secretary determines was not validly obtained.

“(h) NOTIFICATION OF SECRETARY OF STATE.—The Secretary shall notify the Secretary of State of each exemption issued under this section, including the effective period of the exemption.

“(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COVERED FACILITY.—The term ‘covered facility’ means any vessel, rig, platform, or other vehicle or structure, over 50 percent of which is owned by citizens of a foreign nation or with respect to which the citizens of a foreign nation have the right effectively to control, except to the extent and to the degree that the President determines that the government of such foreign nation or any of its political subdivisions has implemented, by statute, regulation, policy, or practice, a national manning requirement for equipment engaged in the exploring for, developing, or producing resources, including non-mineral energy resources in its offshore areas.

“(2) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating.”.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing information on each letter of nonapplicability of section 8109 of title 46, United States Code, with respect to a covered facility that was issued by the Secretary during the preceding year.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include, for each covered facility—

(A) the name and International Maritime Organization number;

(B) the nation in which the covered facility is documented;

(C) the nationality of owner or owners; and

(D) for any covered facility that was previously issued a letter of nonapplicability in a prior year, any changes in the information described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations that specify the documentary and other requirements for the issuance of an exemption under the amendment made by this section.

(d) EXISTING EXEMPTIONS.—

(1) EFFECT OF AMENDMENTS; TERMINATION.—Each exemption under section 30(c)(2) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1356(c)(2)) issued before the date of the enactment of this Act—

(A) shall not be affected by the amendments made by this section during the 120-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) shall not be effective after such period.

(2) NOTIFICATION OF HOLDERS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall notify all persons that hold such an exemption that it will expire as provided in paragraph (1).

(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 81 of the title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“8108. Exemptions from manning and crew requirements.”.

TITLE VI—SEXUAL ASSAULT AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

SEC. 601. DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2101 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (45) through (54) as paragraphs (47) through (56), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (44) the following:

“(45) ‘sexual assault’ means any form of abuse or contact as defined in chapter 109A of title 18, or a substantially similar State, local, or Tribal offense.

“(46) ‘sexual harassment’ means—

“(A) conduct that—

“(i) involves unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or deliberate or repeated offensive comments or gestures of a sexual nature if any—

“(I) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment, pay, career, benefits, or entitlements of the individual;

“(II) submission to, or rejection, of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for decisions affecting that individual’s job, pay, career, benefits, or entitlements;

“(III) such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual’s work performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment; or

“(IV) conduct may have been by an individual’s supervisor, a supervisor in another area, a co-worker, or another credentialed mariner; and

“(ii) is so severe or pervasive that a reasonable person would perceive, and the victim does perceive, the environment as hostile or offensive;

“(B) any use or condonation associated with first-hand or personal knowledge, by any individual in a supervisory or command position, of any form of sexual behavior to control, influence, or affect the career, pay, benefits, entitlements, or employment of a subordinate; and

“(C) any deliberate or repeated unwelcome verbal comment or gesture of a sexual nature by any fellow employee of the complainant.”.

(b) REPORT.—The Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report describing any changes the Commandant may propose to the definitions added by the amendments in subsection (a).

SEC. 602. CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER AS GROUNDS FOR DENIAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 75 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 7511. Convicted sex offender as grounds for denial

“(a) SEXUAL ABUSE.—A license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s document authorized to be issued under this part shall be denied to an individual who has been convicted of a sexual offense prohibited under chapter 109A of title 18, except for subsection (b) of section 2244 of title 18, or a substantially similar State, local, or Tribal offense.

“(b) ABUSIVE SEXUAL CONTACT.—A license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s document authorized to be issued under this part may be denied to an individual who within 5 years before applying for the license, certificate, or document, has been convicted of a sexual offense prohibited under subsection (b) of section 2244 of title 18, or a substantially similar State, local, or Tribal offense.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 75 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“7511. Convicted sex offender as grounds for denial.”.

SEC. 603. SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR SEXUAL ASSAULT AS GROUNDS FOR SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 77 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 7704 the following:

“§ 7704a. Sexual harassment or sexual assault as grounds for suspension or revocation

“(a) SEXUAL HARASSMENT.—If it is shown at a hearing under this chapter that a holder of a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s document issued under this part, within 5 years before the beginning of the suspension and revocation proceedings, is the subject of an official finding of sexual harassment, then the license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s document may be suspended or revoked.

“(b) SEXUAL ASSAULT.—If it is shown at a hearing under this chapter that a holder of a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s document issued under this part, within 10 years before the beginning of the suspension and revocation proceedings, is the subject of an official finding of sexual assault, then the license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s document shall be revoked.

“(c) OFFICIAL FINDING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term ‘official finding’ means—

“(A) a legal proceeding or agency finding or decision that determines the individual committed sexual harassment or sexual assault in violation of any Federal, State, local, or Tribal law or regulation; or

“(B) a determination after an investigation by the Coast Guard that, by a preponderance of the evidence, the individual committed sexual harassment or sexual assault if the investigation affords appropriate due process rights to the subject of the investigation.

“(2) INVESTIGATION BY THE COAST GUARD.—An investigation by the Coast Guard under paragraph (1)(B) shall include, at a minimum, evaluation of the following materials that, upon request, shall be provided to the Coast Guard:

“(A) Any inquiry or determination made by the employer or former employer of the individual as to whether the individual committed sexual harassment or sexual assault.

“(B) Any investigative materials, documents, records, or files in the possession of an employer or former employer of the individual that are related to the claim of sexual harassment or sexual assault by the individual.

“(3) ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE REVIEW.—

“(A) COAST GUARD INVESTIGATION.—A determination under paragraph (1)(B) shall be reviewed and affirmed by an administrative law judge within the same proceeding as any suspension or revocation of a license, certificate of registry, or merchant mariner’s document under subsection (a) or (b).

“(B) LEGAL PROCEEDING.—A determination under paragraph (1)(A) that an individual committed sexual harassment or sexual assault is conclusive in suspension and revocation proceedings.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis of chapter 77 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 7704 the following:

“7704a. Sexual harassment or sexual assault as grounds for suspension or revocation.”.

SEC. 604. ACCOMMODATION; NOTICES.

Section 11101 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subsection (a)(4), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(3) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following:

“(5) each crew berthing area shall be equipped with information regarding—

“(A) vessel owner or company policies prohibiting sexual assault and sexual harassment, retaliation, and drug and alcohol usage; and

“(B) procedures and resources to report crimes, including sexual assault and sexual harassment, including information—

“(i) on the contact information, website address, and mobile application to the Coast Guard Investigative Services for reporting of crimes and the Coast Guard National Command Center;

“(ii) on vessel owner or company procedures to report violations of company policy and access resources;

“(iii) on resources provided by outside organizations such as sexual assault hotlines and counseling;

“(iv) on the retention period for surveillance video recording after an incident of sexual harassment or sexual assault is reported; and

“(v) additional items specified in regulations issued by, and at the discretion of, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating.”; and

(4) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following: “In each washing space in a visible location there shall be information regarding procedures and resources to report crimes upon the vessel, including sexual assault and sexual harassment, and vessel owner or company policies prohibiting sexual assault and sexual harassment, retaliation, and drug and alcohol usage.”.

SEC. 605. PROTECTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION.

Section 2114(a)(1) of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) through (G) as subparagraphs (C) through (H), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

“(B) the seaman in good faith has reported or is about to report to the vessel owner, Coast Guard or other appropriate Federal agency or department sexual harassment or sexual assault against the seaman or knowledge of sexual harassment or sexual assault against another seaman.”.

SEC. 606. ALCOHOL PROHIBITION.

(a) REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall, taking into account the safety and security of every individual on documented vessels, issue such regulations as are necessary relating to alcohol consumption on documented vessels, according to the following requirements:

(A) The Secretary shall determine safe levels of alcohol consumption by crewmembers aboard documented vessels engaged in commercial service.

(B) If the Secretary determines there is no alcohol policy that can be implemented to ensure a safe environment for crew and passengers, the Secretary shall implement a prohibition on possession and consumption of alcohol by crewmembers while aboard a vessel, except when possession is associated with the commercial sale or gift to non-crew members aboard the vessel.

(C) To the extent a policy establishes safe levels of alcohol consumption in accordance with subparagraph (A), such policy shall not supersede a vessel owner’s discretion to further limit or prohibit alcohol on its vessels.

(2) IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL LIABILITY.—Any crewmember who reports an incident of sexual assault or sexual harassment that is directly related to a violation of the regulations issued under paragraph (1) is immune

from civil liability for any related violation of such regulations.

SEC. 607. SURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part B of subtitle II of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“CHAPTER 49—OCEANGOING NON-PASSENGER COMMERCIAL VESSELS

“Sec.

“4901. Surveillance requirements.

“§ 4901. Surveillance requirements

“(a) IN GENERAL.—A vessel engaged in commercial service that does not carry passengers, shall maintain a video surveillance system.

“(b) APPLICABILITY.—The requirements in this section shall apply to—

“(1) documented vessels with overnight accommodations for at least 10 persons on board—

“(A) is on a voyage of at least 600 miles and crosses seaward of the Boundary Line; or

“(B) is at least 24 meters (79 feet) in overall length and required to have a load line under chapter 51;

“(2) documented vessels of at least 500 gross tons as measured under section 14502, or an alternate tonnage measured under section 14302 as prescribed by the Secretary under section 14104 on an international voyage; and

“(3) vessels with overnight accommodations for at least 10 persons on board that are operating for no less than 72 hours on waters superjacent to the Outer Continental Shelf.

“(c) PLACEMENT OF VIDEO AND AUDIO SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall install video and audio surveillance equipment aboard the vessel not later than 2 years after enactment of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022, or during the next scheduled drydock, whichever is later.

“(2) LOCATIONS.—Video and audio surveillance equipment shall be placed in passageways on to which doors from staterooms open. Such equipment shall be placed in a manner ensuring the visibility of every door in each such passageway.

“(d) NOTICE OF VIDEO AND AUDIO SURVEILLANCE.—The owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall provide clear and conspicuous signs on board the vessel notifying the crew of the presence of video and audio surveillance equipment.

“(e) ACCESS TO VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall provide to any Federal, state, or other law enforcement official performing official duties in the course and scope of a criminal or marine safety investigation, upon request, a copy of all records of video and audio surveillance that the official believes is relevant to the investigation.

“(2) CIVIL ACTIONS.—Except as proscribed by law enforcement authorities or court order, the owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall, upon written request, provide to any individual or the individual’s legal representative a copy of all records of video and audio surveillance—

“(A) in which the individual is a subject of the video and audio surveillance;

“(B) the request is in conjunction with a legal proceeding or investigation; and

“(C) that may provide evidence of any sexual harassment or sexual assault incident in a civil action.

“(3) LIMITED ACCESS.—The owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall ensure that access to records of video and audio surveillance is limited to the purposes described in this paragraph and not used as part of a

labor action against a crew member or employment dispute unless used in a criminal or civil action.

“(f) RETENTION REQUIREMENTS.—The owner of a vessel to which this section applies shall retain all records of audio and video surveillance for not less than 150 days after the footage is obtained. Any video and audio surveillance found to be associated with an alleged incident should be preserved for not less than 4 years from the date of the alleged incident. The Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Coast Guard are authorized access to all records of video and audio surveillance relevant to an investigation into criminal conduct.

“(g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘owner’ means the owner, charterer, managing operator, master, or other individual in charge of a vessel.

“(h) EXEMPTION.—Fishing vessels, fish processing vessels, and fish tender vessels are exempt from this section.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for subtitle II of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding after the item related to chapter 47 the following:

“49. Oceangoing Non-Passenger Commercial Vessels 4901”.

SEC. 608. MASTER KEY CONTROL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 3106. Master key control system

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The owner of a vessel subject to inspection under section 3301 shall—

“(1) ensure that such vessel is equipped with a vessel master key control system, manual or electronic, which provides controlled access to all copies of the vessel’s master key of which access shall only be available to the individuals described in paragraph (2);

“(2) establish a list of all crew, identified by position, allowed to access and use the master key and maintain such list upon the vessel, within owner records and included in the vessel safety management system;

“(3) record in a log book information on all access and use of the vessel’s master key, including—

“(A) dates and times of access;

“(B) the room or location accessed; and

“(C) the name and rank of the crew member that used the master key; and

“(4) make the list under paragraph (2) and the log book under paragraph (3) available upon request to any agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, any member of the Coast Guard, and any law enforcement officer performing official duties in the course and scope of an investigation.

“(b) PROHIBITED USE.—Crew not included on the list described in subsection (a)(2) shall not have access to or use the master key unless in an emergency and shall immediately notify the master and owner of the vessel following use of such key.

“(c) REQUIREMENTS FOR LOG BOOK.—The log book described in subsection (a)(3) and required to be included in a safety management system under section 3203(a)(6)—

“(1) may be electronic; and

“(2) shall be located in a centralized location that is readily accessible to law enforcement personnel.

“(d) PENALTY.—Any crew member who uses the master key without having been granted access pursuant to subsection (a)(2) shall be liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 and may be subject to suspension or revocation under section 7703.

“(e) EXEMPTION.—This section shall not apply to vessels subject to section 3507(f).”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 31 of title 46, United States Code,

is amended by adding at the end the following:

“3106. Master key control system.”.

SEC. 609. SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

Section 3203 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (7) and (8); and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following:

“(5) with respect to sexual harassment and sexual assault, procedures for, and annual training requirements for all shipboard personnel on—

“(A) prevention;

“(B) bystander intervention;

“(C) reporting;

“(D) response; and

“(E) investigation;

“(6) the log book required under section 3106;”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) PROCEDURES AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—In prescribing regulations for the procedures and training requirements described in subsection (a)(5), such procedures and requirements shall be consistent with the requirements to report sexual harassment or sexual assault under section 10104.”.

SEC. 610. REQUIREMENT TO REPORT SEXUAL ASSAULT AND HARASSMENT.

Section 10104 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) and inserting the following:

“(a) MANDATORY REPORTING BY CREW MEMBER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A crew member of a documented vessel shall report to the Secretary any complaint or incident of sexual harassment or sexual assault of which the crew member has first-hand or personal knowledge.

“(2) PENALTY.—A crew member with first-hand or personal knowledge of a sexual assault or sexual harassment incident on a documented vessel who knowingly fails to report in compliance with paragraph (a)(1) is liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000.

“(3) AMNESTY.—A crew member who fails to make the required reporting under paragraph (1) shall not be subject to the penalty described in paragraph (2) if—

“(A) the crew member is the victim of such sexual assault or sexual harassment incident;

“(B) the complaint is shared in confidence with the crew member directly from the victim; or

“(C) the crew member is a victim advocate as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291(a)).

“(b) MANDATORY REPORTING BY VESSEL OWNER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A vessel owner or managing operator of a documented vessel or the employer of a seafarer on that vessel shall report to the Secretary any complaint or incident of harassment, sexual harassment, or sexual assault in violation of employer policy or law, of which such vessel owner or managing operator of a vessel engaged in commercial service, or the employer of the seafarer is made aware. Such reporting shall include results of any investigation into the incident, if applicable, and any action taken against the offending crewmember.

“(2) PENALTY.—A vessel owner or managing operator of a vessel engaged in commercial service, or the employer of a seafarer on that vessel who knowingly fails to report in compliance with paragraph (1) is

liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000.

“(c) REPORTING PROCEDURES.—

“(1) CREW MEMBER REPORTING.—A report required under subsection (a)—

“(A) with respect to a crew member, shall be made as soon as practicable, but no later than 10 days after the crew member develops first-hand or personal knowledge of the sexual assault or sexual harassment incident to the Coast Guard National Command Center by the fastest telecommunication channel available; and

“(B) with respect to a master, shall be made immediately after the master develops first-hand or personal knowledge of a sexual assault incident to the Coast Guard National Command Center by the fastest telecommunication channel available.

“(2) VESSEL OWNER REPORTING.—A report required under subsection (b) shall be made immediately after the vessel owner, managing operator, or employer of the seafarer gains knowledge of a sexual assault or sexual harassment incident by the fastest telecommunication channel available, and such report shall be made to the Coast Guard National Command Center and to—

“(A) the nearest Coast Guard Captain of the Port; or

“(B) the appropriate officer or agency of the government of the country in whose waters the incident occurs.

“(3) CONTENTS.—A report required under subsections (a) and (b) shall include, to the best of the reporter’s knowledge—

“(A) the name, official position or role in relation to the vessel, and contact information of the individual making the report;

“(B) the name and official number of the documented vessel;

“(C) the time and date of the incident;

“(D) the geographic position or location of the vessel when the incident occurred; and

“(E) a brief description of the alleged sexual harassment or sexual assault being reported.

“(4) INFORMATION COLLECTION.—After receipt of the report made under this subsection, the Coast Guard will collect information related to the identity of each alleged victim, alleged perpetrator, and witness through means designed to protect, to the extent practicable, the personal identifiable information of such individuals.

“(d) REGULATIONS.—The requirements of this section are effective as of the date of enactment of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022. The Secretary may issue additional regulations to implement the requirements of this section.”.

SEC. 611. CIVIL ACTIONS FOR PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH OF SEAMEN.

(a) PERSONAL INJURY TO OR DEATH OF SEAMEN.—Section 30104(a) of title 46, United States Code, as so designated by section 505(a)(1), is amended by inserting “, including an injury resulting from sexual assault or sexual harassment,” after “in the course of employment”.

(b) TIME LIMIT ON BRINGING MARITIME ACTION.—Section 30106 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the section heading by striking “for personal injury or death”;

(2) by striking “Except as otherwise” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) EXTENSION FOR SEXUAL OFFENSE.—A civil action under subsection (a) arising out of a maritime tort for a claim of sexual harassment or sexual assault shall be brought not more than 5 years after the cause of action for a claim of sexual harassment or sexual assault arose.”.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 301 of title 46, United States

Code, is amended by striking the item related to section 30106 and inserting the following:

“30106. Time limit on bringing maritime action.”.

SEC. 612. ADMINISTRATION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINATION KITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 564. Administration of sexual assault forensic examination kits

“(a) REQUIREMENT.—A Coast Guard vessel that embarks on a covered voyage shall be—

“(1) equipped with no less than 2 sexual assault and forensic examination kits; and

“(2) staffed with at least 1 medical professional qualified and trained to administer such kits.

“(b) COVERED VOYAGE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered voyage’ means a prescheduled voyage of a Coast Guard vessel that, at any point during such voyage—

“(1) would require the vessel to travel 5 consecutive days or longer at 20 knots per hour to reach a land-based or afloat medical facility; and

“(2) aeromedical evacuation will be unavailable during the travel period referenced in paragraph (1).”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 5 of title 14, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“564. Administration of sexual assault forensic examination kits.”.

TITLE VII—TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING PROVISIONS

SEC. 701. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) Section 319(b) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 331 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (49 U.S.C. 40101 note)” and inserting “section 44801 of title 49”.

(b) Section 1156(c) of title 14, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 331 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 (49 U.S.C. 40101 note)” and inserting “section 44801 of title 49”.

SEC. 702. TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 70105 of title 46, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the section heading by striking “security cards” and inserting “worker identification credentials”;

(2) by striking “transportation security card” each place it appears and inserting “transportation worker identification credential”;

(3) by striking “transportation security cards” each place it appears and inserting “transportation worker identification credentials”;

(4) by striking “card” each place it appears and inserting “credential”

(5) in the heading for subsection (b) by striking “CARDS” and inserting “CREDENTIALS”;

(6) in subsection (g), by striking “Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for” and inserting “Administrator of”;

(7) by striking subsection (i) and redesignating subsections (j) and (k) as subsections (i) and (j), respectively;

(8) by striking subsection (l) and redesignating subsections (m) through (q) as subsections (k) through (o), respectively;

(9) in subsection (j), as so redesignated—

(A) in the subsection heading by striking “SECURITY CARD” and inserting “WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL”;

(B) in the heading for paragraph (2) by striking “SECURITY CARDS” and inserting “WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL”;

(10) in subsection (k)(1), as so redesignated, by striking “subsection (k)(3)” and inserting “subsection (j)(3)”; and

(11) in subsection (o), as so redesignated—

(A) in the subsection heading by striking “SECURITY CARD” and inserting “WORKER IDENTIFICATION CREDENTIAL”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “subsection (k)(3)” and inserting “subsection (j)(3)”; and

(ii) by striking “This plan shall” and inserting “Such receipt and activation shall”; and

(C) in paragraph (2) by striking “on-site activation capability” and inserting “on-site receipt and activation of transportation worker identification credentials”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 701 of title 46, United States Code, is amended by striking the item related to section 70105 and inserting the following:

“70105. Transportation worker identification credentials.”.

SEC. 703. REINSTATEMENT.

(a) REINSTATEMENT.—The text of section 12(a) of the Act of June 21, 1940 (33 U.S.C. 522(a)), popularly known as the Truman-Hobbs Act, is—

(1) reinstated as it appeared on the day before the date of enactment of section 8507(b) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283); and

(2) redesignated as the sole text of section 12 of the Act of June 21, 1940 (33 U.S.C. 522).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The provision reinstated by subsection (a) shall be treated as if such section 8507(b) had never taken effect.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The provision reinstated under subsection (a) is amended by striking “, except to the extent provided in this section”.

SEC. 704. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation for this Act”, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) each will control 20 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6865, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call up and speak in support of my bill, H.R. 6865, the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022.

This bipartisan legislation will authorize funding for the United States Coast Guard for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 and address a number of important issues concerning the maritime industry.

I would like to take a moment to express my deepest sympathies to Congressman Don Young’s wife, Anne, the rest of the family, and the people of Alaska.

Don was larger than life. He was the dean of the House. He was affable, cantankerous, and sometimes funny.

You know, I have stories like the Speaker mentioned today about Don and the buck knife in his pocket, but I won’t go into those now. But, anyway, we developed a good friendship.

I feel fortunate that I had time to develop that relationship with him, serving together on both the House Committee on Natural Resources for 26 years and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for 36 years.

His service as Chair of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee had an extraordinary impact. It was capped by the passage of SAFETEA-LU, a surface transportation reauthorization that was named for his beloved late wife.

It was a strong bipartisan bill that provided much-needed investment infrastructure across the country, including my home State of Oregon.

Don believed in bipartisanship. We didn’t always agree, but we would often find a way to compromise, come together for the good of the country, and he always, always stayed true to his values and the people of Alaska.

Given Alaska’s vast coastlines, the Coast Guard plays a particularly important role in the State, and Congressman Young was always there to support the United States Coast Guard.

That is why I am particularly happy to include several provisions important to the Congressman that will have a dramatic impact on the State of Alaska and this bill.

At a committee markup earlier this month, Don said, I have voted on 20 Coast Guard authorization bills in my career. I have served on the Coast Guard subcommittee for 46 years. This is a good bill. It is really needed. And it is really needed. And naming it for Don Young is incredibly appropriate.

I would like to thank my ranking member, SAM GRAVES, and Subcommittee Ranking Member GIBBS for their work. I particularly want to thank the chair of the subcommittee, Congressman CARBAJAL, for this very important and overdue additional investment in the Coast Guard and addressing a number of other issues relating to the maritime industry. This is evidence that bipartisanship can still live in Washington, D.C. today.

It not only authorizes the Coast Guard but also reauthorizes the Federal Maritime Commission which is the center of the supply chain congestion that has plagued this country and the world for over a year.

It incorporates the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2021 which will begin to address several unfair shipping practices that have contributed to inflation across every sector of the American economy.

This legislation gives the Federal Maritime Commission the authority to protect exporters, importers, and consumers from unfair practices by expanding their oversight and enforcement capabilities.

The largest three shipping companies in the world made more money in the last year than they made over the last decade. It is not warranted. They are essentially running a cartel, and it is time that we took action.

The Federal Maritime Commission, under this administration, is finally waking up, and they are going to take action against these cartels and the price gouging that is going on on our consumers.

It further amends title 46 to ensure shipping capacity once contracts are signed, increases penalties for retaliation against shippers, and encourages reciprocal trade.

H.R. 6865 increases the Federal Maritime Commission’s annual operating budget by 10 percent over 2021. It will give them the additional resources they need to provide effective oversight and ensure that all foreign carriers abide by fair shipping practices which they are not doing today.

For the Coast Guard, this bill provides more than \$12 billion for fiscal year 2022, \$13 billion for fiscal year 2023. These authorized funding levels support servicemembers, fund new asset acquisitions, and improve the Coast Guard’s crumbling shoreside infrastructure.

I am particularly pleased with the improved vessel safety measures included in the legislation, and H.R. 6865 takes a leap forward in small passenger vessel safety by mandating common-sense requirements for passenger amphibious vessels and others.

Chairman CARBAJAL recently held a hearing on a horrible tragedy in his district which this will also have an impact in preventing in the future.

Moreover, H.R. 6865 offers meaningful reforms to a culture of sexual abuse within the maritime industry. I am proud to have worked with Members from both sides of the aisle to determine what changes are necessary to begin to address the toxic culture in the industry and create a safe work environment for all mariners.

H.R. 6865 includes language from my other bill, the Safer Seas Act, which will give the Coast Guard more leverage to investigate and remove predators who sexually harass and assault. It also includes important safety measures such as surveillance, master key control systems, and extends the statute of limitations for cases of sexual assault and harassment.

This groundbreaking legislation is just one step towards bringing justice for victims and getting predators out of the industry.

In closing, let me thank once again my Ranking Member SAM GRAVES, Ranking Member GIBBS, and of course, Chair CARBAJAL for all their extraordinary work on this bill.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6865, the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022, an important piece of legislation that ensures that the United States Coast Guard has the funding that they need to carry out the service's critical mission and keep our borders safe.

Today it is with both great sadness and great respect that we name this year's Coast Guard Authorization Act after former Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Don Young.

The passing of the dean of the House was a surprise to all of us and a tremendous loss for this body. Our thoughts are with his wife, Anne; his daughters, Joni and Dawn; and the rest of his family, as well as his current and his former staff.

I had the pleasure of serving as a freshman member of the Transportation Committee when Don began his chairmanship in 2001. And, as always, he brought his typical passion and zeal to the job.

He was always working for Alaska but also constantly helping other Members take care of their constituents.

The chairman, as many still called him, always pointed out that Alaska missed the great infrastructure investment of the earlier centuries that had been made in the lower 48, and he was bound and determined to make sure that he made up for lost time.

There isn't a city or a borough or a town or village in Alaska that can't point to at least one road, airstrip, harbor, dock, visitors center, or health clinic that Don didn't have some role in establishing, building, authorizing, or funding.

Recently, there has been a suggestion to name a volcano in Alaska after Chairman Young, a rugged and enduring part of the Alaskan landscape, always with the potential to erupt at any moment's notice, but always warm at its core. Part of me thinks this would be a very fitting tribute as well.

And as has been noted many times, it was fitting that he passed away on his way home to Alaska, the State that he loved so much.

I will always think of him and smile when I walk by his official—unofficial, I should say, unofficial but uncontested seat here on the House floor. His passing was truly a loss for the House.

In the Transportation Committee, we will always have the almost life-sized portrait watching over us, reminding Members of the importance of the work and the bipartisanship it takes to get it done.

One of Don's priorities throughout his career, and also one of my priorities, was strengthening the Coast Guard. This legislation authorizes the purchase of a 12th National Security Cutter as well as six additional Fast

Response Cutters to ensure that our Coast Guard is prepared for its current and future role in securing America.

During our markup of this bill earlier this month, Don remarked in his statement that both his support for this bill, and as the chairman pointed out, he had voted on 20 Coast Guard authorizations in his career, and I am deeply saddened today that he is not going to be able to cast his vote in support of yet one more.

Fittingly, H.R. 6865 also includes a provision offered by the late dean of the House that allows the Coast Guard to keep Russian vessels out of U.S. waters during the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this important legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the chair of the subcommittee, Congressman CARBAJAL.

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support for H.R. 6865, this year's Coast Guard Authorization Act, which is named in honor of our departed colleague, Mr. Don Young, who tirelessly advocated for the Coast Guard and maritime issues in his many decades of public service.

With his legacy in mind, I wish to express my thanks for the leadership of Chairman DEFAZIO, Ranking Member SAM GRAVES, and Subcommittee Ranking Member BOB GIBBS that created this bipartisan agreement.

H.R. 6865 will renew and enhance support for the critical missions of the United States Coast Guard. Every day Coasties work to protect our national security and enforce the laws in the maritime environment.

They maintain our Nation's waterways for the sake of commerce, save lives, and protect the oceans from pollution. These brave servicemembers have time and time again demonstrated their resourcefulness, but they need our support today.

The increased authorizations in today's bill signals our confidence in the excellence of the Coast Guard and starts down the road to providing the resources Coasties need to successfully complete their missions.

H.R. 6865 also tackles current challenges to our Nation's supply chain which have recently caused frustration in not only the transportation industry, but in the average families who are being confronted with shortages and increasing costs for basic household goods.

H.R. 6865 reauthorizes the Federal Maritime Commission, the entity in charge of promoting fairness and competition in ocean shipping.

And it includes the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2021 which would provide the Federal Maritime Commission with the authority to directly address international shipping's contribution to the inflation we are experiencing.

□ 1530

As chairman of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Sub-

committee, I am proud that this bill also includes my legislation to amend an archaic 171-year-old maritime law that prevented victims and their families from seeking fair recourse against vessel owners who were found to be liable for maritime incidents. This provision was developed in response to the Conception dive boat fire in my district in 2019, which was the largest loss of life in a U.S. marine casualty in decades.

Finally, with this bill, we can make significant strides toward stamping out sexual assault and sexual harassment from the maritime industry. Provisions in H.R. 6865 strengthen transparency surrounding companies' sexual assault and sexual harassment policies, provide protections for mariners, and remove bad actors from the industry. Such criminal behavior and incidents have no place in the maritime industry.

I am proud to have worked with my colleagues on this important legislation, and I look forward to ensuring that it becomes law.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. GIBBS), the ranking member of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in support of H.R. 6865, the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022. The bill represents this Congress' commitment to the men and women serving in the Coast Guard and lays the groundwork for maintaining the Service's mission capability in the future.

It also honors our colleague Don Young, who passed away last week, and is lying in state in Statuary Hall today. Our thoughts go out to his family and staff.

The dean of the House, the Congressman for all Alaska, the former chairman of both the Committee on Natural Resources and Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the longest serving Republican Member of the House, the former mayor of Fort Yukon: His titles were many, but they failed to fully capture Don's character and endless enthusiasm for the job he loved, representing the people of Alaska in Congress. He did that job for 49 years, and he did it well. His legislative record is as amazing as his personal legacy of the friendships he made over the last five decades. He was always a stalwart Representative for Alaska and will have a lasting legacy.

It is appropriate that we are naming this Congress' Coast Guard Authorization Act for Don. He served on the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation since it was established in 1995 and on its predecessor subcommittee for 20 years before that. He was the only licensed tugboat captain in Congress, and the Coast Guard plays many vital roles in the always vast and beautiful, but often stormy and dangerous, waters of his home State.

The Coast Guard is one of the six United States Armed Forces, and they

help secure our country's borders. As we watch the Ukraine crisis unfold and recognize the apparent lack of readiness in the Russian military, we should be especially aware of the need to provide our Armed Forces with the resources they need.

This bill includes provisions to strengthen the Coast Guard's ability to keep Russian vessels out of U.S. water, a provision Don Young authored. Both sides of the aisle worked together to craft this legislation, recognizing that port and coastal security, drug interdiction, and maritime safety are important bipartisan issues to our Nation rather than Republican or Democrat issues.

The Coast Guard plays an important and unique role in national security and maritime safety. The Service is a critical component in carrying out drug interdiction efforts, keeping our ports and coasts safe, and conducting icebreaking operations. H.R. 6865 helps the Coast Guard better perform these missions and encourages the use of cutting-edge technology to improve operations, while also addressing ongoing issues like how to bring the Service's crumbling IT infrastructure into the modern era.

Despite the administration's failure to seek appropriate capital funding levels, this bill authorizes over \$9 billion for the operations and support account and \$3 billion for the procurement, construction, and improvement account for fiscal 2022 and provides a 5 percent increase in FY23. We had hoped that would offset earlier budget shortfalls, but given the rise in inflation, it will be needed just to stay even.

As others have noted, this legislation authorizes the purchase of a twelfth National Security Cutter and six Fast Response Cutters, which are necessary for the Coast Guard's future mission capabilities.

Vital to my district, I am also proud of the commitment made to the Great Lakes in this bill. Working with my colleague, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GALLAGHER), the bill includes an authorization of a new dedicated icebreaker on the Lakes to keep commerce moving as much of the year as possible.

Thank you to Chair DEFAZIO, Ranking Member SAM GRAVES, and Subcommittee Chair CARBAJAL for working in a bipartisan fashion to give the Coast Guard the resources it needs to accomplish its missions. I urge support of this bill.

On a side note, my first year as a freshman, I was chairman of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, and I inadvertently overlooked Don Young in the questioning order. That was not a smart thing for a freshman Member to do. I realized my mistake, and I apologized to him, and we became the best of friends. He also invited all of us to go to his king salmon barbecue here in D.C. I am really going to miss Don Young. He was really an American patriot.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI), a senior member of the committee.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022, and I would like to thank the chairman and the ranking member, also Mr. CARBAJAL and the minority team for putting together a good piece of legislation.

This bipartisan legislation authorizes the U.S. Coast Guard, our fifth national military service branch, for fiscal years 2022 and 2023.

We know the Coast Guard is critically important. We just heard that here. This bill also goes beyond just the Coast Guard. It deals with the Jones Act and something I have worked on for 13 years here, which is Make It In America and how we can do that in our maritime industry.

In this bill, there are policies and proposals that include long overdue language to close some egregious loopholes to the Jones Act that would allow foreign vessels to undercut American-flagged vessels operating in America's offshore environment and the intercontinental shelf. This amendment, H.R. 6728, which is included in this bill, would close that loophole so that those foreign-flagged vessels are held to the very same high standards that American vessels have to hold to in those same offshore waters.

A lot of this comes down to the new offshore wind industry that is flourishing in the northeast and soon will be found in many other parts of this Nation. Do you want those to be American jobs or do you want those to be foreign jobs? The question is pretty simple. This bill, as amended, would make sure that those ships and crews operating offshore would have to meet the same high standards. They would have to be certified that they know what they are doing, that they pass the various background checks as American mariners must.

Now, if you want a wide open thing, then just forget it, but this bill is there to protect American workers in the offshore wind industry, the offshore oil industry, and further beyond that to the general Jones Act fleet.

It is a good bill. There are other things in this bill that are good. I had the great pleasure of working with our former colleague, Don Young, on his Oil Spill Response Enhancement Act. We worked together on that for several years. It is included in this bill, and it would certainly be appropriate that that stay in this bill.

We are going to have always the normal trouble with the Senate. They just seem to not understand all that they should, but this is a great bill. I want to compliment all who worked on it. The minority teams did excellent work. I thank them so very much. I see the coauthor of our amendment, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), who has done good work on this bill, has taken his position to carry on.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Aviation.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to thank Chairman DEFAZIO, Ranking Member SAM GRAVES, Subcommittee Chair CARBAJAL, and Ranking Member GIBBS for their bipartisan efforts on this legislation. I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI), my friend, for working with us to ensure that American mariners are given a level playing field, and I want to thank all Members involved for the efforts to help to bolster the Coast Guard.

Mr. Speaker, the Coast Guard is often described as a Swiss Army knife. You take all the laws that are enforced on terrestrial grounds, and we effectively put all of those on the Coast Guard men and women to be carried out or enforced on America's oceans, on our seas, and our near-shore waters. This is an incredible task. Everything from maritime safety, maritime security, counter drug, alien interdiction and many, many other missions.

We have got to make sure if we are going to ask them to do such a challenging task that we give them the equipment. This bill authorizes the twelfth National Security Cutter. It authorizes six of the Fast Response Cutter, the Sentinel-class vessels that are going to bring better interoperability, better offensive capabilities, faster transit speed, the ability to operate in much more adverse conditions in regard to sea state, many, many other things.

This also includes a provision that Don Young included that prohibits Russian vessels from being in Alaskan waters, and I think that is very important, especially considering what we are going through right now. I think that is absolutely critical.

It also includes a provision that Congressman HUFFMAN and I worked on on a bipartisan basis to ensure that AIS, the automatic identification system, requirements for fishing vessels of certain sizes are being applied to prevent illegal fishing or fishing that is beyond catch limits in our waters, so very, very important legislation being advanced today.

I want to thank everybody for working on it and, most importantly, I want to thank the fact that this bill is being named after Congressman Don Young. This is much deserved. I had the chance to work for him under John Rayfield when he was chair and absolutely very much deserve. I support the legislation.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. AUCHINCLOSS), a member of the committee.

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for working with me to meet President Biden's goal of deploying 30 gigawatts of offshore wind

energy by 2030 as we transition to a clean energy economy.

While I support funding the Coast Guard, I am deeply concerned that a provision in this bill would prevent us from meeting this imperative. To achieve 30 gigawatts by 2030, the United States will need five to six wind turbine installation vessels. Currently, there are only three in the world. This provision would prevent the use of these vessels and halt the only means we have to install and maintain wind turbines in the short term.

Not only would this put those 30 gigawatts of clean energy out of reach by 2030, it would also threaten thousands of good-paying union jobs in Massachusetts. I share the chairman's goal of staffing offshore wind projects with American workers in the long term.

Indeed, with my colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING), I have secured funding to help train those workers, but there will be no jobs and no offshore wind energy if this amendment is passed and the development of offshore wind is stillborn. I ask for a commitment to work in conference to ensure a seamless transition to American workers that does not jeopardize access to wind turbine installation vessels for current and future development of offshore wind projects.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. ROUZER), the ranking member of the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee.

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, it is so fitting that today we are passing the Coast Guard reauthorization bill, a very good bipartisan piece of legislation, naming it in honor of our dear friend and colleague, Don Young of Alaska, who did so much during his time here for the Coast Guard.

A fixture in the House for 49 years, Don Young took care of the needs of Alaskans like no other could. So it was a natural fit for him to serve as chairman of both the Natural Resources Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee during his time here. His accomplishments for Alaska and throughout the course of his life are well known and numerous.

He was certainly a throw-back to the old days on Capitol Hill. He fought hard for his constituents, for Alaska, for America. He had the force of a lion, but great compassion. And, boy did he know how to live life to the fullest. He was the perfect public servant for he had two attributes one must have to survive and serve the public well: A tough hide but a tender heart. That is the gentleman from Alaska that I got to know. That is the man who, with his dear wife, Anne, by his side, told me at my birthday party last month that he wanted to get the show on the road, go up to the stage and sing happy birthday. I simply said, "Yes, sir," and what a memorable night he made it.

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Sometimes words cannot properly describe a man, for the emotions that stir the heart are so powerful, words cannot possibly reflect them. That is how it feels for me, anyway.

But let it be said many times over: Don Young was a force, a legend in his own time. And America is better and greater because of him.

Let's pass this Coast Guard reauthorization bill in honor of our great friend, Don Young.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oregon has 5½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Missouri has 8½ minutes remaining.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. KEATING).

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I associate myself with the remarks of my colleagues regarding our late colleague Don Young, my friend, someone I worked with on fishing issues, ferry issues, air service issues. He will be sorely missed.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6865, which makes significant investments in the extraordinary work of the United States Coast Guard.

I have deep concerns, though, about one provision in the bill regarding the sole-sourced crewing of foreign vessels needed to construct the first offshore wind projects in our country. This language will prevent existing crews from building already planned offshore wind projects years before the ships can be built and long before American seamen are trained to take on these jobs.

We all support U.S. jobs, but here at home, this industry is at its relative infancy. The requirements in this provision will prevent participation of the existing fleet of vessels needed to begin construction on these projects while no U.S. alternative exists.

This will cost us jobs, jeopardizing more than 3,600 jobs, largely union jobs, from the Vineyard Wind project in my district alone and create years of delays to the building of offshore wind projects with an estimated 20,000 new jobs across the eastern seaboard.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the chairman to work with me to amend this language in conference to ensure that the United States does not falter as we take our first steps into this burgeoning industry, one that will increase our energy independence, create American jobs, and move us away from our reliance on fossil fuels.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, certainly, I would assure both this gentleman and Representative AUCHINCLOSS that I will be happy to work with the two of them as the legislation goes to the Senate.

I want to move toward employing qualified American mariners and to have the people who work on these ships meet the same requirements as American mariners.

Flags of convenience have destroyed the U.S. maritime industry. We are

going to rebuild it, and we are going to rebuild it with American crews and ships. Dominion Resources is currently building an insertion ship.

I certainly do not want to impede projects in the near term, Vineyard Wind and others that are immediately pending, and we will work to ensure there are no disruptions as we move toward a cleaner energy future.

I would be happy to work with the two gentlemen and others who are concerned.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT).

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I stand here not to talk about the bill but to talk about my friend, Don Young.

When I first got up here, I told Don that I was an avid gold panner in Knoxville, Tennessee, yet, in my lifetime, I had never found one flake of gold. He told me if I would come to Alaska, he said: "Timmy, I could put you on some gold." And we talked about our love of the outdoors.

We also talked about our love of traditional country music, Mr. Speaker. Rick Crawford had his little band over here playing one night, and they were playing some good old country music, some Johnny Paycheck, the music that speaks to your heart. Don and I were talking about the current state of country music and just how horrible it was, and if I wanted to listen to rock music, I would turn on a rock station; if I wanted to listen to rap, I would turn on a rap station; but, dadgummit, country music was what we wanted to hear, and these country music people today are not country music people. I would put it in Don's words, but I would probably be called out on an ethics charge, Mr. Speaker, so I will not do that.

I stand here today as a friend of Don Young's and someone who will miss him dearly. I will miss his abrupt, gruff way about himself. My daddy was quite like that, and I grew up in that household, and I understand completely. Don had a rough exterior, but he was a very gentle person, and I will miss him dearly.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. SCALISE), the Republican whip.

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri for yielding.

What a great tribute, to be naming this Coast Guard reauthorization bill after Don Young. While we mourn his loss today and pay tribute to Don in Statuary Hall, his family was here, and as you are paying tribute to a great life, the dean of the House who served 49 years in this great Chamber from the 49th State of Alaska, you can't

help but think of all the Don Young stories.

Clearly, there is a tie to this bill because Don served on the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee for his entire tenure that the committee was in existence. Don loved the Coast Guard, loved the relationship they had in Alaska, just trying to get more icebreakers so that we could keep up with Russians continuing to open up their shipping lanes, but our not having the ability to get enough Coast Guard cutters to break ice in Alaska.

Don Young was always a champion for Alaska. He was a great friend. He was somebody who you knew where he stood all the time. And if you stood in his way, he would make it clear that he was going to keep moving forward.

As we look at the seat that Don Young always sat in, in a Chamber of 435 people where there are no reserved seats, everybody knows that is where Don Young sat. When you look over there today, it is a little bit sad, but you can only think of great memories of Don Young when you see the black cloth draped over that seat.

We will always remember Don Young, a man who loved this country, surely loved the Coast Guard, and epitomized what is the great State of Alaska. No better champion they had in Congress than Don Young.

I look forward to passing this bill with overwhelming support.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. CRAWFORD).

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Missouri for yielding.

I rise today to recognize the passing of my friend and colleague, Representative Don Young.

While many accomplished and effective men and women have served here in the House of Representatives over the years, very few have built a legacy like Representative Young.

Over the last almost 12 years, I have had the honor of serving with him on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, where he spent untold hours fighting for stronger investment in American infrastructure. The Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act on the floor today is just one of many examples of this.

Don took his job as dean of the House seriously. He regularly offered advice to colleagues, like his warnings to me to never shave my beard. He was eager to welcome Members and their families to Capitol Hill. My kids loved getting a tour of his office and hearing his wild hunting stories.

Representative Young will be remembered for his boisterous personality and outrageous anecdotes, but above all, he will be remembered for his passion for the people of Alaska.

I am thankful for the time I served with Representative Young, and my

prayers are with his family, friends, staff, and constituents.

Today, I encourage my colleagues to honor our friend and support H.R. 6865.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri has 4½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Oregon has 2½ minutes remaining.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation.

Don represented Alaska in this House for nearly as long as Alaska has been a State. Don was a ferocious advocate for the people he represented, not the least of whom were Alaska's Native people, who held a special place in his heart.

We are going to miss Don. He was a champion for the North Slope, Alaska's commercial fisheries, and infrastructure, obviously. Don spent his career fighting for his constituents to use Alaska's vast natural resources to bring prosperity to his State.

Don knew what made our country great and how to work across the aisle to deliver for the people of Alaska.

Don was my first committee chairman when I came here 30 years ago, and he quickly found me and said: "I heard you want to be on my committee." I said: "Yes, Mr. Chairman." "Well, do whatever I tell you, and you will be just fine." I think, at some time or another, all of us have lived by those words.

I will miss Don. I will miss his friendship, his humor, and his passion. My thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Anne, and the family.

Rest in peace, Don.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT).

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I had the honor to serve 26 years here in the House with Don Young.

There is an expression some of our Texans have about not messing with Texas. Well, with Don Young, you knew not to mess with Alaska.

We butted heads on that several times, but we remained friends. When my family and I went to Alaska some years ago, he told us the places not to miss. It was a family vacation. It was wonderful. We stopped by the State fair there, and we picked up "I'm a Young Man" buttons—this is one today—and "I'm a Young Woman" buttons for my wife and daughter. Periodically, I would wear it here in the House, and he always got a kick out of that.

Now, Don Young is gone, and as they said about Lincoln, he now belongs to the ages. He will be long remembered in this place, and he will certainly be long remembered in Alaska.

May Don rest in peace.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL).

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, what can you say about Don in 30 seconds? I always saw him as a captain, the tugboat captain, the captain of the ship.

Don was the captain of this ship, this great institution, the House. Don was rough on the exterior like his State, rugged and larger than life, but he had a heart for serving others.

I will never forget going to the White House when we signed the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act into law. ANWR opened up. He did a little jig in front of the White House. I think that may have been one of the days he broke his promise of maybe having a little drink.

But I will say this: I will always cherish my last day in the House sitting right next to him. The very last day, we were here for an hour talking about this great institution, talking about our families, what is important in life. Little did I know that the next day he would be lost.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. MCCOLLUM). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 5 seconds.

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Speaker, let me say in closing, Don planned to serve in Congress until God or the voters decided it was his time. It is no coincidence that God called him home on his 49th year in Congress as a Representative for the 49th State.

May God hold Don in the palms of his hands.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri has 2½ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Oregon has 2½ minutes remaining.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, Don Young has 50 years of stories, and I will tell you just one in 20 seconds.

Madam Speaker, Don Young, faced with a young Member wanting to affect bypass mail in Alaska, could have dressed me down and told me over his dead body. Instead, he directed me to go to Alaska to see how bypass mail was done in the post office there. He sent me to an Aleutian Island, sent me to a few other appropriate places, and changed my view of why we have bypass mail.

That is the Don Young I will remember.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON).

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

I rise in support of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act, which ensures that the dedicated men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard are adequately trained and equipped to fulfill their critical mission of securing America's coastlines.

It has been an honor for me, as a 3-year Member of Congress, to serve alongside Don Young and always sit behind him and hear him.

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

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Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. VAN DREW).

Mr. VAN DREW. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022.

Congressman Young brought a distinct candor and a character to Congress. This body and our country are better off thanks to his service, and he will be dearly missed. I am proud to note that this legislation authorizes \$120 million for the construction of new barracks at the United States Coast Guard Training Center Cape May in New Jersey.

The barracks project will expand opportunities for women to serve in the Coast Guard as well as expand the training center's recruitment capacity by 25 percent. The United States must project strength, and this legislation will ensure that the United States is ready to address the challenges presented by adversaries such as Russia and China.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. MALLIOTAKIS).

Ms. MALLIOTAKIS. Madam Speaker, my district is home to Coast Guard Station New York and is the largest Coast Guard station on the East Coast. This legislation authorizes \$1.2 million in needed repairs to ensure their mission and day-to-day operations continue. I thank everyone for this bipartisan effort.

Madam Speaker, to say that Don Young was an amazing man would be an understatement. He was one of the first Members I met as a freshman. He advocated to help me to get on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. I know how much he loved the Coast Guard. I know how much he loved Alaska. And it is so fitting that we are naming this legislation after him.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. GUEST).

Mr. GUEST. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the life and service of the late Congressman Don Young of Alaska, former dean of the United States House of Representatives. It is fitting that this Coast Guard reauthorization, which we are considering today, is named in his memory.

Congressman Young made a lasting impact on this institution and his leg-

acy of service will endure far into the future.

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

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, may I inquire how much time is remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Missouri has 30 seconds remaining.

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, this is obviously a fitting tribute, but we ran out of time. A lot of people wanted to say something about Don, and I apologize that we ran out of time.

Madam Speaker, I close by thanking the chairman of both the committee and the subcommittee and the ranking member, for putting this bill together. It is very much a bipartisan effort. But I particularly want to thank the staffs on both sides of the aisle for the work that they did, and in particular, John Rayfield, who had the opportunity to work with Chairman Young when he was chairman of the committee as well.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this very important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, it was very fitting the tributes that we heard. We all have stories about Don, and I wish we had more time to share, but his many decades of work will stand as a monument to his life, and this bill, in particular, will honor his extraordinary service on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. I think it was called Public Works when Don first came to serve here.

Madam Speaker, I urge support for this bill. As I mentioned earlier, we are finally recognizing that the Coast Guard has been under resourced for decades. We are beginning to deal with that problem, their shoreside infrastructure, their assets at sea, and in particular, the extraordinary people who serve in the United States Coast Guard.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have named the bill for Don. I would urge that this bill be unanimously approved by our colleagues, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to speak in support of H.R. 6865, the Don Young Coast Guard Reauthorization Act of 2022.

I'd like to first acknowledge the sudden passing of Don Young, the Dean of the House, and the former Chairman of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. I extend my condolences to his wife and family, and also to his staff. I had the pleasure of working with him on the Carson/Young bill, to create the National Center for the Advancement of Aviation, which is a bipartisan and a bicameral bill to improve aviation, which is so important to both of our states, Alaska and Indiana. It's only fitting that today's Coast Guard bill is now named in Congressman Young's memory.

Chairman DEFAZIO, I commend your leadership, and your collaboration on this Coast Guard bill, with Ranking Member GRAVES, Coast Guard Subcommittee Chair CARBAJAL and Ranking Member GIBBS. I am pleased to join our committee colleagues in supporting the Coast Guard Reauthorization Act because it will increase maritime safety and efficiency.

Chairman DEFAZIO, I am especially grateful to you for working with me over several years to develop the language that will finally address the persistent problems with unsafe vessels, and including my Duck Boat Safety Improvement Act in today's Coast Guard Reauthorization.

My Duck Boat Safety requirements, in Title III, Section 305, will finally implement safety regulations for amphibious passenger vessels, particularly those known as Duck Boats. These safety recommendations were made by federal agencies to address repeated problems associated with Duck Boats that have resulted in many injuries and fatalities that may have been prevented.

I became much more aware of these problems when my constituents in Indianapolis, the Coleman family, were involved in a horrible Duck Boat accident on July 19, 2018 in Branson, Missouri. Tia Coleman was one of only two survivors from her family of 11, losing her husband Glenn and her children Reece (nine years old), Evan (seven years old), and Arya (one year old). Tia's 13-year-old nephew, Donovan, was the other surviving family member, losing his mother Angela, his younger brother Maxwell (two years old), his uncles Ervin (76 years old) and Butch (70 years old), and his aunt Belinda (69 years old). Boarding a Duck Boat on Table Rock Lake started out as a fun outing for family members, but it turned into an unspeakable tragedy when the boat capsized and sank. Seventeen of the 31 passengers on board were killed.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) and U.S. Coast Guard have separately investigated the incident and the last few aspects of the investigation should be completed soon.

But Congress should not wait to act. We know from past incidents that more can and should be done to make these vessels safer. Since 1999, more than 40 people have died in Duck Boats accidents, the vast majority of them from drowning when the vessel sinks. The NTSB in 2002 issued recommendations to improve the safety of these vessels in flooding or sinking situations but little has been done to implement those measures.

Duck Boats are hybrid vehicles that can travel on roadways and waterways, so the safety measures must be updated for both land and waterborne operations.

The Duck Boat Safety Improvement Act will require vessel operators to implement common-sense boating safety measures, including:

- Improving reserve buoyancy and watertight compartmentalization to prevent sinking,

- Requiring more monitoring and adherence to severe weather alerts and warnings,

- Requiring release of road safety seatbelts when Duck Boats become waterborne,

- Requiring stronger crew safety training and certification,

- Removing or reconfigure canopies and window coverings for waterborne operations,

- Requiring personal flotation devices for waterborne operations,

Requiring installation of better bilge pumps and alarms,
Installing underwater LED lights that activate automatically in emergencies, and
Complying with other Coast Guard boating safety requirements.

These basic safety requirements will help save lives and prevent future tragedies.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting today's bill to make commonsense corrections to the persistent safety problems facing duck boats. If we act today, we can help ensure that no other family has to suffer the kind of tragedy faced by my constituents on Table Rock Lake. I urge the House to support this bill.

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I come from a coastal district in Virginia, and the responsibilities and duties of the Coast Guard are integral to our everyday activities.

While I will vote to support the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act for all these reasons, I must express my concerns with language that was added to the bill in committee that makes significant modifications to crewing aboard the important and unique vessels that do the work lifting turbines on our growing and important offshore wind farms including a new project in development off the coast of Virginia.

This provision assumes that the United States presently has a sufficient number of vessels and mariners to perform this work. But as a recent report from DoE just states, we need 3–5 of these vessels and hundreds of skilled workers but unfortunately we currently lack them.

The proposed crewing changes—which go into effect immediately—would block the progress Virginia and other states along the Atlantic coast are making to produce clean energy and reduce the negative impacts of climate change.

I'm willing to continue working with the Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on a reliable crewing scheme that protects our national interests while ensuring that vital energy work can be done. This is not the right time to make this immediate and drastic change in the law.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFazio) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6865, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

PERMISSION TO EXTEND DEBATE TIME ON H.R. 2954, SECURING A STRONG RETIREMENT ACT OF 2022

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent at the outset that debate under clause 1(c) of rule XV on a motion to suspend the rules relating to H.R. 2954 be extended to 80 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?
There was no objection.

SECURING A STRONG RETIREMENT ACT OF 2022

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2954) to increase retirement savings, simplify and clarify retirement plan rules, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2954

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—EXPANDING COVERAGE AND INCREASING RETIREMENT SAVINGS

- Sec. 101. Expanding automatic enrollment in retirement plans.
- Sec. 102. Modification of credit for small employer pension plan startup costs.
- Sec. 103. Promotion of Saver's Credit.
- Sec. 104. Enhancement of Saver's Credit.
- Sec. 105. Enhancement of 403(b) plans.
- Sec. 106. Increase in age for required beginning date for mandatory distributions.
- Sec. 107. Indexing IRA catch-up limit.
- Sec. 108. Higher catch-up limit to apply at age 62, 63, and 64.
- Sec. 109. Pooled employer plans modification.
- Sec. 110. Multiple employer 403(b) plans.
- Sec. 111. Treatment of student loan payments as elective deferrals for purposes of matching contributions.
- Sec. 112. Application of credit for small employer pension plan startup costs to employers which join an existing plan.
- Sec. 113. Military spouse retirement plan eligibility credit for small employers.
- Sec. 114. Small immediate financial incentives for contributing to a plan.
- Sec. 115. Safe harbor for corrections of employee elective deferral failures.
- Sec. 116. Improving coverage for part-time workers.
- Sec. 117. Deferral of tax for certain sales of employer stock to employee stock ownership plan sponsored by S corporation.
- Sec. 118. Certain securities treated as publicly traded in case of employee stock ownership plans.

TITLE II—PRESERVATION OF INCOME

- Sec. 201. Remove required minimum distribution barriers for life annuities.
- Sec. 202. Qualifying longevity annuity contracts.
- Sec. 203. Insurance-dedicated exchange-traded funds.

TITLE III—SIMPLIFICATION AND CLARIFICATION OF RETIREMENT PLAN RULES

- Sec. 301. Recovery of retirement plan overpayments.

- Sec. 302. Reduction in excise tax on certain accumulations in qualified retirement plans.
- Sec. 303. Performance benchmarks for asset allocation funds.
- Sec. 304. Review and report to Congress relating to reporting and disclosure requirements.
- Sec. 305. Eliminating unnecessary plan requirements related to unenrolled participants.
- Sec. 306. Retirement savings lost and found.
- Sec. 307. Updating dollar limit for mandatory distributions.
- Sec. 308. Expansion of Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System.
- Sec. 309. Eliminate the “first day of the month” requirement for governmental section 457(b) plans.
- Sec. 310. One-time election for qualified charitable distribution to split-interest entity; increase in qualified charitable distribution limitation.
- Sec. 311. Distributions to firefighters.
- Sec. 312. Exclusion of certain disability-related first responder retirement payments.
- Sec. 313. Individual retirement plan statute of limitations for excise tax on excess contributions and certain accumulations.
- Sec. 314. Requirement to provide paper statements in certain cases.
- Sec. 315. Separate application of top heavy rules to defined contribution plans covering excludible employees.
- Sec. 316. Repayment of qualified birth or adoption distribution limited to 3 years.
- Sec. 317. Employer may rely on employee certifying that deemed hardship distribution conditions are met.
- Sec. 318. Penalty-free withdrawals from retirement plans for individuals in case of domestic abuse.
- Sec. 319. Reform of family attribution rules.
- Sec. 320. Amendments to increase benefit accruals under plan for previous plan year allowed until employer tax return due date.
- Sec. 321. Retroactive first year elective deferrals for sole proprietors.
- Sec. 322. Limiting cessation of IRA treatment to portion of account involved in a prohibited transaction.
- Sec. 323. Review of pension risk transfer interpretive bulletin.

TITLE IV—TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS

- Sec. 401. Amendments relating to Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019.

TITLE V—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

- Sec. 501. Provisions relating to plan amendments.

TITLE VI—REVENUE PROVISIONS

- Sec. 601. Simple and SEP Roth IRAs.
- Sec. 602. Hardship withdrawal rules for 403(b) plans.
- Sec. 603. Elective deferrals generally limited to regular contribution limit.
- Sec. 604. Optional treatment of employer matching contributions as Roth contributions.

TITLE VII—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

- Sec. 701. Determination of budgetary effects.

TITLE I—EXPANDING COVERAGE AND INCREASING RETIREMENT SAVINGS

SEC. 101. EXPANDING AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT IN RETIREMENT PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part I of subchapter D of chapter 1 of the Internal

Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after section 414 the following new section:

“SEC. 414A. REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section—

“(1) an arrangement shall not be treated as a qualified cash or deferred arrangement described in section 401(k) unless such arrangement meets the automatic enrollment requirements of subsection (b), and

“(2) an annuity contract otherwise described in section 403(b)(1) which is purchased under a salary reduction agreement shall not be treated as described in such section unless such agreement meets the automatic enrollment requirements of subsection (b).

“(b) AUTOMATIC ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An arrangement or agreement meets the requirements of this subsection if such arrangement or agreement is an eligible automatic contribution arrangement (as defined in section 414(w)(3)) which meets the requirements of paragraphs (2) through (4).

“(2) ALLOWANCE OF PERMISSIBLE WITHDRAWALS.—An eligible automatic contribution arrangement meets the requirements of this paragraph if such arrangement allows employees to make permissible withdrawals (as defined in section 414(w)(2)).

“(3) MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION PERCENTAGE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible automatic contribution arrangement meets the requirements of this paragraph if—

“(i) the uniform percentage of compensation contributed by the participant under such arrangement during the first year of participation is not less than 3 percent and not more than 10 percent (unless the participant specifically elects not to have such contributions made or to have such contributions made at a different percentage), and

“(ii) effective for the first day of each plan year starting after each completed year of participation under such arrangement such uniform percentage is increased by 1 percentage point (to at least 10 percent, but not more than 15 percent) unless the participant specifically elects not to have such contributions made or to have such contributions made at a different percentage.

“(B) INITIAL REDUCED CEILING FOR CERTAIN PLANS.—In the case of any eligible automatic contribution arrangement (other than an arrangement that meets the requirements of paragraph (12) or (13) of section 401(k)), for plan years ending before January 1, 2025, subparagraph (A)(i) shall be applied by substituting ‘10 percent’ for ‘15 percent’.

“(4) INVESTMENT REQUIREMENTS.—An eligible automatic contribution arrangement meets the requirements of this paragraph if amounts contributed pursuant to such arrangement, and for which no investment is elected by the participant, are invested in accordance with the requirements of section 2550.404c-5 of title 29, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).

“(c) EXCEPTIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) SIMPLE PLANS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to any simple plan (within the meaning of section 401(k)(11)).

“(2) EXCEPTION FOR PLANS OR ARRANGEMENTS ESTABLISHED BEFORE ENACTMENT OF SECTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to—

“(i) any qualified cash or deferred arrangement established before the date of the enactment of this section, or

“(ii) any annuity contract purchased under a plan established before the date of the enactment of this section.

“(B) POST-ENACTMENT ADOPTION OF MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLAN.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply in the case of an employer adopting after such date of enactment a plan maintained by more than one employer, and subsection (a) shall apply with respect to such employer as if such plan were a single plan.

“(3) EXCEPTION FOR GOVERNMENTAL AND CHURCH PLANS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to any governmental plan (within the meaning of section 414(d)) or any church plan (within the meaning of section 414(e)).

“(4) EXCEPTION FOR NEW AND SMALL BUSINESSES.—

“(A) NEW BUSINESS.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to any qualified cash or deferred arrangement, or any annuity contract purchased under a plan, while the employer maintaining such plan (and any predecessor employer) has been in existence for less than 3 years.

“(B) SMALL BUSINESSES.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to any qualified cash or deferred arrangement, or any annuity contract purchased under a plan, earlier than the date that is 1 year after the close of the first taxable year with respect to which the employer maintaining the plan normally employed more than 10 employees.

“(C) TREATMENT OF MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLANS.—In the case of a plan maintained by more than 1 employer, subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall be applied separately with respect to each such employer, and all such employers to which subsection (a) applies (after the application of this paragraph) shall be treated as maintaining a separate plan for purposes of this section.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part I of subchapter D of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 414 the following new item:

“Sec. 414A. Requirements related to automatic enrollment.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 2023.

SEC. 102. MODIFICATION OF CREDIT FOR SMALL EMPLOYER PENSION PLAN STARTUP COSTS.

(a) INCREASE IN CREDIT PERCENTAGE FOR SMALLER EMPLOYERS.—Section 45E(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) INCREASED CREDIT FOR CERTAIN SMALL EMPLOYERS.—In the case of an employer which would be an eligible employer under subsection (c) if section 408(p)(2)(C)(i) was applied by substituting ‘50 employees’ for ‘100 employees’, subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting ‘100 percent’ for ‘50 percent’.”

(b) ADDITIONAL CREDIT FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS BY CERTAIN SMALL EMPLOYERS.—Section 45E of such Code, as amended by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) ADDITIONAL CREDIT FOR EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS BY CERTAIN ELIGIBLE EMPLOYERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an eligible employer, the credit allowed for the taxable year under subsection (a) (determined without regard to this subsection) shall be increased by an amount equal to the applicable percentage of employer contributions (other than any elective deferrals (as defined in section 402(g)(3)) by the employer to an eligible employer plan (other than a defined benefit plan (as defined in section 414(j))).

“(2) LIMITATIONS.—

“(A) DOLLAR LIMITATION.—The amount determined under paragraph (1) (before the application of subparagraph (B)) with respect to any employee of the employer shall not exceed \$1,000.

“(B) CREDIT PHASE-IN.—In the case of any eligible employer which had for the preceding taxable year more than 50 employees, the amount determined under paragraph (1) (without regard to this subparagraph) shall be reduced by an amount equal to the product of—

“(i) the amount otherwise so determined under paragraph (1), multiplied by

“(ii) a percentage equal to 2 percentage points for each employee of the employer for the preceding taxable year in excess of 50 employees.

“(3) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of this section, the applicable percentage for the taxable year during which the eligible employer plan is established with respect to the eligible employer shall be 100 percent, and for taxable years thereafter shall be determined under the following table:

“In the case of the following taxable year beginning after the taxable year during which plan is established with respect to the eligible employer:	The applicable percentage shall be:
1st	100%
2nd	75%
3rd	50%
4th	25%
Any taxable year thereafter	0%

“(4) DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBLE EMPLOYER; NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES.—For purposes of this subsection, whether an employer is an eligible employer and the number of employees of an employer shall be determined under the rules of subsection (c), except that paragraph (2) thereof shall only apply to the taxable year during which the eligible employer plan to which this section applies is established with respect to the eligible employer.”

(c) DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—Section 45E(e)(2) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

“(2) DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION.—No deduction shall be allowed—

“(A) for that portion of the qualified startup costs paid or incurred for the taxable year which is equal to so much of the portion of the credit determined under subsection (a) as is properly allocable to such costs, and

“(B) for that portion of the employer contributions by the employer for the taxable year which is equal to so much of the credit increase determined under subsection (f) as is properly allocable to such contributions.”

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 103. PROMOTION OF SAVER'S CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall take such steps as the Secretary determines are necessary and appropriate to increase public awareness of the credit provided under section 25B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide a report to Congress to summarize the anticipated promotion efforts of the Treasury under subsection (a).

(2) CONTENTS.—Such report shall include—

(A) a description of plans for—

(i) the development and distribution of digital and print materials, including the distribution of such materials to States for participants in State facilitated retirement savings programs, and

(ii) the translation of such materials into the 10 most commonly spoken languages in the United States after English (as determined by reference to the most recent American Community Survey of the Bureau of the Census), and

(B) such other information as the Secretary determines is necessary

SEC. 104. ENHANCEMENT OF SAVER'S CREDIT.

(a) 50 PERCENT CREDIT RATE.—Section 25B(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “the applicable percentage” and inserting “50 percent”.

(b) ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME PHASEOUTS.—Section 25B(b) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

“(b) LIMITATION.—For purposes of this section—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—The amount of credit allowable under subsection (a) (determined without regard to this subsection) shall be reduced (but not below zero) by an amount which bears the same ratio to the credit otherwise so allowable as—

“(A) the excess (if any) of—

“(i) adjusted gross income of the taxpayer, over

“(ii) the threshold amount, bears to

“(B) the phaseout amount.

“(2) THRESHOLD AMOUNT.—The term ‘threshold amount’ means—

“(A) in the case of a joint return or a surviving spouse (as defined in section 2(a)), \$48,000,

“(B) in the case of a head of household, 75 percent of the amount in effect for the taxable year under subparagraph (A), and

“(C) in the case of any other individual, 50 percent of the amount in effect for the taxable year under subparagraph (A).

“(3) PHASEOUT AMOUNT.—The term ‘phaseout amount’ means—

“(A) in the case of a joint return or a surviving spouse (as defined in 2(a)), \$35,000,

“(B) in the case of a head of household (as defined in section 2(b)), 75 percent of the amount in effect for the taxable year under subparagraph (A), and

“(C) in the case of any other individual, 50 percent of the amount in effect for the taxable year under subparagraph (A).

“(4) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning in a calendar year after 2026, the \$48,000 dollar amount in paragraph (2) and the \$35,000 in paragraph (3) shall each be increased by an amount equal to—

“(i) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(ii) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2022’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(B) ROUNDING.—Any increase determined under subparagraph (A) that is not a multiple of \$500 shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$500.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2026.

SEC. 105. ENHANCEMENT OF 403(b) PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 403(b)(7)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “if the amounts are to be invested in regulated investment company stock to be held in that custodial account” and inserting “if the amounts are to be held in that custodial account and invested in regulated investment company stock or a group trust intended to satisfy the requirements of Internal Revenue Service Revenue Ruling 81-100 (or any successor guidance)”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of paragraph (7) of section 403(b) of such Code is amended by striking “FOR REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANY STOCK”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts invested after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 106. INCREASE IN AGE FOR REQUIRED BEGINNING DATE FOR MANDATORY DISTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(a)(9)(C)(i)(I) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is

amended by striking “age 72” and inserting “the applicable age”.

(b) SPOUSE BENEFICIARIES; SPECIAL RULE FOR OWNERS.—Subparagraphs (B)(iv)(I) and (C)(ii)(I) of section 401(a)(9) of such Code are each amended by striking “age 72” and inserting “the applicable age”.

(c) APPLICABLE AGE.—Section 401(a)(9)(C) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(v) APPLICABLE AGE.—

“(I) In the case of an individual who attains age 72 after December 31, 2022, and age 73 before January 1, 2030, the applicable age is 73.

“(II) In the case of an individual who attains age 73 after December 31, 2029, and age 74 before January 1, 2033, the applicable age is 74.

“(III) In the case of an individual who attains age 74 after December 31, 2032, the applicable age is 75.”.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The last sentence of section 408(b) of such Code is amended by striking “age 72” and inserting “the applicable age (determined under section 401(a)(9)(C)(v) for the calendar year in which such taxable year begins)”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to distributions required to be made after December 31, 2022, with respect to individuals who attain age 72 after such date.

SEC. 107. INDEXING IRA CATCH-UP LIMIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 219(b)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) INDEXING OF CATCH-UP LIMITATION.—In the case of any taxable year beginning in a calendar year after 2023, the \$1,000 amount under subparagraph (B)(ii) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(I) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(II) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2022’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

If any amount after adjustment under the preceding sentence is not a multiple of \$100, such amount shall be rounded to the next lower multiple of \$100.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

SEC. 108. HIGHER CATCH-UP LIMIT TO APPLY AT AGE 62, 63, AND 64.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) PLANS OTHER THAN SIMPLE PLANS.—Section 414(v)(2)(B)(i) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting the following before the period: “(\$10,000, in the case of an eligible participant who would attain age 62, but not age 65, before the close of the taxable year)”.

(2) SIMPLE PLANS.—Section 414(v)(2)(B)(ii) of such Code is amended by inserting the following before the period: “(\$5,000, in the case of an eligible participant who would attain age 62, but not age 65, before the close of the taxable year)”.

(b) COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS.—Subparagraph (C) of section 414(v)(2) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following: “In the case of a year beginning after December 31, 2023, the Secretary shall adjust annually the \$10,000 amount in subparagraph (B)(i) and the \$5,000 amount in subparagraph (B)(ii) for increases in the cost-of-living at the same time and in the same manner as adjustments under the preceding sentence; except that the base period taken into account shall be the calendar quarter beginning July 1, 2022.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

SEC. 109. POOLED EMPLOYER PLANS MODIFICATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(43)(B)(ii) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(43)(B)(ii)) is amended to read as follows:

“(ii) designate a named fiduciary (other than an employer in the plan) to be responsible for collecting contributions to the plan and require such fiduciary to implement written contribution collection procedures that are reasonable, diligent, and systematic;”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 110. MULTIPLE EMPLOYER 403(b) PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(15) MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLANS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except in the case of a church plan, this subsection shall not be treated as failing to apply to an annuity contract solely by reason of such contract being purchased under a plan maintained by more than 1 employer.

“(B) TREATMENT OF EMPLOYERS FAILING TO MEET REQUIREMENTS OF PLAN.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a plan maintained by more than 1 employer, this subsection shall not be treated as failing to apply to an annuity contract held under such plan merely because of one or more employers failing to meet the requirements of this subsection if such plan satisfies rules similar to the rules of section 413(e)(2) with respect to any such employer failure.

“(ii) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS IN CASE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL PLANS.—A plan shall not be treated as meeting the requirements of this subparagraph unless the plan satisfies rules similar to the rules of subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 413(e)(1), except in the case of a multiple employer plan maintained solely by any of the following: A State, a political subdivision of a State, or an agency or instrumentality of any one or more of the foregoing.”.

(b) ANNUAL REGISTRATION FOR 403(b) MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLAN.—Section 6057 of such Code is amended by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h) and by inserting after subsection (f) the following new subsection:

“(g) 403(b) MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLANS TREATED AS ONE PLAN.—In the case of annuity contracts to which this section applies and to which section 403(b) applies by reason of the plan under which such contracts are purchased meeting the requirements of paragraph (15) thereof, such plan shall be treated as a single plan for purposes of this section.”.

(c) ANNUAL INFORMATION RETURNS FOR 403(b) MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLAN.—Section 6058 of such Code is amended by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g) and by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) 403(b) MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLANS TREATED AS ONE PLAN.—In the case of annuity contracts to which this section applies and to which section 403(b) applies by reason of the plan under which such contracts are purchased meeting the requirements of paragraph (15) thereof, such plan shall be treated as a single plan for purposes of this section.”.

(d) AMENDMENTS TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(43)(A) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 is amended—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking “section 501(a) of such Code or” and inserting “section 501(a) of such Code, a plan that consists of contracts described in section 403(b) of such Code, or”; and

(B) in the flush text at the end, by striking “the plan.” and inserting “the plan, but such term shall include any program (other than a governmental plan) maintained for the benefit of the employees of more than 1 employer that consists of contracts described in section 403(b) of such Code and that meets the requirements of subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 413(e)(1) of such Code.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Sections 3(43)(B)(v)(II) and 3(44)(A)(i)(I) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 are each amended by striking “section 401(a) of such Code or” and inserting “section 401(a) of such Code, a plan that consists of contracts described in section 403(b) of such Code, or”.

(e) REGULATIONS RELATING TO EMPLOYER FAILURE TO MEET MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary’s delegate) shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to clarify, in the case of plans to which section 403(b)(15) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 applies, the treatment of an employer departing such plan in connection with such employer’s failure to meet multiple employer plan requirements.

(f) MODIFICATION OF MODEL PLAN LANGUAGE, ETC.—

(1) PLAN NOTIFICATIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary’s delegate) shall modify the model plan language published under section 413(e)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include language that notifies participating employers described in section 501(c)(3), and which are exempt from tax under section 501(a), that the plan is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and that such employer is a plan sponsor with respect to its employees participating in the multiple employer plan and, as such, has certain fiduciary duties with respect to the plan and to its employees.

(2) MODEL PLANS FOR MULTIPLE EMPLOYER 403(b) NON-GOVERNMENTAL PLANS.—For plans to which section 403(b)(15)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 applies (other than a plan maintained for its employees by a State, a political subdivision of a State, or an agency or instrumentality of any one or more of the foregoing), the Secretary of the Treasury shall publish model plan language similar to model plan language published under section 413(e)(5) of such Code.

(3) EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH TO EMPLOYERS EXEMPT FROM TAX.—The Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary’s delegate) shall provide education and outreach to increase awareness to employers described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and which are exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code, that multiple employer plans are subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and that such employer is a plan sponsor with respect to its employees participating in the multiple employer plan and, as such, has certain fiduciary duties with respect to the plan and to its employees.

(g) NO INFERENCE WITH RESPECT TO CHURCH PLANS.—Regarding any application of section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to an annuity contract purchased under a church plan (as defined in section 414(e) of such Code) maintained by more than 1 employer, or to any application of rules similar to section 413(e) of such Code to such a plan, no inference shall be made from section 403(b)(15)(A) of such Code (as added by this Act) not applying to such plans.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 2022.

(2) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in the amendments made by subsection (a) shall be

construed as limiting the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary’s delegate (determined without regard to such amendment) to provide for the proper treatment of a failure to meet any requirement applicable under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to one employer (and its employees) in the case of a plan to which section 403(b)(15) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 applies.

SEC. 111. TREATMENT OF STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS AS ELECTIVE DEFERRALS FOR PURPOSES OF MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(m)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “and” at the end of clause (i), by striking the period at the end of clause (ii) and inserting “, and”, and by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(iii) subject to the requirements of paragraph (13), any employer contribution made to a defined contribution plan on behalf of an employee on account of a qualified student loan payment.”.

(b) QUALIFIED STUDENT LOAN PAYMENT.—Section 401(m)(4) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) QUALIFIED STUDENT LOAN PAYMENT.—The term ‘qualified student loan payment’ means a payment made by an employee in repayment of a qualified education loan (as defined in section 221(d)(1)) incurred by the employee to pay qualified higher education expenses, but only—

“(i) to the extent such payments in the aggregate for the year do not exceed an amount equal to—

“(I) the limitation applicable under section 402(g) for the year (or, if lesser, the employee’s compensation (as defined in section 415(c)(3)) for the year), reduced by

“(II) the elective deferrals made by the employee for such year, and

“(ii) if the employee certifies to the employer making the matching contribution under this paragraph that such payment has been made on such loan.

For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘qualified higher education expenses’ means the cost of attendance (as defined in section 472 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997) at an eligible educational institution (as defined in section 221(d)(2)).”.

(c) MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR QUALIFIED STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS.—Section 401(m) of such Code is amended by redesignating paragraph (13) as paragraph (14), and by inserting after paragraph (12) the following new paragraph:

“(13) MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR QUALIFIED STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of paragraph 4(A)(iii), an employer contribution made to a defined contribution plan on account of a qualified student loan payment shall be treated as a matching contribution for purposes of this title if—

“(i) the plan provides matching contributions on account of elective deferrals at the same rate as contributions on account of qualified student loan payments,

“(ii) the plan provides matching contributions on account of qualified student loan payments only on behalf of employees otherwise eligible to receive matching contributions on account of elective deferrals,

“(iii) under the plan, all employees eligible to receive matching contributions on account of elective deferrals are eligible to receive matching contributions on account of qualified student loan payments, and

“(iv) the plan provides that matching contributions on account of qualified student loan payments vest in the same manner as

matching contributions on account of elective deferrals.

“(B) TREATMENT FOR PURPOSES OF NON-DISCRIMINATION RULES, ETC.—

“(i) NONDISCRIMINATION RULES.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(iii), subsection (a)(4), and section 410(b), matching contributions described in paragraph 4(A)(iii) shall not fail to be treated as available to an employee solely because such employee does not have debt incurred under a qualified education loan (as defined in section 221(d)(1)).

“(ii) STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS NOT TREATED AS PLAN CONTRIBUTION.—Except as provided in clause (iii), a qualified student loan payment shall not be treated as a contribution to a plan under this title.

“(iii) MATCHING CONTRIBUTION RULES.—Solely for purposes of meeting the requirements of paragraph (11)(B) or (12) of this subsection, or paragraph (11)(B)(i)(II), (12)(B), or (13)(D) of subsection (k), a plan may treat a qualified student loan payment as an elective deferral or an elective contribution, whichever is applicable.

“(iv) ACTUAL DEFERRAL PERCENTAGE TESTING.—In determining whether a plan meets the requirements of subsection (k)(3)(A)(ii) for a plan year, the plan may apply the requirements of such subsection separately with respect to all employees who receive matching contributions described in paragraph 4(A)(iii) for the plan year.

“(C) EMPLOYER MAY RELY ON EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION.—The employer may rely on an employee certification of payment under paragraph 4(D)(ii).”.

(d) SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—Section 408(p)(2) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR QUALIFIED STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the rules of clause (iii), an arrangement shall not fail to be treated as meeting the requirements of subparagraph (A)(iii) solely because under the arrangement, solely for purposes of such subparagraph, qualified student loan payments are treated as amounts elected by the employee under subparagraph (A)(i)(I) to the extent such payments do not exceed—

“(I) the applicable dollar amount under subparagraph (E) (after application of section 414(v)) for the year (or, if lesser, the employee’s compensation (as defined in section 415(c)(3)) for the year), reduced by

“(II) any other amounts elected by the employee under subparagraph (A)(i)(I) for the year.

“(ii) QUALIFIED STUDENT LOAN PAYMENT.—For purposes of this subparagraph—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualified student loan payment’ means a payment made by an employee in repayment of a qualified education loan (as defined in section 221(d)(1)) incurred by the employee to pay qualified higher education expenses, but only if the employee certifies to the employer making the matching contribution that such payment has been made on such a loan.

“(II) QUALIFIED HIGHER EDUCATION EXPENSES.—The term ‘qualified higher education expenses’ has the same meaning as when used in section 401(m)(4)(D).

“(iii) APPLICABLE RULES.—Clause (i) shall apply to an arrangement only if, under the arrangement—

“(I) matching contributions on account of qualified student loan payments are provided only on behalf of employees otherwise eligible to elect contributions under subparagraph (A)(i)(I), and

“(II) all employees otherwise eligible to participate in the arrangement are eligible to receive matching contributions on account of qualified student loan payments.”.

(e) 403(b) PLANS.—Section 403(b)(12)(A) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following: “The fact that the employer offers matching contributions on account of qualified student loan payments as described in section 401(m)(13) shall not be taken into account in determining whether the arrangement satisfies the requirements of clause (ii) (and any regulation thereunder).”

(f) 457(b) PLANS.—Section 457(b) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following: “A plan which is established and maintained by an employer which is described in subsection (e)(1)(A) shall not be treated as failing to meet the requirements of this subsection solely because the plan, or another plan maintained by the employer which meets the requirements of section 401(a) or 403(b), provides for matching contributions on account of qualified student loan payments as described in section 401(m)(13).”

(g) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall prescribe regulations for purposes of implementing the amendments made by this section, including regulations—

(1) permitting a plan to make matching contributions for qualified student loan payments, as defined in sections 401(m)(4)(D) and 408(p)(2)(F) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section, at a different frequency than matching contributions are otherwise made under the plan, provided that the frequency is not less than annually;

(2) permitting employers to establish reasonable procedures to claim matching contributions for such qualified student loan payments under the plan, including an annual deadline (not earlier than 3 months after the close of each plan year) by which a claim must be made; and

(3) promulgating model amendments which plans may adopt to implement matching contributions on such qualified student loan payments for purposes of sections 401(m), 408(p), 403(b), and 457(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(h) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions made for plan years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 112. APPLICATION OF CREDIT FOR SMALL EMPLOYER PENSION PLAN STARTUP COSTS TO EMPLOYERS WHICH JOIN AN EXISTING PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 45E(d)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “effective” and inserting “effective with respect to the eligible employer”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 104 of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019.

SEC. 113. MILITARY SPOUSE RETIREMENT PLAN ELIGIBILITY CREDIT FOR SMALL EMPLOYERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 45U. MILITARY SPOUSE RETIREMENT PLAN ELIGIBILITY CREDIT FOR SMALL EMPLOYERS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 38, in the case of any eligible small employer, the military spouse retirement plan eligibility credit determined under this section for any taxable year is an amount equal to the sum of—

“(1) \$250 with respect to each military spouse who is an employee of such employer and who is eligible to participate in an eligible defined contribution plan of such employer at any time during such taxable year, plus

“(2) so much of the contributions made by such employer to all such plans with respect

to such employee during such taxable year as do not exceed \$250.

“(b) LIMITATION.—An individual shall only be taken into account as a military spouse under subsection (a) for the taxable year which includes the date on which such individual began participating in the eligible defined contribution plan of the employer and the 2 succeeding taxable years.

“(c) ELIGIBLE SMALL EMPLOYER.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘eligible small employer’ means an eligible employer (as defined in section 408(p)(2)(C)(i)(D)).

“(2) APPLICATION OF 2-YEAR GRACE PERIOD.—A rule similar to the rule of section 408(p)(2)(C)(i)(II) shall apply for purposes of this section.

“(d) MILITARY SPOUSE.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘military spouse’ means, with respect to any employer, any individual who is married (within the meaning of section 7703 as of the first date that the employee is employed by the employer) to an individual who is a member of the uniformed services (as defined section 101(a)(5) of title 10, United States Code). For purposes of this section, an employer may rely on an employee’s certification that such employee’s spouse is a member of the uniformed services if such certification provides the name, rank, and service branch of such spouse.

“(2) EXCLUSION OF HIGHLY COMPENSATED EMPLOYEES.—With respect to any employer, the term ‘military spouse’ shall not include any individual if such individual is a highly compensated employee of such employer (within the meaning of section 414(g)).

“(e) ELIGIBLE DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘eligible defined contribution plan’ means, with respect to any eligible small employer, any defined contribution plan (as defined in section 414(i)) of such employer if, under the terms of such plan—

“(1) military spouses employed by such employer are eligible to participate in such plan not later than the date which is 2 months after the date on which such individual begins employment with such employer, and

“(2) military spouses who are eligible to participate in such plan—

“(A) are immediately eligible to receive an amount of employer contributions under such plan which is not less than the amount of such contributions that a similarly situated participant who is not a military spouse would be eligible to receive under such plan after 2 years of service, and

“(B) immediately have a nonforfeitable right to the employee’s accrued benefit derived from employer contributions under such plan.

“(f) AGGREGATION RULE.—All persons treated as a single employer under subsection (b), (c), (m), or (o) of section 414 shall be treated as one employer for purposes of this section.”

(b) CREDIT ALLOWED AS PART OF GENERAL BUSINESS CREDIT.—Section 38(b) of such Code is amended by striking “plus” at the end of paragraph (32), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (33) and inserting “, plus”, and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(34) in the case of an eligible small employer (as defined in section 45U(c)), the military spouse retirement plan eligibility credit determined under section 45U(a).”

(c) SPECIFIED CREDIT FOR PURPOSES OF CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYER ORGANIZATIONS.—Section 3511(d)(2) of such Code is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (F), (G), and (H) as subparagraphs (G), (H), and (I), respectively, and by inserting after sub-

paragraph (E) the following new subparagraph:

“(F) section 45U (military spouse retirement plan eligibility credit).”

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“Sec. 45U. Military spouse retirement plan eligibility credit for small employers.”

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 114. SMALL IMMEDIATE FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR CONTRIBUTING TO A PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 401(k)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “(other than a de minimis financial incentive)” after “any other benefit”.

(b) SECTION 403(b) PLANS.—Subparagraph (A) of section 403(b)(12) of such Code, as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following: “A plan shall not fail to satisfy clause (ii) solely by reason of offering a de minimis financial incentive to employees to elect to have the employer make contributions pursuant to a salary reduction agreement.”

(c) EXEMPTION FROM PROHIBITED TRANSACTION RULES.—Subsection (d) of section 4975 of such Code is amended by striking “or” at the end of paragraph (22), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (23) and inserting “, or”, and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(24) the provision of a de minimis financial incentive described in section 401(k)(4)(A).”

(d) AMENDMENT OF EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—Subsection (b) of section 408 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1108(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(21) The provision of a de minimis financial incentive described in section 401(k)(4)(A) or section 403(b)(12)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.”

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 115. SAFE HARBOR FOR CORRECTIONS OF EMPLOYEE ELECTIVE DEFERRAL FAILURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 414 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(aa) CORRECTING AUTOMATIC CONTRIBUTION ERRORS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any plan or arrangement shall not fail to be treated as a plan described in sections 401(a), 403(b), 408, or 457(b), as applicable, solely by reason of a corrected error.

“(2) CORRECTED ERROR DEFINED.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘corrected error’ means a reasonable administrative error in implementing an automatic enrollment or automatic escalation feature in accordance with the terms of an eligible automatic contribution arrangement (as defined under subsection (w)(3)), provided that such implementation error—

“(A) is corrected by the date that is 9½ months after the end of the plan year during which the error occurred,

“(B) is corrected in a manner that is favorable to the participant, and

“(C) is of a type which is so corrected for all similarly situated participants in a non-discriminatory manner.

Such correction may occur before or after the participant has terminated employment and may occur without regard to whether the error is identified by the Secretary.

“(3) REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE FOR FAVORABLE CORRECTION METHODS.—The Secretary shall, by regulations or other guidance of general applicability, specify the correction methods that are in a manner favorable to the participant for purposes of paragraph (2)(B).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply with respect to any errors with respect to which the date referred to in section 414(aa) (as added by this section) is after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 116. IMPROVING COVERAGE FOR PART-TIME WORKERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 202 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1052) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN PART-TIME EMPLOYEES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A pension plan that includes either a qualified cash or deferred arrangement (as defined in section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) or a salary reduction agreement (as described in section 403(b) of such Code) shall not require, as a condition of participation in the arrangement or agreement, that an employee complete a period of service with the employer (or employers) maintaining the plan extending beyond the close of the earlier of—

“(A) the period permitted under subsection (a)(1) (determined without regard to subparagraph (B)(i) thereof); or

“(B) the first 24-month period—

“(i) consisting of 2 consecutive 12-month periods during each of which the employee has at least 500 hours of service; and

“(ii) by the close of which the employee has attained the age of 21.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply to any employee described in section 410(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

“(3) COORDINATION WITH OTHER RULES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of employees who are eligible to participate in the arrangement or agreement solely by reason of paragraph (1)(B):

“(i) EXCLUSIONS.—An employer may elect to exclude such employees from the application of subsections (a)(4), (k)(3), (k)(12), (k)(13), and (m)(2) of section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and section 410(b) of such Code.

“(ii) NONDISCRIMINATION RULES.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), section 401(k)(15)(B)(i)(I) of such Code shall apply.

“(iii) TIME OF PARTICIPATION.—The rules of subsection (a)(4) shall apply to such employees.

“(B) TOP-HEAVY RULES.—An employer may elect to exclude all employees who are eligible to participate in a plan maintained by the employer solely by reason of paragraph (1)(B) from the application of the vesting and benefit requirements under subsections (b) and (c) of section 416 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

“(4) 12-MONTH PERIOD.—For purposes of this subsection, 12-month periods shall be determined in the same manner as under the last sentence of subsection (a)(3)(A), except that 12-month periods beginning before January 1, 2021, shall not be taken into account.”

(b) VESTING.—Section 203(b) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1053(a)) is amended by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5) and by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

“(4) PART-TIME EMPLOYEES.—For purposes of determining whether an employee who is eligible to participate in a qualified cash or

deferred arrangement or a salary reduction agreement under a plan solely by reason of section 202(c)(1)(B) has a nonforfeitable right to employer contributions—

“(A) except as provided in subparagraph (B), each 12-month period for which the employee has at least 500 hours of service shall be treated as a year of service; and

“(B) paragraph (3) shall be applied by substituting ‘at least 500 hours of service’ for ‘more than 500 hours of service’ in subparagraph (A) thereof.

For purposes of this paragraph, 12-month periods shall be determined in the same manner as under the last sentence of section 202(a)(3)(A), except that 12-month periods beginning before January 1, 2021, shall not be taken into account.”

(c) REDUCTION IN PERIOD SERVICE REQUIREMENT FOR QUALIFIED CASH AND DEFERRED ARRANGEMENTS.—Section 401(k)(2)(D)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “3” and inserting “2”.

(d) PRE-2021 SERVICE.—Section 112(b) of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019 (26 U.S.C. 401 note) is amended by striking “section 401(k)(2)(D)(ii)” and inserting “paragraphs (2)(D)(ii) and (15)(B)(iii) of section 401(k)”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 2022.

(2) SUBSECTION (d).—The amendment made by subsection (d) shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 112 of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019.

SEC. 117. DEFERRAL OF TAX FOR CERTAIN SALES OF EMPLOYER STOCK TO EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN SPONSORED BY S CORPORATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1042(c)(1)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “domestic C corporation” and inserting “domestic corporation”.

(b) 10 PERCENT LIMITATION ON APPLICATION OF GAIN ON SALE OF S CORPORATION STOCK.—Section 1042 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) APPLICATION OF SECTION TO SALE OF STOCK IN S CORPORATION.—In the case of the sale of qualified securities of an S corporation, the election under subsection (a) may be made with respect to not more than 10 percent of the amount realized on such sale for purposes of determining the amount of gain not recognized and the extent to which (if at all) the amount realized on such sale exceeds the cost of qualified replacement property. The portion of adjusted basis that is properly allocable to the portion of the amount realized with respect to which the election is made under this subsection shall be taken into account for purposes of the preceding sentence.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to sales after December 31, 2027.

SEC. 118. CERTAIN SECURITIES TREATED AS PUBLICLY TRADED IN CASE OF EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(a)(35) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(I) ESOP RULES RELATING TO PUBLICLY TRADED SECURITIES.—In the case of an applicable defined contribution plan which is an employee stock ownership plan, an employer security shall be treated as described in subparagraph (G)(v) if—

“(i) the security is the subject of priced quotations by at least 4 dealers, published and made continuously available on an interdealer quotation system (as such term is used in section 13 of the Securities Exchange

Act of 1934) which has made the request described in section 6(j) of such Act to be treated as an alternative trading system,

“(ii) the security is not a penny stock (as defined by section 3(a)(51) of such Act),

“(iii) the security is issued by a corporation which is not a shell company (as such term is used in section 4(d)(6) of the Securities Act of 1933), a blank check company (as defined in section 7(b)(3) of such Act), or subject to bankruptcy proceedings,

“(iv) the security has a public float (as such term is used in section 240.12b-2 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations) which has a fair market value of at least \$1,000,000 and constitutes at least 10 percent of the total shares issued and outstanding.

“(v) in the case of a security issued by a domestic corporation, the issuer publishes, not less frequently than annually, financial statements audited by an independent auditor registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board established under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, and

“(vi) in the case of a security issued by a foreign corporation, the security is represented by a depositary share (as defined under section 240.12b-2 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations), or is issued by a foreign corporation incorporated in Canada and readily tradeable on an established securities market in Canada, and the issuer—

“(I) is subject to, and in compliance with, the reporting requirements of section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m or 78o(d)),

“(II) is subject to, and in compliance with, the reporting requirements of section 230.257 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or

“(III) is exempt from such requirements under section 240.12g3-2(b) of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 2027.

TITLE II—PRESERVATION OF INCOME

SEC. 201. REMOVE REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION BARRIERS FOR LIFE ANNUITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(a)(9) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(J) CERTAIN INCREASES IN PAYMENTS UNDER A COMMERCIAL ANNUITY.—Nothing in this section shall prohibit a commercial annuity (within the meaning of section 3405(e)(6)) that is issued in connection with any eligible retirement plan (within the meaning of section 402(c)(8)(B), other than a defined benefit plan) from providing one or more of the following types of payments on or after the annuity starting date:

“(i) annuity payments that increase by a constant percentage, applied not less frequently than annually, at a rate that is less than 5 percent per year,

“(ii) a lump sum payment that—

“(I) results in a shortening of the payment period with respect to an annuity or a full or partial commutation of the future annuity payments, provided that such lump sum is determined using reasonable actuarial methods and assumptions, as determined in good faith by the issuer of the contract, or

“(II) accelerates the receipt of annuity payments that are scheduled to be received within the ensuing 12 months, regardless of whether such acceleration shortens the payment period with respect to the annuity, reduces the dollar amount of benefits to be paid under the contract, or results in a suspension of annuity payments during the period being accelerated,

“(iii) an amount which is in the nature of a dividend or similar distribution, provided that the issuer of the contract determines

such amount based on a reasonable comparison of the actuarial factors assumed when calculating the initial annuity payments and the issuer's experience with respect to those factors, or

“(iv) a final payment upon death that does not exceed the excess of the total amount of the consideration paid for the annuity payments, less the aggregate amount of prior distributions or payments from or under the contract.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply to calendar years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 202. QUALIFYING LONGEVITY ANNUITY CONTRACTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date which is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary's delegate (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall amend the regulation issued by the Department of the Treasury relating to “Longevity Annuity Contracts” (79 Fed. Reg. 37633 (July 2, 2014)), as follows:

(1) REPEAL 25-PERCENT PREMIUM LIMIT.—The Secretary shall amend Q&A-17(b)(3) of Treasury Regulation section 1.401(a)(9)-6 and Q&A-12(b)(3) of Treasury Regulation section 1.408-8 to eliminate the requirement that premiums for qualifying longevity annuity contracts be limited to a percentage of an individual's account balance, and to make such corresponding changes to the regulations and related forms as are necessary to reflect the elimination of this requirement.

(2) FACILITATE JOINT AND SURVIVOR BENEFITS.—The Secretary shall amend Q&A-17(c) of Treasury Regulation section 1.401(a)(9)-6, and make such corresponding changes to the regulations and related forms as are necessary, to provide that, in the case of a qualifying longevity annuity contract which was purchased with joint and survivor annuity benefits for the individual and the individual's spouse which were permissible under the regulations at the time the contract was originally purchased, a divorce occurring after the original purchase and before the annuity payments commence under the contract will not affect the permissibility of the joint and survivor annuity benefits or other benefits under the contract, or require any adjustment to the amount or duration of benefits payable under the contract, provided that any qualified domestic relations order (within the meaning of section 414(p) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) or, in the case of an arrangement not subject to section 414(p) of such Code or section 206(d) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1056(d)), any divorce or separation instrument (as defined in subsection (b))—

(A) provides that the former spouse is entitled to the survivor benefits under the contract;

(B) does not modify the treatment of the former spouse as the beneficiary under the contract who is entitled to the survivor benefits; or

(C) does not modify the treatment of the former spouse as the measuring life for the survivor benefits under the contract.

(3) PERMIT SHORT FREE LOOK PERIOD.—The Secretary shall amend Q&A-17(a)(4) of Treasury Regulation section 1.401(a)(9)-6 to ensure that such Q&A does not preclude a contract from including a provision under which an employee may rescind the purchase of the contract within a period not exceeding 90 days from the date of purchase.

(b) DIVORCE OR SEPARATION INSTRUMENT.—For purposes of subsection (a)(2), the term “divorce or separation instrument” means—

(1) a decree of divorce or separate maintenance or a written instrument incident to such a decree,

(2) a written separation agreement, or

(3) a decree (not described in paragraph (1)) requiring a spouse to make payments for the support or maintenance of the other spouse.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATES, ENFORCEMENT, AND INTERPRETATIONS.—

(1) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(A) Paragraph (1) of subsection (a) shall be effective with respect to contracts purchased or received in an exchange on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) Paragraphs (2) and (3) of subsection (a) shall be effective with respect to contracts purchased or received in an exchange on or after July 2, 2014.

(2) ENFORCEMENT AND INTERPRETATIONS.—Prior to the date on which the Secretary issues final regulations pursuant to subsection (a)—

(A) the Secretary (or delegate) shall administer and enforce the law in accordance with subsection (a) and the effective dates in paragraph (1) of this subsection; and

(B) taxpayers may rely upon their reasonable good faith interpretations of subsection (a).

(d) REGULATORY SUCCESSOR PROVISION.—Any reference to a regulation under this section shall be treated as including a reference to any successor regulation thereto.

SEC. 203. INSURANCE-DEDICATED EXCHANGE-TRADED FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the date which is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's delegate) shall amend the regulation issued by the Department of the Treasury relating to “Income Tax; Diversification Requirements for Variable Annuity, Endowment, and Life Insurance Contracts”, 54 Fed. Reg. 8728 (March 2, 1989), and make any necessary corresponding amendments to other regulations, in order to facilitate the use of exchange-traded funds as investment options under variable contracts within the meaning of section 817(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, in accordance with subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

(b) DESIGNATE CERTAIN AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANTS AND MARKET MAKERS AS ELIGIBLE INVESTORS.—The Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's delegate) shall amend Treasury Regulation section 1.817-5(f)(3) to provide that satisfaction of the requirements in Treasury Regulation section 1.817-5(f)(2)(i) with respect to an exchange-traded fund shall not be prevented by reason of beneficial interests in such a fund being held by 1 or more authorized participants or market makers.

(c) DEFINE RELEVANT TERMS.—In amending Treasury Regulation section 1.817-5(f)(3) in accordance with subsections (b) of this section, the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's delegate) shall provide definitions consistent with the following:

(1) EXCHANGE-TRADED FUND.—The term “exchange-traded fund” means a regulated investment company, partnership, or trust—

(A) that is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an open-end investment company or a unit investment trust;

(B) the shares of which can be purchased or redeemed directly from the fund only by an authorized participant; and

(C) the shares of which are traded throughout the day on a national stock exchange at market prices that may or may not be the same as the net asset value of the shares.

(2) AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANT.—The term “authorized participant” means a financial institution that is a member or participant of a clearing agency registered under section 17A(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that enters into a contractual relationship with an exchange-traded fund pursuant to which the financial institution is permitted

to purchase and redeem shares directly from the fund and to sell such shares to third parties, but only if the contractual arrangement or applicable law precludes the financial institution from—

(A) purchasing the shares for its own investment purposes rather than for the exclusive purpose of creating and redeeming such shares on behalf of third parties; and

(B) selling the shares to third parties who are not market makers or otherwise described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of Treasury Regulation section 1.817-5(f).

(3) MARKET MAKER.—The term “market maker” means a financial institution that is a registered broker or dealer under section 15(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that maintains liquidity for an exchange-traded fund on a national stock exchange by being always ready to buy and sell shares of such fund on the market, but only if the financial institution is contractually or legally precluded from selling or buying such shares to or from persons who are not authorized participants or otherwise described in paragraphs (2) and (3) of Treasury Regulation section 1.817-5(f).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsections (b) and (c) shall apply to segregated asset account investments made on or after the date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

TITLE III—SIMPLIFICATION AND CLARIFICATION OF RETIREMENT PLAN RULES

SEC. 301. RECOVERY OF RETIREMENT PLAN OVERPAYMENTS.

(a) OVERPAYMENTS UNDER ERISA.—Section 206 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1056) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO BENEFIT OVERPAYMENTS.—

“(1) GENERAL RULE.—In the case of an inadvertent benefit overpayment by any pension plan, the responsible plan fiduciary shall not be considered to have failed to comply with the requirements of this title merely because such fiduciary determines, in the exercise of its fiduciary discretion, not to seek recovery of all or part of such overpayment from—

“(A) any participant or beneficiary,

“(B) any plan sponsor of, or contributing employer to—

“(i) an individual account plan, provided that the amount needed to prevent or restore any impermissible forfeiture from any participant's or beneficiary's account arising in connection with the overpayment is, separately from and independently of the overpayment, allocated to such account pursuant to the nonforfeiture requirements of section 203 (for example, out of the plan's forfeiture account, additional employer contributions, or recoveries from those responsible for the overpayment), or

“(ii) a defined benefit pension plan subject to the funding rules in part 3 of this subtitle B, unless the responsible plan fiduciary determines, in the exercise of its fiduciary discretion, that failure to recover all or part of the overpayment faster than required under such funding rules would materially affect the plan's ability to pay benefits due to other participants and beneficiaries, or

“(C) any fiduciary of the plan, other than a fiduciary (including a plan sponsor or contributing employer acting in a fiduciary capacity) whose breach of its fiduciary duties resulted in such overpayment, provided that if the plan has established prudent procedures to prevent and minimize overpayment of benefits and the relevant plan fiduciaries have followed such procedures, an inadvertent benefit overpayment will not give rise to a breach of fiduciary duty.

“(2) REDUCTION IN FUTURE BENEFIT PAYMENTS AND RECOVERY FROM RESPONSIBLE

PARTY.—Paragraph (1) shall not fail to apply with respect to any inadvertent benefit overpayment merely because, after discovering such overpayment, the responsible plan fiduciary—

“(A) reduces future benefit payments to the correct amount provided for under the terms of the plan, or

“(B) seeks recovery from the person or persons responsible for the overpayment.

“(3) EMPLOYER FUNDING OBLIGATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection shall relieve an employer of any obligation imposed on it to make contributions to a plan to meet the minimum funding standards under part 3 of this subtitle B or to prevent or restore an impermissible forfeiture in accordance with section 203.

“(4) RECOUPMENT FROM PARTICIPANTS AND BENEFICIARIES.—If the responsible plan fiduciary, in the exercise of its fiduciary discretion, decides to seek recoupment from a participant or beneficiary of all or part of an inadvertent benefit overpayment made by the plan to such participant or beneficiary, it may do so, subject to the following conditions:

“(A) No interest or other additional amounts (such as collection costs or fees) are sought on overpaid amounts for any period.

“(B) If the plan seeks to recoup past overpayments of a non-decreasing periodic benefit by reducing future benefit payments—

“(i) the reduction ceases after the plan has recovered the full dollar amount of the overpayment,

“(ii) the amount recouped each calendar year does not exceed 10 percent of the full dollar amount of the overpayment, and

“(iii) future benefit payments are not reduced to below 90 percent of the periodic amount otherwise payable under the terms of the plan.

Alternatively, if the plan seeks to recoup past overpayments of a non-decreasing periodic benefit through one or more installment payments, the sum of such installment payments in any calendar year does not exceed the sum of the reductions that would be permitted in such year under the preceding sentence.

“(C) If the plan seeks to recoup past overpayments of a benefit other than a non-decreasing periodic benefit, the plan satisfies requirements developed by the Secretary for purposes of this subparagraph.

“(D) Efforts to recoup overpayments are—

“(i) not accompanied by threats of litigation, unless the responsible plan fiduciary reasonably believes it could prevail in a civil action brought in Federal or State court to recoup the overpayments, and

“(ii) not made through a collection agency or similar third party, unless the participant or beneficiary ignores or rejects efforts to recoup the overpayment following either a final judgment in Federal or State court or a settlement between the participant or beneficiary and the plan, in either case authorizing such recoupment.

“(E) Recoupment of past overpayments to a participant is not sought from any beneficiary of the participant, including a spouse, surviving spouse, former spouse, or other beneficiary.

“(F) Recoupment may not be sought if the first overpayment occurred more than 3 years before the participant or beneficiary is first notified in writing of the error.

“(G) A participant or beneficiary from whom recoupment is sought is entitled to contest all or part of the recoupment pursuant to the plan's claims procedures.

“(H) In determining the amount of recoupment to seek, the responsible plan fiduciary may take into account the hardship that recoupment likely would impose on the participant or beneficiary.

“(5) EFFECT OF CULPABILITY.—Subparagraphs (A) through (F) of paragraph (4) shall not apply to protect a participant or beneficiary who is culpable. For purposes of this paragraph, a participant or beneficiary is culpable if the individual bears responsibility for the overpayment (such as through misrepresentations or omissions that led to the overpayment), or if the individual knew, or had good reason to know under the circumstances, that the benefit payment or payments were materially in excess of the correct amount. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, an individual is not culpable merely because the individual believed the benefit payment or payments were or might be in excess of the correct amount, if the individual raised that question with an authorized plan representative and was told the payment or payments were not in excess of the correct amount. With respect to a culpable participant or beneficiary, efforts to recoup overpayments shall not be made through threats of litigation, unless a lawyer for the plan could make the representations required under Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure if the litigation were brought in Federal court.”

(b) OVERPAYMENTS UNDER INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—

(1) QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 414 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by this preceding provisions of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(bb) SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO BENEFIT OVERPAYMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A plan shall not fail to be treated as described in clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of section 219(g)(5)(A) (and shall not fail to be treated as satisfying the requirements of section 401(a) or 403) merely because—

“(A) the plan fails to obtain payment from any participant, beneficiary, employer, plan sponsor, fiduciary, or other party on account of any inadvertent benefit overpayment made by the plan, or

“(B) the plan sponsor amends the plan to increase past or future benefit payments to affected participants and beneficiaries in order to adjust for prior inadvertent benefit overpayments.

“(2) REDUCTION IN FUTURE BENEFIT PAYMENTS AND RECOVERY FROM RESPONSIBLE PARTY.—Paragraph (1) shall not fail to apply to a plan merely because, after discovering a benefit overpayment, such plan—

“(A) reduces future benefit payments to the correct amount provided for under the terms of the plan, or

“(B) seeks recovery from the person or persons responsible for such overpayment.

“(3) EMPLOYER FUNDING OBLIGATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection shall relieve an employer of any obligation imposed on it to make contributions to a plan to meet the minimum funding standards under sections 412 and 430 or to prevent or restore an impermissible forfeiture in accordance with section 411.

“(4) OBSERVANCE OF BENEFIT LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a plan to which paragraph (1) applies shall observe any limitations imposed on it by section 401(a)(17) or 415. The plan may enforce such limitations using any method approved by the Secretary of the Treasury for recouping benefits previously paid or allocations previously made in excess of such limitations.

“(5) COORDINATION WITH OTHER QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may issue regulations or other guidance of general applicability specifying how benefit overpayments and their recoupment or non-recoupment from a participant or beneficiary shall be taken into account for purposes of satisfying any re-

quirement applicable to a plan to which paragraph (1) applies.”

(2) ROLLOVERS.—Section 402(c) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(12) In the case of an inadvertent benefit overpayment from a plan to which section 414(bb)(1) applies that is transferred to an eligible retirement plan by or on behalf of a participant or beneficiary—

“(A) the portion of such overpayment with respect to which recoupment is not sought on behalf of the plan shall be treated as having been paid in an eligible rollover distribution if the payment would have been an eligible rollover distribution but for being an overpayment, and

“(B) the portion of such overpayment with respect to which recoupment is sought on behalf of the plan shall be permitted to be returned to such plan and in such case shall be treated as an eligible rollover distribution transferred to such plan by the participant or beneficiary who received such overpayment (and the plans making and receiving such transfer shall be treated as permitting such transfer).

In any case in which recoupment is sought on behalf of the plan but is disputed by the participant or beneficiary who received such overpayment, such dispute shall be subject to the claims procedures of the plan that made such overpayment, such plan shall notify the plan receiving the rollover of such dispute, and the plan receiving the rollover shall retain such overpayment on behalf of the participant or beneficiary (and shall be entitled to treat such overpayment as plan assets) pending the outcome of such procedures.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) CERTAIN ACTIONS BEFORE DATE OF ENACTMENT.—Plans, fiduciaries, employers, and plan sponsors are entitled to rely on—

(1) a good faith interpretation of then existing administrative guidance for inadvertent benefit overpayment recoupments and recoveries that commenced before the date of enactment of this Act, and

(2) determinations made before the date of enactment of this Act by the responsible plan fiduciary, in the exercise of its fiduciary discretion, not to seek recoupment or recovery of all or part of an inadvertent benefit overpayment.

In the case of a benefit overpayment that occurred prior to the date of enactment of this Act, any installment payments by the participant or beneficiary to the plan or any reduction in periodic benefit payments to the participant or beneficiary, which were made in recoupment of such overpayment and which commenced prior to such date, may continue after such date. Nothing in this subsection shall relieve a fiduciary from responsibility for an overpayment that resulted from a breach of its fiduciary duties.

SEC. 302. REDUCTION IN EXCISE TAX ON CERTAIN ACCUMULATIONS IN QUALIFIED RETIREMENT PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4974(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “50 percent” and inserting “25 percent”.

(b) REDUCTION IN EXCISE TAX ON FAILURES TO TAKE REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS.—Section 4974 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) REDUCTION OF TAX IN CERTAIN CASES.—

“(1) REDUCTION.—In the case of a taxpayer who—

“(A) corrects, during the correction window, a shortfall of distributions from an individual retirement plan which resulted in imposition of a tax under subsection (a), and

“(B) submits a return, during the correction window, reflecting such tax (as modified by this subsection), the first sentence of subsection (a) shall be applied by substituting ‘10 percent’ for ‘25 percent’.

“(2) CORRECTION WINDOW.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘correction window’ means the period of time beginning on the date on which the tax under subsection (a) is imposed with respect to a shortfall of distributions from an individual retirement plan, and ending on the earlier of—

“(A) the date on which the Secretary initiates an audit, or otherwise demands payment, with respect to the shortfall of distributions, or

“(B) the last day of the second taxable year that begins after the end of the taxable year in which the tax under subsection (a) is imposed.”.

(C) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 303. PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS FOR ASSET ALLOCATION FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall provide that, in the case of a designated investment alternative that contains a mix of asset classes, the administrator of a plan may, but is not required to, use a benchmark that is a blend of different broad-based securities market indices if—

(1) the blend is reasonably representative of the asset class holdings of the designated investment alternative;

(2) for purposes of determining the blend’s returns for 1-, 5-, and 10-calendar-year periods (or for the life of the alternative, if shorter), the blend is modified at least once per year to reflect changes in the asset class holdings of the designated investment alternative;

(3) the blend is furnished to participants and beneficiaries in a manner that is reasonably designed to be understandable; and

(4) each securities market index that is used for an associated asset class would separately satisfy the requirements of such regulation for such asset class.

(b) STUDY.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall deliver a report to the Committees on Finance and Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committees on Ways and Means and Education and Labor of the House of Representatives regarding the utilization, effectiveness, and participants’ understanding of the benchmarking requirements under this section.

SEC. 304. REVIEW AND REPORT TO CONGRESS RELATING TO REPORTING AND DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) STUDY.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation shall review the reporting and disclosure requirements as applicable to each such agency head, of—

(1) the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 applicable to pension plans (as defined in section 3(2) of such Act (29 U.S.C. 1002(2))); and

(2) the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 applicable to qualified retirement plans (as defined in section 4974(c) of such Code, without regard to paragraphs (4) and (5) of such section).

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, jointly, and

after consultation with a balanced group of participant and employer representatives, shall with respect to plans referenced in subsection (a) report on the effectiveness of the applicable reporting and disclosure requirements and make such recommendations as may be appropriate to the Committee on Education and Labor and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Committee on Finance of the Senate to consolidate, simplify, standardize, and improve such requirements so as to simplify reporting for such plans and ensure that plans can furnish and participants and beneficiaries timely receive and better understand the information they need to monitor their plans, plan for retirement, and obtain the benefits they have earned.

(2) ANALYSIS OF EFFECTIVENESS.—To assess the effectiveness of the applicable reporting and disclosure requirements, the report shall include an analysis, based on plan data, of how participants and beneficiaries are providing preferred contact information, the methods by which plan sponsors and plans are furnishing disclosures, and the rate at which participants and beneficiaries (grouped by key demographics) are receiving, accessing, understanding, and retaining disclosures.

(3) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—The agencies shall conduct appropriate surveys and data collection to obtain any needed information.

SEC. 305. ELIMINATING UNNECESSARY PLAN REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO UNENROLLED PARTICIPANTS.

(a) AMENDMENT OF EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Part 1 of subtitle B of subchapter I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 is amended by redesignating section 111 as section 112 and by inserting after section 110 the following new section:

“SEC. 111. ELIMINATING UNNECESSARY PLAN REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO UNENROLLED PARTICIPANTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, with respect to any individual account plan, no disclosure, notice, or other plan document (other than the notices and documents described in paragraphs (1) and (2)) shall be required to be furnished under this title to any unenrolled participant if the unenrolled participant receives—

“(1) an annual reminder notice of such participant’s eligibility to participate in such plan and any applicable election deadlines under the plan; and

“(2) any document requested by such participant that the participant would be entitled to receive notwithstanding this section.

“(b) UNENROLLED PARTICIPANT.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘unenrolled participant’ means an employee who—

“(1) is eligible to participate in an individual account plan;

“(2) has received—

“(A) the summary plan description pursuant to section 104(b), and

“(B) any other notices related to eligibility under the plan required to be furnished under this title, or the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, in connection with such participant’s initial eligibility to participate in such plan;

“(3) is not participating in such plan;

“(4) does not have an account balance in the plan; and

“(5) satisfies such other criteria as the Secretary of Labor may determine appropriate, as prescribed in guidance issued in consultation with the Secretary of Treasury.

For purposes of this section, any eligibility to participate in the plan following any pe-

riod for which such employee was not eligible to participate shall be treated as initial eligibility.

“(c) ANNUAL REMINDER NOTICE.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘annual reminder notice’ means a notice provided in accordance with section 2520.104b–1 of title 29, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation), which—

“(1) is furnished in connection with the annual open season election period with respect to the plan or, if there is no such period, is furnished within a reasonable period prior to the beginning of each plan year;

“(2) notifies the unenrolled participant of—

“(A) the unenrolled participant’s eligibility to participate in the plan; and

“(B) the key benefits and rights under the plan, with a focus on employer contributions and vesting provisions; and

“(3) provides such information in a prominent manner calculated to be understood by the average participant.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 is amended by striking the item relating to section 111 and by inserting after the item relating to section 110 the following new items:

“Sec. 111. Eliminating unnecessary plan requirements related to unenrolled participants.

“Sec. 112. Repeal and effective date.”.

(b) AMENDMENT OF INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986.—Section 414 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(cc) ELIMINATING UNNECESSARY PLAN REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO UNENROLLED PARTICIPANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, with respect to any defined contribution plan, no disclosure, notice, or other plan document (other than the notices and documents described in subparagraphs (A) and (B)) shall be required to be furnished under this title to any unenrolled participant if the unenrolled participant receives—

“(A) an annual reminder notice of such participant’s eligibility to participate in such plan and any applicable election deadlines under the plan, and

“(B) any document requested by such participant that the participant would be entitled to receive notwithstanding this subsection.

“(2) UNENROLLED PARTICIPANT.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘unenrolled participant’ means an employee who—

“(A) is eligible to participate in a defined contribution plan,

“(B) has received—

“(i) the summary plan description pursuant to section 104(b) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and

“(ii) any other notices related to eligibility under the plan and required to be furnished under this title, or the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, in connection with such participant’s initial eligibility to participate in such plan,

“(C) is not participating in such plan,

“(D) does not have an account balance in the plan, and

“(E) satisfies such other criteria as the Secretary of the Treasury may determine appropriate, as prescribed in guidance issued in consultation with the Secretary of Labor.

For purposes of this subsection, any eligibility to participate in the plan following any period for which such employee was not eligible to participate shall be treated as initial eligibility.

“(3) ANNUAL REMINDER NOTICE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘annual reminder notice’ means the notice described in section 111(c) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 306. RETIREMENT SAVINGS LOST AND FOUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF RETIREMENT SAVINGS LOST AND FOUND.—Part 5 of title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1341 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 523. RETIREMENT SAVINGS LOST AND FOUND.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall establish an online searchable database (to be managed by the Department of Labor in accordance with this section) to be known as the ‘Retirement Savings Lost and Found’. The Retirement Savings Lost and Found shall—

“(A) allow an individual to search for information that enables the individual to locate the administrator of any plan described in paragraph (2) with respect to which the individual is or was a participant or beneficiary, and provide contact information for the administrator of any such plan;

“(B) allow the Department of Labor to assist such an individual in locating any such plan of the individual; and

“(C) allow the Department of Labor to make any necessary changes to contact information on record for the administrator based on any changes to the plan due to merger or consolidation of the plan with any other plan, division of the plan into two or more plans, bankruptcy, termination, change in name of the plan, change in name or address of the administrator, or other causes.

The Retirement Savings Lost and Found established under this paragraph shall include information reported under this section and other relevant information obtained by the Department of Labor.

“(2) PLANS DESCRIBED.—A plan described in this paragraph is a plan to which the vesting standards of section 203 apply.

“(b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Retirement Savings Lost and Found established under subsection (a) shall provide individuals described in subsection (a)(1) only with the ability to search for information that enables the individual to locate the administrator and contact information for the administrator of any plan with respect to which the individual is or was a participant or beneficiary, sufficient to allow the individual to locate the individual’s plan in order to recover any benefit owing to the individual under the plan.

“(c) SAFEGUARDING PARTICIPANT PRIVACY AND SECURITY.—In establishing the Retirement Savings Lost and Found under subsection (a), the Department of Labor shall take all necessary and proper precautions to ensure that individuals’ plan information maintained by the Retirement Savings Lost and Found is protected.

“(d) DEFINITION OF ADMINISTRATOR.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘administrator’ has the meaning given such term in section 3(16)(A).

“(e) INFORMATION COLLECTION FROM PLANS.—Effective with respect to plan years beginning after the second December 31 occurring after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the administrator of a plan

to which the vesting standards of section 203 apply shall submit to the Department of Labor, at such time and in such form and manner as is prescribed in regulations—

“(1) the information described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section 6057(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

“(2) the information described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 6057(a)(2) of such Code;

“(3) the name and taxpayer identifying number of each participant or former participant in the plan—

“(A) who, during the current plan year or any previous plan year, was reported under section 6057(a)(2)(C) of such Code, and with respect to whom the benefits described in clause (ii) thereof were fully paid during the plan year;

“(B) with respect to whom any amount was distributed under section 401(a)(31)(B) of such Code during the plan year; or

“(C) with respect to whom a deferred annuity contract was distributed during the plan year;

“(4) in the case of a participant or former participant to whom paragraph (3) applies—

“(A) in the case of a participant described in subparagraph (B) thereof, the name and address of the designated trustee or issuer described in section 401(a)(31)(B)(i) of such Code and the account number of the individual retirement plan to which the amount was distributed; and

“(B) in the case of a participant described in subparagraph (C) thereof, the name and address of the issuer of such annuity contract and the contract or certificate number; and

“(5) such other information as the Secretary of Labor may require.

“(f) INFORMATION COLLECTION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—On request, the Secretary of Labor may access and receive such information collected by other Federal agencies as may be necessary and appropriate to perform work related to the Retirement Savings Lost and Found.

“(g) PROGRAM INTEGRITY AUDIT.—On an annual basis for each of the first 5 years beginning one year after the establishment of the database in subsection (a)(1) and every 5 years thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Labor shall conduct an audit of the administration of the Retirement Savings Lost and Found.”

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 522 the following:

“Sec. 523. Retirement Savings Lost and Found.”

SEC. 307. UPDATING DOLLAR LIMIT FOR MANDATORY DISTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 203(e)(1) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and sections 401(a)(31)(B)(ii) and 411(a)(11)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 are each amended by striking “\$5,000” and inserting “\$7,000”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to distributions made after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 308. EXPANSION OF EMPLOYEE PLANS COMPLIANCE RESOLUTION SYSTEM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary’s delegate (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”), any eligible inadvertent failure to comply with the rules applicable under section 401(a), 403(a), 403(b), 408(p), or 408(k) of such Code may be self-corrected under the Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System (as described in Revenue Procedure 2021–30,

or any successor guidance, and hereafter in this section referred to as the “EPCRS”), except to the extent that such failure was identified by the Secretary prior to any actions which demonstrate a commitment to implement a self-correction. Revenue Procedure 2021–30 is deemed amended as of the date of the enactment of this Act to provide that the correction period under section 9.02 of such Revenue Procedure (or any successor guidance) for an eligible inadvertent failure, except as otherwise provided under such Code or in regulations prescribed by the Secretary, is indefinite and has no last day, other than with respect to failures identified by the Secretary prior to any self-correction as described in the preceding sentence.

(b) LOAN ERRORS.—In the case of an eligible inadvertent failure relating to a loan from a plan to a participant—

(1) such failure may be self-corrected under subsection (a) according to the rules of section 6.07 of Revenue Procedure 2021–30 (or any successor guidance), including the provisions related to whether a deemed distribution must be reported on Form 1099-R, and

(2) the Secretary of Labor shall treat any such failure which is so self-corrected under subsection (a) as meeting the requirements of the Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program of the Department of Labor if, with respect to the violation of the fiduciary standards of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, there is a similar loan error eligible for correction under EPCRS and the loan error is corrected in such manner.

(c) EPCRS FOR IRAS.—The Secretary shall expand the EPCRS to allow custodians of individual retirement plans (as defined in section 7701(a)(37) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) to address eligible inadvertent failures with respect to an individual retirement plan (as so defined), including (but not limited to)—

(1) waivers of the excise tax which would otherwise apply under section 4974 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,

(2) under the self-correction component of the EPCRS, waivers of the 60-day deadline for a rollover where the deadline is missed for reasons beyond the reasonable control of the account owner, and

(3) rules permitting a nonspouse beneficiary to return distributions to an inherited individual retirement plan described in section 408(d)(3)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 in a case where, due to an inadvertent error by a service provider, the beneficiary had reason to believe that the distribution could be rolled over without inclusion in income of any part of the distributed amount.

(d) ADDITIONAL SAFE HARBORS.—The Secretary shall expand the EPCRS to provide additional safe harbor means of correcting eligible inadvertent failures described in subsection (a), including safe harbor means of calculating the earnings which must be restored to a plan in cases where plan assets have been depleted by reason of an eligible inadvertent failure.

(e) ELIGIBLE INADVERTENT FAILURE.—For purposes of this section—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the term “eligible inadvertent failure” means a failure that occurs despite the existence of practices and procedures which—

(A) satisfy the standards set forth in section 4.04 of Revenue Procedure 2021–30 (or any successor guidance), or

(B) satisfy similar standards in the case of an individual retirement plan.

(2) EXCEPTION.—The term “eligible inadvertent failure” shall not include any failure which is egregious, relates to the diversion

or misuse of plan assets, or is directly or indirectly related to an abusive tax avoidance transaction.

(f) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR CORRECTING ERRORS.—This section shall not apply to any failure unless the correction of such failure under this section is made in conformity with the general principles that apply to corrections of such failures under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, including regulations or other guidance issued thereunder and including those principles and corrections set forth in Revenue Procedure 2021-30 (or any successor guidance).”

SEC. 309. ELIMINATE THE “FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH” REQUIREMENT FOR GOVERNMENTAL SECTION 457(b) PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 457(b)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(4) which provides that compensation—
“(A) in the case of an eligible employer described in subsection (e)(1)(A), will be deferred only if an agreement providing for such deferral has been entered into before the compensation is currently available to the individual, and
“(B) in any other case, will be deferred for any calendar month only if an agreement providing for such deferral has been entered into before the beginning of such month.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 310. ONE-TIME ELECTION FOR QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION TO SPLIT-INTEREST ENTITY; INCREASE IN QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION LIMITATION.

(a) ONE-TIME ELECTION FOR QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION TO SPLIT-INTEREST ENTITY.—Section 408(d)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(F) ONE-TIME ELECTION FOR QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION TO SPLIT-INTEREST ENTITY.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A taxpayer may for a taxable year elect under this subparagraph to treat as meeting the requirement of subparagraph (B)(i) any distribution from an individual retirement account which is made directly by the trustee to a split-interest entity, but only if—

“(I) an election is not in effect under this subparagraph for a preceding taxable year,

“(II) the aggregate amount of distributions of the taxpayer with respect to which an election under this subparagraph is made does not exceed \$50,000, and

“(III) such distribution meets the requirements of clauses (iii) and (iv).

“(ii) SPLIT-INTEREST ENTITY.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the term ‘split-interest entity’ means—

“(I) a charitable remainder annuity trust (as defined in section 664(d)(1)), but only if such trust is funded exclusively by qualified charitable distributions,

“(II) a charitable remainder unitrust (as defined in section 664(d)(2)), but only if such unitrust is funded exclusively by qualified charitable distributions, or

“(III) a charitable gift annuity (as defined in section 501(m)(5)), but only if such annuity is funded exclusively by qualified charitable distributions and commences fixed payments of 5 percent or greater not later than 1 year from the date of funding.

“(iii) CONTRIBUTIONS MUST BE OTHERWISE DEDUCTIBLE.—A distribution meets the requirement of this clause only if—

“(I) in the case of a distribution to a charitable remainder annuity trust or a charitable remainder unitrust, a deduction for the entire value of the remainder interest in the

distribution for the benefit of a specified charitable organization would be allowable under section 170 (determined without regard to subsection (b) thereof and this paragraph), and

“(II) in the case of a charitable gift annuity, a deduction in an amount equal to the amount of the distribution reduced by the value of the annuity described in section 501(m)(5)(B) would be allowable under section 170 (determined without regard to subsection (b) thereof and this paragraph).

“(iv) LIMITATION ON INCOME INTERESTS.—A distribution meets the requirements of this clause only if—

“(I) no person holds an income interest in the split-interest entity other than the individual for whose benefit such account is maintained, the spouse of such individual, or both, and

“(II) the income interest in the split-interest entity is nonassignable.

“(v) SPECIAL RULES.—

“(I) CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS.—Notwithstanding section 664(b), distributions made from a trust described in subclause (I) or (II) of clause (i) shall be treated as ordinary income in the hands of the beneficiary to whom the annuity described in section 664(d)(1)(A) or the payment described in section 664(d)(2)(A) is paid.

“(II) CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES.—Qualified charitable distributions made to fund a charitable gift annuity shall not be treated as an investment in the contract for purposes of section 72(c).”

(b) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section 408(d)(8) of such Code, as amended by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(G) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2022, each of the dollar amounts in subparagraphs (A) and (F) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(I) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(II) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, determined by substituting ‘calendar year 2021’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(ii) ROUNDING.—If any dollar amount increased under clause (i) is not a multiple of \$1,000, such dollar amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$1,000.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to distributions made in taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 311. DISTRIBUTIONS TO FIREFIGHTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 72(t)(10) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “414(d)” and inserting “414(d) or a distribution from a plan described in clause (iii), (iv), or (vi) of section 402(c)(8)(B) to an employee who provides firefighting services”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of paragraph (10) of section 72(t) of such Code is amended by striking “IN GOVERNMENTAL PLANS” and inserting “AND PRIVATE SECTOR FIREFIGHTERS”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to distributions made after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 312. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN DISABILITY-RELATED FIRST RESPONDER RETIREMENT PAYMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after section 139B the following new section:

“SEC. 139C. CERTAIN DISABILITY-RELATED FIRST RESPONDER RETIREMENT PAYMENTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual who receives qualified first responder

retirement payments for any taxable year, gross income shall not include so much of such payments as do not exceed the annualized excludable disability amount with respect to such individual.

“(b) QUALIFIED FIRST RESPONDER RETIREMENT PAYMENTS.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified first responder retirement payments’ means, with respect to any taxable year, any pension or annuity which but for this section would be includable in gross income for such taxable year and which is received—

“(1) from a plan described in clause (iii), (iv), (v), or (vi) of section 402(c)(8)(B), and

“(2) in connection with such individual’s qualified first responder service.

“(c) ANNUALIZED EXCLUDABLE DISABILITY AMOUNT.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘annualized excludable disability amount’ means, with respect to any individual, the service-connected excludable disability amounts which are properly attributable to the 12-month period immediately preceding the date on which such individual attains retirement age.

“(2) SERVICE-CONNECTED EXCLUDABLE DISABILITY AMOUNT.—The term ‘service-connected excludable disability amount’ means periodic payments received by an individual which—

“(A) are not includable in such individual’s gross income under section 104(a)(1),

“(B) are received in connection with such individual’s qualified first responder service, and

“(C) terminate when such individual attains retirement age.

“(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR PARTIAL-YEAR PAYMENTS.—In the case of an individual who only receives service-connected excludable disability amounts properly attributable to a portion of the 12-month period described in paragraph (1), such paragraph shall be applied by multiplying such amounts by the ratio of 365 to the number of days in such period to which such amounts were properly attributable.

“(d) QUALIFIED FIRST RESPONDER SERVICE.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified first responder service’ means service as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, paramedic, or emergency medical technician.”

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 139B the following new item:

“Sec. 139C. Certain disability-related first responder retirement payments.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts received with respect to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2027.

SEC. 313. INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT PLAN STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR EXCISE TAX ON EXCESS CONTRIBUTIONS AND CERTAIN ACCUMULATIONS.

Section 6501(l) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT PLANS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of any tax imposed by section 4973 or 4974 in connection with an individual retirement plan, the return referred to in this section shall be the income tax return filed by the person on whom the tax under such section is imposed for the year in which the act (or failure to act) giving rise to the liability for such tax occurred.

“(B) RULE IN CASE OF INDIVIDUALS NOT REQUIRED TO FILE RETURN.—In the case of a person who is not required to file an income tax return for such year—

“(i) the return referred to in this section shall be the income tax return that such person would have been required to file but for the fact that such person was not required to file such return, and

“(ii) the 3-year period referred to in subsection (a) with respect to the return shall be deemed to begin on the date by which the return would have been required to be filed (excluding any extension thereof).”.

SEC. 314. REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE PAPER STATEMENTS IN CERTAIN CASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 105(a)(2) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1025(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(iv), by inserting “subject to subparagraph (E),” before “may be delivered”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) PROVISION OF PAPER STATEMENTS.—With respect to at least 1 pension benefit statement furnished for a calendar year with respect to an individual account plan under paragraph (1)(A), and with respect to at least 1 pension benefit statement furnished every 3 calendar years with respect to a defined benefit plan under paragraph (1)(B), such statement shall be furnished on paper in written form except—

“(i) in the case of a plan that furnishes such statement in accordance with section 2520.104b-1(c) of title 29, Code of Federal Regulations; or

“(ii) in the case of a plan that permits a participant or beneficiary to request that the statements referred to in the matter preceding clause (i) be furnished by electronic delivery, if the participant or beneficiary requests that such statements be delivered electronically and the statements are so delivered.”.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor shall, not later than December 31, 2022, update section 2520.104b-1(c) of title 29, Code of Federal Regulations, to provide that a plan may furnish the statements referred to in subparagraph (E) of section 105(a)(2) by electronic delivery only if, in addition to meeting the other requirements under the regulations—

(A) such plan furnishes each participant or beneficiary, including participants described in subparagraph (B), a one-time initial notice on paper in written form, prior to the electronic delivery of any pension benefit statement, of their right to request that all documents required to be disclosed under title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 be furnished on paper in written form; and

(B) such plan furnishes each participant who is separated from service with at least 1 pension benefit statement on paper in written form for each calendar year, unless, on election of the participant, the participant receives such statements electronically.

(2) OTHER GUIDANCE.—In implementing the amendment made by subsection (a) with respect to a plan that discloses required documents or statements electronically, in accordance with applicable guidance governing electronic disclosure by the Department of Labor (with the exception of section 2520.104b-1(c) of title 29, Code of Federal Regulations), the Secretary of Labor shall, not later than December 31, 2022, update such guidance to the extent necessary to ensure that—

(A) a participant or beneficiary under such a plan is permitted the opportunity to request that any disclosure required to be delivered on paper under applicable guidance by the Department of Labor shall be furnished by electronic delivery;

(B) each paper statement furnished under such a plan pursuant to the amendment shall include—

(i) an explanation of how to request that all such statements, and any other document required to be disclosed under title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, be furnished by electronic delivery; and

(ii) contact information for the plan sponsor, including a telephone number;

(C) the plan may not charge any fee to a participant or beneficiary for the delivery of any paper statements;

(D) each paper pension benefit statement shall identify each plan document required to be disclosed and shall include information about how a participant or beneficiary may access each such document;

(E) each document required to be disclosed that is furnished by electronic delivery under such a plan shall include an explanation of how to request that all such documents be furnished on paper in written form; and

(F) a plan is permitted to furnish a duplicate electronic statement in any case in which the plan furnishes a paper pension benefit statement.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to plan years beginning after December 31, 2023.

SEC. 315. SEPARATE APPLICATION OF TOP HEAVY RULES TO DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS COVERING EXCLUDIBLE EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 416(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(C) SEPARATE APPLICATION TO EMPLOYEES NOT MEETING AGE AND SERVICE REQUIREMENTS.—If employees not meeting the age or service requirements of section 410(a)(1) (without regard to subparagraph (B) thereof) are covered under a plan of the employer which meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A) and (B) separately with respect to such employees, such employees may be excluded from consideration in determining whether any plan of the employer meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A) and (B).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to plan years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 316. REPAYMENT OF QUALIFIED BIRTH OR ADOPTION DISTRIBUTION LIMITED TO 3 YEARS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 72(t)(2)(H)(v)(I) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “may make” and inserting “may, at any time during the 3-year period beginning on the day after the date on which such distribution was received, make”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the enactment of section 113 of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019.

SEC. 317. EMPLOYER MAY RELY ON EMPLOYEE CERTIFYING THAT DEEMED HARDSHIP DISTRIBUTION CONDITIONS ARE MET.

(a) CASH OR DEFERRED ARRANGEMENTS.—Section 401(k)(14) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION.—In determining whether a distribution is upon the hardship of an employee, the administrator of the plan may rely on a certification by the employee that the distribution is on account of a financial need of a type that is deemed in regulations prescribed by the Secretary to be an immediate and heavy financial need and that such distribution is not in excess of the amount required to satisfy such financial need.”.

(b) 403(b) PLANS.—

(1) CUSTODIAL ACCOUNTS.—Section 403(b)(7) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) EMPLOYEE CERTIFICATION.—In determining whether a distribution is upon the financial hardship of an employee, the administrator of the plan may rely on a certification by the employee that the distribution is on account of a financial need of a type that is deemed in regulations prescribed by the Secretary to be an immediate and heavy financial need and that such distribution is not in excess of the amount required to satisfy such financial need.”.

(2) ANNUITY CONTRACTS.—Section 403(b)(11) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following: “In determining whether a distribution is upon hardship of an employee, the administrator of the plan may rely on a certification by the employee that the distribution is on account of a financial need of a type that is deemed in regulations prescribed by the Secretary to be an immediate and heavy financial need and that such distribution is not in excess of the amount required to satisfy such financial need.”.

(c) 457(b) PLAN.—Section 457(d) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) PARTICIPANT CERTIFICATION.—In determining whether a distribution to a participant is made when the participant is faced with an unforeseeable emergency, the administrator of a plan maintained by an eligible employer described in subsection (e)(1)(A) may rely on a certification by the participant that the distribution is made when the participant is faced with unforeseeable emergency of a type that is described in regulations prescribed by the Secretary as an unforeseeable emergency and that the distribution is not in excess of the amount reasonably necessary to satisfy the emergency need.”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 318. PENALTY-FREE WITHDRAWALS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS FOR INDIVIDUALS IN CASE OF DOMESTIC ABUSE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 72(t)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(I) DISTRIBUTIONS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS IN CASE OF DOMESTIC ABUSE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Any eligible distribution to a domestic abuse victim.

“(ii) LIMITATION.—The aggregate amount which may be treated as an eligible distribution to a domestic abuse victim by any individual shall not exceed an amount equal to the lesser of—

“(I) \$10,000, or

“(II) 50 percent of the present value of the nonforfeitable accrued benefit of the employee under the plan.

“(iii) ELIGIBLE DISTRIBUTION TO A DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIM.—For purposes of this subparagraph—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—A distribution shall be treated as an eligible distribution to a domestic abuse victim if such distribution is from an applicable eligible retirement plan to an individual and made during the 1-year period beginning on any date on which the individual is a victim of domestic abuse by a spouse or domestic partner.

“(II) DOMESTIC ABUSE.—The term ‘domestic abuse’ means physical, psychological, sexual, emotional, or economic abuse, including efforts to control, isolate, humiliate, or intimidate the victim, or to undermine the victim’s ability to reason independently, including by means of abuse of the victim’s child or another family member living in the household.

“(iv) TREATMENT OF PLAN DISTRIBUTIONS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—If a distribution to an individual would (without regard to clause (ii)) be an eligible distribution to a domestic abuse victim, a plan shall not be treated as failing to meet any requirement of this title merely because the plan treats the distribution as an eligible distribution to a domestic abuse victim, unless the aggregate amount of such distributions from all plans maintained by the employer (and any member of any controlled group which includes the employer) to such individual exceeds the limitation under clause (ii).

“(II) CONTROLLED GROUP.—For purposes of subclause (I), the term ‘controlled group’ means any group treated as a single employer under subsection (b), (c), (m), or (o) of section 414.

“(v) AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED MAY BE REPAID.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Any individual who receives a distribution described in clause (i) may, at any time during the 3-year period beginning on the day after the date on which such distribution was received, make one or more contributions in an aggregate amount not to exceed the amount of such distribution to an applicable eligible retirement plan of which such individual is a beneficiary and to which a rollover contribution of such distribution could be made under section 402(c), 403(a)(4), 403(b)(8), 408(d)(3), or 457(e)(16), as the case may be.

“(II) LIMITATION ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO APPLICABLE ELIGIBLE RETIREMENT PLANS OTHER THAN IRAS.—The aggregate amount of contributions made by an individual under subclause (I) to any applicable eligible retirement plan which is not an individual retirement plan shall not exceed the aggregate amount of eligible distributions to a domestic abuse victim which are made from such plan to such individual. Subclause (I) shall not apply to contributions to any applicable eligible retirement plan which is not an individual retirement plan unless the individual is eligible to make contributions (other than those described in subclause (I)) to such applicable eligible retirement plan.

“(III) TREATMENT OF REPAYMENTS OF DISTRIBUTIONS FROM APPLICABLE ELIGIBLE RETIREMENT PLANS OTHER THAN IRAS.—If a contribution is made under subclause (I) with respect to an eligible distribution to a domestic abuse victim from an applicable eligible retirement plan other than an individual retirement plan, then the taxpayer shall, to the extent of the amount of the contribution, be treated as having received such distribution in an eligible rollover distribution (as defined in section 402(c)(4)) and as having transferred the amount to the applicable eligible retirement plan in a direct trustee to trustee transfer within 60 days of the distribution.

“(IV) TREATMENT OF REPAYMENTS FOR DISTRIBUTIONS FROM IRAS.—If a contribution is made under subclause (I) with respect to an eligible distribution to a domestic abuse victim from an individual retirement plan, then, to the extent of the amount of the contribution, such distribution shall be treated as a distribution described in section 408(d)(3) and as having been transferred to the applicable eligible retirement plan in a direct trustee to trustee transfer within 60 days of the distribution.

“(vi) DEFINITION AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this subparagraph:

“(I) APPLICABLE ELIGIBLE RETIREMENT PLAN.—The term ‘applicable eligible retirement plan’ means an eligible retirement plan (as defined in section 402(c)(8)(B)) other than a defined benefit plan.

“(II) EXEMPTION OF DISTRIBUTIONS FROM TRUSTEE TO TRUSTEE TRANSFER AND WITHHOLDING RULES.—For purposes of sections 401(a)(31), 402(f), and 3405, an eligible distribution to a domestic abuse victim shall

not be treated as an eligible rollover distribution.

“(III) DISTRIBUTIONS TREATED AS MEETING PLAN DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS; SELF-CERTIFICATION.—Any distribution which the employee or participant certifies as being an eligible distribution to a domestic abuse victim shall be treated as meeting the requirements of sections 401(k)(2)(B)(i), 403(b)(7)(A)(i), 403(b)(11), and 457(d)(1)(A).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to distributions made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 319. REFORM OF FAMILY ATTRIBUTION RULES.

(a) CONTROLLED GROUPS.—Section 414(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking “For purposes of” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR APPLYING FAMILY ATTRIBUTION.—For purposes of applying the attribution rules under section 1563 with respect to paragraph (1), the following rules apply:

“(A) Community property laws shall be disregarded for purposes of determining ownership.

“(B) Except as provided by the Secretary, stock of an individual not attributed under section 1563(e)(5) to such individual’s spouse shall not be attributed to such spouse by reason of section 1563(e)(6)(A).

“(C) Except as provided by the Secretary, in the case of stock in different corporations that is attributed to a child under section 1563(e)(6)(A) from each parent, and is not attributed to such parents as spouses under section 1563(e)(5), such attribution to the child shall not by itself result in such corporations being members of the same controlled group.

“(3) PLAN SHALL NOT FAIL TO BE TREATED AS SATISFYING THIS SECTION.—If the application of paragraph (2) causes two or more entities to be a controlled group, or to no longer be in a controlled group, such change shall be treated as a transaction to which section 410(b)(6)(C) applies.”

(b) AFFILIATED SERVICE GROUPS.—Section 414(m)(6)(B) of such Code is amended—

(1) by striking “OWNERSHIP.—In determining” and inserting the following: “OWNERSHIP.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In determining”, and

(2) by adding at the end the following new clauses:

“(ii) SPECIAL RULES FOR APPLYING FAMILY ATTRIBUTION.—For purposes of applying the attribution rules under section 318 with respect to clause (i), the following rules apply:

“(I) Community property laws shall be disregarded for purposes of determining ownership.

“(II) Except as provided by the Secretary, stock of an individual not attributed under section 318(a)(1)(A)(i) to such individual’s spouse shall not be attributed by reason of section 318(a)(1)(A)(ii) to such spouse from a child who has not attained the age of 21 years.

“(III) Except as provided by the Secretary, in the case of stock in different corporations that is attributed under section 318(a)(1)(A)(ii) to a child who has not attained the age of 21 years from each parent, and is not attributed to such parents as spouses under section 318(a)(1)(A)(i), such attribution to the child shall not by itself result in such corporations being members of the same affiliated service group.

“(iii) PLAN SHALL NOT FAIL TO BE TREATED AS SATISFYING THIS SECTION.—If the application of clause (ii) causes two or more entities

to be an affiliated service group, or to no longer be in an affiliated service group, such change shall be treated as a transaction to which section 410(b)(6)(C) applies.”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 320. AMENDMENTS TO INCREASE BENEFIT ACCRUALS UNDER PLAN FOR PREVIOUS PLAN YEAR ALLOWED UNTIL EMPLOYER TAX RETURN DUE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) RETROACTIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS THAT INCREASE BENEFIT ACCRUALS.—If—

“(A) an employer amends a stock bonus, pension, profit-sharing, or annuity plan to increase benefits accrued under the plan effective for the preceding plan year (other than increasing the amount of matching contributions (as defined in subsection (m)(4)(A))),

“(B) such amendment would not otherwise cause the plan to fail to meet any of the requirements of this subchapter, and

“(C) such amendment is adopted before the time prescribed by law for filing the return of the employer for a taxable year (including extensions thereof) during which such amendment is effective, the employer may elect to treat such amendment as having been adopted as of the last day of the plan year in which the amendment is effective.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 2023.

SEC. 321. RETROACTIVE FIRST YEAR ELECTIVE DEFERRALS FOR SOLE PROPRIETORS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(b)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following: “In the case of an individual who owns the entire interest in an unincorporated trade or business, and who is the only employee of such trade or business, any elective deferrals (as defined in section 402(g)(3)) under a qualified cash or deferred arrangement to which the preceding sentence applies, which are made by such individual before the time for filing the return of such individual for the taxable year (determined without regard to any extensions) ending after or with the end of the plan’s first plan year, shall be treated as having been made before the end of such first plan year.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 322. LIMITING CESSATION OF IRA TREATMENT TO PORTION OF ACCOUNT INVOLVED IN A PROHIBITED TRANSACTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(e)(2)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “such account ceases to be an individual retirement account” and inserting the following: “the amount involved (as defined in section 4975(f)(4)) in such transaction shall be treated as distributed to the individual”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 408(e)(2)(B) of such Code is amended to read as follows:

“(B) ACCOUNT TREATED AS DISTRIBUTING PORTION OF ASSETS USED IN PROHIBITED TRANSACTION.—In any case in which a portion of an individual retirement account is treated as distributed under subparagraph (A) as of the first day of any taxable year, paragraph (1) of subsection (d) applies as if there were a distribution on such first day in an amount equal to the fair market value of such portion, determined as of the date on which the

transaction prohibited by section 4975 occurs.”.

(A) by striking “ALL ITS ASSETS.—In any case” and all that follows through “by reason of subparagraph (A)” and inserting the following: “PORTION OF ASSETS USED IN PROHIBITED TRANSACTION.—In any case in which a portion of an individual retirement account is treated as distributed under subparagraph (A)”, and

(B) by striking “all assets in the account” and inserting “such portion”.

(2) Section 4975(c)(3) of such Code is amended by striking “the account ceases” and all that follows and inserting the following: “the portion of the account used in the transaction is treated as distributed under paragraph (2)(A) or (4) of section 408(e).”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 323. REVIEW OF PENSION RISK TRANSFER INTERPRETIVE BULLETIN.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall—

(1) review section 2509.95–1 of title 29, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to the fiduciary standards under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 when selecting an annuity provider for a defined benefit pension plan) to determine whether amendments to such section are warranted; and

(2) report to Congress on the findings of such review, including an assessment of any risk to participants.

TITLE IV—TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS

SEC. 401. AMENDMENTS RELATING TO SETTING EVERY COMMUNITY UP FOR RETIREMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2019.

(a) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) AMENDMENTS RELATING TO SECTION 103.—

(A) Section 401(k)(12)(G) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “the requirements under subparagraph (A)(i)” and inserting “the contribution requirements under subparagraph (B) or (C)”.

(B) Section 401(k)(13)(D)(iv) of such Code is amended by striking “and (F)” and inserting “and (G)”.

(C) Section 401(m)(12) of such Code is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (A), by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C), and by inserting after subparagraph (A) (as so amended) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) meets the notice requirements of subsection (k)(13)(E), and”.

(2) AMENDMENT RELATING TO SECTION 112.—Section 401(k)(15)(B)(i)(II) of such Code is amended by striking “subsection (m)(2)” and inserting “paragraphs (2), (11), and (12) of subsection (m)”.

(3) AMENDMENT RELATING TO SECTION 114.—Section 401(a)(9)(C)(iii) of such Code is amended by striking “employee to whom clause (i)(II) applies” and inserting “employee (other than an employee to whom clause (i)(II) does not apply by reason of clause (ii))”.

(4) AMENDMENT RELATING TO SECTION 116.—Section 4973(b) of such Code is amended by adding at the end of the flush matter the following: “Such term shall not include any designated nondeductible contribution (as defined in subparagraph (C) of section 408(o)(2)) which does not exceed the nondeductible limit under subparagraph (B) thereof by reason of an election under section 408(o)(5).”.

(5) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall take effect as if included in the section of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019 to which the amendment relates.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 408(o)(5)(A) of such Code is amended by striking “subsection (b)” and inserting “section 219(b)”.

(2) Section 72(t)(2)(H)(vi)(IV) of such Code is amended by striking “403(b)(7)(A)(ii)” and inserting “403(b)(7)(A)(i)”.

TITLE V—ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 501. PROVISIONS RELATING TO PLAN AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If this section applies to any retirement plan or contract amendment—

(1) such retirement plan or contract shall be treated as being operated in accordance with the terms of the plan during the period described in subsection (b)(2)(A); and

(2) except as provided by the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary’s delegate), such retirement plan shall not fail to meet the requirements of section 411(d)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and section 204(g) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 by reason of such amendment.

(b) AMENDMENTS TO WHICH SECTION APPLIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—This section shall apply to any amendment to any retirement plan or annuity contract which is made—

(A) pursuant to any amendment made by this Act or pursuant to any regulation issued by the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary of Labor (or a delegate of either such Secretary) under this Act; and

(B) on or before the last day of the first plan year beginning on or after January 1, 2024, or such later date as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe.

In the case of a governmental plan (as defined in section 414(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986), or an applicable collectively bargained plan, this paragraph shall be applied by substituting “2026” for “2024”. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term “applicable collectively bargained plan” means a plan maintained pursuant to 1 or more collective bargaining agreements between employee representatives and 1 or more employers ratified before the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) CONDITIONS.—This section shall not apply to any amendment unless—

(A) during the period—

(i) beginning on the date the legislative or regulatory amendment described in paragraph (1)(A) takes effect (or in the case of a plan or contract amendment not required by such legislative or regulatory amendment, the effective date specified by the plan); and

(ii) ending on the date described in paragraph (1)(B) (as modified by the second sentence of paragraph (1)) (or, if earlier, the date the plan or contract amendment is adopted),

the plan or contract is operated as if such plan or contract amendment were in effect; and

(B) such plan or contract amendment applies retroactively for such period.

(c) COORDINATION WITH OTHER PROVISIONS RELATING TO PLAN AMENDMENTS.—

(1) SECURE ACT.—Section 601(b)(1) of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act of 2019 is amended—

(A) by striking “January 1, 2022” in subparagraph (B) and inserting “January 1, 2024”, and

(B) by striking “substituting ‘2024’ for ‘2022.’” in the flush matter at the end and inserting “substituting ‘2026’ for ‘2024.’”.

(2) CARES ACT.—

(A) SPECIAL RULES FOR USE OF RETIREMENT FUNDS.—Section 2202(c)(2)(A) of the CARES Act is amended by striking “January 1, 2022” in clause (ii) and inserting “January 1, 2024”.

(B) TEMPORARY WAIVER OF REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS RULES FOR CERTAIN RE-

TIREMENT PLANS AND ACCOUNTS.—Section 2203(c)(2)(B)(i) of the CARES Act is amended—

(i) by striking “January 1, 2022” in subclause (II) and inserting “January 1, 2024”, and

(ii) by striking “substituting ‘2024’ for ‘2022.’” in the flush matter at the end and inserting “substituting ‘2026’ for ‘2024.’”.

(C) TAXPAYER CERTAINTY AND DISASTER TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2020.—Section 302(d)(2)(A) of the Taxpayer Certainty and Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2020 is amended by striking “January 1, 2022” in clause (ii) and inserting “January 1, 2024”.

TITLE VI—REVENUE PROVISIONS

SEC. 601. SIMPLE AND SEP ROTH IRAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking subsection (f).

(b) RULES RELATING TO SIMPLIFIED EMPLOYEE PENSIONS.—

(1) CONTRIBUTIONS.—Section 402(h)(1) of such Code is amended by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting “, and”, and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) in the case of any contributions pursuant to a simplified employer pension which are made to an individual retirement plan designated as a Roth IRA, such contribution shall not be excludable from gross income.”.

(2) DISTRIBUTIONS.—Section 402(h)(3) of such Code is amended by inserting “, or section 408A(d) in the case of an individual retirement plan designated as a Roth IRA” before the period at the end.

(3) ELECTION REQUIRED.—Section 408(k) of such Code is amended by redesignating paragraphs (7), (8), and (9) as paragraphs (8), (9), and (10), respectively, and by inserting the after paragraph (6) the following new paragraph:

“(7) ROTH CONTRIBUTION ELECTION.—An individual retirement plan which is designated as a Roth IRA shall not be treated as a simplified employee pension under this subsection unless the employee elects for such plan to be so treated (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may provide).”.

(c) RULES RELATING TO SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—

(1) ELECTION REQUIRED.—Section 408(p) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(11) ROTH CONTRIBUTION ELECTION.—An individual retirement plan which is designated as a Roth IRA shall not be treated as a simple retirement account under this subsection unless the employee elects for such plan to be so treated (at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may provide).”.

(2) ROLLOVERS.—Section 408A(e) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) SIMPLE RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS.—In the case of any payment or distribution out of a simple retirement account (as defined in section 408(p)) with respect to which an election has been made under section 408(p)(11) and to which 72(t)(6) applies, the term ‘qualified rollover contribution’ shall not include any payment or distribution paid into an account other than another simple retirement account (as so defined).”.

(d) COORDINATION WITH ROTH CONTRIBUTION LIMITATION.—Section 408A(c) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(7) COORDINATION WITH LIMITATION FOR SIMPLE RETIREMENT PLANS AND SEPS.—In the case of an individual on whose behalf contributions are made to a simple retirement account or a simplified employee pension,

the amount described in paragraph (2)(A) shall be increased by an amount equal to the contributions made on the individual's behalf to such account or pension for the taxable year, but only to the extent such contributions—

“(A) in the case of a simplified retirement account—

“(i) do not exceed the sum of the dollar amount in effect for the taxable year under section 408(p)(2)(A)(ii) and the employer contribution required under subparagraph (A)(iii) or (B)(i), as the case may be, of section 408(p)(2), and

“(ii) do not cause the elective deferrals (as defined in section 402(g)(3)) on behalf of such individual to exceed the limitation under section 402(g)(1) (taking into account any additional elective deferrals permitted under section 414(v)), or

“(B) in the case of a simplified employee pension, do not exceed the limitation in effect under section 408(j).”

(e) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 408A(d)(2)(B) of such Code is amended by inserting “, or employer in the case of a simple retirement account (as defined in section 408(p)) or simplified employee pension (as defined in section 408(k)),” after “individual's spouse”.

(f) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 602. HARDSHIP WITHDRAWAL RULES FOR 403(b) PLANS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(16) **SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO HARDSHIP WITHDRAWALS.**—For purposes of paragraphs (7) and (11)—

“(A) **AMOUNTS WHICH MAY BE WITHDRAWN.**—The following amounts may be distributed upon hardship of the employee:

“(i) Contributions made pursuant to a salary reduction agreement (within the meaning of section 3121(a)(5)(D)).

“(ii) Qualified nonelective contributions (as defined in section 401(m)(4)(C)).

“(iii) Qualified matching contributions described in section 401(k)(3)(D)(ii)(I).

“(iv) Earnings on any contributions described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii).

“(B) **NO REQUIREMENT TO TAKE AVAILABLE LOAN.**—A distribution shall not be treated as failing to be made upon the hardship of an employee solely because the employee does not take any available loan under the plan.”

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(1) Section 403(b)(7)(A)(i)(V) of such Code is amended by striking “in the case of contributions made pursuant to a salary reduction agreement (within the meaning of section 3121(a)(5)(D))” and inserting “subject to the provisions of paragraph (16)”.

(2) Paragraph (11) of section 403(b) of such Code, as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is amended—

(A) by striking “in” in subparagraph (B) and inserting “subject to the provisions of paragraph (16), in”, and

(B) by striking the penultimate sentence.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to plan years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 603. ELECTIVE DEFERRALS GENERALLY LIMITED TO REGULAR CONTRIBUTION LIMIT.

(a) **APPLICABLE EMPLOYER PLANS.**—Section 414(v)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following: “Except in the case of an applicable employer plan described in paragraph (6)(A)(iv), the preceding sentence shall only apply if contributions are designated Roth contributions (as defined in section 402A(c)(1)).”

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(1) Section 402(g)(1) of such Code is amended by striking subparagraph (C).

(2) Section 457(e)(18)(A)(ii) of such Code is amended by inserting “the lesser of any designated Roth contributions made by the participant to the plan or” before “the applicable dollar amount”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SEC. 604. OPTIONAL TREATMENT OF EMPLOYER MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS AS ROTH CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 402A(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3), by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (1), and by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

“(2) any designated Roth contribution which is made by the employer to the program on the employee's behalf, and on account of the employee's contribution, elective deferral, or (subject to the requirements of section 401(m)(13)) qualified student loan payment, shall be treated as a matching contribution for purposes of this chapter, except that such contribution shall not be excludable from gross income, and”

(b) **MATCHING INCLUDED IN QUALIFIED ROTH CONTRIBUTION PROGRAM.**—Section 402A(b)(1) of such Code is amended—

(1) by inserting “, or to have made on the employee's behalf,” after “elect to make”, and

(2) by inserting “, or of matching contributions which may otherwise be made on the employee's behalf,” after “otherwise eligible to make”.

(c) **DESIGNATED ROTH MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS.**—Section 402A(c)(1) of such Code is amended by inserting “or matching contribution” after “elective deferral”.

(d) **MATCHING CONTRIBUTION DEFINED.**—Section 402A(e) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) **MATCHING CONTRIBUTION.**—The term ‘matching contribution’ means—

“(A) any matching contribution described in section 401(m)(4)(A), and

“(B) any contribution to an eligible deferred compensation plan (as defined in section 457(b)) by an eligible employer described in section 457(e)(1)(A) on behalf of an employee and on account of such employee's elective deferral under such plan.”

(e) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

TITLE VII—BUDGETARY EFFECTS

SEC. 701. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House today, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BRADY) each will control 40 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

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

Madam Speaker, H.R. 2954 will help all Americans successfully save for a

secure retirement by expanding coverage and increasing retirement savings, simplifying the current retirement system and protecting Americans' retirement accounts.

Retirement security has consistently been one of my top priorities as chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means. Too many workers in this Nation reach retirement age without having the savings they need. In fact—and I hope people will listen to this number—it is estimated that up to 50 percent of the individuals in America who go to work every single day do not have enrollment in a qualified retirement plan. That means those households are at risk of not having enough to maintain their living standards in retirement.

We need to do more to encourage workers to begin planning for retirement earlier and we need to make saving considerably easier.

Last Congress, Mr. BRADY and I worked together on a bipartisan basis to do that by enacting the SECURE Act, one of the most significant retirement bills to become law in well over a decade.

Thanks to the SECURE Act, 4 million more Americans are now able to save for retirement through their employers, and as many as 700,000 new retirement accounts will be formed.

Last year, we built on this progress with the passage into law, my legislation, the Butch Lewis Act. After years of fighting for a solution to the multi-employer pension crisis, the Butch Lewis Act saved multiemployer pension plans from insolvency and secured the financial future of over a million workers and retirees who have played by the rules and made responsible savings decisions. Think of that and couple it with what we are about to do today with the guarantee of Social Security, and we will help to improve the opportunity for members of American families to have a secure retirement.

Madam Speaker, but more work needs to be done. That is why I am pleased the H.R. 2954, the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022, is before us today.

This bipartisan legislation—and by bipartisan, let me thank Mr. BRADY again for his good work on this legislation as well—will expand automatic enrollment in 401(k) plans by requiring 401(k), 403(b), and SIMPLE plans to automatically enroll participants upon becoming eligible, with the ability for employees to opt out of coverage—which I think, by the way, is not the best idea, but we do provide that option. Expansion of automatic enrollment will significantly increase participation in retirement savings plans at work.

H.R. 2954 also enhances the start-up credit, making it easier for small businesses to sponsor a retirement plan. And the legislation increases the required minimum distribution age to 75 and indexes the catch-up contribution limit for individual retirement accounts. These changes will make it

easier for American families to prepare for a financially secure retirement.

On a related note, I think it is important to highlight that U.S. defined contribution plans have created a unique reservoir of capital in the innovation economy. Retirement plans are investing in areas such as tech, financial services, digital commerce, and biotech. That means that workers' retirement assets are directly tying middle-class workers to our national innovation economy. That certainly is a win-win for all of us.

Madam Speaker, I am really pleased that Ranking Member BRADY and I were able to come together on a bipartisan basis to develop this important legislation. Once again, it passed the Committee on Ways and Means unanimously. Our efforts have resulted in an excellent product that has broad support from organizations representing diverse interests, including retirees, charitable organizations, financial services providers, police officers, small businesses, and employers. The list of specific supporters is too long to read but we can start with the American Red Cross, AARP, and many others, which we will submit for the RECORD. Hundreds of groups have endorsed this plan.

Let's work together to expand retirement savings in America.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join with my friend, Chairman RICH NEAL, in jointly reintroducing SECURE 2.0, which will help hardworking Americans approach retirement with both confidence and dignity.

For 5 years now, members of the Committee on Ways and Means have worked tirelessly together to ensure Americans have the resources to save for a secure retirement. A lot of hard work and negotiation has gotten us to this point, and I am grateful to Chairman NEAL for his commitment to get this bill across the finish line to the President's desk.

It is important to remember how far we have come in our joint efforts to help Americans better prepare for their long-term financial goals. Following the historic rewrite of our Tax Code with the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, Republicans moved toward building on this success for years to come.

That happened when the Republicans and Democrats worked together to develop and enact the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement Act, known as the SECURE Act, the most significant retirement legislation to become law in over a decade.

We made it easier for Main Street businesses to offer retirement plans to their workers by easing administrative burdens, cutting down on unnecessary and often costly paperwork.

The SECURE Act made significant improvements to our country's retire-

ment system. And today, we will do even more.

A recent AARP survey found that rising prices are taking a big toll on workers, making it difficult to cover everyday expenses or save for the future. In fact, with a 40-year high inflation, nearly a quarter of workers surveyed reported that their financial situation is worse today than it was last year.

A study also found that nearly 40 percent of workers said that they have no emergency savings, with one out of five reporting they have nothing saved for retirement. Nothing.

□ 1615

Both groups peg rising prices of everyday goods as the biggest barrier for planning for their financial future.

Ensuring Americans have the resources they need for a prosperous retirement is a bipartisan priority. And with American families' paychecks falling further behind through rising prices, it has really never been more important for Congress to help workers get back on track with their retirement plans.

With this bill we build on the landmark provisions in the SECURE Act, enabling more workers, especially those with low income and modest income, to begin saving earlier and giving them piece of mind as they plan for the future.

Our bill, SECURE 2.0 improves workers' long-term financial wellbeing by helping more Americans save for retirement at every stage of their life. SECURE 2.0 contains more than 20 provisions sponsored or cosponsored by Republicans and Democrats in stand-alone legislation.

By providing flexibility, for example, we make it easier for local businesses to tailor retirement plans to best fit the needs of their workers. These reforms help Americans not only save earlier in their careers, but helps families save longer as well.

We expand access to workplace retirement by increasing the incentives for businesses, especially small businesses, to create new plans or join groups of plans while sharing the cost of administration.

To further help small businesses shoulder the burden of creating a new plan, our bill matches employer contributions with the new business tax credit. That can help a small business match up to the first \$1,000 in matching contributions for that work.

For those Americans who are further along in their career or already in retirement, this bill raises the amount these workers can contribute to catch up on their retirement savings as they near retirement, doubling it to \$10,000 a year. Because we want Americans to save throughout their lifetime, together we increase the age at which retirement plan distributions become mandatory to age 75 over time from 72 today.

These changes are especially important because many workers find them-

selves making more at the end of their careers and are more open to focusing on retirement. Those already in retirement often worry about the effects of mandatory taxable distributions on their long-term financial plans.

Another recent study by Edward Jones and Morning Consult found 57 percent of Americans who prioritize paying off a student loan are now behind on their schedule on saving for retirement. Our bill allows employers to essentially match their workers' student loan repayments with contributions to the workers' retirement plan.

This means from workers struggling to make ends meet under crushing student debt and rising prices, they are able to tackle both, paying off their debt and getting help in working toward a secure retirement.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Chairman NEAL and the members of the Ways and Means Committee from both parties for their long-term and diligent efforts. Together, we will ensure more hardworking Americans are confident in their retirement.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. THOMPSON), a real champion of retirement savings.

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman NEAL and Ranking Member BRADY for their hard work on this important piece of legislation.

The Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2021 is bipartisan legislation that gives workers the tools they need to retire with the financial stability they deserve and worked so hard to obtain.

Importantly, this legislation allows individuals to pay down a student loan instead of contributing to a 401(k) plan while still receiving an employer match in their retirement plan.

I have heard from thousands of individuals in my district who are facing an overwhelming amount of student loan debt. These are people who are struggling to start their careers while also trying to pay off their loans. The SECURE Act provides the opportunity to make payments on their student loans now while also investing in their future.

I am proud to support this legislation that we are hearing today, and I thank you for this great bipartisan bill that you have put before us.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. SMITH), the Republican leader of the Trade Subcommittee.

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I am glad we are finally considering SECURE 2.0, which will help every American family save. The Savers Credit improvements in this bill will help low-income families start putting aside money for the future, certainly a key to getting out of poverty.

The enhanced credit for small employers offering retirement plans will

help more businesses offer plans, an important factor in recruiting and retaining talent.

New tools—like allowing employers to match workers' student loan repayments with retirement contributions—eliminate the need for young workers to choose between paying their debt or saving for retirement.

Provisions like enhanced catch-up contributions and delaying required minimum distributions until age 75 will help older workers have more control as they near retirement. This is a strong package for savers of all ages.

Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman and the ranking member for their efforts to get this to the floor and I certainly urge support.

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON), a real champion of retirement savings, including all things Social Security.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman NEAL and Leader BRADY—what an outstanding example of bipartisan cooperation. But especially as it relates to what has amounted to a financial retirement crisis, this clearly will help aid in the work that has already been done by Chairman NEAL with regard to both the SECURES Act and the Butch Lewis Act, but this even adds more flexibility and also provides an automatic opportunity for people to put money forward.

I went to the Aetna School of Insurance and they said there are three legs on this table: personal savings, pension, and Social Security. This helps address the pension issue as no one can. Again, I want to commend Mr. NEAL and Mr. BRADY for their efforts, and point out that we have another leg on that stool that is called Social Security that Congress hasn't addressed in more than 50 years. I commend the chairman as we go through the process of markup on that as well.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SCHWEIKERT).

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Madam Speaker, it is neat to see us actually have something that we are all doing together.

A bit of trivia, at the end of this decade, 22 percent of our population will be 65 or older. Retirement security is—besides just the moral imperative—it is going to be the financial, it is going to be the driver of almost all sovereign debt.

Look, there are a couple dozen provisions in this legislation, and in many ways they look like tinkering, but they come together. If you happen to have a profession where you have a mandatory retirement age that might be 60, 65, the ability to do catch-up—to be a small business and knowing what you can contribute to your 401(k) when you are doing your taxes instead of trying to guess at the end of the year—these things all come together.

We are also going to have to look forward in the coming year and deal with

the reality of what did inflation do to the cost of future retirement? The taxation on, really, gain, that isn't purchasing power, but is inflation. This is a terrific first step and it is neat to have us do something together.

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND), another real champion of retirement savings.

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of Securing a Strong Retirement Act, or SECURE 2.0, as it is being referred to. This falls on the heels of passage of the SECURE Act roughly 2 years ago, to try to make it easier for individuals to save for their retirement security, especially for small businesses to offer retirement savings plans for their employees, which has traditionally been a big black hole when it comes to individual savings.

I am proud that a few of the provisions in this legislation have been based on legislation I have been working on throughout the years with my friend and colleague from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY). We offered legislation that would extend the startup tax credit to small employers that joined multiemployer plans.

Again, with Mr. KELLY, this allows 403(b) plans to participate in MEPS, including pooled employer plans, or PEPS, as they are known under the SECURE Act.

Finally, there has been an anomaly in the tax code that we are addressing in part trying to make it easier for S corporations to be able to convert to an ESOP model, or an employee share ownership plan. It is a very good business model, but we are trying to bring that on par with C corporations.

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

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman.

Mr. KIND. This has been a great bipartisan effort in committee. Again, I thank the chairman and the ranking member for creating the environment not just with today's legislation, but the previous SECURE Act that we passed roughly 2 years ago, and the ongoing work that we will have.

My friend from Arizona is right, with 70 million baby boomers beginning their massive retirement, we have to figure out ways to make it easier for individuals to save for their own retirement and for future generations to participate and get a head start. I believe this legislation accomplishes that.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD).

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of SECURE 2.0. As a member of the Ways and Means Committee, I thank Chairman NEAL and Ranking Member BRADY for their bipartisan work on this legislation that will help workers save for retirement at all stages of their career and protect American futures.

This bill includes two key provisions that I was proud to work on, Retirement Parity for Student Loans Act and the Public Service Retirement Fairness Act.

The Retirement Parity for Student Loans Act allows workers to make student loan payments while receiving employer matching contributions into their retirement plan. This will allow individuals to pay down student loan debt and save for retirement at the same time.

The Public Service Retirement Fairness Act creates parity between the public and private sectors, ensuring public-sector and nonprofit retirement-saving programs have the same access to low-cost investments as private sector retirement plans.

SECURE 2.0 supports workers at all stages to save for retirement, helps small businesses create retirement plan options, and builds on bipartisan success of the SECURE Act passed last Congress.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues that worked in a bipartisan effort for their work on this vital legislation, and I urge my colleagues to vote "yes".

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU), another real champion of retirement savings.

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2954, the Securing a Strong Retirement Act. This bill continues the work the Ways and Means Committee began 2 years ago with the SECURE Act to expand access to retirement savings and enhance retirement readiness for millions of Americans across the country.

I am especially proud of provisions drawn from my bill, the Encouraging Americans to Save Act, that strengthens the Saver's Credit. This credit provides millions of low- and middle-income taxpayers with an incentive to save for retirement each year. But currently it is split into three tiers of 10, 20, or 50 percent.

This legislation not only directs the IRS to promote the credit to more communities, including those with limited English proficiency, but also makes it both simpler and more generous by setting it at 50 percent for all eligible taxpayers.

Madam Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote on this bill.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. ESTES).

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of SECURE 2.0. Since my time as Kansas State Treasurer and a member of the Ways and Means Committee, increased retirement security for Americans of all ages has been a major policy priority for me.

Building on our great success with the SECURE Act in 2019, SECURE 2.0 includes a number of provisions for new employees and near-retirees, like my bill to improve the required minimum distribution rules, and my bill that

would make it easier for employees to save for retirement and pay off their student loans.

Employers who are part of an employee stock ownership plan—like the Kansas workers I have talked to at Inland Truck Parts, Conco, and others—benefit from the bipartisan ESOP provisions in SECURE 2.0.

The bill also ensures public-sector and nonprofit retirement programs have the same access to low-cost retirements, just like for-profit retirement plans.

It allows individuals who have decided to pay down a student loan instead of contributing to a 401(k) to still receive an employee match for their retirement plans.

These commonsense retirement security reforms deserve to be law, and I strongly encourage my colleagues to vote “yes” on SECURE 2.0.

□ 1630

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. PANETTA), another real champion of Social Security and retirement.

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2954, the SECURE 2.0.

This bipartisan legislation would make it easier for something that has been getting harder and harder, saving for retirement for workers and working families.

I commend the chairman and the ranking member for their very, very hard work, and I thank them for including two of my bipartisan bills in SECURE 2.0.

My Public Service Retirement Fairness Act ensures that retirement savings programs for nonprofits and the public sector have the same access to low-cost investments as private-sector plans.

This bill would greatly benefit many teachers and nonprofit employees who serve in my district and also have to spend an inordinate amount on housing by providing them access to affordable retirement plans.

My Family Attribution Modernization Act, which I worked on with my good friend, JODEY ARRINGTON, is also included in SECURE 2.0.

This bill would modernize outdated family attribution rules so that women-owned businesses and other small businesses in community property States, like California, have more flexibility and independence.

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

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, these bills, along with many, many other provisions in this bipartisan legislation, are commonsense solutions for the futures and the retirements of working families. That is why, Madam Speaker, I urge a “yes” vote for SECURE 2.0.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I am proud to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLY).

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I think we should mark this down, March 29, 2022, the day that the people who were elected and came to represent our folks back home actually got together and did something on the House floor that was good for everybody in America.

We are not firing bullets back and forth at each other. We are saying: Do you know what? Isn't it great, when we work together, what we can get done.

Mr. KIND and I were walking over together, and he said: MIKE, I am really happy this happened because there is a lot in there that we both worked on, and it looks like it is going to put a little more gold in our retirees' pockets when they hit their golden years.

But this is one thing the press will never cover. They will never say: My God, these Republicans and Democrats got together for American workers to make sure that they go into retirement and lay their heads on pillows at night and sleep because they know they have enough to get through the rest of their lives.

What a moment. What a moment. I have to tell you, I am so proud to be a part of this. I thank Mr. BRADY and Mr. NEAL.

For both sides of the aisle, why don't we use this as an example as we move forward as to what the heck we are supposed to do for the people who sent us here to represent them?

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

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman.

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank Kara Getz, from Chairman NEAL's staff, and Payson Peabody, from Ranking Member BRADY's staff, for working together on this. They get so little credit for all the midnight oil they burn to make sure that we can get legislation done. I thank them so much, not just for me but for all the retirees and future retirees we have in this country.

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, might I inquire of the ranking member how many more speakers he might have.

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I have a few more.

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

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I am really proud to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY).

Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of SECURE Act 2.0.

When our military members pledge a commitment to the United States, we promise, in return, to care for them and their families. As the proud Representative of close to 90,000 veterans in North Carolina, I am committed to supporting strong legislation that im-

proves the lives of our veterans and their families.

When servicemembers change base assignments, their spouses often relocate with them, putting their own careers at stake and on hold. The SECURE Act prioritizes military family retirements by providing a tax credit for small employers that make more benefit plans available for military spouses.

Incentivizing job creators to hire and retain military spouses is an important step to strengthening military family retirement savings.

I am proud of the bipartisan effort by the Ways and Means Committee to lead the charge to support our military families, who so often face many uphill challenges in attaining retirement security. We must always fight for those who have given us so much to keep our safety.

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

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, first, I include in the RECORD a number of letters and documents in support of SECURE 2.0.

Among a litany of letters advocating for swift passage, there are four I would like to include. These letters are led by the Employee-owned S Corporations of America, the American Benefits Council, the American Retirement Association, and the Investment Company Institute, all of which were invaluable members in crafting this bipartisan legislation.

EMPLOYEE-OWNED
S CORPORATIONS OF AMERICA,
Washington, DC, March 24, 2022.

Hon. RICHARD NEAL,
Chairman, Committee on Ways & Means,
Washington, DC.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Ranking Member, Committee on Ways & Means,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NEAL AND RANKING MEMBER BRADY: Employee-Owned S Corporations of America (“ESCA”) applauds your efforts to advance the bipartisan Securing a Strong Retirement Act. We are particularly supportive of the inclusion of a key provision reflecting themes of legislation introduced by Committee members Ron Kind and Jason Smith to encourage the creation of more private, employee-owned businesses. We thank you for recognizing the value of S corporation ESOPs to worker retirement savings, and for reflecting that recognition in your important legislation.

ESCA is the national voice for employee-owned S corporations, and its exclusive mission is to preserve and promote employee-owned S corporations and the benefits provided to their employee-owners. Most S corporation employee stock ownership plans (“S ESOPs”) are 100-percent owned by their employees. Our S ESOP companies engage in a broad spectrum of business activities ranging from manufacturing to construction to playing critical supporting roles such as retail grocery stores and other essential functions to America's infrastructure.

As you know well, S corporation ESOPs were created 25 years ago with significant bipartisan support from Congress. Today S ESOPs accomplish exactly what Congress intended: they create jobs, generate economic activity, and promote retirement savings.

Both specifically for S ESOP employees and more generally, your bill will increase retirement savings opportunities at a time when more than 30 percent of Americans do not have access to a workplace retirement plan and 20 percent of Americans have no retirement savings at all. By contrast, we note, the vast majority of S ESOP companies offer their workers two retirement plans—typically the ESOP plus a 401(k). This focus on retirement security is a hallmark of employee-owned companies.

A new study conducted by the National Center for Employee Ownership found that, heading into and during the pandemic, employees at S ESOP companies had greater job retention and retirement security, including more than twice the average total retirement savings of Americans who work at non-ESOP companies.

We appreciate you recognizing the value of having more S corporation ESOP companies and look forward to working with you to continue to identify more ways to enable more working Americans to be employee-owners.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

STEPHANIE SILVERMAN,
President and CEO.

DEAR PAIGE: I am writing on behalf of the American Benefits Council to express our support for bipartisan retirement security legislation that will soon be considered on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. This important legislation follows in the tradition of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act of 2019.

The forthcoming “SECURE 2.0” bill reflects a thoroughness and thoughtfulness that provides enormous value to the American worker by expanding access to workplace retirement plans and removing barriers to financial well-being. We have recently completed a study of the enormously beneficial impact of the past 25 years of bipartisan retirement legislation:

Millions of Americans are facing short-term challenges that need critical attention. But it is also important to continue our work on enhancing retirement security because of the harmful effect of the pandemic on savings and retirement programs, which were facing challenges even before the pandemic. As we rebuild our economy, part of that effort needs to include even greater attention to the role of retirement programs that have been jeopardized. We look forward to continued progress in the field of retirement security and stand ready to assist in those efforts.

LYNN DUDLEY,
*Senior Vice President,
Global Retirement
and Compensation
Policy, American
Benefits Council.*

DIANN HOWLAND,
*Vice President, Legis-
lative Affairs, Amer-
ican Benefits Coun-
cil.*

AMERICAN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION,
Arlington, VA, March 28, 2022.
Re Letter of Support for the Securing a
Strong Retirement Act of 2022.

Hon. RICHARD NEAL,
*Chairman, Ways & Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. BOBBY SCOTT,
*Chairman, Education & Labor Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
*Ranking Member, Ways & Means Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,
*Ranking Member, Education & Labor Com-
mittee,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN NEAL, RANKING MEMBER BRADY, CHAIRMAN SCOTT, AND RANKING MEMBER FOXX: On behalf of the over 30,000 members of the American Retirement Association (ARA), we hereby express our support for the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022. We commend you for championing this important piece of bipartisan retirement legislation.

The ARA is the coordinating entity for its five underlying affiliate organizations representing the full spectrum of America’s private retirement system—the American Society of Enrolled Actuaries (ASEA), the American Society of Pension Professionals and Actuaries (ASPPA), the National Association of Plan Advisors (NAPA), the National Tax-Deferred Savings Association (NTSA), and the Plan Sponsor Council of America (PSCA). The ARA’s members include organizations of all sizes and industries across the nation who sponsor and/or support retirement saving plans and are dedicated to expanding on the success of employer-sponsored plans. The ARA and its underlying affiliate organizations are diverse but united in their common dedication to the success of America’s private retirement system.

The Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022 (SSRA) builds upon the success of the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act to make it even easier for small businesses to adopt and maintain a workplace-based retirement savings plan. The SSRA further increases the small employer pension plan start-up credit to cover 100 percent of the cost to small employers to implement a 401(k) plan for the first three years. The SSRA creates an additional new credit to encourage small employers to make direct contributions to their 401(k) plan for their employees, offsetting up to \$1,000 of these employer contributions for each participating employee.

The SSRA contains several policy items championed by the American Retirement Association. The first item gives employers more time to adopt beneficial discretionary retirement plan amendments up until the due date of the employer’s tax return. This new deadline to adopt a beneficial discretionary amendment is consistent with the deadline to adopt a new retirement plan that was provided for in the SECURE Act. This provision gives employers with existing retirement plans the flexibility to make their 401(k) plans more generous to rank and file workers after the end of the year. The second item corrects and modernizes the outdated and unfair family attribution rules to ensure women business owners are not penalized if they happen to have minor children or live in a community property state. A third item would broaden the scope of the SECURE Act’s pooled employer plan or open multiple employer plan provisions to allow unrelated public education and other non-profit employers to join a single 403(b) plan.

The SSRA also creates a retirement plan matching program to encourage employees

to pay off student loans. The latest version of this program addresses a problem that ARA identified about the impact this new retirement plan design feature could have with the special test that applies to 401(k) plans called the average deferral percentage (ADP) test. Since that problem has been fixed in this bill, small businesses will now not have to worry that this benefit puts their retirement plan testing at risk.

While the SSRA has many good provisions, it is not perfect. The ARA remains concerned about the provision in the bill (Section 314) that would require at least one participant benefit statement be mailed in a paper format given the impact on the environment as well as plan and participant costs. ARA supports the provision that would direct the Department of Labor, Treasury, and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to issue a report recommending ways to consolidate, simplify, standardize, and improve the various retirement plan disclosure requirements. The ARA will continue to work with Congress on ways to ensure retirement plan participants are effectively accessing the required disclosures.

But on balance the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022 builds upon the success of the workplace-based retirement system and is yet another example of the extensive history of bipartisan legislating in this critical policy area. The ARA thanks Chairman Neal, Ranking Member Brady, Chairman Scott, and Ranking Member Foxx for your hard work and results to improve and enhance the retirement savings of the American workforce and would urge Congress to enact this bill into law.

Sincerely,

BRIAN H. GRAFF, Esq. APM,
*Executive Director/CEO,
American Retirement Association.*

INVESTMENT COMPANY INSTITUTE,
Washington, DC, March 28, 2022.

Re. Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022.

Hon. RICHARD NEAL,
*Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and
Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. BOBBY SCOTT,
*Chairman, Committee on Education and Labor,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*
Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,
*Ranking Member, Committee on Education and
Labor
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMEN NEAL AND SCOTT AND RANKING MEMBERS BRADY AND FOXX: On behalf of the Investment Company Institute (ICI), I commend your leadership on the bipartisan Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022 or SECURE Act 2.0, which would expand access to retirement savings plans and improve Americans’ ability to save.

The ICI urges the House of Representatives to pass this landmark bipartisan bill as soon as possible and work with the Senate on a unified package of retirement-savings reforms.

The ICI notes that the bill would:

Allow savers to keep their retirement savings invested longer by increasing the age for required minimum distributions from retirement accounts to 75 from 72;

Ensure that workers get the same “bang for their buck” for their retirement saving efforts over time by indexing individual retirement account (IRA) catch-up contribution limits to inflation;

Broaden the ability of employers of various sizes, across different industries to band together in a new type of multiple-employer

retirement plan—called a “pooled employer plan” or “PEP”—created by the original SECURE Act;

Streamline and clarify information retirement savers receive concerning increasingly popular target date funds by allowing use of a single benchmark for the funds that more appropriately tracks its asset allocation;

Allow employer matching contributions based on student loan payments; and

Simplify and clarify more than a dozen retirement plan rules.

We hope that the legislation can be further improved by allowing 403(b) plans to invest in collective investment trusts.

We wholeheartedly support these provisions and believe your legislation is vitally important to the country and the financial well-being of millions of Americans. SECURE Act 2.0 would strengthen our nation's retirement-savings system by expanding coverage, further increasing savings opportunities, and streamlining administrative rules. We look forward to seeing its enactment into law.

Sincerely,

ERIC J. PAN,
President & CEO,
Investment Company Institute.

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

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, we are waiting on one more speaker. If Mr. BRADY has anybody else he wants to thank, that would be great.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRADY. Actually, never make that offer to a sitting Member of Congress.

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

This has been awfully good work on behalf of the bipartisan Members of Congress on an issue they believe in. But Chairman NEAL and I are both blessed to have incredibly hardworking personnel, a professional team.

Madam Speaker, I thank Payson Peabody and Derek Theurer, from our tax subcommittee team, for the work that they put in, along with Chairman NEAL's folks, to develop this legislation, fine-tune the legislation, make adjustments as it comes to the floor, and, again, put it in the format and with the right designs that we think will do great things for the American people and American workers.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter that has been signed by 50 different charities in support of this legislation.

MARCH 27, 2022.

Hon. RICHARD NEAL,
Chair, Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives.

Hon. BOBBY SCOTT,
Chair, Education & Labor Committee,
House of Representatives.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Ranking Member, Ways and Means Committee,
House of Representatives.

Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,
Ranking Member, Education & Labor Committee,
House of Representatives.

DEAR CHAIRMEN NEAL AND SCOTT AND RANKING MEMBERS BRADY AND FOXX: On behalf of the undersigned nonprofits, including charities and faith-based organizations, we want to express our strong support for the

inclusion of the Legacy IRA Act in the bipartisan Securing a Strong Retirement Act (H.R. 2954, section 310). The Legacy IRA Act was originally introduced as H.R. 2909 by Representatives Don Beyer (D-VA-08) and Mike Kelly (R-PA-16).

We appreciate you placing a priority on families in America who are saving for retirement and simplifying the retirement system through the broader Securing a Strong Retirement Act. Specifically, the Legacy IRA provision will encourage more charitable giving by enabling seniors to make tax-free contributions from their traditional IRAs to charities through life-income plans. It is an important piece of broader efforts to increase charitable giving to enable nonprofits to continue to provide critical services in local communities such as health research and patient education, food assistance, domestic violence services, childcare, youth homeless shelters, and cultural and arts programming.

Many of our organizations are dependent on private philanthropy, including gift planning. We believe the Legacy IRA provision simply offers seniors another philanthropic option and would incentivize more giving to help charities while helping middle-income seniors who need a lifetime income.

We strongly support the inclusion of the Legacy IRA Act in the Securing a Strong Retirement Act and urge the House of Representatives to approve this measure. America is stronger when everyone has the opportunity to give, to get involved, and to strengthen their communities.

Sincerely,

ALS Association, Alternate ROOTS, Alzheimer's Association, American Alliance of Museums, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Council on Gift Annuities, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, American Red Cross, Americans for the Arts, Arab Community Center for Economic and Social Services (ACCESS), Association of Art Museum Directors, Association of Fundraising Professionals, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Catalyst of San Diego & Imperial Counties, Council for Advancement and Support of Education, Council for Christian Colleges & Universities, Council on Foundations, Covenant House International, DANCE/USA, Florida Philanthropic Network, Girl Scouts of the USA, Girls Inc., Goodwill Industries International, Inc., Grantmakers in the Arts, Habitat for Humanity International, Hemophilia Federation of America.

Independent Sector, JDRF, Jewish Federations of North America, Leadership 18, League of American Orchestras, Lutheran Services in America, March of Dimes, Mental Health America, Momentum Nonprofit Partners, National Alliance on Mental Illness, National Association of Charitable Gift Planners, National Community Action Partnership, National MS Society, New York Funders Alliance, OPERA America, Performing Arts Alliance, Philanthropy Ohio, Philanthropy Southeast, Providence, Social Current, The Nonprofit Alliance, The Salvation Army USA, Theatre Communications Group, UNICEF USA, United Philanthropy Forum, Volunteers of America, Wabash College, YMCA of the USA, YWCA USA.

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I also include in the RECORD a letter from the AARP supporting this legislation.

AARP,
March 28, 2022.

Hon. RICHARD NEAL,
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT SCOTT,
Chair, House Committee on Education and Labor, Washington, DC.

Hon. KEVIN BRADY,
Ranking Member, Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

Hon. VIRGINIA FOXX,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Education and Labor, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMEN NEAL AND SCOTT, RANKING MEMBERS BRADY AND FOXX:

On behalf of our 38 million members and all older Americans nationwide, AARP appreciates your leadership to improve retirement savings opportunities via the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022. While Social Security continues to be the bedrock of retirement income for most American workers and their families, individuals want and need additional retirement income sources. Your bipartisan legislation would make several significant enhancements to current law.

AARP strongly supports the provision in this bill that would provide an annual paper statement of benefits to ensure families know where they stand when saving for retirement. As the U.S. increasingly relies on individual account-based retirement savings, workers and their families must timely understand, monitor, and manage their lifetime savings. Full and meaningful disclosure is critical to individual planning and pension law generally. As such, to be effective, Congress needs to ensure all workers and plan participants will receive and can review important retirement plan documents in the form that most workers and families want. No document is more fundamental than an individual's annual benefit statement. AARP also supports the optional delivery—and retention—of important information electronically.

The Securing a Strong Retirement Act also takes important steps towards improving worker access to retirement plans. Under this bill, more people who work part-time will be able to enroll in their employers' retirement savings plans by allowing them to save after only two (rather than three) years of employment. More than 27 million employees across the country work less than full-time. This provision will be especially helpful to the many older workers who can only find part-time work or need to work part-time due to caregiving responsibilities. In addition, employers with more than ten employees would be required to automatically enroll workers in new retirement savings plans under this bill. This provision will help many employees benefit from automatic savings tools.

For workers who are struggling to save for retirement, the bill expands the current SAVERS tax credit to provide an enhanced matching contribution to millions of additional low- and moderate-income families. The matching contribution is both an incentive for individuals to save for retirement while also providing additional retirement funds.

Additionally, the creation of a national retirement Lost and Found database will help workers locate retirement accounts they may have had with previous employers. This is increasingly important as more and more workers change jobs several times over the course of their careers. The legislation also establishes limitations and safeguards for retirees who may have mistakenly received plan overpayments, including allowing a retirement plan to forego recouping the overpayment. Finally, we urge the retention of

the pretax option for catch-up contributions to help the 50+ save for retirement.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to help every American adequately save for retirement in order to be independent as they age.

Sincerely,

BILL SWEENEY,
Senior Vice President,
Government Affairs.

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

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

I think one of the things I am most proud of in this legislation began almost 2 years ago. After the passage of the SECURE Act, Chairman NEAL and I sat down on the floor talking about what more we could do to help people save for retirement.

What we both talked about is what everyone knows exists, the savings gap, and what little is being done to address it. This is the gap of how many Americans will spend their lifetime and save virtually nothing. When it is time to retire, their retirement isn't in their hands. It is all owed to government or other help.

We decided we would do the hard work to try to engage millions of Americans. We know who they are. They don't make lots of money. It is low income or moderate income. They usually work for a very small business. They are the toughest to be able to begin getting into that savings environment.

We designed this bill to really focus on those who have not saved in the past and, unless we do something differently, were not going to be saving for the future.

That is why so much of this bill is designed around them. That is why we help small businesses set up plans.

Here is what we know, Madam Speaker. To have a secure retirement, we need to make sure a business offers a plan.

Secondly, we need to make sure that worker is part of that plan.

Thirdly, we need to have those contributions matched.

Fourthly, you need to save more over time as your income increases.

This bill really takes significant steps to make sure small businesses are offering those plans and get help matching those first thousand dollars.

We use the saver's credit, which is pretty unused these days, and muscle it up, make it more available to help those with low income provide those first dollars.

Then, we make the changes so it is easier for small businesses to either start their own plan or pool with others, as we did in the SECURE Act, all of which we think are the elements to close that saver's gap and give Americans who really had no chance to save an opportunity to do that.

That is what, in my view, is the importance of this legislation, why I am proud of the work.

Chairman NEAL and the Republican and Democrat members of our com-

mittee worked together beautifully on this bill. I think this is an important one that I urge the Senate to take up and pass as well.

Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN), and I ask unanimous consent that he may control the remainder of the time.

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

There was no objection.

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

Oftentimes in this Chamber, you will hear the phrase "transformative." Sometimes it is hyperbolic, but on this occasion, this is transformative legislation.

We have fundamentally changed the opportunities for retirement for the American family, for millions and millions of people. I want to acknowledge the work of the ranking member on this, Mr. BRADY, because his input has been invaluable in helping to get to this moment.

We are proud of this work. We are helping Americans prepare for a secure retirement. The catch-up provisions alone are startling in this legislation.

Remember, there are a lot of people in America who are trying to simultaneously educate their children and save for retirement. It is a real challenge.

The catch-up provisions here mean that if people wish to work longer or begin to set aside more prescribed dollars for retirement because they couldn't do it during certain years of paying college expenses, we provide that opportunity.

This has been meaningful for Members on both sides. I have heard Members on the Republican side point out their contributions to it, and they are entirely correct.

We, on our side, have also included Mr. DAVIS' legislation that ensures workers with student loans don't miss out on 401(k) matching contributions. Representative MURPHY's legislation to increase the required minimum distribution age to 75 is here as well.

We created a higher catch-up contribution amount for those years just before retirement, a provision particularly important for pilots who have a mandatory retirement age. That was a priority of Representatives Sanchez and Pascrell.

Mr. KIND's bills have been included. His legislation fixing a problem with startup credits and multiple employer plans is here as well.

SECURE 2.0 contains Representative CHU's legislation that would enhance the saver's credit, which was also a priority for Representative SEWELL.

We have included Representative PANNETTA's legislation that provides 403(b) custodial accounts that are permitted to invest in collective investment trusts, as well as his legislation reforming family attribution rules.

We have included Representative SEWELL's legislation to reduce by 1 year

the period of service requirement for long-term part-time workers to participate in 401(k) plans. This provision is particularly important for women who tend to work part-time more frequently than men.

Mr. SUOZZI contributed legislation that would direct Treasury to issue regulations addressing a glitch with respect to insurance-dedicated exchange-traded funds.

Mr. BEYER's legislation is included. That was important to the charitable community and would, among other things, index the inflation rate for annual IRA charitable distribution limits.

The bill includes Representative MOORE's legislation that would provide penalty-free withdrawals from retirement plans for individuals in case of domestic abuse.

We have included Representative EVANS' legislation directing the Labor Department to update its disclosure rules to allow better comparisons amongst investments to aid participant decisionmaking.

Finally, we have included Representative PASCRELL's legislation that would allow first responders to exclude service-connected disability pension plans and payments from their gross income after they reach retirement age. That also touches upon Representative HIGGINS' ESOP Fairness Act.

□ 1645

Mr. BRADY noted earlier, and let me reinforce, the exceptional work of the Ways and Means Committee staff on this occasion. As I have said many times before, we are blessed with amongst the brightest, smartest, and hardest working staff members in Congress. Let me thank MaiLan Rodgers for her work and Kara Getz, who has been integral to the development of not only this legislation but also the SECURE Act and the Butch Lewis Act, both of which became law.

The SECURE Act was one of the most significant retirement opportunities, and this legislation will become law, I hope, in the near future. Let's not wait another decade to enact the important provisions of this legislation. This bill goes a long way in addressing this country's retirement crisis.

I want to point out something I said earlier. Half the people who get up and go to work every day in America are not in a qualified retirement plan. We need to continue to address that issue.

This is important legislation. I know it will pass. I think the last time this legislation came to the floor, all but four Members of this Chamber voted for this legislation.

I thank Mr. BRADY, again, for his good work and the good work of his staff.

Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), and I ask unanimous consent that he be permitted to control the remainder of the time.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2954, the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022, which incorporates the bipartisan Retirement Improvement and Savings Enhancement Act, or RISE Act, that the Committee on Education and Labor approved by voice vote last fall.

I thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) for his hard work in incorporating this legislation into SECURE 2.0. Our committee was able to reach a bipartisan agreement on the RISE Act, thanks in large part to the leadership of the chairman and ranking member of our Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, the gentleman from California (Mr. DESAULNIER) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN). I want to recognize them and thank them for their important contributions to this bill.

American workers deserve a decent wage and the ability to retire with dignity and security. Unfortunately, far too many Americans are working later in their lives and still relying on the next paycheck to cover monthly expenses. This legislation makes meaningful improvements to our retirement system, helping Americans prepare for and achieve the secure retirement that they deserve.

I am particularly pleased that this bill incorporates several key priorities authorized by Committee on Education and Labor members.

For example, it includes legislation sponsored by the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI), the chair of the Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services, which creates an online retirement lost-and-found database at the Department of Labor to help workers locate their hard-earned retirement savings as they move from job to job. According to the Government Accountability Office, more than 25 million people who changed jobs between 2004 and 2014 left behind one or more retirement accounts. Establishing this kind of database at the Department of Labor is necessary and long overdue.

The bill includes legislation sponsored by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) that reduces barriers preventing part-time workers from participating in their employer's retirement savings plans. This simple change will benefit many part-time workers, particularly women.

It also includes legislation sponsored by the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MRVAN) requiring the Department of Labor to review and update guidance from the mid-1990s regarding pension risk transfers.

Importantly, Madam Speaker, this bill offers an opportunity to send a

message to workers and retirees across the country that their retirement security is a critical priority for every Member of this House.

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

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2954, which includes the text of the Education and Labor Committee's bipartisan Retirement Improvement and Savings Enhancement Act, the RISE Act, H.R. 5891, a bill that I was proud to cosponsor with the distinguished chairman of the Education and Labor Committee and Ranking Member FOXX.

This bipartisan legislation is a much-needed push toward modernization that our country's retirement system needs. Our economy has evolved and so have the ways Americans plan for retirement.

Neither employers nor employee benefit plans fit into the same cookie-cutter policies they did when the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 was first enacted. The RISE Act and H.R. 2954 include reforms that will benefit America's workforce and job creators.

Worker access to employer-sponsored retirement plans has improved over the last three decades, and participation has grown. Today, more workers are saving and saving more in employer-sponsored plans.

However, there remains room for improvement, as too many Americans still lack access to these benefits. This legislation is a major step toward providing reasonable solutions to solve the problems hindering Americans from being able to save for a secure future.

Building on the SECURE Act of 2019, the RISE Act and H.R. 2954 expand multiple and pooled employer plans, giving charities, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations the opportunity to offer affordable retirement plans. Expanding pooled employer plans give small businesses access to more affordable plans by allowing them to band together, decreasing the costs and burdens associated with sponsoring a plan and providing more Americans with an opportunity to save.

Allowing small businesses and nonprofits the opportunity to offer competitive retirement plans so they can attract workers is extremely important, as the labor shortage has hit them the hardest.

Additionally, the RISE Act and H.R. 2954 will allow employers to offer small financial incentives to employees for participating in a retirement plan. This will help encourage employees to start preparing for retirement earlier in their careers, which is vital for employee contributions to earn years of compounding benefits for their retirement accounts.

Finally, this bill expands access to retirement savings for part-time work-

ers who otherwise would be limited from participating in the employer plan. Removing barriers to saving ensures more Americans have a secure and self-sufficient retirement. Red tape and unnecessary barriers must not keep employees from building a strong retirement.

The RISE Act and H.R. 2954 also ease the burden of administering retirement accounts by removing unnecessary disclosure requirements. The legislation directs the Department of Labor, Department of the Treasury, and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to simplify reporting and disclosure regulations, streamline the collection of contributions to pooled employer plans, and update benchmarking guidelines to accommodate a broader selection of plan investments.

Importantly, retirement professionals themselves are in support of the RISE Act. Organizations like the American Benefits Council, the Insured Retirement Institute, the American Retirement Association, and the SPARK Institute are supportive of this legislation.

Workers and plan sponsors alike can see that the RISE Act will make commonsense reforms and improve the lives and futures of the American worker. The RISE Act offers creative and practical solutions to the problems in our retirement system.

As legislators, we must take action to tackle issues that affect the daily lives of our constituents. As a businessman, I know firsthand the issues that are affecting American workers that can be improved upon.

This legislation will improve the retirement security for millions of Americans. I urge my colleagues to join in support, and I look forward to its passage in the House and for these reforms to be ultimately signed into law.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING), a distinguished member of the Committee on Education and Labor.

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman SCOTT for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Securing a Strong Retirement Act.

Today, too many workers face difficulty saving for retirement. Even for those who have access to retirement plans, it can be difficult to grow and protect hard-earned savings.

There are roughly 55 million Americans who lack access to a retirement savings plan at work, with many lacking any retirement savings at all. This is particularly true for women. Approximately 50 percent of women ages 55 to 66 have no personal retirement savings, compared to 47 percent of men, and only 22 percent of women have \$100,000 or more in savings, compared to 30 percent of men.

Women are also more likely than men to work in part-time jobs that don't qualify for a retirement plan and are more likely than men to quit work, transfer jobs, or interrupt their careers to care for family members, resulting in lower retirement savings.

This is why I am proud to have my bill, the Improving Part-Time Workers Access to Retirement Act, included in this important legislation. This provision will make it easier for long-term part-time workers to access retirement by shortening the amount of time they are required to work for their employer in order to participate in their 401(k) plan. This will have an important impact on the ability of women and low-wage workers to be able to save for retirement.

As a member of the House Education and Labor Committee and a strong supporter of college affordability, I am also pleased that this legislation will allow borrowers the option to pay down their student loans while still receiving an employer match in their retirement plan. This commonsense approach to retirement savings will help the nearly 46 million Americans facing student loan debt become more financially stable while overcoming the barriers too many in our country face upon graduating, like advancing in their career, buying a home, or starting a family.

SECURE 2.0 will help workers save more longer, improve flexibility and protections for Americans' retirement accounts, and eliminate some of the barriers small businesses face in providing comprehensive retirement options to their employees.

These are bipartisan, commonsense provisions that will better serve workers and employers across our country. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this critical legislation.

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG), my good friend.

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Securing a Strong Retirement Act.

As an entire generation moves closer to retirement, we must ensure our laws are up to date to help Americans achieve their retirement goals.

Last Congress, we passed the SECURE Act, which made significant improvements to our Nation's retirement policies. Today, we are building upon that success to ensure Americans can live their golden years with dignity.

I would like to highlight one provision of this bill, which incorporates a bipartisan policy I have long championed with my colleague, Representative SABLAN. Our provision will reduce the administrative costs for employers sponsoring retirement plans for their employees.

Businesses often cite limited financial resources as a key reason for not offering retirement benefits. The Retirement Plan Modernization Act would ease the administrative burdens on employers, especially small busi-

nesses, enabling more small businesses to offer retirement benefits and ensure employees are not needlessly paying higher fees.

I thank both the Committee on Education and Labor and the Committee on Ways and Means for including text from our bill in H.R. 2954.

Madam Speaker, the Securing a Strong Retirement Act will enhance opportunities for Americans to save for retirement. I urge all Members to support it.

□ 1700

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. MRVAN), a distinguished member of the Committee on Education and Labor.

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman SCOTT for allowing me the time.

I rise today in support of H.R. 2954, the Securing a Strong Retirement Act. I am grateful for the bipartisan collaboration to produce this legislation that makes commonsense improvements to our Nation's retirement system.

There are far too many challenges today that prevent workers from having access to secure retirement benefits and information to protect their hard-earned savings.

I also appreciate the inclusion of the provisions of my legislation, the Pension Risk Transfer Accountability Act, which requires the Department of Labor to review existing rules on pension risk transfers.

A promise made should be a promise kept for all workers and retirees.

I encourage all my colleagues to support this legislation to further ensure that workers can retire with dignity, security, and peace of mind.

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER), another good friend.

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia. I rise in support of the Securing a Strong Retirement Act. As part of the Education and Labor Committee, our goal is to provide employers and employees with opportunities to access a safe, effective, and productive workplace.

We also work on policy that encourages people to save for retirement and provides opportunities for their families. This bill accomplishes both by improving employer-sponsored benefits to help workers make good decisions that will serve them well in the future.

The bill increases access to retirement accounts, lowers the cost of administering programs for small businesses, and provides incentives for workers to voluntarily put money towards savings.

It also requires the Department of Labor to review existing reporting and disclosure requirements, making them easier to comply with and understand, updates the dollar threshold for auto-

matic distributions by plans to participants which was last updated in 1997.

It streamlines the collection of contributions to pooled employer plans and updates benchmarking guidelines to accommodate different investment products. The bill also adds tax incentives for small businesses that offer employee stock ownership plans, a great tool and benefit for employees to have a stake with their employer.

The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 set a foundation for today's policies, but the measure needs to be updated to reflect the 21st century workforce.

I urge my colleagues to support this important measure and look forward to this legislation becoming law.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER), a distinguished member of the Committee on Ways and Means and chair of its Subcommittee on Trade.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I appreciate the chairman's courtesy for permitting me to speak on this issue and his leadership on an issue that concerns us all.

We are facing a retirement crisis in this country. Too many people do not have adequate resources. The aging population is exploding, and we have seen financial uncertainty in the midst of the COVID crisis, in particular.

I am pleased that we are able to come together as a Congress on a bipartisan basis to advance this legislation.

Recently, we watched people come together dealing with trade relations with Russia, ratcheting up sanctions on a bipartisan basis, and this is another strong signal, I think.

I also appreciate Chairman NEAL for his leadership in spearheading the SECURE 2.0 which takes the Oregon auto-enrollment model to the Federal level and provides new incentives to promote and expand employee stock ownership plans, ESOPs.

I have long supported ESOPs as a successful model that provides a company's workers with retirement savings through their investment in their employee stock. I have been stunned at the stories I have heard about people who have what one would think are unexceptional jobs who, through this mechanism, have been able to retire with significant savings as a result.

Now, by giving employees skin in the game, the ESOP structure produces employees that are more likely to set aside money for retirement. They can retire earlier and worry less about retirement income.

The companies that use this mechanism are fundamentally different. We have seen in times of economic strife, employee ESOP-owned companies are more generous with their employees. They are slower to lay people off, they bring them back, and, in fact, they are more profitable.

It is an encouraging mechanism that I think epitomizes the best of the American ingenuity and the creation of wealth.

This is a structure that works and one that is being expanded by this legislation. By allowing for a deferral of gain on a small amount of the proceeds of sales of employer stock to an ESOP, there will be even more companies incented to sell stock to ESOPs, promoting and expanding this innovative model.

I am honored to support this legislation. I hope that we will be able to promote greater awareness and understanding of this powerful model. This is an important step forward.

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), our great Republican leader.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Georgia for yielding me time.

H.R. 2954 includes the text of the RISE Act, a bill that I am proud to lead with Chairman SCOTT of the Education and Labor Committee.

This bill was born out of true bipartisan collaboration, and I am pleased at the progress we have made with our colleagues across the aisle.

Hardworking Americans deserve the opportunity to save for a secure future, yet too many workers aren't putting anything towards their retirement nest egg.

By removing the red tape tying up job creators and providing incentives for workers to save more, this legislation will strengthen and modernize America's retirement system, so our Nation's workers, retirees, and employers are better served.

It truly is a much-needed step in the right direction. Practical solutions like the RISE Act and H.R. 2954 are a win for job creators, workers, and our Nation's economic future.

I urge my colleagues to vote "yes".

Madam Speaker, I would like to inquire if the distinguished chairman of the Education and Labor Committee would be willing to engage in a colloquy with me about the matter of furnishing paper ERISA disclosures to participants and beneficiaries.

I yield to the chairman.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I would be happy to enter into a colloquy with my colleague.

Ms. FOXX. I thank the chairman.

Madam Speaker, the underlying bill includes an imperfect provision requiring retirement plans to provide a paper statement annually.

The bill also directs the Department of Labor to revise its 2002 and 2020 safe harbor regulations to conform with this requirement.

While I support the bill, I have serious concerns about this blunt provision which would undermine DOL's 2002 and 2020 e-delivery safe harbor regulations. Participants in plans have been relying on the 2002 safe harbor regulations for nearly 20 years.

The Committee on Education and Labor has dedicated considerable time to this issue. I do not consider this a settled matter, and I will continue to

engage with my House and Senate colleagues to find a workable solution that simplifies and modernizes the disclosure requirements for retirement plans.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. FOXX. I yield to the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I thank the ranking member for yielding to me and for her comments.

It is my understanding that our staffs will continue their efforts, along with their Senate counterparts, to try to find a path forward on this issue that balances the interests of plan sponsors and the retirement plan participants.

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, reclaiming my time, I thank the chairman for his willingness to continue working on this issue together.

Again, I urge a "yes" vote on the bill.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. BONAMICI), the chair of the Subcommittee on Civil Rights of the Education and Labor Committee.

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I thank Chairman SCOTT for yielding, and I thank him for his leadership on this and so many important issues in the Education and Labor Committee.

I rise in strong support of the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022 or SECURE 2.0, which makes important and bipartisan improvements that will improve enrollment in and access to retirement savings plans.

As employers have shifted from pension plans to retirement plans such as 401(k)'s, workers have increasingly become responsible for tracking, managing, and consolidating their retirement accounts when they change jobs.

There is no standard way for workers to consolidate their accounts, and many workers actually lose track of their hard-earned investments.

According to a Government Accountability Office report, about 25 million people changed jobs between 2004 and 2014 and left one or more retirement accounts behind. This problem is only expected to grow as young workers transition between jobs at greater rates than previous generations.

The SECURE Act 2.0 includes provisions from my Retirement Savings Lost and Found Act which will help address the challenge of tracking retirement savings. My bill creates a national lost-and-found registry for retirement accounts housed at the Department of Labor.

The lost-and-found registry will provide workers with a centralized way to track their retirement accounts, and it will also help workers claim their hard-earned retirement funds regardless of how often they transition from job to job.

I strongly support the commonsense improvements in the SECURE Act 2.0,

including the creation of a retirement savings lost-and-found registry which will help working families retire with dignity.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of passage of this important legislation.

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

Madam Speaker, the goal of every American is to retire with security and dignity. The RISE Act and H.R. 2954 will help workers do just that. This bill will expand the availability of private retirement programs to more Americans.

Neither small businesses, nor non-profits and educational institutions should be prohibited from accessing the benefits offered to larger retirement plans.

Building on the success of the SECURE Act of 2019, this legislation cuts red tape, streamlines reporting and disclosure requirements, and provides American workers retirement.

I thank the chairman and our Republican leader for their commitment to bipartisanship and for defending the committee's important jurisdiction over retirement issues in this bill.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 2954, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, as my colleagues have said, the bill makes meaningful and sensible improvements to America's retirement system. It will help workers, retirees, and employers.

I again congratulate my Education and Labor Committee colleagues who have authored provisions in this bill, and I want to recognize and thank the ranking member of the Committee on Education and Labor, Dr. Foxx, and her staff for their partnership and work on this important bill with my staff which includes Kevin McDermott, Richard Miller, Daniel Foster, and Eli Hovland who have worked hard on this bill from start to finish.

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

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I strongly support the Securing a Strong Retirement Act because it will strengthen the retirement coverage and savings of millions of Americans. I applaud the many provisions included to expand retirement coverage and savings, such as automatic enrollment in the retirement plans, modernizing the Saver's Credit, creating new incentives to small businesses to offer retirement plans, and increasing charitable donations permitted through an IRA.

I thank Chairman NEAL for including my bill, the Retirement Parity for Student Loans Act, that promotes increased retirement savings through an employer match for employees making student loan payments. By allowing employers to contribute an employer-match into a retirement plan based on an employee's student loan payment, younger workers who currently cannot afford to save for their retirement will begin saving much sooner.

Although over three-quarters of Americans have access to an employment-based retirement savings account, few Americans can make the maximum contribution of \$19,500 to their retirement savings. Any contribution to retirement savings is particularly limited for millennials struggling with heavy student loan debt. The average student loan balance for 2019 graduates was \$32,731, and only 30 percent of young workers use 401(k) programs to save for retirement. This policy is an important tool for employers to retain their workforce and for workers to improve retirement savings and lower educational debt.

I urge passage of this bill that does so much to expand retirement coverage and savings to improve workers' long-term financial well-being.

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, Americans are living longer than ever before—about 30 years longer, on average, than a century ago. To quote the founder of the Stanford Center on Longevity, “longevity is . . . among the greatest opportunities we have had in human history.”

Those extra years mean more time spent with family and friends and enjoying retirement.

Unfortunately, while life expectancy increases, Americans are falling behind on retirement savings.

More than 4 in 10 American adults have less than \$25,000 saved for retirement.

And the coronavirus pandemic has made it worse. According to a recent study, 1 in 5 Americans said they are saving less for retirement due to the pandemic's impact on their finances.

We need to act now to correct course to improve retirement savings.

The Securing a Strong Retirement Act is a comprehensive, bipartisan bill that eliminates many of the hurdles to workers enrolling in and remaining in retirement savings plans.

As a former small business owner and as the current Chair of the Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee, I have seen firsthand how reforms like the ones in this bill can help people live happier lives into their retirement.

Importantly, this legislation incorporates the RISE Act, which I was proud to co-author with the Chairman of the full Committee Chairman SCOTT, Ranking Member FOXF, and the Ranking member of my HELP Subcommittee Mr. ALLEN. Through that effort, we can:

Help part-time workers join an employers' retirement savings plan;

Incentivize workers to participate in retirement plans with small financial incentives; and

Through the “Retirement Lost and Found” database at the Department of Labor help workers locate their hard-earned retirement savings as they move from job to job.

I am proud to have played a part in this significant and bipartisan effort, and will proudly vote in support of this legislation.

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of the bipartisan Securing a Strong Retirement Act which includes the Legacy IRA Act. This legislation, led by my colleague MIKE KELLY and I, would encourage charitable giving by American seniors. Donating to charity is a hallmark of American society. We are fortunate to have one of the most generous countries in the world. In spite of, or possibly because of, the upheavals in recent years, we have seen increases in American

charitable giving to the highest levels in our history.

We must do all we can to encourage this impulse, particularly among middle-income seniors who wish to continue giving post-retirement. The Legacy IRA Act would enable seniors to make tax-free contributions from their traditional IRAs to charities through life-income plans. This bill is a win-win, for philanthropic seniors who want to continue giving, and for charitable organizations that benefit from donations. I would like to thank Chairman NEAL for his support in including this measure in the SECURE Act and Rep. KELLY for his partnership on this important legislation.

Mr. SUOZZI. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022. Everyone can agree that the American Dream should be achievable for anyone willing to work hard. The American Dream is the ability for families to one day own a home, provide an education for their children, and retire with dignity. The SECURE Act 2.0 does several things to help make retirement security easier for millions of hardworking Americans. I rise today not only in support of the bill, but to advocate for the inclusion of another bipartisan bill, the ABLE Employment Flexibility Act, as SECURE 2.0 progresses through the legislative process.

Along with my colleague Mr. WENSTRUP, I introduced another practical solution that will allow more hardworking Americans the ability to participate in the labor force more fully by providing them access to benefits tailored to their needs. My bill permits employers to make tax-exempt contributions to ABLE (Achieving Better Life Experience) accounts in lieu of making contributions to existing tax-exempt defined contribution retirement plans. An ABLE account is established to pay expenses such as food, education, housing, transportation, employment training and support, and health care expenses of a designated beneficiary who is disabled. In other words, it will allow millions of Americans with disabilities to receive, and their employers the ability to provide, similar tax-preferred benefits as their fellow employees.

The ABLE Employment Flexibility Act would allow ABLE-eligible workers to permit an employer to make contributions to a 529A account in lieu of contributions to the employer's defined contribution plan. The legislation is needed because, under current law, an employer that offers employees with a disability the choice to have employer contributions that would be made to the retirement plan instead contributed to a 529A account would jeopardize the tax-qualified status of the retirement plan.

Many defined contribution plans permit an eligible employee to defer compensation into that defined contribution plan, with the employer sponsoring the plan providing for a matching contribution on such deferrals. The plan may also have nonelective employer contributions that are automatically made. Unfortunately, assets in these plans could adversely impact the availability of means-tested benefits. By eliminating this barrier, employers will be able to provide equitable opportunities to their employees to save for critical services while allowing them to retain critical government support and services.

Through the leadership of Chairman NEAL and Ranking Member BRADY, we are passing SECURE 2.0, a bill with overwhelming sup-

port. The bill has support from every stakeholder, from advocates for seniors to the retirement industry, and the practical solutions contained have garnered bipartisan support. Both things the American people are clamoring for in these hyper-partisan times. Like SECURE 2.0, the ABLE Employment Flexibility Act has received support from an array of stakeholders from disability advocates to associations representing the retirement industry.

I want to thank the Chairman, Ranking Member, their staffs, and the Joint Committee on Taxation for their willingness to work with myself and Mr. WENSTRUP to address technical issues with the legislative text of the ABLE Employment Flexibility Act to achieve the underlying policy goal—help more Americans save effectively and efficiently to live and retire in dignity. I look forward to our continued efforts and hope that we can resolve outstanding issues as we advance the SECURE Act 2.0 to the President for his signature.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2954, the Securing a Strong Retirement Act, also known as SECURE 2.0.

It is a sad reality that today too many hardworking Americans enter retirement without enough savings.

In fact, according to a recent report, only 36 percent of working adults feel their retirement savings are on track to meet their goals and more than one-third of U.S. workers have never even had a retirement account.

It's clear that millions of Americans could face a financial crisis during their retirement years. Congress can help head off this avoidable emergency and give individuals, families, and businesses more tools to boost their retirement nest eggs.

Last year, the House Ways & Means Committee unanimously passed the bipartisan Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2021, legislation providing new incentives to help improve the retirement financial landscape for Americans across the country.

This bipartisan retirement savings bill seeks to build on the momentum from legislation that passed last Congress.

Specifically, this important new legislation would double the existing tax credit for businesses with 50 or fewer employees that start a company retirement plan, expand-auto-enrollment, push back the withdrawal retirement age, and allow workers to double their catch-up contributions. This bipartisan bill also authorizes new protections for people paying down student loan debts and incentives to America's veterans.

SECURE 2.0 is also completely budget neutral.

Retirement doesn't have to turn into another U.S. financial crisis. With responsible incentives and smart planning, we can give more people the peace of mind they deserve as they grow older. I'm pleased to see Congress put aside partisan games and finally come together to enact SECURE 2.0 and strengthen America's retirement security.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2954, the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2021, which will make various changes with respect to employer-sponsored retirement plans, including providing for the automatic enrollment of employees in certain plans and increasing the age at which participants are required to begin receiving mandatory distributions.

This legislation expands opportunities for Americans to increase their retirement savings, improves workers' long-term financial wellbeing, and builds on the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act of 2019.

The purpose of this legislation is to expand automatic enrollment, simplify many retirement plan rules, and strengthen small businesses' ability to offer workplace retirement plans.

Among other things, H.R. 2954 would: Expand automatic enrollment of workers in employer-sponsored retirement saving plans.

Employees would be automatically enrolled in plans such as 401(k)s and 403(b)s unless they opt out.

The initial automatic enrollment amount is at least 3 percent but no more than 10 percent. And then each year that amount is increased by 1 percent until it reaches 10 percent.

The age at which seniors must take required minimum distributions (RMDs) from their retirement savings accounts would be raised from 72 to 73. The bill subsequently would raise the age to 74 starting in 2029 and to 75 starting in 2032.

Reduce the penalty for failure to take RMDs to 25 percent from 50 percent. If this failure is corrected in a timely manner, as defined by the bill, the penalty would be further reduced to 10 percent.

Increase the limits on so-called catch-up contributions for employees ages 62 to 64. In 2021, these workers were allowed to contribute up to \$6,500 to their retirement savings plans beyond the otherwise applicable limits. This bill would increase that amount to \$10,000 and index it to inflation.

The catch-up contribution limit for individual retirement accounts would be indexed to inflation. Currently, savers ages 50 and up may contribute an additional \$1,000 annually to their IRAs, but that limit isn't indexed to inflation.

Allow employers to match a worker's student loan payment by making an equivalent contribution to that worker's retirement savings plan.

This provision is intended to help workers who can't afford to save for retirement because of high student-loan debt, which causes them to miss out on their employers' matching contributions to retirement savings plans.

Today's workplace is more generationally diverse than ever.

Older employees are working longer, and millennials make up roughly a third of the American workforce. This bill helps both older and younger workers.

For younger workers, this can help jump start the saving process earlier by making employer matches available for those who are also paying off student loans.

For older workers nearing retirement, they would have more time to save, due to the increased catch-up contribution limits and delayed required minimum distributions (RMD).

By automatically enrolling every working person in a plan, with the option to opt out, we begin to solve the biggest reasons people don't save for retirement.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the three biggest reasons people do not save for retirement are: not having a plan at work (74 percent of non-savers), being self-employed (14 percent) and not being included in a workplace plan (12 percent).

These proposed changes are beneficial to Americans of all ages, helping them reach

their savings goals and provide more flexibility upon retirement.

Though there are many paths to retirement, it's critical to be financially prepared, especially as people are living longer.

For these reasons, I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 2954 because we need to ensure that every American can benefit from the best retirement plan for them.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2954, as amended.

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

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

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

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

□ 1715

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules and pass the following bills:

- H.R. 6865;
- H.R. 2954;
- S. 2629;
- H.R. 3359; and
- H.R. 4738.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

DON YOUNG COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

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. 6865) to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFazio) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 378, nays 46, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 85]

YEAS—378

Adams	Amodei	Baird	Foster	Lofgren
Aderholt	Armstrong	Balderson	Fox	Long
Aguilar	Arrington	Banks	Frankel, Lois	Lowenthal
Allen	Axne	Barr	Franklin, C.	Lucas
Allred	Bacon	Barragán	Scott	Luetkemeyer
			Gallagher	Luria
			Bice (OK)	Lynch
			Billirakis	Mace
			Bishop (GA)	Malinowski
			Blumenauer	Malliotakis
			Blunt Rochester	Maloney
			Bonamici	Carolyn B.
			Bost	Maloney, Sean
			Bourdeaux	Mann
			Bowman	Manning
			Boyle, Brendan	Matsui
			F.	McBath
			Brady	McCarthy
			Brown (MD)	McCaul
			Brown (OH)	McClain
			Brownley	McCollum
			Buchanan	McEachin
			Bucshon	McGovern
			Budd	McHenry
			Bush	McKinley
			Butterfield	McNerney
			Calvert	Meeks
			Carbajal	Meijer
			Cárdenas	Meng
			Carey	Grothman
			Carl	Meuser
			Carson	Mfume
			Carter (GA)	Guthrie
			Carter (LA)	Harder (CA)
			Carter (TX)	Harris
			Cartwright	Harshbarger
			Case	Hartzler
			Casten	Hayes
			Castor (FL)	Herrell
			Castro (TX)	Herrera Beutler
			Cawthorn	Higgins (NY)
			Chabot	Hill
			Cheney	Hinson
			Cherfilus-	Hollingsworth
			McCormick	Horsford
			Chu	Houlihan
			Ciocilline	Hoyer
			Clark (MA)	Hudson
			Clarke (NY)	Huizenga
			Cleaver	Issa
			Clyburn	Jackson
			Cohen	Jackson Lee
			Cole	Jacobs (CA)
			Comer	Jacobs (NY)
			Connolly	Jayapal
			Cooper	Jeffries
			Correa	Johnson (GA)
			Costa	Johnson (LA)
			Courtney	Johnson (OH)
			Craig	Johnson (SD)
			Crawford	Johnson (TX)
			Crenshaw	Jones
			Crist	Joyce (OH)
			Crow	Joyce (PA)
			Cuellar	Kahele
			Curtis	Kaptur
			Davids (KS)	Katko
			Davis, Danny K.	Keating
			Davis, Rodney	Keller
			Dean	Kelly (IL)
			DeFazio	Kelly (MS)
			DeGette	Kelly (PA)
			DeLauro	Khanna
			DelBene	Kildee
			Delgado	Kilmer
			Demings	Kim (CA)
			DeSaulnier	Kim (NJ)
			DesJarlais	Kind
			Deutch	Kirkpatrick
			Dingell	Krishnamoorthi
			Doggett	Kuster
			Doyle, Michael	Kustoff
			F.	LaHood
			Duncan	LaMalfa
			Dunn	Lamb
			Ellzey	Langevin
			Emmer	Larsen (WA)
			Escobar	Larson (CT)
			Eshoo	Latta
			Espallat	LaTurner
			Evans	Lawrence
			Fallon	Lawson (FL)
			Feenstra	Lee (CA)
			Ferguson	Lee (NV)
			Fischbach	Leger Fernandez
			Fitzgerald	Lesko
			Fitzpatrick	Letlow
			Fleischmann	Levin (CA)
			Fletcher	Levin (MI)
				Lieu
				Schakowsky
				Schiff
				Schneider
				Schrader
				Schrier

Scott (VA) Stewart
 Scott, Austin Strickland
 Scott, David Suozzi
 Sewell Swalwell
 Sherman Takano
 Sherrill Tenney
 Simpson Thompson (CA)
 Sires Thompson (MS)
 Slotkin Thompson (PA)
 Smith (MO) Tiffany
 Smith (NE) Timmons
 Smith (NJ) Titus
 Smith (WA) Tlaib
 Smucker Tonko
 Soto Torres (NY)
 Spanberger Trahan
 Spartz Trone
 Speier Turner
 Stansbury Underwood
 Stanton Upton
 Stauber Valadao
 Steel Van Drew
 Stefanik Vargas
 Steil Veasey
 Stevens Vela

NAYS—46

Auchincloss Fulcher
 Babin Gaetz
 Biggs Gohmert
 Bishop (NC) Good (VA)
 Boebert Gosar
 Brooks Greene (GA)
 Buck Hern
 Burchett Hice (GA)
 Burgess Higgins (LA)
 Cammack Himes
 Cline Jordan
 Cloud Lamborn
 Clyde Loudermilk
 Davidson Massie
 Donalds Mast
 Estes Moore (AL)

NOT VOTING—7

Bustos Huffman
 Diaz-Balart Kinzinger
 Fortenberry McClintock

□ 1749

Messrs. BURGESS, JORDAN, BURCHETT, Ms. VAN DUYNÉ, Messrs. FULCHER and RICE of South Carolina changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

Messrs. STEWART and PALAZZO changed their vote from “nay” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, 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

Bilirakis (Fleischmann) Johnson (TX)
 Bowman (Meng) (Jeffries)
 Buchanan Joyce (OH)
 Cawthorn (Waltz) (Garbarino)
 Cawthorn (Fallon) Kahele (Mrvan)
 Crist (Fallon) Lawson (FL)
 Crist (Wasserman) (Schultz)
 DeGette (Blunt) (Schultz)
 DeGette (Blunt) (Meuser)
 Rochester (Blunt) Moulton (Beyer)
 Evans (Mfume) Roybal-Allard
 Gosar (Gaetz) (Wasserman)
 Harder (CA) (Schultz)
 (Gomez) Rush (Jeffries)

Velázquez Wagner
 Walberg Walberg
 Walorski Walorski
 Waltz Waltz
 Wasserman Wasserman
 Waters Schultz
 Watson Coleman Waters
 Webster (FL) Webster (FL)
 Welch Welch
 Wenstrup Wenstrup
 Westerman Westerman
 Wexton Wexton
 Wild Wild
 Williams (GA) Williams (GA)
 Williams (TX) Williams (TX)
 Wilson (FL) Wilson (FL)
 Wilson (SC) Wilson (SC)
 Wittman Wittman
 Womack Womack
 Yarmuth Yarmuth
 Zeldin Zeldin

savings, simplify and clarify retirement plan rules, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. NEAL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 414, nays 5, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 86]

YEAS—414

Adams Adams
 Aderholt Aderholt
 Aguilar Aguilar
 Allen Allen
 Allred Allred
 Amodei Amodei
 Armstrong Armstrong
 Arrington Arrington
 Auchincloss Auchincloss
 Axne Axne
 Babin Babin
 Bacon Bacon
 Baird Baird
 Balderson Balderson
 Banks Banks
 Barr Barr
 Barragán Barragán
 Bass Bass
 Beatty Beatty
 Bera Bera
 Bergman Bergman
 Beyer Beyer
 Bice (OK) Bice (OK)
 Bilirakis Bilirakis
 Bishop (GA) Bishop (GA)
 Blumenauer Blumenauer
 Blunt Rochester Blunt Rochester
 Boebert Boebert
 Bonamici Bonamici
 Bost Bost
 Bourdeaux Bourdeaux
 Bowman Bowman
 Boyle, Brendan Boyle, Brendan
 F. F.
 Brady Brady
 Brooks Brooks
 Brown (MD) Brown (MD)
 Brown (OH) Brown (OH)
 Brownley Brownley
 Buchanan Buchanan
 Buck Buck
 Bucshon Bucshon
 Budd Budd
 Burchett Burchett
 Burgess Burgess
 Bush Bush
 Butterfield Butterfield
 Cammack Cammack
 Carbajal Carbajal
 Cárdenas Cárdenas
 Carey Carey
 Carl Carl
 Carson Carson
 Carter (GA) Carter (GA)
 Carter (LA) Carter (LA)
 Carter (TX) Carter (TX)
 Cartwright Cartwright
 Case Case
 Casten Casten
 Castor (FL) Castor (FL)
 Castro (TX) Castro (TX)
 Gibbs Gibbs
 Gimenez Gimenez
 Chabot Chabot
 Cherfilus-Cherry Cherfilus-Cherry
 McCormick McCormick
 Chu Chu
 Cicilline Cicilline
 Clark (MA) Clark (MA)
 Clarke (NY) Clarke (NY)
 Cleaver Cleaver
 Cline Cline
 Cloud Cloud
 Clyburn Clyburn
 Clyde Clyde
 Cohen Cohen
 Cole Cole
 Comer Comer
 Connolly Connolly
 Cooper Cooper

Loudermilk Loudermilk
 Lowenthal Lowenthal
 Lucas Lucas
 Luetkemeyer Luetkemeyer
 Luria Luria
 Lynch Lynch
 Mace Mace
 Malinowski Malinowski
 Malliotakis Malliotakis
 Maloney, Carolyn B. Maloney, Carolyn B.
 Maloney, Sean Maloney, Sean
 Mann Mann
 Manning Manning
 Mast Mast
 Matsui Matsui
 McBeth McBeth
 McCarthy McCarthy
 McCaul McCaul
 McClain McClain
 McCollum McCollum
 McEachin McEachin
 McGovern McGovern
 McHenry McHenry
 McKinley McKinley
 McNeerney McNeerney
 Meeks Meeks
 Meijer Meijer
 Meng Meng
 Meuser Meuser
 Mfume Mfume
 Miller (IL) Miller (IL)
 Miller (WV) Miller (WV)
 Miller-Meeke Miller-Meeke
 Moolenaar Moolenaar
 Mooney Mooney
 Moore (AL) Moore (AL)
 Moore (UT) Moore (UT)
 Moore (WI) Moore (WI)
 Morelle Morelle
 Moulton Moulton
 Mrvan Mrvan
 Mullin Mullin
 Murphy (FL) Murphy (FL)
 Murphy (NC) Murphy (NC)
 Nadler Nadler
 Napolitano Napolitano
 Neal Neal
 Neguse Neguse
 Nehls Nehls
 Newhouse Newhouse
 Newman Newman
 Norcross Norcross
 Norman Norman
 O'Halleran O'Halleran
 Obernolte Obernolte
 Ocasio-Cortez Ocasio-Cortez
 Omar Omar
 Owens Owens
 Palazzo Palazzo
 Pallone Pallone
 Palmer Palmer

NAYS—5

Biggs Biggs
 Bishop (NC) Bishop (NC)

NOT VOTING—12

Bentz Bentz
 Bustos Bustos
 Calvert Calvert
 Cheney Cheney
 Crenshaw Crenshaw
 Fortenberry Fortenberry
 Gottheimer Gottheimer
 Khanna Khanna

□ 1757

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. CHENEY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “Yea” on rollcall No. 86.

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall No. 86.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bilirakis (Fleischmann) Buchanan
 Bowman (Meng) (Waltz) Cawthorn (Fallon)
 Crist (Wasserman) Schultz

SECURING A STRONG RETIREMENT ACT OF 2022

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. 2954) to increase retirement

DeGette (Blunt Rochester)
 Evans (Mfume)
 Gosar (Gaetz)
 Harder (CA) (Gomez)
 Jackson (Fallon)
 Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
 Joyce (OH) (Garbarino)

Kahele (Mrvan Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
 Luetkemeyer (Meuser)
 Roybal-Allard (Wasserman Schultz)
 Rush (Jeffries)
 Salazar (Owens)

Sánchez (Gomez) Sires (Pallone)
 Suozzi (Beyer)
 Taylor (Carter (TX))
 Trahan (Blunt Rochester)
 Valadao (Garbarino)
 Wilson (FL) (Jeffries)

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
 Letlow
 Levin (CA)
 Levin (MI)
 Lieu
 Lofgren
 Long
 Lowenthal
 Lucas
 Luetkemeyer
 Luria
 Lynch
 Mace
 Malinowski
 Malliotakis
 Maloney,
 Carolyn B.
 Maloney, Sean
 Mann
 Manning
 Matsui
 McBeth
 McCarthy
 McCaul
 McClain
 McCollum
 McEachin
 McGovern
 McHenry
 McKinley
 McNeerney
 Meeks
 Meijer
 Meng
 Meuser
 Mfume
 Miller (WV)
 Miller-Meeks
 Moolenaar

Mooney
 Moore (AL)
 Moore (UT)
 Moore (WI)
 Morelle
 Moulton
 Mrvan
 Mullin
 Murphy (FL)
 Murphy (NC)
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Neguse
 Newhouse
 Newman
 Norcross
 O'Halleran
 Obernolte
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Omar
 Owens
 Palazzo
 Pallone
 Palmer
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Pascrell
 Payne
 Pence
 Perlmutter
 Peters
 Phillips
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Porter
 Posey
 Pressley
 Price (NC)
 Quigley
 Raskin
 Reed
 Reschenthaler
 Rice (NY)
 Rice (SC)
 Rodgers (WA)
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Ross
 Rouzer
 Roybal-Allard
 Ruiz
 Ruppertsberger
 Rush
 Rutherford
 Ryan
 Salazar
 Sánchez
 Sarbanes
 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)
 Smith (WA)
 Smucker
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Speier
 Stansbury
 Stanton
 Stuber
 Steel
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Stevens
 Stewart
 Strickland
 Suozzi
 Swalwell
 Takano
 Taylor
 Tenney
 Thompson (CA)
 Thompson (MS)
 Thompson (PA)
 Timmons
 Titus
 Tlaib
 Tonko
 Torres (NY)
 Trahan
 Trone
 Turner
 Underwood
 Upton
 Valadao
 Van Drew
 Van Dуйne
 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)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Yarmuth
 Zeldin

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

Bilirakis (Fleischmann)	Jackson (Fallon) (Jeffries)	Sánchez (Gomez) Sires (Pallone)
Bowman (Meng)	Joyce (OH) (Garbarino)	Suozzi (Beyer)
Buchanan (Waltz)	Kahele (Mrvan) (Wasserman Schultz)	Taylor (Carter (TX))
Cawthorn (Fallon)	Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)	Trahan (Blunt Rochester)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)	Luetkemeyer (Meuser)	Valadao (Garbarino)
DeGette (Blunt Rochester)	Roybal-Allard (Wasserman Schultz)	Wilson (FL) (Jeffries)
Evans (Mfume)	Rush (Jeffries)	
Gosar (Gaetz)	Salazar (Owens)	

BETTER CYBERCRIME METRICS 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 (S. 2629) to establish cybercrime reporting mechanisms, 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 Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 377, nays 48, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 87]
 YEAS—377

Adams
 Aderholt
 Aguilar
 Allen
 Allred
 Amodei
 Arrington
 Auchincloss
 Axne
 Bacon
 Baird
 Balderson
 Banks
 Barr
 Barragán
 Bass
 Beatty
 Bentz
 Bera
 Bergman
 Beyer
 Bice (OK)
 Billirakis
 Bishop (GA)
 Blumenauer
 Blunt Rochester
 Bonamici
 Bost
 Bourdeaux
 Bowman
 Boyle, Brendan
 F.
 Brooks
 Brown (MD)
 Brown (OH)
 Brownley
 Buchanan
 Buck
 Buehson
 Budd
 Bush
 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
 Connolly
 Cooper
 Correa
 Costa
 Courtney
 Craig
 Crawford
 Crenshaw
 Crist
 Crow
 Cuellar
 Curtis
 Davids (KS)
 Davis, Danny K.
 Dean
 DeFazio
 DeGette
 DeLauro
 DelBene
 Delgado
 Demings
 Desaulnier
 Deutch
 Diaz-Balart
 Dingell
 Doggett
 Donalds
 Doyle, Michael
 F.
 Duncan
 Dunn
 Ellzey
 Escobar
 Eshoo
 Espaillat
 Estes
 Evans
 Feenstra
 Fischbach
 Fitzpatrick
 Fleischmann
 Fletcher
 Foster
 Foxx
 Frankel, Lois

Franklin, C.
 Scott
 Gallagher
 Gallego
 Garamendi
 Garbarino
 Garcia (CA)
 Garcia (IL)
 Garcia (TX)
 Gibbs
 Gimenez
 Golden
 Gomez
 Gonzales, Tony
 Gonzalez (OH)
 Gonzalez,
 Vicente
 Gottheimer
 Granger
 Graves (LA)
 Graves (MO)
 Green (TN)
 Green, Al (TX)
 Griffith
 Grijalva
 Guest
 Guthrie
 Harder (CA)
 Hartzler
 Hayes
 Herrell
 Herrera Beutler
 Higgins (LA)
 Higgins (NY)
 Hill
 Himes
 Hinson
 Hollingsworth
 Houlihan
 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
 Joyce (OH)
 Joyce (PA)

Armstrong
 Babin
 Biggs
 Bishop (NC)
 Boebert
 Brady
 Burchett
 Burgess
 Cline
 Cloud
 Comer
 Davidson
 Davis, Rodney
 DesJarlais
 Emmer
 Fallon
 Ferguson
 Fitzgerald
 Fulcher
 Gaetz
 Gohmert
 Good (VA)
 Gooden (TX)
 Gosar
 Greene (GA)
 Grothman
 Harris
 Harshbarger
 Hern
 Hice (GA)
 Jordan
 Lesko

NAYS—48

NOT VOTING—6

Loudermilk
 Massie
 Mast
 McClintock
 Miller (IL)
 Nehls
 Norman
 Perry
 Pfluger
 Rose
 Rosendale
 Roy
 Spartz
 Steube
 Tiffany
 Weber (TX)

Horsford
 Kinzinger
 Scalise
 Torres (CA)

HOMICIDE VICTIMS' FAMILIES' RIGHTS ACT OF 2021

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. WILD). 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. 3359) to provide for a system for reviewing the case files of cold case murders at the instance of certain persons, and for other purposes, as amended, 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 Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 406, nays 20, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 88]
 YEAS—406

Adams	Buchanan	Cole
Aderholt	Buck	Comer
Aguilar	Bucshon	Connolly
Allen	Budd	Cooper
Allred	Burchett	Correa
Amodei	Burgess	Costa
Arrington	Bush	Courtney
Auchincloss	Butterfield	Craig
Axne	Calvert	Crawford
Babin	Cammack	Crenshaw
Bacon	Carbajal	Crist
Baird	Cárdenas	Crow
Balderson	Carey	Cuellar
Banks	Carl	Curtis
Barr	Carson	Davids (KS)
Barragán	Carter (GA)	Davis, Danny K.
Bass	Carter (LA)	Davis, Rodney
Beatty	Carter (TX)	Dean
Bentz	Cartwright	DeFazio
Bera	Case	DeGette
Bergman	Casten	DeLauro
Beyer	Castor (FL)	DelBene
Bice (OK)	Castro (TX)	Delgado
Billirakis	Cawthorn	Demings
Bishop (GA)	Chabot	Desaulnier
Bishop (NC)	Cheney	DesJarlais
Blumenauer	Cherfilus-McCormick	Deutch
Blunt Rochester	Chu	Diaz-Balart
Bonamici	Cicilline	Dingell
Bost	Clark (MA)	Doggett
Bourdeaux	Clarke (NY)	Donalds
Bowman	Cleaver	Doyle, Michael
Boyle, Brendan	F.	Duncan
F.	Cline	Dunn
Brady	Cloud	Ellzey
Brown (MD)	Clyburn	Emmer
Brown (OH)	Clyde	Escobar
Brownley	Cohen	

Messrs. WEBER of Texas, HERN, and COMER changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Fox
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
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 (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahale
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
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney,
Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Massie
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Weeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler

Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
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)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dуйne
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman
Peters
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)

Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)

Wittman
Womack

NAYS—20

Armstrong
Biggs
Boebert
Brooks
Davidson
Gaetz
Gohmert

Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Harris
Hice (GA)

NOT VOTING—5

Bustos
Fortenberry

Kinzinger
Murphy (NC)

□ 1816

Mr. CLINE changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bilirakis (Fleischmann)	Jackson (Fallon)	Sánchez (Gomez)
Bowman (Meng)	Johnson (TX)	Sires (Pallone)
Buchanan	Jeffries)	Suozi (Beyer)
(Waltz)	Joyce (OH)	Taylor (Carter (TX))
Cawthorn	(Garbarino)	Trahan (Blunt)
(Fallon)	Kahale (Mrvan)	Rochester)
Crist	Lawson (FL)	Valadao
(Wasserman)	(Wasserman)	(Garbarino)
Schultz)	Luetkemeyer	Wilson (FL)
DeGette (Blunt)	(Meuser)	(Jeffries)
Rochester)	Roybal-Allard	
Evans (Mfume)	(Wasserman)	
Gosar (Gaetz)	Schultz)	
Harder (CA)	Rush (Jeffries)	
(Gomez)	Salazar (Owens)	

COVID-19 AMERICAN HISTORY PROJECT 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. 4738) to direct the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to establish a history project to collect video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonial, written materials, and photographs of those who were affected by COVID-19, and for other purposes, as amended, 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 Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 376, nays 47, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 89]
YEAS—376

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)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)

Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan
F.
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon

Burgess
Bush
Butterfield
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciocilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clever
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
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
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Doggett
Doyle, Michael
F.
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Fox
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)

Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
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)
Kahale
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

Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Weeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler

Strickland	Underwood	Weber (TX)
Suozzi	Upton	Webster (FL)
Swalwell	Valadao	Welch
Takano	Van Duyne	Wenstrup
Tenney	Vargas	Westerman
Thompson (CA)	Veasey	Wexton
Thompson (MS)	Vela	Wild
Thompson (PA)	Velázquez	Williams (GA)
Timmons	Wagner	Williams (TX)
Titus	Walberg	Wilson (FL)
Tlaib	Walorski	Wilson (SC)
Tonko	Waltz	Wittman
Torres (NY)	Wasserman	Womack
Trahan	Schultz	Yarmuth
Trone	Waters	Zeldin
Turner	Watson Coleman	

NAYS—47

Biggs	Estes	Mast
Bishop (NC)	Fallon	McClain
Boebert	Fischbach	McClintock
Brooks	Gaetz	Miller (IL)
Buck	Good (VA)	Moore (AL)
Budd	Gooden (TX)	Norman
Burchett	Gosar	Perry
Cammack	Greene (GA)	Posey
Cawthorn	Griffith	Rosendale
Cline	Harris	Roy
Cloud	Hern	Schweikert
Clyde	Hice (GA)	Steube
Comer	Hollingsworth	Taylor
Davidson	Jordan	Tiffany
Donalds	Joyce (PA)	Van Drew
Duncan	Massie	

NOT VOTING—8

Brady	Fortenberry	Ryan
Bustos	Kinzinger	Torres (CA)
Dingell	Murphy (NC)	

□ 1827

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, 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

Bilirakis	Jackson (Fallon)	Sánchez (Gomez)
(Fleischmann)	Johnson (TX)	Sires (Pallone)
Bowman (Meng)	(Jeffries)	Suozzi (Beyer)
Buchanan	Joyce (OH)	Taylor (Carter
(Waltz)	(Garbarino)	(TX))
Cawthorn	Kahele (Mrvan)	Trahan (Blunt
(Fallon)	Lawson (FL)	Rochester)
Crist	(Wasserman	Valadao
(Wasserman	Schultz)	(Garbarino)
Schultz)	Luetkemeyer	Wilson (FL)
DeGette (Blunt	(Meuser)	(Jeffries)
Rochester)	Roybal-Allard	
Evans (Mfume)	(Wasserman	
Gosar (Gaetz)	Schultz)	
Harder (CA)	Rush (Jeffries)	
(Gomez)	Salazar (Owens)	

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 7010

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of H.R. 7010.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. ROSS). The gentleman's request is accepted.

RECOGNIZING OHIO TUSKEGEE AIRMEN DAY

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

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, today marks the first annual Ohio Tuskegee Airmen Day celebration at the National Veterans Memorial and Museum in my district.

In March 1946, Tuskegee Airmen began to arrive at Lockbourne Army

Airfield, today known as Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base in Columbus. The airmen were under the leadership of Colonel Benjamin O. Davis, the first Black officer to command an Air Force base in the continental United States.

Their achievements during the war paved the way for full integration of the U.S. military, as pilots, navigators, and bombardiers. These brave, distinguished Black men received Purple Hearts, Silver Stars, and Bronze Stars.

They were fighting for our country and for us during a time they were denied access to the right to vote, housing in certain neighborhoods, and separate but not equal educational opportunities.

Please join me in recognizing these heroic Black men.

PROTECTING AND EMPOWERING THE MODERN WORKER

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

Mr. ALLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to highlight a bill I recently introduced with my good friend, Senator TIM SCOTT of South Carolina.

The Employee Rights Act of 2022 updates our labor policies to protect and empower the modern worker.

Democrats continue to push their out-of-touch, Big Labor wish list in the PRO Act, which tilts the scale toward nonelected union leaders, tramples employee rights, and preempts State right-to-work laws. Meanwhile, Republicans are focused on the worker of today and the future.

The Employee Rights Act guarantees that employees will have secret ballot union elections, ensures control over the disclosure of their personal information, keeps members' dues from being used for political purposes without their permission, and gives employees more flexibility to withdraw from a union if a majority of the employees agree.

This bill also codifies the common law definition of "employee" to protect gig economy workers and other independent contractors and once and for all clarifies the definition of "joint employer" so that franchisees, entrepreneurs, and anyone seeking flexible work options are not hamstrung into not running their own business.

As a businessman, I have experienced firsthand the consequences of Big Government overregulation, and I am thankful for the support of dozens of proworker and probusiness groups that support the Employee Rights Act of 2022.

TELLING THE AMERICAN COVID-19 STORY

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to applaud two legislative initia-

tives that passed this week. One in particular was the COVID-19 American History Project Act.

With over almost a million Americans who died from COVID-19, the historic stories, the stories of tragedy and joy of the many hardworking medical professionals, like those in my particular congressional district, like Dr. Peter Hotez, who discovered an unbelievable vaccine that is now being used in developing nations, Dr. Joseph Varon, Dr. Joe Gathe, and many, many others; hospitals far and wide; nurses and medical professionals, who had to take care of people who were lying in hospital hallways; and families who lost one and two and three and four. We must tell the COVID-19 story.

It is an American story. We must tell of the heroes. We must tell of those we lost. We must say thank you.

But one thing we must do, as the chair of the bipartisan COVID-19 Task Force, we must never, never repeat this again. We must be prepared, and we should be ready to save lives. There is nothing wrong with testing and vaccinating.

REMEMBERING JERRY MARSHALL GILL

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of a valued member of the Savannah community, Jerry Marshall Gill.

Jerry was born in Bogalusa, Louisiana, in 1931. He and his family moved to Savannah when he was at the young age of 5.

Once in Savannah, Jerry attended Commercial High School, where he stood out immediately as a gifted basketball player.

From Commercial High, Jerry proceeded to Armstrong Junior College before answering the call to join the United States Marine Corps. Jerry was called to Active Duty in 1950 and served in the Korean war.

Back home, he was a volunteer for the Georgia Affiliates Federal Credit Unions for over 42 years, where he received "Volunteer of the Year," the "Lifetime Achievement Award," and the "Credit Union House Hall of Leaders Award," which is displayed here in D.C. in the D.C. Credit Union House.

After retirement, Jerry worked with the Georgia Affiliates Credit Union for another 12 years.

Jerry's life of service was further demonstrated in his commitment to his fellow veterans. He volunteered with the USO and was a member of the Veterans Council League for many years.

We will all dearly miss Jerry, his wisdom, and his service.

CONGRATULATING SAINT PETER'S UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

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

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to praise a sensational basketball team from my district. Saint Peter's University is a small, exceptional school in Jersey City, New Jersey.

This year, Coach Shaheen Holloway's Peacocks became the first 15th seed to reach the Elite Eight of the men's NCAA basketball tournament.

In the first round, the Peacocks shocked the world when they upset Kentucky, the number 2 seed and college basketball powerhouse. They did it again when they beat Murray State and Purdue to get to the Elite Eight.

I was honored to watch the comeback victory over Purdue in the Sweet Sixteen. I did it as a Congressman and proud parent of two Saint Peter's graduates, my sons, Donald III and Jack.

Saint Peter's University will be remembered as one of the most successful teams in the NCAA tournament history, and I am extremely proud to have it in my district.

PRESIDENT BIDEN'S FOREIGN POLICY BLUNDERS

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, once again, the President of the United States made a terrible foreign policy blunder when he embarrassingly said that Vladimir Putin cannot remain in power.

Almost immediately, the White House communications team did everything they could to save face and walk back the President's remarks. Thankfully, the Secretary of State issued a statement clarifying the President's comments, saying that the U.S. has no strategy of regime change in Russia.

Unfortunately, it was too little, too late, as Moscow was quick to seize on the President's gaffe to embolden Putin's undeniably false message that Russia is the one under attack.

Mistakes like these directly undermine Ukrainian efforts to protect their sovereignty and stall momentum for peace. President Biden's actions have been misguided from the onset of this war. He has failed to deter Russia, and he was late to give Ukraine the military assistance it so badly needed.

The world expects clear and resolute leadership from the Oval Office. Unfortunately, it doesn't look like there is a chance of that anytime soon.

HONORING OHIO TUSKEGEE AIRMEN DAY

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

Mr. CAREY. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Ohio Tuskegee Airmen Day.

Most know the Tuskegee Airmen as the first Black pilots in the military

who overcame the headwinds of segregation and racism to achieve unparalleled success during World War II, flying nearly 1,600 missions and destroying over 260 enemy aircraft.

What you may not know is their success continued after the war, both militarily and culturally, in Lockbourne, Ohio.

In 1946, the Tuskegee Airmen arrived at the Lockbourne Army Air Force Base, where they operated the first and only Army Air Force base under the command of Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.

Segregation continued to hinder their opportunities off base, but Lockbourne overcame and was lauded as the best managed base in the Air Force. Their work led President Harry Truman to issue an executive order in 1948 that desegregated the military and mandated equal opportunity and treatment.

I am proud to represent an area of such historical significance and to honor the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen.

HOPE FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to hope for peace in Ukraine.

Estimates vary, but perhaps over 20,000 people have died in this war already.

Recently, both President Biden and Senator GRAHAM have weighed in on what they feel should happen to Vladimir Putin. Obviously, their language could delay the end of the war and heighten tensions at the peace talks.

Have they cleared their comments with the Ukrainian people, who lose more people every day the war goes on?

Both President Biden and Senator GRAHAM got press from these remarks, and some politicians just care about that.

I encourage all Senators and the President of the United States to remember that they are in the big leagues now, and their careless remarks to get a little bit more press can cost Ukrainian and Russian lives.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SERGEANT AT ARMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 28, 2022.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, following consultation with the Office of Attending Physician, I write to provide you further notification that the public health emergency due to the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 remains in effect.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. WALKER,
Sergeant at Arms.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces the extension, pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 8, and effective March 31, 2022, of the "covered period" designated on January 4, 2021.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE DONALD EDWIN YOUNG

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

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous materials.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

□ 1845

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues on this House floor and remember our good friend, the dedicated dean of the House, Congressman Don Young, from the great State of Alaska.

Don had a fire in him. He exuded joy in everything he did. And when he walked into a room, you knew he was there.

Don was passionate in his desire to serve the people of Alaska, and for almost 50 years, he did just that. Don loved this House and chaired two of our key committees, Natural Resources and Transportation.

As a freshman, yes, I, like, so many new members, sat mistakenly in his seat. The big bear growled me away.

Once during a vote series, I voted "no" on a Don Young bill building roads in Alaska and walked out of the Chamber. Three minutes later, the whip team is texting me. Representative ANN WAGNER is texting me: Don Young is screaming your name on the House floor. He wants to know why you voted "no". I went to dinner.

The next morning, I found him and asked if he still needed me. He asked why I was a "no". I told him, and he smiled with that great big smile and asked if I could vote for his Alaskan fishing bill the next week. I said, yes, you bet, Mr. Chairman. You bet.

I would like to extend my condolences to Anne, his children, and all who loved him. Don was a great man who will not be forgotten. May his life of service be an example to us all.

Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HUFFMAN).

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

Madam Speaker, there is so much I would like to say about my friend, Don Young. And some of you are probably wondering how could Don Young, the crusty, old conservative from Alaska be friends with a liberal Democrat from California like JARED HUFFMAN, an environmental radical.

Well, it wasn't because we agreed on Arctic drilling. It wasn't because we agreed on the Endangered Species Act or so many other things. We fought about those things.

In fact, I will always remember our colleague, MIKE LEVIN's, first Natural Resource Committee hearing. Don Young was shaking his fist at me, saying that he wanted to go out in the hall to settle our differences, and MIKE couldn't believe it. And I told him that was nothing. That was tame by Don Young standards. You should have seen him last year.

Don didn't actually wink when he did these things, but he didn't need to because we both knew that the next time I saw him, we would be laughing about it, having a glass of Chardonnay.

Believe it or not, we did find some things to work on. We had a mutual love of fishing and salmon. We found lots of legislation to do together on those subjects.

We both represent a lot of Indian country. We found common cause there. We worked together on national and international wildlife conservation. Now, he wanted to conserve wildlife so he could kill it. I wanted to conserve it so I could admire it generally, but we found common cause, and we did a lot of good work together.

I will always remember that when I met with Don in his office, I would be sure to bring a bottle of Chardonnay from my district because it was Anne's favorite and because in the odd years, when Don was actually drinking, he liked it too.

I am so glad that in addition to getting to serve for almost 10 years with this legend of the House, I got to have a lot of fun with him. I got to play paddle ball in the gym. I got to travel with him and Anne to Europe. I got to go fishing.

In fact, I went to his fishing tournament in Alaska last year. I was the only Democrat there. My reward was Don put me on his boat with Karl Rove, and I spent about 9 hours on the water with Don Young and Karl Rove. That is an experience I will never forget. And it too was an awful lot of fun, just like everything with Don Young.

So with Don Young gone, I have no doubt there are going to be plenty of other people around here that I will find things to fight about with. It is the other part that I will miss, and I think the institution will miss.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from California.

Madam Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend and neighbor across the Sabine River for having this special order honoring Representative Young.

We are here to honor the dean of our House, Congressman Don Young. For nearly half a century, Don devoted his life to serving the people of Alaska and our Nation, starting his long career in Congress just 4 years after we landed an astronaut on the surface of the moon. A staggering thought.

"North to the Future" is the motto of our 49th State. It is meant to represent Alaska as the land of promise. Throughout 10 different administrations, multiple wars and conflicts, national tragedies, the invention of the worldwide web, September the 11th, and much more, Don never stopped trying to spread the motto of his home State to the rest of our Nation because he saw America as a land of promise.

He understood the need to learn from our successes and our failures, adapt and push forward boldly, and bold he was. I will miss his fiery personality, his fearlessness, and his unique ability to get bills expedited if he concluded that they were taking too long.

I share Don's fierce love for Alaska and the great outdoors, and I routinely visited his great State to hunt and fish over many years. If you have seen Alaska's breathtaking terrain and wildlife, you will never wonder why Don adored that State so much. He stood by his State through the thick and the thin.

It was an honor to walk with him in these sacred Halls, to serve alongside of him in the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, to hear the wisdom that he gleaned throughout his many years in Congress, and to call him my friend.

God threw away the mold after he created Don Young. History will remember him fondly, as it very well should. Anne and his children are in my prayers.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER) that served on both the National Resources Committee and the House Transportation Committee with Congressman Young.

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the dean of the House and my friend, Congressman Don Young.

The great State of Alaska and the Eighth Congressional District of Minnesota, which I have the honor of representing here in Congress, have many shared similarities and qualities.

These are the values that Don and I shared to fight for our way of life, to promote the responsible use of our abundant natural resources, and to provide for our children and grandchildren infrastructure built to last.

This made working alongside the dean such a pleasure and an honor. We served together on the Natural Resources and Transportation Committees, and I will never forget the countless times he helped me out through the kindness of his heart.

Since first being elected to office in 1973, Don picked up a range of helpful tips, funny stories, and congressional experience that he was never shy about sharing.

His wife, Anne, along with the rest of his family, are in my prayers. Don's legacy of service will never be forgotten, and he will always be remembered as a titan for the people of Alaska and our great Nation. May he rest in peace.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Louisiana for leading this tonight. I really appreciate it.

There is so much that could be said about that. I think the really personal things about Don Young are what I would like to reflect around this place.

When I first got here almost 10 years ago, we had kind of a common kinship in that we are both actually from northern California. He was born in a town near Meridian, California, not far from Yuba City, which is my back yard too, part of a rice farming outfit there.

I knew his brother Doug from Woodland, part of Republican politics there. Both these guys are obviously characters.

So, for Don, though, you could tell he was just a pillar, just being around him. Of course, his portrait is on the wall in the committee room and such, his work on transportation, but it is the small things that really make a difference; his warmth, him and his wife Anne, for me and my staff that would be around him at various events going on around the district.

We talk a lot about that chair over there, right. And so I sat in the chair, not because I didn't know, because I did know, and I wanted to see what would happen.

So I am sitting there, and he walks in. I got this thumb on my ear here. He grabbed it, and I said oh, I guess it is time for me to go. Sir, I am just warming the chair up because you are from Alaska. You need the chair warm for you. He bought that, but I got right out of there too.

Now, just recently, I think it was last Wednesday, you know, he was in a wheelchair recently due to issues and such. And so we were heading to the elevator over here. And most of the time you might yield to that and let somebody with that issue going on have the elevator to themselves. Not this group.

Me and about four other guys, we all piled in there with him because we all wanted to be with Don Young, even just for a short elevator ride and see what he was going to say and what kind of things were going to go on.

That is the man we all love and are going to miss terribly and whose sweet

wife, Anne, God bless you. It has just been a pleasure knowing and being with you here.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST).

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding.

You know, a lot of people are saying a lot of things here about Don tonight as we are talking about his life and his service.

Now, let's put it in perspective. Many of the people in this House, whenever he first came in, many weren't even born. In my case, I was in seventh grade, never knowing that I would meet somebody like Don Young.

When I first came into this great assembly, there was a gruff, noisy person that sat back in that chair that we have talked about all along, yelling about this and talking about that, and I just wondered who he was.

After serving with him on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, getting to know him, I realized that that gruff and that noise, let me explain something to you, has a heart that was bigger than the noise ever could be. The kindness that he didn't want to show when you were around him for just a little bit, you understood.

But, also, what is so great is the amount of us that were able to tap into his knowledge of the institution, of the things that he has seen; ten Presidents, nine Speakers, someone said over 2,000 Members that have come through that have served with Don Young.

Anytime someone has been in a position that long, the knowledge that they gain and the way that they can deliver for their district is amazing.

This last week when we found out Don passed—unfortunately, in the world of social media, you put things out, and you put it out as positive as possible. But there was one person that responded in a statement, when I said he was there 50 years, well, that is why we should have term limits.

Really? Don Young had term limits. Every 2 years. He went back to the people of Alaska, and the people of Alaska spoke every 2 years.

Why did they do that? They did that because they had a great Representative that knew and understood and loved the State that he represented.

Now, think about this. He sat in this House when he could have moved on to the Senate. It was the same run. He could have been Governor, but he chose to stay in this House because he believed in this House and the job he was doing for the people of Alaska. He served them well.

I was blessed by the fact that I got to go and participate in the fundraiser that his first wife had put together, and that is a fishing tournament that allows for that money to be given to the native children of Alaska that are in need.

After that, he married Anne. And to Anne and the family, his first love was

his family, and we thank them for giving him to us, not only the ones that serve here today but the ones that have served over the past 50 years, and to this Nation that will be forever grateful for a man who stood up, told the truth, and used this institution to make this Nation better.

□ 1900

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. PALMER).

Mr. PALMER. Madam Speaker, I rise this evening with a heavy but grateful heart, heavy with the grief that comes from losing a friend but very grateful for having such a friend and colleague as Don Young.

Congressman Don Young was truly an iconic figure in the history of the United States House of Representatives. Serving the great State of Alaska for three-quarters of its existence as a State, Don was determined to do all that he could for the people he both served and loved.

One of my favorite memories of Don was at the beginning of my second term in our organizational meeting, and he was in disagreement with our Speaker. He said, "You may be the Speaker, but I am Don Young."

This House will not be the same. There may be Members who will sit in his chair, but there will never be another that can take his place. There was and is only one Don Young. My colleagues and I extend our deepest sympathy to his family and his wife, Anne. We will all miss him.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, Don Young of Alaska was a fixture in this House. He was the kind of fixture that didn't just look pretty, because that wasn't his thing. He added immeasurably to everything else here.

He and I have been on the Natural Resources Committee for years together, ever since I have been here. Since I ticked off Republican leaders over the years, I was not going to end up being the chairman, so I got to sit by him for years. That has been a real pleasure.

He was a practical man and understood the contribution that he was making, and it was truly a massive contribution to this country, to Alaska, to the people of America. You never had to wonder where he stood, and I loved that about him. He didn't pull punches. He told you what he thought, and he didn't require a lot of words to do that.

His laugh was contagious, but so was his love for America. He dedicated his life to making this a better place for all of us. He loved Alaska, he loved Alaskan people, and if someone tried to tell him that, gee, the Tribal folks in Alaska would be better off if you never drilled, he wouldn't have any of it. He would get upset at that point, tell them they didn't know. He had lived

with those people, he had been there, he knew.

Don Young was a survivor, and though we bid farewell to his remains today, his spirit will survive as long as there is a Capitol.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. HIGGINS).

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, Don Young was my friend. Years ago, before I entered Congress to serve my country at this level, as a police officer I was called upon to address the annual gathering of the Alaskan State Troopers. I will always remember, as our plane entered Alaska, the mountains rose from the Earth, and I had never witnessed such magnificent splendor of the Lord's creation. It was awe inspiring. Frightening even.

A couple of years later I met Don Young, and I understood more both about Alaska and creation and, by extension, I understood more about all children of God.

Don Young, his spirit, his voice echoed through this Chamber, and every day that I sat next to him for over 5 years I recalled the Scripture that came to my mind when I felt and saw those magnificent mountains arising from the Earth. I recalled the Scripture advised us in Micah, said, "Hear ye now the Lord saith; Arise, contend thou before the mountains, and let the hills hear thy voice." This Chamber has echoed the voice of Don Young for five decades, and now he has gone to his reward.

May I say to you, Don, you are the mountain of Alaska, you have been a dear and honored friend. You will be missed, loved, respected, and your memory shall always be honored. I am a better man, having known you. I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES), for leading this Special Order.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. I thank my friend from Louisiana for his heartfelt message.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BAIRD).

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to my good friend, Representative Don Young.

The House of Representatives has been home to many unique individuals throughout its history, perhaps none more memorable than my colleague and friend, Representative Don Young.

His office walls are adorned with various mounted animals, and a 10-foot grizzly pelt, a homage to his favorite place, Alaska. For 49 years, Representative Young dutifully served his beloved Alaska, fiercely advocating for his home and the constituents he proudly served.

When I first came to Congress, Don was among the first to welcome me and show me the ropes. This Chamber is far quieter without his boisterous laugh. It is dimmer without his smiling face. We will miss this unforgettable giant, and I will miss my friend.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MAST).

Mr. MAST. Madam Speaker, dammit, I am going to miss my friend Don Young. My other close friend, Representative HIGGINS and I, we sat next to him pretty much every single day for nearly the last 6 years, and I can tell everybody that for every story that you have heard about bears and bear traps and snowshoeing and dog sledding and Iditarods and eagles and hunting and everything else that you heard about him, there are a dozen stories that you have not heard but you wish you heard. They were that good.

He was resilient. He was a mountain of a man, as you have heard from everybody. He was a fearless friend, and the only thing that he loved more than his country and his State of Alaska was his family and his wife, Anne, and that all encompassed just one of the most incredible men I have ever had the honor of knowing.

My friend, Don Young, we are going to miss you, and may you rest in peace, my friend.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. I thank my friend from Florida.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN), the ranking member of the House Natural Resources Committee.

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to stand in this Chamber tonight and to pay tribute to one of the longest serving and I think one of the most effective Members to ever stand in this Chamber. Don Young was not just the longest-serving Member, he was also a mentor and a friend; and he is someone who will be dearly missed.

Outside of Don's service as a legislator, just sitting and talking with him and hearing the stories of his life, he told me one time about running a 100-mile trap line in the remote part of Alaska, and it was like I was speaking to some character out of a novel or out of an Outdoor Life magazine article. He seemed to have done everything.

It is the stories that I think we are going to remember from Don. He passed very great legislation that had to do with everything from fisheries to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. He was behind that. But everybody who knew Don will remember the stories. We asked some of Don's former staff members if they could share stories, and I have got many pages, too many to read, just treasures here.

I want to share one story from David Whaley, who was a staff member for Don. He says one of my favorite Don Young stories is about the original Magnuson-Stevens Act, then known as the Fisheries Conservation and Management Act, or FCMA. The legislation extended U.S. jurisdiction over fisheries out to 200 miles. Many people have heard the story about the House passing the bill first and doing all the heavy lifting, and then the Senators getting all the credit. But not many people know that both the State Department and the Department of Defense were opposed to extending our jurisdiction out to 200 miles.

In the old days, if the President was flying to a Member's district, the Member would often be offered a ride on Air Force One back to the district. After both the House and the Senate had passed the FCMA, President Ford was flying somewhere that required a refueling stop in Anchorage, so Congressman Young was offered a ride.

As it happened, the Secretary of State was also on board. After they took off, the President asked Congressman Young into his office on the plane and had the Congressman debate the merits of the legislation with the Secretary of State. Congressman Young then got off the plane in Anchorage not knowing what the President was going to do. As we all know, the President signed the bill, and that is a story of how Don Young out-debated Henry Kissinger.

What a remarkable career, what a remarkable man. I got the privilege on my first trip to Alaska with Don to be on a fishing boat with him for the day, and the only thing I regret is that we didn't have a video camera recording all the stories. Those are things that I will cherish about Don.

But I want to share a personal story that Don shared with me out here on the House floor. A former member from Arkansas named Jay Dickey, who Don thought the world of, was always telling people about his friend Jesus, and after Jay died, Don just caught me on the floor and he said, "I want you to know something. Your predecessor told me about his friend Jesus," and he said, "And I put my trust in him, and some day I am going to go see him." I thought about the Scripture in Romans that says if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. That wasn't the conversation I was expecting to have with Don Young that day, but I am glad he had that conversation because I know some day I am going to see Don again. That is the way Don was. He told stories that gave encouragement, he told stories that were reassuring, and that was probably the most reassuring story that Don ever shared with me.

We are going to miss him, but we can learn from his example. I again thank the gentleman from Louisiana for hosting this Special Order.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, it is an honor to yield to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished majority leader of the House.

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from Louisiana, GARRET GRAVES, for yielding. I thank him for taking this Special Order for a special person.

Now, I must say I am not going to have any funny stories about Don, although funny stories there are. Nor can I say that I ever fished with Don, because I didn't. Nor did I ever hunt with Don. I didn't. But I served 41 years with Don Young, and I got to know him very

well: As a friend, as a Member of this House, as a fellow American; and, yes, incidentally as a Republican and a Democrat because neither Don nor I proceeded in our relationship on the basis of our party affiliation but on the basis of common ideals, common objectives, and common love for this country.

□ 1915

I am honored to join my colleagues in paying tribute to my friend Don Young, who represented the State of Alaska in this House for 49 years.

Don was one of three people who were senior to me in this House. There are two Republicans, Mr. SMITH and Mr. ROGERS, who I think both have the same seniority, so maybe they are co-deans of the House. But I am the senior Democrat in the House, and therefore, I had a long time to work with, to know, and to grow in respect for a crusty curmudgeon who could be as tough as nails but could also be as nice as you would hope a fellow colleague to be.

As a matter of fact, I was here working as—I wasn't an intern because I was getting paid. I was at Georgetown Law School working when Alaska became a State. When Alaska and Hawaii became States, they became States together. The theory was that Alaska would be a Democrat State and Hawaii would be a Republican State. I use that analogy because who knows what we are going to be 10 years from now or 20 years from now, so making decisions on a partisan basis probably is not what we ought to be doing.

But Don loved Alaska, and as the junior Senator from Alaska said today at the memorial service held for Don as he lay in state, an honor few Americans get—less than 50 Americans. Don Young got that honor.

Many, of course, have commented on the sudden and unexpected nature of his passing. Surely, however, death had to take him by surprise because if he had seen death coming, death would not have stood a chance.

Don Young was ferocious. He was ferocious for his constituents, for whom he felt a sacred responsibility and delivered so much over his 25 terms in office. He said, "I will defend my State to the dying breath," and that he did.

When he was taken from us, Don was on his way home from legislative session, headed back to meet with his constituents and make sure they knew how he was fighting for them in Washington.

Don was ferocious, but he also was gentle. Those who got to know him saw that behind that often-prickly facade was a tender and warm-hearted man who cared about his country and cared about his colleagues. He cared most of all about his family.

The love he felt for his family, for his constituents, and for the institution was as enormous as the State he represented.

I particularly was close to Don and fond of Don because he loved this institution. I love this institution. It is one

of the unique institutions of the world where the only way you can get here is for your neighbors to choose you. Nobody can appoint you. No Governor can appoint you. No President can appoint you. No majority here can appoint you. You come here because your neighbors respect you. And Don's neighbors 25 times over almost 50 years got the opportunity to say: DON YOUNG, we trust you, and we want you to go to Washington to represent us.

There is only one Member of Congress from Alaska. They have two Senators but only one Representative. What an honor for all of us to be selected by our neighbors to represent and articulate their voice in the Halls of this Congress.

I respected Don, and he respected me. On many occasions, we stood and worked together on behalf of this institution and on behalf of the Members of this institution.

Don had a passion, as we all know, for decorum, known for tapping his cane and urging whoever sat in the chair to call the vote. "Regular order" would come from the seat at the back of the Chamber because he felt that the Chair was not bringing the vote to a close soon enough. And he was right. It didn't mean that the Chair closed the vote because we were waiting for other people to come because they were late—but never Don Young. When the bell rang, Don Young answered the call. He never sat in the corner. He was always ready for the fight. He was always ready for the challenge.

When votes were called, we weren't always on the same side. That is what is written here. We were very rarely on the same side, but we were always on the same side when it came to Members, this institution, and the American people.

In fact, just because we were on opposite sides, it did not mean that we were on opposite sides from a personal standpoint. I hope all of us could learn that lesson. We are all chosen by our neighbors, as I said, to be here. For that reason alone, we ought to respect one another.

I don't mean that everybody does things that ought to be respected all the time; they don't. But it is important to understand, particularly now as Putin is testing whether democracies can work. Xi, the leader of China, and Putin wrote a 5,000-page paper just about 6 weeks ago. Their premise was democracies cannot succeed because they cannot come together, and they cannot make decisions in a timely fashion.

Don Young was somebody you could go to in a very collegial fashion, and if you disagreed, you disagreed with honor on each side. But if you agreed, you joined hands to accomplish the objectives of that agreement.

I always knew that Don believed he was doing the best he could for those he served, and he spoke and voted with his convictions. Whenever, as I have just said, we found common ground and

common cause, it was a pleasure working with him and knowing that I had alongside me someone so fiercely devoted to getting a job done on behalf of his people and on behalf of our country.

It says here that now Don is at rest. The good Lord is saying, if that is rest, I am in real trouble because that guy is not stopping. He is still punching. He is still fighting. He is still yelling out "regular order."

We are better for having known him and served with him.

I join in offering his wife, Anne—who I hugged and gave a kiss to earlier today. I said how much I grieved his loss and shared her love for this extraordinary man. His daughters will miss him. Their families will miss him. We will miss him. And this institution will miss him.

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Maryland for his remarks.

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

Madam Speaker, Don Young served in this Chamber for nearly five decades, for nearly 50 years. Prior to that, he was a teacher, a trapper, a gold miner, a boat captain, a legislator—an incredible background for somebody to serve in this Chamber, such a diverse background and diverse experiences.

I was in a meeting with him last year at the White House, and he stood up and said to President Biden: I need a picture with you. I have had a picture with nine other Presidents, and I need one with you.

I mean, just think about that, with nine other Presidents that he worked with, that he served with. The history there is unbelievable.

Everybody in this Chamber has a Don Young story. Everybody has an interaction that is incredibly memorable.

One of them that I won't forget is when we were at the White House and a bill was being signed into law that opened up the energy production in Alaska in an area—I think he told me he had been working on this for 30 years. He was so excited about it, and he turned around, looks back, and says: What I lack in intelligence, I make up for in perseverance.

Thirty years to get something done, but he wasn't going to stop.

There are so many stories about Don Young and that famous knife. That knife has been pulled out and involved in so many stories across that 50 years. I will bet that everybody in this Chamber has a story about that knife.

I believe there have been over 2,170 Members of the House who served with Don Young, and I think that all of them have a story of the knife.

I was standing in the back of the Cannon Caucus Room during a Conference meeting where there was a heated discussion about changes in indirect spending, and Don Young took it to the back of the room with the then-Speaker of the House, John Boehner. Don is right up in Speaker Boehner's face. I think that this is covered in

Speaker Boehner's book. He got right up in his face, and he is yelling at him. Don takes that knife out—and to be clear, it was not open—but he had that knife right at the Speaker's neck. The Speaker's security detail starts walking in, and Boehner looks at them, and he is like, no, he is harmless.

There are so many stories, and they are all true—so many more. But I also want to say that while many people view this and believe this is the Don Young, the Don Young with the scowl that is portrayed in the media, I think this is the Don Young that so many of us actually know.

Don Young would swear. He would scream. He would yell. He would have his growls and his scowl. But this is the Don Young that we knew. He was a grizzly bear on the outside, but Don Young was a teddy bear on the inside.

I have been subjected to the yelling and the screaming and cursing and everything else, and I finally realized after years that I could just go to him and say, "Don, shut up," and he would just make that face and start chuckling, the biggest teddy bear of a man.

There is a lot more to Don Young.

This is Don Young and Congressman George Miller, who was the ranking member of the House Natural Resources Committee. This was in the late nineties.

Don Young actually enacted 123 pieces of legislation, one of the most successful legislators to ever serve in this body.

This picture was taken after years of negotiation among these folks. This is Congressman Chris John of Louisiana, as well as the famous Congressman John Dingell of Michigan and Congressman Billy Tauzin of Louisiana. This was landmark conservation legislation that these guys worked on.

Don recognized the art of the deal. He recognized when you could actually get something done working together with other people. I will say it again, with 123 bills signed into law, Don was an amazing legislator.

He was also tough as nails. Something that people don't know, and I will go ahead and violate his HIPAA privacy here: Don Young was scheduled to have back surgery this week. He goes to the doctor, "I have been having back pain," and folks will remember him walking around with a cane. He goes and gets a back X-ray and an MRI. He had a broken back. He had a broken back and was walking around, continuing to do his job fighting for the people of Alaska with a broken back. Don, I will say it again, was tough as nails.

Madam Speaker, to the citizens of Alaska, I would like to tell you that Don Young absolutely bled for your State. He fought for it; he defended it; and he bled for the State of Alaska. I will tell you that I know this because I worked for him. I had the honor of working for Chairman Young on the Transportation Committee, and it was always Alaska first.

There is a huge alumni class of hundreds and hundreds of people. I would tease Don all the time that I was the only person that was able to overcome the stigma of Don Young and make something of myself. I said that in jest, I want to be clear to the hundreds of Don Young alumni who are out there that is a phenomenal group of people.

Some people advocate for term limits in this body, and I agree. I think that term limits should happen. I think that some people when they are here for 2 weeks it is pretty clear that they should be term-limited.

But I will also tell you that Don Young, after nearly five decades fighting for the State of Alaska, he shouldn't have been subjected to term limits. He fought for that State every single day.

□ 1930

On the Wednesday before his death, he and I stood right over on the side of this Chamber, he was in his wheelchair, and we had a conversation. He was talking about the House versus the Senate. He was talking about how in the Senate, his senators had to work together and figure it out.

He talked about how, for Alaska, he was the people's voice. He was the only one. He was the people's voice. There was no delegation to fight with or negotiate with. It was Don—a State that is nearly one-fifth the size of the Continental United States; three times the State of Texas. Take that, Texas.

Many people believe that the fact that Alaska has one Member of Congress is because of a pesky little thing called the Census, or counting population, or the Constitution.

Madam Speaker, I submit to this body that the reason the State of Alaska has just one Member is because all you needed was Don Young.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the distinguished gentlewoman from the State of California (Ms. PELOSI), the Speaker of the House.

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

Madam Speaker, I thank Congressman GRAVES for arranging this special tribute to a devoted patriot, a serious legislator, and endearing colleague and friend, the dean of the House, Congressman Don Young. I thank Mr. GRAVES for his leadership in putting this together. I am pleased to join our distinguished Democratic leader, Mr. HOYER, who is still here on the floor now for this.

Madam Speaker, this morning, Congress had the sad and official honor of welcoming Congressman Young back to the Capitol to lie in state in Statuary Hall. As Speaker, it was my solemn privilege to join in paying tribute to this legendary leader, as his historic public service brought luster to the Congress and to the country.

It was always clear that Don was passionate about his position and his patriotism, and about working in this institution to make a difference.

As an Army veteran, he was a force for ensuring our servicemembers, veterans, and military families got the care they earned;

As a former teacher and passionate advocate for quality education for all of our Nation's children; and

As a champion for Alaska—as Congressman GRAVES pointed out, and Mr. HOYER as well—he was relentless in delivering investments to his beloved home State, especially lifting up Native communities in honor of his late wife, Lu.

When Don became dean in December 2017, he said right here on the House floor: I love this body. I believe in this body. My heart is in the House.

He loved the House and the House loved him. Indeed, Don Young was an institution in the House of Representatives. As was said this morning, 49 years for the 49th State, The Last Frontier, which he loved; Alaska.

While a committed conservative, he was more than willing to work across party lines if it meant delivering for his beloved home State of Alaska. And as dean, he cherished the duty to bring Members together and to defend the dignity and integrity of this institution.

I, myself, was personally honored to be sworn in as Speaker two times by the distinguished dean, Don Young, in 2019 and 2021.

As dean, he cherished his duty to bring Members together, as I said. Despite political differences, many of us on the other side of the aisle enjoyed close personal friendships with him built on our shared reverence and respect for this institution.

His salmon dinners were legendary. His personality was similarly legendary.

While we are devastated by the loss of our dear friend and colleague, each of us has a duty to honor his unending love for the House and the towering legacy he leaves behind.

Again, I call to attention the fact that George Miller, who served with him wrote—it is online in The Hill—an article he wrote with John Lawrence as opinion contributors. But George Miller and Don Young were back and forth, chair and ranking member, on the Interior Committee and the Committee on Natural Resources. You have to read it because any one sentence taken out of context, you might not appreciate, but let me just read what he said at the end: "Saying you miss Don Young doesn't mean he was right all the time or that he was invariably wrong; it means the House is diminished by his loss. He was a great Congressman and a great friend; Alaska was fortunate to have him."

May it be a comfort to his beloved wife, Anne, his dear children, Dawn and Joni, and his 20-some darling grandchildren that so many in the Congress and the country mourn their loss.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the statement of George Miller and John A. Lawrence.

DON YOUNG: A CONSERVATIVE WHO BELIEVED
IN THE HOUSE

(By George Miller and John A. Lawrence)

Don Young, the Alaska congressman who died on March 18 at 88 and who is lying in state today, was a hard-nosed, in-your-face, unapologetic, old-line conservative. An ardent hunter and gun advocate, the walls of his legendary Rayburn building office looked like the workplace of an over-active taxidermist: covered in heads, hides and horns of the creatures that had the misfortune to cross paths with this former teacher, trapper and river boat captain. A descendent of the early conservationist movement that preserved open lands and wildlife so he could drill and graze on the former and shoot the latter, he had no patience with public land purists who demanded minimal human intrusions on the natural ecosystem. It is fair to say he was much more Safari Club than Sierra Club.

Don was not a subtle personality, as many discovered throughout his career. If he was unhappy with your criticisms or bored with your speechifying, he might pull out his hunting knife and hold it to your throat or jam it into the dais next to you at a hearing. The chief proponent of logging old forests and drilling the fragile coast, he was a hero to his Alaska constituents who sent him to Congress longer than any other sitting member, but a desecrating exploiter of the public's resources to environmentalists, especially those in the other 49 states.

But if Don was a throwback to an earlier age of gruff, sharp-elbow politics, he also retained that era's deep love for the House in which he spent the bulk of his life, where he chaired two committees and served as Dean—and where it was not considered an act of treachery or political suicide to reach across the aisle.

There is often a tendency when someone dies to sand off the hard edges and portray the recently departed as something of a saint. Don would be the first to acknowledge he was no saint, and he'd be furious with anyone who tried to sand off his rough edges. He would bellow like a wounded grizzly when he made concessions on the Tongass forest or the Alaska Lands law, but once the deal was struck in the negotiations, he would go out on the floor and defend the work product of his committee.

Even so, Don remained a pariah to most national environmental activists for promoting projects like the Trans-Alaska pipeline or drilling in the Arctic Wilderness (both issues on which we strongly disagreed with him), and many of his own colleagues were angry with him for pushing through the \$400-million Gravina Island "bridge to nowhere" that became a paradigm of congressional pork and provoked Congress to ban earmarks. But the people who worked on those projects and would have driven on that bridge (it was cancelled in 2005) were Don Young's constituents, and he was doing what congresspeople have done since time immemorial: taking care of the district. And it's worth noting that the House, after a decade of prohibition, has resurrected—with greater transparency—earmarks as a crucial way of securing the votes to pass legislation.

Because he was very much his own man and did not suffer fools (or anyone else, for that matter) lightly, Don was skeptical of the new breed of hyper-partisans who emerged halfway through his long tenure in the House. Back in 1994, he was one of just a handful of Republicans who refused to embrace Newt Gingrich's "Contract With America," a collection of half-baked, rhetorical broadsides against the Democratic majority under which he had always served. Asked why he declined to embrace the campaign

document, he matter-of-factly declared, “Because it’s a crock of shit.”

Later in the decade, Don unexpectedly joined with leading environmentalists to support the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) that offered up vast lands for both hunting and backpacking but also included greater protections for landowners and restrained federal land acquisitions. Down at the White House, plying the bill’s key sponsors with Diet Cokes as they happily missed floor votes, Bill Clinton professed his commitment to the bill to a delegation that included Republicans like Young who had just voted to impeach him. When Young left the West Wing after a couple of hours, he marveled, “No president has spent that much time with me since Nixon” three decades earlier.

Don helped build a stunning bipartisan coalition for CARA that passed the House with over 300 votes but stalled in the Senate. When asked why he could not get the bill past the upper house, he blamed “those crazy, god-damned right-wing bastards.” When he was reminded “Don, you’re a crazy right-wing bastard, you know,” he answered, “That’s true, but I know how to cut a deal.”

The House Don Young leaves behind is one where knowing how to cut a bipartisan deal is a much more difficult challenge than in his glory days, wielding the gavel at the Resources and Transportation committees. His departure marks one more loss of the kind of people who were willing to take tough stands and live with the fallout, good or bad, because it was vastly better than gridlock and cheap shot sniping.

Saying you’ll miss Don Young doesn’t mean he was right all the time or that he was invariably wrong; it means the House is diminished by his loss. He was a great congressman and a great friend; Alaska was fortunate to have him.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, frequently we will say at a service, “I mourn with you.” We are all mourning in the House with Anne, Dawn, and Joni because we have all lost a dear, dear friend, and we are praying for them at this sad time. He was a blessing to our country. May Congressman Don Young forever rest in peace.

When I asked George Miller this morning, what word would you use to describe Don Young. He said: He was amazing. He shouted over the phone: He was amazing.

And how appropriate that the family had suggested “Amazing Grace” as the song to be sung at his service earlier today as he laid in state in Statuary Hall.

Yes, Don Young. Amazing. “Amazing Grace.”

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I want to give tribute to Don’s wife Anne and to his daughters, Joni and Dawn, his sister, but his family goes well beyond that. I have a number of statements from former alumni of the Don Young staffer world that submitted statements.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD several statements written by former staffers of Congressman Don Young: Michael Henry, Pamela Day, C.J. Zane, Sherrie Slick, Duncan Smith, Zack Brown, Jerry Hood, Jim Coon, Sophia Varnasidis, Lisa Pittman, Colin Chapman, Holly Lyons, David Schaffer, Jason Suslavich.

MICHAEL HENRY

STAFFER TO DEAN DONALD EDWIN YOUNG (R-AK)—PERSONAL OFFICE

(June 1996–November 1997)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES
(November 1997–January 2000)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
(January 20001–November 2002)

Since the world lost the Dean of the House of Representatives, Congressman for all Alaska, husband to Anne, father to Joni and Dawn, friend and mentor, Don Young, I have been asked several times to share a story or memory. How do you sum up a person so impactful to your life, such a big personality and titan legislator? I have been frozen, unable to share much to encapsulate the man so important to so many, including my family.

What keeps returning to my mind is the dichotomy of Don Young. He was both gruff and held as large a heart as anyone I have ever met. He was strategic in what he did and said and will be remembered for what appeared as gaffs. He lived without bias and will be remembered for straight forward opinions. And he lived every day on his own terms and was one of the most selfless people I have ever met. Which is why no one version of Don Young could ever sum the totality of his complex personality.

While our society is unlikely to allow another trapper turned tugboat captain turn into a prolific legislator, we should cherish the brash honesty that accompanied his sincere caring and steadfast loyalty. While like all of us, I’m sure he would choose to handle many situations differently with the benefit of hindsight, I’m not sure he held any regrets. And for those who disliked, Don Young for the caricature he was made into, I will say it is that emotion which has fueled the love the rest of us hold for the Dean of the North. Nobody likes to be disliked, but that energy became part of his lore and so many fiercely loyal to him.

One thing that wasn’t complicated about Don Young was his proficiency as a legislator. The numbers simply do not lie. And, with his passing, we owe him the reflection of what he truly was—one of the greatest legislators our country will ever know. Don Young was the original sponsor of 123 bills signed into Law by 10 Presidents—8 more bills signed into law than the “Lion of the Senate”, Ted Kennedy advanced during his similar time in the Congress. And while that statistic makes clear his importance to the legislative branch of government, it was one I don’t recall him ever boasting about.

Don Young was far prouder of his service to the people’s body, the House of Representatives. Which spanned nearly 50 years. He routinely spoke about the 10 Presidents he worked with and the 2,178 Members of the House of Representatives he served with. It was the people and the relationships that mattered to him, not how many votes he made (or missed), getting the better of an opponent at a hearing or the deference that was paid to him everywhere he went. He appreciated a good deal and a real connection to the people involved. He loved his colleagues and everyone he met with. These were the people, as he liked to reflect, who taught him something new every day. And that’s what kept him in Congress for so long—new issues that accompany each Congress and the recalibration that comes with an ever-evolving body.

As I try to bring a story to close my reflection on Congressman Don Young, my Chairman on two full Committees, House Committee on Resources and Transportation and Infrastructure, I am drawn to the fact that

one of the greatest negotiations of his career occurred during the time I worked for him. It was a negotiation that had him to working, and often arguing, with Republicans as forcefully as Democrats. And ably navigating the Senate as well as a formidable President Bill Clinton. At one point, his dutiful staffer (me) added in a relatively junior Congressman Richard Pombo (R-CA) to a high-level negotiation. Some of us were concerned that Chairman Young needed a conservative backstop so as not to give too much to the Democrats as we pursued a deal. The result was his getting his way with all the various factions and the crafting the most significant conservation legislation of the time. Unfortunately, this bill was not one of the 123 Don Young sponsored that became law, but nonetheless, one of his greatest legislative achievements. Even though the Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) was controversial on the left and right, he won a vote of 315 in the House. That is legislating and that is what Don Young did best.

The speed in how fast legislators are forgotten is off putting, but Don Young’s legacy is secure. He was the best boss hundreds of staff could have dreamed to have. He empowered us to be creative. He was mostly supportive, even after a blunder. He always took the time to help us get better and never begrudged any the opportunity to grow outside his office with a career move. He spent every day with a servant’s heart. He worked to make the institution of Congress better and came to work each day seeking opportunities for Alaskans. We are all a less with his loss.

PAMELA DAY

TEAM DY

(2003–2020)

CHIEF OF STAFF

(2009–2020)

When I was hired by Congressman Don Young back in 2003, I had no idea that I would call him “Boss” for the next 17 years. I also didn’t know that when you joined “Team DY,” you instantly inherited dozens, if not hundreds, of new family members. Because when you worked for Congressman Young, you were indeed treated like family, and even after you left the office and moved on to your next job opportunity, you never truly left. The Don Young alumni network is vast and full of great people who have gone on to do impressive things, but we all know that we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Congressman Young for taking a chance on us and giving us the opportunity of our lives to do something important—work with him and represent Alaskans.

I was his only female Chief of Staff and the longest to serve in that position, 12 years. When I would tell people who didn’t know him that I was his Chief, they would look at me and wonder how I could stay in that position for so long. It was a tough job, but the truth is, he was a great boss. He was loyal to a fault. He trusted staff to do the jobs they were hired to do. He believed that he always had the best staff on the Hill and was always gracious when one of us would tell him it was time to move on. He never held anyone back and was genuinely happy for staffers who left because he knew that we would always be there for him. And in the days since his passing, that is exactly what has happened. We’ve all been there for each other. Once a DY staffer, always a DY staffer.

The Congressman had wonderful press staff over the years, but he was his own best public relations department. There has been much written about his gruff exterior and, at times, cantankerous demeanor, but if you actually had the chance to meet him in person then you know that wasn’t who he truly

was. I can't count the number of times constituents who had never met him came to DC for a meeting, nervous about sitting across from this giant personality and asking for his help. If you were an Alaskan in DC, you met with him; he always made time for them. They would be taken aback when he jovially swung open his door and bellowed, "Who do we have here?" followed by a big smile, handshake, and photo opportunity in front of the giant Alaska map. During meetings, he would share stories, compare notes about who was related to who and if he knew their relatives (most times he did), and then turn the floor over to them to make their presentation. He loved learning something new every day. He listened intently and asked thoughtful questions before signing copies of that picture that was taken just moments before and thanking them for coming in to see him. But my favorite memory of working for him is what would happen after the meeting. Almost inevitably, as they left the office and headed down the hall, someone would say, "wow—he's so different in real life!"

Alaskans will vote to send someone new to Washington to represent them, but no one will ever replace Congressman Young. He was one of a kind in every way possible.

I want Alaskans to know that he loved Alaska. He loved fighting for Alaska. And he never forgot what a truly awesome gift and responsibility it was to be the Congressman for All Alaska.

C.J. ZANE
DY CHIEF OF STAFF
(1980–1992)
FORMER STATE STAFFER

Many people who know and love Don Young know that he was obsessively "on time" for meetings and following the "schedule" whether in DC or traveling around Alaska. I was once traveling in Alaska with Mr. Young and his wife Lu as we did a series of stops in remote communities via small aircraft (flown by long-time Young friend Paul Hagland), which is the way a lot of Alaskans get from place to place. We were on a tight schedule and Don was getting really impatient because Lu and I were not plane-side ready to go. We were each using the restroom in a small building near the runway. When we emerged and approached the plane Don growled about our being late. Lu said forcefully (as she could do), "Damn it Young, you just relax, we Have To Have Time To Take Care Of Our Bodily Functions!" Needless to say, Mr. Young knew when he was bested in an argument and needless to say the rest of community visits went well and we're more or less on time, but everyone had time to go to the bathroom and there were no "accidents" on the plane. Even Don's vaunted punctuality had to yield to the reality of the situation and to the strength of his beloved wife Lu.

SHERRIE SLICK
SPECIAL STAFF ASSISTANT, KETCHIKAN, ALASKA
CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE (25 YEARS)

SENATORS STEVENS, FRANK MURKOWSKI, LISA MURKOWSKI, AND CONGRESSMAN YOUNG

C.J. Zane and Congressman Don Young interviewed me and with the support of Senator Ted Stevens and Senator Frank Murkowski, hired me in 1987 to work in the Ketchikan Congressional Office. Subsequently working for Senator Lisa Murkowski. I retired after 25 years of service to the delegation. Congressional Record Volume 158 (2012) Part 7.

I have forgotten exactly what bill Congressman Young was addressing in Congress which had to do with the fishing in Alaska, but as he encouraged his vote, it was being

televised and I had it on TV in the office. All of a sudden Congressman Young pounded loudly with his palm on the podium and raised his voice with some strong language to emphasize the importance of support for this bill which would support our fishing industry and the economy of Alaska.

Immediately my 2 phone lines began to light up in the office. Calls from people who had been watching the proceedings:

The first call I caught was an elderly lady. In a very soft and polite voice she asked me to thank Mr. Young for his work for Alaska but please convey to the Congressman her wishes that he return his manner of little more decorum in his passion introducing his bills. The second call was from a gruff, deep, loud voice: "I just watched Congressman Young fighting for fishermen and the industry . . . thank him and tell him to continue to give them 'hell' and keep up his passion in the good fight for the people and success Alaska."

Illustrating that Congressman Don Young could be could brash and boisterous or gentle and kind . . . but he was recognized as always being a strong, dependable ambassador for Alaska.

DUNCAN SMITH
TEAM DY
(10 years)

I was one of the few lawyers Congressman Young ever hired. I was his committee counsel on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee when he was Ranking Member on the Coast Guard Subcommittee. We had a good laugh when he received a Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Alaska. It was my pleasure to serve with him. May he rest in peace.

ZACK BROWN
DY COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR
(2019–2022)

In the days since his passing, we have rightfully celebrated Congressman Young's incredible accomplishments and recalled his larger-than-life personality. Specifically, much has been said about the gruff demeanor he was known for in the press. I came on to run Congressman Young's press operations over three years ago. Back then, all I knew about the Congressman was his reputation for being cantankerous and eccentric. Admittedly, he himself was responsible for some parts of this reputation, but the full picture has never been understood.

Here is the truth: Don Young did indeed run hot, but not because of anger or meanness. No, Don Young ran hot because of his warmth, generosity, love of his staff, and relentless passion for Alaska. "Team DY" was and always will be a family, no matter what era of his career we served in. Growing up, I never knew my grandfathers. It is appropriate then that at the helm of this family was Congressman Young—a man of great maturity, wisdom, and grit who always had your back. Through him, I learned how to take on life with his independent spirit and unyielding authenticity. Team DY laughed, celebrated, and stood together on behalf of Alaska. Congressman Young was with us every step of the way, working just as hard as we did. The frequent downtime in between votes, meetings, and travels across the state gave us treasured time with the boss we loved. Over the years, this bond between the Congressman and his staff only grew stronger, and his loyalty to us underscored just how much our team meant to him.

Like so many others, the Congressman took a chance on me and changed my life. He empowered me to always improve myself and be there for those around me. He truly meant the world to me, and I will never let

anyone forget the work he did for those around him. I was with him at the end, and it has been difficult to process everything that happened. In the hours and days after he passed, I felt enormous grief and anger over my chance presence on-site as he left this earth. But as I have had time to reflect, I now see this as a blessing. The Congressman always trusted us to do the jobs we were hired to do. On his final day on this earth, it was a tremendous honor to support this incredible man at the end of his life, and to put the skills he taught me to use by being there for Anne and getting him back to the institution he loved. That was my final assignment from the Congressman, and I hope I made him proud. I'll miss this irreplaceable man dearly. I take comfort knowing that his indomitable spirit and unrelenting optimism will always be my North Star.

JERRY HOOD
DIRECTOR OF STATE AFFAIRS
(2006–2009)

Our friendship spanned more than four decades. He was truly a legend in his own time. He accomplished much. You can travel the entire State of Alaska and everywhere you look you will see his accomplishments. Don's fingerprints are in every nook and cranny of the state. He loved Alaska but I will let others tell you of all he did, and there is much to tell.

If I could describe Don Young in one word it would be: LOYAL. Yes, LOYAL in all caps. He was LOYAL to a fault. Once he gave you his loyalty it was forever. He never gave up on you even though you may have let him down. And sometimes that loyalty didn't serve him well. However, Don Young didn't expect loyalty in return for his. You see, that's the kind of guy he was. He was LOYAL to his state. He was LOYAL to Alaskans, he was LOYAL to his friends and he was LOYAL to his family. I can assure you that every decision he ever made was first and foremost made in the best interests of Alaska and its citizens. Alaska is a much better place because of Congressman Don Young.

He spoke his mind. He told you what he thought. He never broke with his values. He was true to himself from the first day he took the oath until the day he died. Some say that Washington changed Don but I can tell you that up until Friday, March 18th, he was the same man as the guy I first met in 1976. There aren't many politicians over the course of history you can say that about. But then, he was one of a kind.

He went out the way he wanted. In the saddle.

My fondest memories of Don were the times when we were able to steal an hour or two fishing on the Naknek River. Just the two of us. Our favorite cigars, fishing poles in hand and for a few moments in time—just relaxing. We were fishing. We certainly weren't catching. But we didn't care. Farewell my old friend. I will miss you terribly.

JIM COON
STAFF DIRECTOR, AVIATION SUBCOMMITTEE,
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COM-
MITTEE
(2004–2012)

A former Transportation & Infrastructure Aviation Subcommittee Staff Director under Chairman Young, I recall several mornings when he would call me from his office. I knew he had someone with him because he always had you on the speaker phone—and when he did this he almost always had constituents from Alaska with him.

He would call and start out very nice, how's your morning, did you get your beauty sleep, etc., and then on the turn of a dime in his most powerful and loud voice he would

say—"that bill you are working on for me, I don't want to see the word _____ in that bill, not _____ time, do you hear me!!! And if I see it, there will be hell to pay. Have a nice day!" It was poetic.

SOPHIA A. VARNASIDIS
RESOURCES COMMITTEE STAFF
(2004-2017)

I had stopped by Rep. Young's office to DY's Chief of Staff, Pamela Day, as I would often do at the end of the work day early in 2009. Rep. Doc Hastings had just taken over as Ranking Member of the House Natural Resources Committee, which DY held the previous Congress. DY came into Pam's office, sat down next to me and said "how you doing" young lady? They taking care of you over there?" To which I answered, "yes, of course" and thanked him for asking. He then chatted with us for a bit, and left for the evening.

I still makes me tear-up thinking about the kindness he showed me in that moment. He lost his Ranking Membership, and yet was concerned his staff that was held over under new leadership were taken care of. I went through 4 changes of leadership in my 13 years at Natural Resources, but DY was singular in his love for his staff. Invited us over to his home for Kentucky Derby viewing, threw the biggest Christmas parties, and stayed to hold court and tell stories in his office for hours. His personality was bigger than life, but so was his heart. The media loved to cover him in his more animated moments, but his real friends and those who worked for him knew him to be fiercely loyal, and a caring and kind soul. The true King in the North. May his memory be eternal.

LISA PITTMAN
DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL, COMMITTEE ON
RESOURCES
(1995-2001)
CHIEF COUNSEL
(2001-2020)

DY's first wife, Mrs. Lu Young, attended the first Committee on Resources markup chaired by DY and sat in the back row. Halfway through, she sent a note up to the Chairman. We were a little nervous about what she might say. Mrs. Young may have been petite, but she was fierce and thoroughly had the big gruff Don Young wrapped around her little finger. The note, which he opened in front of me (I sat to his immediate left during markups) said "Smile more." And he did.

Don Young was also instrumental in the House rules change that allowed certain votes to be postponed and then voted in series in committee. Like many other non-exclusive committees, the Committee on Resources' members served on multiple committees and given scheduling demands often had to be in two places at once. Maintaining quorums and vote margins was increasing difficult. DY successfully argued to the Parliamentarian, House leadership and the Rules Committee that if the Speaker could allow such action on the Floor, the practice should be allowed in committee. As one of the most active committees in the House, the Committee on Resources certainly took advantage of the rule to produce more substantive bills for the floor than just about any other committee. And staff had fewer heart attacks.

Finally, DY taught me to always bring at least three copies of any remarks/talking points staff had prepared for him to the House Floor. I'd usually hand him one when he first reached the chamber and settled back in the unofficial Don Young seat on the aisle in the last row of the right rear of the chamber. Somehow he inevitably managed

to misplace it before our bill was called up (no doubt distracted by the many Members who stopped by to talk to him). He'd often signal me to give me another copy before we began. I keep the third in the front of my Floor notebook for when he ambled down the aisle to take his place at the manager's table, sometimes with the talking points out of order or missing a page. It didn't really matter much anyway—he rarely followed the script and often spoke more eloquently from the heart than any words typed out by staff.

COLIN CHAPMAN
CHIEF OF STAFF
(1997-2002)

A story from my tenure as Chief of Staff, 1997-2002 on the mischievous side of Chairman Young: In the late nineties and early 2000's, the Alaska delegation was at one of its highest points as far as seniority and power was concerned. The House and the Senate were controlled by the Republicans. All three members of the delegation, Rep. Young, Sen. Stevens, and Sen. Frank Murkowski, had 20 or more years of seniority. They were each Chairman of powerful committees. They were each, in their own right, a powerful Member of Congress that liked to control legislation and have things done THEIR WAY! And they each had the strong, sometimes combustible, personality you might expect of a Senior Member of Congress with Alaskan heritage.

In public, the Alaska delegation created and performed as a united front. But the delegation meetings—That was a different story . . . In the late 90's, the delegation was working on opening Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR), an ongoing battle that replayed Congress after Congress. I remember one delegation meeting where ANWR was the primary discussion topic. The delegation was trying to decide how to best move the legislation, and as always, the Senate side strategy was the sticking point. Sen. Murkowski wanted to move the legislation via the committee of jurisdiction, Energy & Natural Resources, which he just happened to Chair. Sen Stevens wanted to move it via an Appropriations and Reconciliation process, a route that he controlled as Chairman of Appropriations. Don Young's position was for the Senate to pull their heads out of the . . . sand, pass the bill in whichever way they could, and he would get it done on the House side.

At one particular meeting, held on Sen Stevens' turf in his Capitol hideaway office, Chairman Young and Chairman Murkowski were present at the appointed time with their Chiefs of Staff. Stevens was late. After about 15 minutes of waiting, the Junior Senator was getting antsy. He had explained his plan for the ENR Committee while waiting and why his committee was the best option. After about 20 minutes of waiting, Sen. Stevens waltzed into the room. Effusively apologizing for being late and launching into his plan of why the Appropriation route was so much better than the ENR route. Having just listened to the 15 minute ENR pitch, Chairman Young knew that nothing would get accomplished at this meeting because the Senate delegation's path forward was still unclear.

Mr. Young, who was standing in between the two Senators, popped off a comment about how the one Senator thought the other Senator didn't have a clue what he was talking about. This launched the two Senators into a heated personal argument. DY looked at me, chuckled, and said, "Let's go Colin, my work here is done . . ." As we left, DY was still chuckling to himself and commented about how much fun it was to light the fuse and walk out of the room.

As always, the delegation circled the wagons and pushed forward with a united front.

The ANWR fight wasn't successful that year, but Chairman Young did eventually see it through!

HOLLY WOODRUFF LYONS

My favorite memory of Chairman Young was during my first year-and-a-half as a Committee staffer. I have to admit I was initially a bit intimidated by Chairman Young. However, that all changed in 2003. In October of that year, a toy gun was brought to the House Offices by a staffer as part of a Halloween costume. It set off a security scare and the Capitol was locked down for several hours as the police looked for the "gun".

I happened to be on the Floor with a few other T&I Members and staff as we had a bill on the schedule. Chairman Young was with us. There was quite a bit of confusion that day and things were already tense in the post-9/11 world. I will never forget how Chairman Young chose to come over and sit with his staff. He spent the time entertaining us while providing a calm, steady and unflappable example. He regaled us with one story after another of his time on the Hill. These stories, as you can imagine, were both funny and amazing, but I will not repeat them here. He also shared with us his knowledge of the House Floor by pointing out things in the Chamber and sharing interesting historical facts. He literally had a captive audience, but we did not feel like hostages. After that day, I was no longer intimidated by the Chairman. He always commanded respect, but I had seen his fun and friendly side. (The soft side of the grizzly bear, so to speak.)

DAVID SCHAFFER
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE STAFFER
(1984-2004)

A passage from the book "After: How America Confronted the September 12 Era" by Steven Brill, which illustrates Chairman Young's no-nonsense approach to his position as Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chair, in the wake of 9/11:

"But he (Staff Director Schaffer) was also a stickler for legislative procedure, which means hearings and debate, and more hearings and more debate, and drafts and redrafts before anything important is allowed to pass. So he was shocked on Monday when his boss, Congressman Don Young, the burly Alaska Republican who chaired the Transportation Committee, told him that they had to pass a bill within a day or two. When he protested that something this important and unprecedented, not to mention expensive, never moved that fast, Young thundered, "We're at war, we have to do this now."

JASON SUSLAVICH
DY-CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE STAFFER
(2008-2015)

While Don Young focused on transportation and resource development, he was also a diehard champion of missile defense. In fact, what many do not know the leading role that Don played in locating our homeland missile defenses in Alaska. In 1995, the Clinton Administration adopted a national intelligence estimate (NIE) which made one very startling conclusion—namely that U.S. homeland would not face the threat of a missile attack until at least 2010. Absurdly, the NIE arrived at this conclusion by excluding threats to Alaska and Hawaii, as if only the contiguous forty-eight states needed protection.

Learning of this critical policy failure, Don jumped into action and introduced the "The All-American Resolution." This important legislation expressed Congress' view that "any missile defense system deployed to protect the United States against the threat

of ballistic missile attack should include protection for Alaska, Hawaii, the territories and the commonwealths of the United States on the same basis as the contiguous States." Language from this resolution was soon adopted into National Defense Authorization (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 1999 and enacted into law. This language helped to set the stage for the U.S. to withdraw from the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, thereby allowing us to build our nation's first homeland missile defense system at Fort Greely, Alaska—a location which would protect ALL fifty states.

From that point on, Don continued to strongly support missile defense. He fought for defense budgets that were driven by strategy, not defense strategies that were driven budgets. For decades, he ensured critical military construction for our missile defense systems—located at Fort Greely, Clear Air Force Station, and Eareckson Air Station—expeditiously passed the House and were fully funded.

Then in 2017, amidst a resurgent North Korean threat, Don Young again championed our cause. He—along with Senator Dan Sullivan (the bill's original author)—sponsored the "Advancing America's Missile Defense Act of 2017" and led the charge to include it into the House's FY 2018 NDAA. Critically, this bill authorized an increase to our nation's Ground-based Interceptor capacity by 50% and it laid the groundwork for the construction of a new missile field at Fort Greely—Missile Field 4—to house that added capacity. During the debate on his amendment, the Congressman stated,

"I believe this reckless and calculated behavior by the North Korean regime speaks volumes to the importance of the strategically placed U.S. missile defense capabilities, including the Ground-based interceptors at Fort Greely, AK and other elements of the nation's ballistic missile defense system. These forces guard this nation and are the first responders against weapons of mass destruction."

He was right then and his words ring even more true today.

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

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today is a solemn day.

Today, in the National Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol, we paid tribute to the Dean of the House of Representatives, the late Congressman Don Young. And how fitting is it for Congressman Young to lie in state in National Statuary Hall. Much like this hall, Don Young is an icon—a pillar—in the history of the House of Representatives.

Longevity as an elected official isn't a given—it has to be earned. And for 49 straight years, Don Young earned the honor of representing Alaska in Congress, which he considered the privilege of a lifetime. Congressman Young loved Alaska, and Alaska loved him. By the end of his tenure, not only was he the longest-serving politician in Alaska's history, but also the longest-serving Republican Member of the House of Representatives in U.S. history.

Now, you may not think that a nurse from Texas and a frontiersman from Alaska would have a lot in common. And for the most part, you'd be right. But that never stopped us from working together when it meant the betterment of our constituents. We partnered on legislation that provided Pell Grants to Gold Star Families. We led an annual letter advocating for increased funding for the Innovative Ap-

proaches to Literacy (IAL) program. We spent long days and late nights together in the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee hearings. The list goes on and on.

We also had the opportunity to travel the world together on CODELs. He sponsored valuable and worthwhile trips that I never hesitated to sign up for. And the farther away we got from Washington, the closer we became.

My thoughts and prayers are with his beloved wife, Anne, with whom I had the pleasure of getting to know over the years, as well as his children, grandchildren, and all those who loved him. He will be dearly missed.

Mr. NEHLS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Congressman for all of Alaska, the 45th Dean of the House, and my mentor and friend—Representative Don Young.

Don was a soldier, a riverboat captain, and a teacher—but his true calling was serving and representing the good people of Alaska.

Throughout his 49 years in Congress, he was an icon and mentor to countless Members. When I first arrived here, Don was one of the first Members I met. In the short time I had with him, he taught me so much about the House and about being a true servant.

Don's love of his family and the people of Alaska was rivaled only by his love of the land itself. He took countless members and staff to his beloved state to show them the pristine natural wonder of his state.

This summer he was going to take me on a working trip to Alaska—and one of my great regrets in this body will forever be never getting to go with him.

Rest in peace, my friend.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 2954.

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

There was no objection.

WOMEN OF THE REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS MOVEMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to give all members 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, this night, and this Women's History Month, together with my colleagues in the Pro-Choice Caucus, I rise in support of the women of the reproductive rights movement. Women who stood

up, spoke out, and reached out to protect the rights of women in this country to determine whether and when to become parents. Of course, this work required and requires to this day, a broad, bold coalition of people, people whose work has necessitated tremendous sacrifice and has resulted in tremendous progress.

Some of them were denied access to contraception, abortion care, and healthcare, and agreed to become the face of legal challenges. Some of them were strategists who shaped the arguments that became the fabric of legal protections for reproductive rights.

Some of them were healthcare providers who saw the tragic consequences of the denial of those rights. As a lawyer, I have known some of their names through the landmark cases that bear their names—Griswold v. Connecticut, Roe v. Wade, and more.

Tonight, we celebrate them, we celebrate their courage, their commitment, and their purpose in articulating, advocating, and ensuring the rights to equality, privacy, and dignity that their work represents.

Before yielding to my colleagues who are here this evening in person and in spirit, I will start with one of them who holds a special place in this work and in my own life. As a woman from Texas, it has always been a source of great pride that some fearless Texas women have been leaders in this fight.

In the late 1960s, a group of Texas women came together to challenge our State's ban on abortion. They found as their lawyer and lifelong advocate, a young woman named Sarah Weddington, who is pictured here behind me. A recent law school graduate, Sarah Weddington was working for the University of Texas at that time. Perhaps not surprisingly, although she had good grades and a law degree, she had a hard time finding a job in a law firm. But she was working to help people solve their problems in Austin, and this group knew she would be a good advocate.

I heard her tell the story once that when the group came to see her, they told her that they thought the best way to deal with the law was to challenge the law itself. She said that she had a law degree, but she really hadn't practiced in Federal court before. She wasn't a courtroom lawyer, and she hadn't handled a case like this one. So she told them she thought they should get someone with more experience.

She recalled to us they asked her, Well, what would you charge us to do this lawsuit?

And she said, Oh, I will do it for free.

And they said, You are our lawyer.

And that is how she got the case.

Sarah called her law school classmate, Linda Coffee, and they agreed to work on the case together. Many UT law students and professors helped Sarah and Linda with the case. They heard from women, of course, and from doctors who treated women who had had complications from illegal abortions and women who had died from illegal abortions.

Through their work, the strategizing, the organizing, the lawyering, these trailblazing Texas women brought us the framework to protect the health, privacy, dignity, equality, and freedom of women and families across this country in the case of *Roe v. Wade*. And 26-year-old Sarah Weddington and this team of Texas women took that case all the way to the United States Supreme Court.

On January 22, 1973, the Court ruled in one of the most consequential decisions in American history, the Texas State law banning abortions, except to save a woman's life, was unconstitutional.

□ 1945

Sarah carried this fight with her for the rest of her life. She was elected to the Texas legislature. She served in the Carter administration where she helped get more women on the Federal bench. She worked for many years as a lecturer and professor teaching at schools, including the University of Texas.

This year, 2022, was the first one that we marked the anniversary of *Roe* without Sarah Weddington. She left a legacy for us through her life's work, the rights and protections for the health, privacy, dignity, equality, and freedom of women and families enshrined in that decision that has shaped our country and our opportunities as women for the last 50 years.

She was part of a generation of trailblazing Texas women who made it their life's work to make our world one of equality, opportunity, and possibility for women. It is fitting to remember, honor, and celebrate her tonight.

Madam Speaker, several of my colleagues are here to remember and honor other women pioneers, trailblazers, and heroes of the reproductive rights movement.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS).

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER), who has been someone I have deeply admired as part of the women's movement, as part of the women's choice movement, and who has made herself a leader in this body and a leader in Texas, and for bringing us all here tonight as part of Women's History Month.

Madam Speaker, I am rising alongside my pro-choice colleagues in honoring the women of the reproductive health, rights, and justice movement. Women, like my own mother, who remember being young and without choice—without choice over their bodily autonomy. Women like my own mother who marched for women's rights, who remember when *Roe v. Wade* came down.

Madam Speaker, I am here today to rise for the brave providers, the fierce advocates, the trailblazing women of color who established the principles and coined the terms, and all those who believe in a society where women

are entitled to make personal decisions about their bodies, work, families, and futures.

For those who agreed to become the face of legal challenges to abortion access, the litigators who helped shape the arguments that became the legal fabric of protections for reproductive rights, and the women who have served as the jurists and the justices who wrote landmark defenses of these rights. We must protect their progress from destructive efforts in the States to overturn precedent that has saved countless lives and determined countless futures.

Rights are under attack. For nearly 6 months now, patients in Texas have been denied a constitutional right to an abortion due to a statewide law designed to restrict, shame, and penalize those who dare to terminate a pregnancy that they do not wish to carry to term.

Just last week, Idaho became the first State to copy Texas' model. We stand here in this Chamber across the street from another body of governance, our courts, the Supreme Court that might overrule *Roe v. Wade*. If it is overturned by the United States Supreme Court, my home State of Michigan would automatically join that list.

In fact, if *Roe* fails, if *Roe* escapes us, half the States in this Union will ban abortion entirely, leaving even more people across large swaths of the Midwest and South without access to care. This is not just an issue of bodily autonomy, my friends, it is an economic issue.

The U.S. is the only industrialized Nation without Federal paid leave policy, the emergence of COVID-19 has shown us the consequences of that foundational failure. Who are we to become? What Nation are we that will not stand up for its people's rights and the success of their families?

We all know that women have been disproportionately impacted by this pandemic, being forced to leave the workforce at record rates. When childcare and abortion services are both out of reach, a parent's financial future and ability to participate in our economy is severely jeopardized.

Let us not forget that the individual's most harmed by abortion restrictions are those who already face barriers to accessing healthcare, including women, people of color, members of the LGBTQ community, immigrants, young people, those living in rural communities, and people with disabilities. This is a wake-up moment in this Nation. We are here not just for history, but for our future.

When I was elected to Congress, on behalf of Michigan's 11th District, becoming the first woman ever to represent Michigan's 11th District. Sure, let's be proud then as we are now for the unprecedented number of women who are serving in this body. Those who are unequivocally claiming that we have the right to choose. Abortion is healthcare. Hear us say that in the

Chamber and on this floor. All women must be able to make the decision that is best for them, their family, and their body.

Congress has a responsibility to stand with people in communities fighting for racial, economic, and reproductive justice, and we must commit to protecting the right of every person to make their own decisions about their bodies, free from discrimination and political interference.

It is with immense gratitude and reverence that I join my colleagues in honoring the women who have made it possible for so many of us to stand here today—to be here today. During Women's History Month, let us all recommit to supporting the activism, the organizing, the efforts all around this country, those who are watching and who are counting on us.

Madam Speaker, we will vote today, we will vote tomorrow, and we will continue to do the work of the people.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. VEASEY).

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I want to thank my friend from Houston (Mrs. FLETCHER) for putting this together because this is hugely important as we wind down Women's History Month.

I think about my first term here in Congress, and previous to serving in Congress I was in the State legislature. The Republicans in the Texas State legislature were always trying to tear down women's reproductive rights. It seemed like there was just an endless supply of bills that they had aimed at stripping away freedom from women across our State.

I was giving a speech out on the triangle and momentarily thought that I was back in Austin and accidentally referred to myself as State Representative MARC VEASEY, just because when you think about D.C. and the various States that are here, you think about people being able to celebrate those sorts of freedoms.

We are fighting that battle not just in Austin but in D.C. and other States around the country. But today we are here to focus on Texas. Again, I just want to thank LIZZIE FLETCHER and the other women that are a part of the Texas delegation.

Madam Speaker, I also want to thank the female State representatives in the State of Texas that really have just fought fearlessly on this issue for so long now. This past regular legislative session so many of the women in the north Texas delegation, where I am from, were very poignant in making so many points about how S.B. 8, a sweeping anti-abortion law, was going to disproportionately impact low-income and women of color and minority communities.

Imagine just barely being able to get by; you may be on SNAP; you may be a single mother; you may find yourself trapped in a low-income job and trying to accumulate enough money to be

able to travel across State lines. You could have these services and get them done safely. It is sad to see us go back in time to where women were not able to have these services done safely. That is something that we have to continue to fight against, and that is why—whatever it takes—we need to make sure that this bill one day is reversed.

Passing the Women's Health Protection Act would codify *Roe v. Wade* and ensure that people can have the freedom to make personal decisions. I think that is something that everybody—regardless if you are Democrat, Republican or Independent, whatever you may happen to be—you ought to have the choice to make personal decisions. It used to be something that Republicans used to value, and it is sad to see them backslide so much in this area.

We need to make sure that we protect equal access to abortion care everywhere because it is essential to social and economic participation, reproductive autonomy, and the right for people to determine their own lives.

One of the things that really doesn't get talked a lot about on this issue is just really the number of Republicans that are against any sort of birth control. I see them, they come to my town hall meetings. They don't like to talk about it because they know that most people overwhelmingly, Democrats and Republicans, are for birth control. You hear them, they come and they say, no, no, no, birth control is wrong.

We had a lawsuit filed in Fort Worth in Federal Court to try to stop people from being able to get birth control. People need to understand that this is a larger battle. Right now it is abortion access, but believe me, Republicans have their sights set on people not being able to have basic birth control, just basic contraceptions, and they are trying to make that harder and harder for people to get a hold of. It is a slippery slope.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Houston, LIZZIE FLETCHER, for leading this hour because it is hugely important.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. VEASEY and I join him in his remarks that we are so grateful to our State legislators and the Members of our Texas delegation as we face these challenges at home.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING).

Ms. MANNING. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative FLETCHER for holding this very important session.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the healthcare providers who have dedicated their lives working to ensure equitable access to reproductive healthcare.

Today I am honored to highlight the work and courage of Susan Hill of North Carolina, the former president of the National Women's Health Organization in North Carolina, and a fierce

advocate for abortion access and reproductive rights.

Susan opened clinics across the country to ensure that women could access the healthcare they need, including abortion care, with dignity and safety. She focused her work on providing reproductive health services in the Southeast, despite onerous restrictions, so that pregnant women could make the best healthcare decisions for themselves and their families no matter where they lived.

In fact, Susan Hill founded Jackson Women's Health Organization, which is now the last remaining health center providing abortions in Mississippi. This very clinic is at the center of the case directly challenging *Roe v. Wade* that is currently before the Supreme Court.

If the Court decides to uphold Mississippi's abortion ban and gut *Roe*, it will be overturning nearly 50 years of judicial precedent and undermining women's fundamental right to make their own personal decisions about their bodies, their families, their futures.

□ 2000

Susan Hill never wavered in her commitment to protecting patients' autonomy and safety, even as anti-abortion protestors used arson, fire bombing, and countless acts of vandalism to intimidate her into closing down her clinics.

Today, the stakes for reproductive freedom are more dire than ever before. Extreme abortion bans and medically unnecessary restrictions are sweeping our country and posing an enormous threat to women's health and constitutional rights. Decimating abortion access diminishes our equality under the law.

The consequences of these egregious attacks most acutely impact communities of color and underserved communities which already face barriers to healthcare.

Healthcare cannot just be for the few, as the legacy of Susan Hill reminds us. All people deserve access to the reproductive care they need, free from political interference, discrimination, and harassment.

Years ago, I spoke on a panel about abortion rights with a physician who had done his residency in Philadelphia before the passage of *Roe v. Wade*. He told us about his experience working in the emergency room, trying to save desperate women who were near death from botched back-alley abortions, women who suffered irreparable damage, women who didn't make it.

And he told us that history has shown there will always be abortions. The only question is whether abortions will be safe and whether they will be available to those who are faced with terribly difficult choices.

We must ensure that all people have the right to control their own reproductive decisions, and have the right to the reproductive healthcare they need.

I am proud to recognize a fellow North Carolinian, Susan Hill, and to

share her commitment to ensuring that abortion rights are protected, and comprehensive reproductive healthcare is accessible to all who need it.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative MANNING for the important points that she made, talking about the importance of access to safe abortions.

Even today, the World Health Organization estimates that 47,000 women die from unsafe abortions each year. That is 13 percent of maternal deaths worldwide.

Madam Speaker, at this time, I yield to the gentlewoman from New Hampshire (Ms. KUSTER).

Ms. KUSTER. Madam Speaker, as an adoption attorney for 25 years, I worked with more than 300 birth mothers making the most personal, private decisions of their entire lives. They consulted their families, their loved ones, their doctors, but not one of these birth mothers looked to the government to make this choice for them.

On January 1 of this year, sweeping abortion restrictions took effect in my home State of New Hampshire; in fact, the first abortion ban ever to pass the New Hampshire legislature and to be signed into law by our Governor, Chris Sununu, making it illegal to terminate a pregnancy after 24 weeks, with no exceptions; no exceptions for rape, for incest, or for fatal fetal anomaly; and requiring every person seeking an abortion to undergo an invasive ultrasound.

This new law places a felony penalty and fine of up to \$100,000 for doctors who violate the law, making New Hampshire a less desirable place for doctors to work, and for patients to seek care.

Granite State women and families are already feeling the impact of this harmful, regressive abortion ban.

Earlier this year, a constituent of mine, the daughter of a dear friend, reached out to tell me her story and how this law is impacting families like hers across New Hampshire.

Madam Speaker, 38-year-old Lisa, has a beautiful 1-year-old daughter at home and she is now pregnant with twins. Twenty-one weeks into her pregnancy, her doctors told her what no parent wants to hear: One of her twins had no chance of surviving outside the womb, and that twin was threatening the life of her other healthy twin.

Because of New Hampshire's abortion ban that makes no exceptions for late-term complications, fetal viability, or even maternal well-being, Lisa and her husband have had to travel out of state to get a second opinion on their options.

After traveling four States away for a specialist consultation, they learned that an abortion had the potential to save the healthy twin's life, and even the life of the mother. But in the time that it took to get this second opinion and to weigh her options, Lisa was past the 24-week threshold in New Hampshire, and she will be unable to get this treatment, even if it becomes medically necessary.

If Lisa chooses to deliver her healthy twin in New Hampshire, she runs the risk of losing both babies, and even her own life, as her doctors would not be allowed to perform an abortion, even to save her healthy twin's life or her own life.

Lisa and her family are already facing an impossible circumstance, which is being made even more excruciating by the New Hampshire extreme abortion ban.

Safe access to reproductive and preventative healthcare, including abortion, is essential to the health and well-being of women and their families in New Hampshire and throughout this country. Restrictions on access to reproductive care ignore the complexities of maternal health and threaten the life of countless mothers and their children.

New Hampshire's new abortion ban, and those like it across the country, are harming families, and putting politics above health and science. This I know: New Hampshire voters believe in less government interference in people's personal and private lives.

I want to thank Lisa for sharing her story, and for shedding light on the tragic impact that this abortion ban is having on mothers and grandmothers and husbands and families like her across the Granite State and throughout this country.

Madam Speaker, I thank the representative from Texas for this opportunity.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative KUSTER for her leadership and for her impactful story here tonight, one of the many women of this reproductive rights movement.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL).

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. My, my, my, Madam Speaker. Here we go again.

I thank my friend from Texas for yielding. I keep saying that I think Texas and Florida, we are in the race, the race for the worst. I don't know who is winning that one.

But like the gentlewoman, those of us in Florida, we have been stuck in an unfortunate situation, battling with a State government that is actively harming the people they are supposed to protect and it is especially true when it comes to abortion care.

They call us the so-called Freedom State. We are the Freedom State, which means that the Republican legislature and the Governor believe they have the freedom to deny people the freedom to make one of life's most personal decisions, and that is whether to bring a child into the world.

Madam Speaker, I remember the days before Roe v. Wade, and I was 15 years old, and I—literally, one of my friends was missing for a day, so I went looking for her and I found her in a bed covered with blood. And what had happened is she had had a back-alley abortion, nearly died. We got her to the

hospital in time, but how I wish she could have gone and gotten proper care. That is just an example.

Here's the thing. You can have all the laws you want to outlaw abortion. You are not going to stop abortion. All these laws do are try to stop illegal abortion, and they unfairly burden the people with the least amount of money, because if you are wealthy you find a place where you can get a safe abortion.

But I want to say, I really come to this as a mother, and as a grandmother. Those who know me know that I—and my grandchildren call me Lolo. I come to this as a Lolo. Really, it is the best part of my life. What a blessing my son is to me and my two grandchildren.

But I also know the responsibility. I know the responsibility, which really brings us to why we are here today because, whether or not to bring a child into the world, as I mentioned, I think is one of the most important personal decisions that a person makes.

They shouldn't have to call their Congressperson, their Governor, their State legislature.

So tonight, I want to thank the gentlewoman because we are recognizing those people that we know in our community who have really been advocates or providers for the healthcare that people deserve and need.

So I am going to recognize two courageous leaders from my home State of Florida, champions for women's access to full healthcare, not just abortions, which should be part, but all kinds of care. And they are Lillian Tomayo and Mona Reis.

And like the gentlewoman's advocates that she talked about tonight, they are fighting against, they have been fighting against an unending tide of terrible State laws that try to undermine reproductive freedom.

And once again, once again, this time we are following Texas, we are on the cusp of enacting a dangerous restrictive abortion ban, which is a ban on abortion after 15 weeks that is now awaiting our Governor's certain signature.

But for decades, Lillian and Mona, in their own capacities, have fought hard for reproductive freedom in our State. For more than 20 years, Lillian has been advocate for women, teens, the LGBTQ community as president and CEO of Planned Parenthood of South, East, and North Florida.

And Mona Reis is the founder of the Presidential Women's Center in Palm Beach County. She ran that for about 40 years, and she faced threats, arson.

There was a period of time, even today, abortion providers are under danger. Some have even been murdered.

But both have persisted. They have persisted to make sure our underserved communities have access to the healthcare that they need. And they have been essential in providing access to reproductive care, and the freedom that people deserve in our State.

Each are going on a new journey, but they leave a legacy of unrelentless pursuit of reproductive freedom. I say thank you to Mona and to Lillian.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative FRANKEL for sharing her stories from Florida.

At this time, it is a pleasure to yield to the gentleman from the great State of Texas (Mr. GREEN).

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Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding the time.

Madam Speaker, and still I rise. I rise tonight to take a stand on behalf of the pro-choice movement and women who have had to make the choice, women who have had to make this tough decision, this choice.

Let's get the record straight. Henceforth and forevermore, let it be known that you are either pro-choice or you are anti-choice.

It is easy to be anti-choice when you don't have to make the choice. It is easy to be anti-choice when it is not your wife who was raped. It is easy to be anti-choice when it is not your daughter who has had the incestuous relationship, without her permission, I always say. But even with her permission, it is wrong.

It is easy to make the choice when it is not your child or your wife. You can be anti-choice then. But I only wonder how many persons who have been anti-choice, when confronted with having to make this choice, became pro-choice. We will never know. You can be anti-choice before the public and then pro-choice when it serves your purpose.

I sincerely believe, Madam Speaker and Mrs. FLETCHER, that the long arm of the law has no place in a woman's womb. This is not where the law belongs. This is the property of a woman, and she should make these decisions herself with those who she has trust in, those who care for her, those who she believes will help her to come to the right conclusions.

I stand for those who are pro-choice. For those who are anti-choice, I say: Thank God you have not had to make the choice.

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, I thank Representative GREEN.

Madam Speaker, I have worked closely with my colleagues in the Pro-Choice Caucus to identify stories that need to be told during this Special Order hour this evening. I am grateful to my colleagues who have taken to the floor this evening to share with us the stories of their constituents, to share with us the stories of those who they know have been fighters for reproductive rights, for reproductive justice, for choice.

One of our Pro-Choice Caucus leaders could not be with us tonight but has submitted a statement for the record that I would like to read now. From Representative JUDY CHU:

"I rise today to honor the women of the abortion rights movement who

have come before us. I remember what it was like before the days of Roe. So today, I am helping to remember and honor those who gave their lives, who put their own bodies in harm's way so that we might have the ability to decide what to do with ours.

"Women like Pam, who lives in my district in Pasadena, California—Pam is in her seventies, retired, and spends her time volunteering in her community. But Pam told me about a time when she was 22 years old. It was 1969, and even though she and her partner had been using birth control, Pam found out she was pregnant.

"This happened in the days before Roe v. Wade, which meant that her options were limited. That is how Pam found herself standing on the curb of an airport in Mexico City, waiting for someone to pick her up. Finally, a large black car came up and rolled down the window. 'Are you Pam?' the driver asked. 'Yes,' she replied, and got in the car, forced to trust and hope for the best. Thankfully, Pam wasn't hurt during this experience, but she told me she has never forgotten the fear and uncertainty of putting her life in the hands of a stranger who could have hurt her and abused her, especially when we know that this is a procedure that is safe and can be done in a doctor's office, not someplace unknown and unsafe.

"That is why, now, Pam is determined to ensure that no one ever feels as scared and alone as she did that day. Pam volunteers at the Planned Parenthood Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley, serving as a support system to women who need a hand to hold or a shoulder to lean on. Pam is an abortion advocate in her community because she believes, like I do, that everyone, no matter where they grew up, what language they speak, or how much money they make, deserves to have a say in what happens to their bodies.

"I rise today, as part of Women's History Month, to honor Pam and so many others like her who were forced to make history so that others could have the choices that they were denied. The fight for reproductive rights would not be where it is today without advocates like Pam who stand up, time and time again, and demand that women have the right to decide."

Madam Speaker, this evening, the Pro-Choice Caucus and I also want to recognize the women who launched and built the groundbreaking reproductive justice movement. While women of color have long fought for these principles, "reproductive justice" as a term was coined in 1994 when a group of Black women gathered in Chicago ahead of the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo.

Loretta Ross is one of a number of women who built the reproductive justice movement. She was part of the 1994 meeting and went on to co-found the organization SisterSong, which defines "reproductive justice" as the

human right to maintain personal bodily autonomy; to have children, not have children; and to parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities.

A scholar who teaches both at Smith College and who has published extensively on reproductive justice, she recently testified at the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in this legislative session.

Dorothy Roberts is another pioneer of the reproductive justice movement. From Pennsylvania, she is also considered one of the leaders.

There have been many leaders in our government and in our communities who we celebrate tonight. We, in the Pro-Choice Caucus, have identified a few women who we want to highlight this evening.

I will start with some of the lawmakers and legislators who helped pave the way, including Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968. She was also the first Black woman to run for President. Throughout her trailblazing career, she was a strong supporter of reproductive rights.

In 1969, she was named honorary president of the National Abortion Rights Action League, NARAL. In 1970, she supported legalized abortion in her home State of New York. In 1970, she described abortion as an issue of economic and racial justice.

Louise Slaughter, a longtime Member from New York and chairwoman of the Rules Committee, during her long tenure in Congress, served as a founder and co-chair of the Pro-Choice Caucus.

In addition to championing legislation to protect and expand access to abortion and contraception, Representative Slaughter condemned efforts to expand the so-called conscience protections at the expense of healthcare access and was an early leader on marriage equality.

First elected in 1972, Pat Schroeder was one of only 14 women in the House at the time of the January 1973 Roe v. Wade decision. When a male colleague asked her how she could be a mother of two small children and a Member of Congress at the same time, she famously replied: "I have a brain and a uterus, and I use both."

Other figures who are large in the women's reproductive rights movement, of course, must include Ellen Malcolm, who, in 1985, led a group of friends in creating an organization dedicated to electing pro-choice Democratic women, giving them the credibility and resources that they needed through her organization, EMILY's List.

We began this evening talking about Sarah Weddington, and there are many lawyers and judges who have been a part of this movement at some time in their careers, including, famously, of course, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Kathryn Kolbert, Priscilla Smith, and Linda Coffee.

Of course, we heard from several people tonight, several of our Members,

about the work done in their local communities at Planned Parenthood health centers across the country. As we touch on some of these important women leaders in our community and our country, we certainly recognize the leadership that we have seen at Planned Parenthood health centers, including Faye Wattleton, who was the first Black woman to serve as the president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, as well as the youngest; Cecile Richards, who was president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, and she is the daughter of the late Texas Governor, another champion for reproductive rights, women's rights, and women's equality, Ann Richards.

Alexis McGill Johnson, the current president and CEO of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the Planned Parenthood Action Fund, is in charge of and oversees Planned Parenthood's vital health services to 2.4 million people each year through more than 600 health centers across the country. She is a champion for social and racial justice, a respected political and cultural organizer, and a tireless advocate for reproductive freedom.

The National Abortion Rights Action League, which I mentioned earlier, has always had an incredible role to play in the fight for reproductive rights. Its leaders—Karen Mulhauser, Nanette Falkenberg, Kate Michelman, Nancy Keenan, Ilyse Hogue, and, today, Mini Timmaraju—have left an incredible mark.

The Guttmacher Institute and its current leadership under Dr. Herminia Palacio—the Guttmacher Institute's mission is to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights in the United States and across the globe.

There are so many people, so many women, who have come together around these issues, who have come together to protect the health, the equality, the autonomy, and the dignity of women across this country. Whether named or not this evening on the floor, those are the people who we celebrate tonight.

Madam Speaker, we began this hour with a celebration of trailblazing, fearless women from my home State of Texas. I am so grateful to my colleagues from Texas who joined me this evening and to my colleagues from across the country who spoke out tonight.

Today in Texas, and across the country, reproductive rights are under attack. The passage of the draconian Senate Bill 8 in Texas, which Representative STEVENS discussed, which Representative VEASEY discussed, has created a healthcare crisis for women and healthcare providers across our State. Sadly, but not surprisingly, other States are quickly following suit.

As we have seen, and as we have heard from some of our colleagues this evening, it is not merely abortion. Advocates with cases pending before the

United States Supreme Court today, including Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization, are arguing that the protections recognized in Roe v. Wade and Griswold v. Connecticut, which gave married couples the right to use birth control, that those principles should be rejected.

This is alarming. This is terrifying. This is not what the majority of Americans want. It is not what people have fought so hard for so long to achieve.

That is why it is so important that this evening we remember and honor the work that people have done to ensure reproductive rights, reproductive health, and reproductive justice. It is also important that we recommit ourselves to continuing that work.

As my colleagues noted, in September, thanks to the leadership of Representative JUDY CHU and the Pro-Choice Caucus, the House passed the Women’s Health Protection Act to protect the right to access abortion care against restrictions and bans in every State in our Union.

Passing this legislation is a critical step toward creating a world where every person, whoever they are, wherever they live, whatever their circumstances, is free to make the best healthcare and personal decisions for themselves, their families, and their futures.

We must continue to defend and protect the fundamental rights essential to our autonomy, our dignity, and our equality that are represented in the case of Roe v. Wade and the Women’s Health Protection Act.

In times like these, it is important to me to remember, and it is important for all of us to remember, that Texas gave us S.B. 8, but it also gave us Sarah Weddington, Loretta Ross, Cecile Richards, and so many other people who we talked about this evening and who we know have been champions for women’s health, women’s reproductive rights, and reproductive justice.

□ 2030

Mrs. FLETCHER. Like women across the country, from New Hampshire to North Carolina to Florida to Michigan to California, all of whom spoke this evening, Texas women have fought and will continue to fight for the right to safe, legal, accessible abortion care, to reproductive healthcare, and to reproductive justice. I am proud to be one of them.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o’clock and 31 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 2954, the Securing a Strong Retirement Act of 2022, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 2954

Table with columns for fiscal years 2022-2031 and rows for Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact and components. Total impact is 90 million dollars.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 6865, the Don Young Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

EC-3694. A letter from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Program Fraud Civil Remedies [31 CFR Part 16] received March 9, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3695. A letter from the Senior Procurement Analyst, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration’s final rule — GSAR Extending Federal Supply Schedule Orders Beyond the Contract Term [GSAR Case 2020-G509; Docket No.: GSA-GSAR 2021-0015; Sequence No. 1] (RIN: 3090-AK19) received March 2, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3696. A letter from the Deputy Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting the Administration’s direct final rule — Classified National Security Information

[FDMS No. NARA-22-0002; NARA-2022-021] (RIN: 3095-AC06) received March 16, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC-3697. A letter from the Chief, Division of Bird Conservation, Permits, and Regulations, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Migratory Bird Permits; Administrative Updates to 50 CFR Parts 21 and 22 [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-MB-2021-0025; FF09M22000-223-FXMB1232090000] (RIN: 1018-BF59) received March 9, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC-3698. A letter from the Chief, Regulations and Standards Branch, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Oil and Gas and Sulfur Operations on the Outer Continental Shelf — Civil Penalty Inflation Adjustment [30 CFR Part 250] (RIN: 1014-AA55) received March 2, 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-3699. A letter from the Attorney Adviser, Federal Railroad Administration, De-

partment of Transportation, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Railroad Workplace Safety [Docket No. FRA-2019-0074] (RIN: 2130-AC78) received March 16, 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. 5343. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit a report to Congress on case management personnel turnover, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 117-281). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. DEFAZIO: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 6865. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-282). Referred to the

Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NEAL: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 2954. A bill to increase retirement savings, simplify and clarify retirement plan rules, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117-283, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives find Peter K. Navarro and Daniel Scavino, Jr., in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with Subpoenas Duly Issued by the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol (Rept. 117-284). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Financial Services and Education and Labor discharged from further consideration. H.R. 2954 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. KIM of California (for herself and Mr. GUEST):

H.R. 7260. A bill to require a comprehensive southern border strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. BIGGS:

H.R. 7261. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to allow the pooling of tips among all employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. BIGGS (for himself and Mr. NORMAN):

H.R. 7262. A bill to remove the discretionary inflator from the baseline and to provide that the salaries of Members of a House of Congress will be held in escrow if that House has not agreed to a concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUCK:

H.R. 7263. A bill to establish appropriate penalties for possession of child pornography, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BUDD (for himself, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. PERRY, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mrs. BOEBERT, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. BABIN, Mr. ROY, and Mr. TIFFANY):

H.R. 7264. A bill to amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 to treat certain tax-exempt organizations receiving funding from Russian foreign principals as agents of a foreign principal under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, and Mr. CLEAVER):

H.R. 7265. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a program of research related to cerebral palsy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. BALDERSON, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. MANN, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Mr. NEWHOUSE):

H.R. 7266. A bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to prohibit the local regulation of pesticide use, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KAHELE, and Mr. BACON):

H.R. 7267. A bill to improve the safety of the air supply on aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. GOLDEN (for himself and Ms. PINGREE):

H.R. 7268. A bill to establish the Downeast Maine National Heritage Area in the State of Maine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee (for himself, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. HARRIS, and Mr. BABIN):

H.R. 7269. A bill to prohibit the disbursement of Federal funds to schools that violate any State law relating to materials that are harmful to minors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GROTHMAN:

H.R. 7270. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to establish requirements for voting by absentee ballot in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. HARDER of California:

H.R. 7271. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide the 2022 gas prices rebate to individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. HAYES (for herself, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN):

H.R. 7272. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand the eligibility of disabled veterans to receive supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself, Mr. BURCHETT, and Ms. VELÁZQUEZ):

H.R. 7273. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for formerly incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut (for himself and Mr. REED):

H.R. 7274. A bill to amend title VII of the Social Security Act to provide for a single point of contact at the Social Security Administration for individuals who are victims of identity theft; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. LURIA:

H.R. 7275. A bill to increase interagency cooperation and coordination and to require policies and procedures to detect and prevent duplicate payments for the same medical services by the Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Health and Human Services, and Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Ways and Means, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MCCAUL (for himself and Mr. MEEKS):

H.R. 7276. A bill to direct the President to submit to Congress a report on United States Government efforts to collect, analyze, and preserve evidence and information related to war crimes and any other atrocities committed during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine since February 24, 2022, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. PAPPAS (for himself and Mr. MANN):

H.R. 7277. A bill to improve the methods by which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs identifies health care providers that are not eligible to participate in the Veterans Community Care Program; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. PORTER (for herself, Ms. TITUS, Ms. SCANLON, Ms. SCHA-KOWSKY, Ms. TLAIB, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 7278. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit the exclusion of individuals from service on a Federal jury on account of disability; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 7279. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a credit against tax for expenses for translational research regarding neurodegenerative diseases and psychiatric conditions; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Mr. CHABOT):

H.R. 7280. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide re-entry entrepreneurship counseling and training services for incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. MCNERNEY:

H. Res. 1009. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the consideration of "Just War" principles prior to any vote with respect to a declaration of war or an authorization of the use of military force; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. MULLIN:

H. Res. 1010. A resolution expunging the December 18, 2019, impeachment of President Donald John Trump; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GAETZ (for himself, Mr. MASSIE, Mrs. GREENE of Georgia, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina, and Mr. GOHMERT):

H. Res. 1011. A resolution recognizing the erroneous and misleading allegations in the October 19, 2020, "Public Statement on the Hunter Biden Emails" signed by 51 former intelligence officials; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas:

H. Res. 1012. A resolution congratulating Gregg Popovich, Head Coach of the San Antonio Spurs, on becoming the winningest head coach in the history of the National Basketball Association; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. HILL (for himself and Mrs. DINGELL):

H. Res. 1013. A resolution recognizing and celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Frederick Law Olmsted; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H. Res. 1014. A resolution congratulating the Glensville State University women's basketball team for winning the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Women's Basketball Championship at the Birmingham CrossPlex in Birmingham, Alabama; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to Clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

- By Mrs. KIM of California:
H.R. 7260.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
- By Mr. BIGGS:
H.R. 7261.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
By Mr. BIGGS:
H.R. 7262.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I
By Mr. BUCK:
H.R. 7263.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the United States Constitution
- By Mr. BUDD:
H.R. 7264.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, clause 3 of the Constitution: "Congress shall have Power To . . . regulate Commerce with foreign Nations."
- By Mr. COHEN:
H.R. 7265.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
- By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:
H.R. 7266.
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. GARAMENDI:
H.R. 7267.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution
- By Mr. GOLDEN:
H.R. 7268.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
- By Mr. GREEN of Tennessee:
H.R. 7269.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.
- By Mr. GROTHMAN:
H.R. 7270.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section IV
- By Mr. HARDER of California:
H.R. 7271.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution
- By Mrs. HAYES:
H.R. 7272.

- Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8
By Mr. JEFFRIES:
H.R. 7273.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
"The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . ."
- By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut:
H.R. 7274.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the U.S. Constitution: 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 Mrs. LURIA:
H.R. 7275.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clauses 12 and 13, which grant Congress the power to establish a military, and Clause 18, which grants Congress the necessary and proper powers to carry out its other enumerated powers.
- By Mr. MCCAUL:
H.R. 7276.
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. PAPPAS:
H.R. 7277.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution states that "Congress shall have the authority to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof."
- By Ms. PORTER:
H.R. 7278.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution
- By Mr. THOMPSON of California:
H.R. 7279.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1
By Ms. VELÁZQUEZ:
H.R. 7280.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
"The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States; . . ."

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

- H.R. 19: Mr. MOORE of Utah.
- H.R. 58: Mr. LAMBORN.
- H.R. 82: Mr. CAREY.
- H.R. 95: Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Ms. HERRELL, and Mr. VAN DREW.
- H.R. 217: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
- H.R. 228: Mr. AGUILAR.
- H.R. 282: Ms. NOTON.
- H.R. 304: Mr. COHEN.
- H.R. 393: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan and Ms. ESCOBAR.

- H.R. 481: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. LEE of California, and Ms. SLOTKIN.
- H.R. 521: Mr. KILMER.
- H.R. 564: Mr. LAWSON of Florida and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
- H.R. 576: Mr. SWALWELL.
- H.R. 580: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
- H.R. 608: Mr. LOUDERMILK.
- H.R. 1179: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
- H.R. 1182: Mr. CLEAVER.
- H.R. 1235: Mr. TONKO.
- H.R. 1282: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York and Ms. SALAZAR.
- H.R. 1334: Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
- H.R. 1352: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. PORTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Ms. STANSBURY.
- H.R. 1389: Mr. CASE.
- H.R. 1623: Mr. SOTO.
- H.R. 1735: Mr. MRVAN.
- H.R. 1756: Mrs. BEATTY.
- H.R. 1758: Mr. BUCK, Mr. POSEY, Mrs. MILLER of Illinois, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
- H.R. 1829: Mr. PERRY.
- H.R. 1863: Mr. BOWMAN.
- H.R. 1901: Mr. HUDSON.
- H.R. 1946: Ms. STRICKLAND and Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
- H.R. 1956: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Ms. PORTER.
- H.R. 1961: Mr. MELJER.
- H.R. 1977: Mr. BANKS and Mr. WOMACK.
- H.R. 2215: Mr. LIEU.
- H.R. 2237: Ms. SCANLON.
- H.R. 2238: Mr. SCHIFF.
- H.R. 2244: Mr. CASE.
- H.R. 2256: Mr. DEFAZIO.
- H.R. 2373: Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. NEWMAN, Mr. LIEU, and Ms. TLAIB.
- H.R. 2447: Mr. DELGADO and Mr. MULLIN.
- H.R. 2664: Mr. MCGOVERN and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
- H.R. 2670: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. WELCH.
- H.R. 2730: Mr. PAYNE.
- H.R. 2794: Mr. SHERMAN.
- H.R. 2820: Ms. SPEIER.
- H.R. 2920: Mr. LEVIN of California and Mr. HARDER of California.
- H.R. 2965: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
- H.R. 2988: Ms. MENG.
- H.R. 3072: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana and Mr. HARDER of California.
- H.R. 3079: Mr. TIMMONS.
- H.R. 3108: Mr. SOTO.
- H.R. 3127: Ms. ESCOBAR.
- H.R. 3173: Ms. BOURDEAUX, Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK, and Mr. MCCAUL.
- H.R. 3225: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
- H.R. 3258: Ms. DELBENE and Ms. DEGETTE.
- H.R. 3572: Mr. SOTO.
- H.R. 3596: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
- H.R. 3648: Ms. CHU and Mrs. MCBATH.
- H.R. 3780: Mr. NEGUSE.
- H.R. 3783: Ms. CLARKE of New York and Mr. KILDEE.
- H.R. 3816: Ms. ESCOBAR.
- H.R. 3823: Mr. MELJER.
- H.R. 3897: Ms. CHENEY.
- H.R. 3941: Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Ms. KUSTER.
- H.R. 3988: Ms. MANNING, Ms. BOURDEAUX, and Mr. KHANNA.
- H.R. 4003: Ms. MANNING.
- H.R. 4042: Mr. SWALWELL.
- H.R. 4108: Ms. STEVENS.
- H.R. 4122: Mr. RUTHERFORD, Mr. BACON, and Ms. WILD.
- H.R. 4161: Ms. JAYAPAL.
- H.R. 4239: Mr. STAUBER.
- H.R. 4386: Mr. PAYNE.
- H.R. 4390: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
- H.R. 4421: Ms. JAYAPAL.
- H.R. 4437: Ms. ROSS.

- H.R. 4441: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 4509: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.
H.R. 4602: Ms. PORTER.
H.R. 4603: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 4641: Mr. SHERMAN.
H.R. 4716: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4750: Mr. CAREY, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. MANNING, and Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 4766: Ms. BASS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4779: Ms. ROSS, Ms. MANNING, and Ms. KUSTER.
H.R. 4824: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 4934: Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. COSTA, and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 4965: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 5064: Mr. MELJER and Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.
H.R. 5096: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 5224: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 5232: Mr. LUCAS, Mr. GOSAR, and Ms. WILD.
H.R. 5348: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 5407: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5441: Ms. PRESSLEY.
H.R. 5504: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 5521: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5527: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 5530: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 5625: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 5694: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 5750: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 5754: Mr. CLOUD.
H.R. 5761: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 5801: Mr. LAWSON of Florida.
H.R. 5922: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 5967: Mr. MULLIN.
H.R. 5975: Ms. ESCOBAR.
H.R. 6015: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 6026: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 6059: Mr. DEFazio.
H.R. 6087: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 6102: Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 6133: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 6145: Mrs. KIM of California and Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 6161: Mr. KILDEE, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, Mrs. LURIA, and Mr. COOPER.
H.R. 6171: Mr. RUTHERFORD.
H.R. 6201: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 6219: Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 6270: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 6323: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 6375: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 6398: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Ms. JACOBS of California.
H.R. 6408: Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 6482: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 6501: Mr. CASE and Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.
H.R. 6571: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, and Mr. ROUZER.
H.R. 6583: Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 6600: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 6605: Mr. SCHIFF and Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 6613: Mr. WELCH.
H.R. 6624: Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 6647: Mr. CLOUD.
H.R. 6667: Mr. CÁRDENAS and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.
H.R. 6676: Mrs. LESKO.
H.R. 6696: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 6707: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 6722: Mr. OBERNOLTE and Mr. GARAMENDI.
H.R. 6725: Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CORREA, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. JACOBS of California, Mr. MCCARTHY, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 6738: Mr. BUTTERFIELD and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 6756: Mr. SMITH of Washington.
H.R. 6766: Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 6787: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 6794: Mr. DELGADO.
H.R. 6820: Mr. PERRY.
H.R. 6828: Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina.
H.R. 6833: Ms. SLOTKIN, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. HORSFORD, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. MENG, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. BOURDEAUX, Ms. SCHRIER, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 6872: Ms. MENG, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 6880: Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 6891: Mrs. LEE of Nevada.
H.R. 6940: Mr. BALDERSON.
H.R. 6943: Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. STEFANIK, and Ms. BASS.
H.R. 6949: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN and Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 6954: Mr. MAST and Mr. PHILLIPS.
H.R. 7019: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 7053: Mr. MCGOVERN and Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 7058: Mr. DONALDS.
H.R. 7059: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.R. 7061: Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 7062: Mr. DELGADO and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 7072: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. TIFFANY.
H.R. 7077: Mr. EVANS, Mr. FOSTER, and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 7091: Mr. BERA.
H.R. 7099: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 7106: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 7107: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H.R. 7116: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 7139: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 7167: Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois.
H.R. 7174: Mr. CARL, Mr. MALINOWSKI, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.
H.R. 7197: Mr. ROY and Mr. GREEN of Tennessee.
H.R. 7233: Mrs. HINSON and Mrs. HAYES.
H.R. 7240: Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Ms. TITUS, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.J. Res. 1: Ms. STEVENS, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. CRIST, Ms. SPANBERGER, Mr. KIND, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. TRONE, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. DOGGETT, and Mr. PAYNE.
H.J. Res. 12: Mr. CAREY.
H.J. Res. 55: Mr. NEGUSE.
H.J. Res. 72: Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. OBERNOLTE, Mr. STEWART, and Mr. DONALDS.
H.J. Res. 76: Mr. BACON.
H.J. Res. 79: Mr. LATURNER, Ms. HERRELL, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. ROY, Mr. VAN DREW, and Mr. BUDD.
H.J. Res. 80: Mr. CROW.
H. Con. Res. 33: Mr. WEBSTER of Florida.
H. Con. Res. 65: Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. GARBARINO, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota.
H. Res. 145: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H. Res. 237: Mr. GRIJALVA and Ms. BOURDEAUX.
H. Res. 558: Mr. MANN.
H. Res. 629: Mr. PAYNE.
H. Res. 744: Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, and Mr. PAPPAS.
H. Res. 891: Mr. SCOTT of Virginia.
H. Res. 971: Mr. TRONE.
H. Res. 994: Mr. SAN NICOLAS.
H. Res. 1005: Mr. BABIN, Mr. FALLON, Mr. LATURNER, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. BERGMAN, and Mr. MEUSER.
H. Res. 1008: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. KILMER, Ms. JACOBS of California, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. CASE, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. MORELLE, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, Mr. LIEU, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 7010: Mr. CRAWFORD.



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Vol. 168

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2022

No. 55

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable ALEX PADILLA, a Senator from the State of California.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by our guest chaplain, Robert H. Thune, Pastor of Coram Deo Church, from Omaha, NE.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, every one of us in this Chamber now—whether Senator, staffer, or civilian—is, first of all, a human being made in Your image. And so we pray.

Give us grace to acknowledge our limitations, admit our faults, and to affirm our fellow human beings despite our many differences. Let us always remember that to You and You alone, we must give account. Those who serve in this Chamber have been given a noble and weighty responsibility to seek and serve the common good of these United States. And so, as they attend to the work before them this day, grant them the wisdom of Solomon, the courage of Esther, the patience of Jeremiah, and the humility of Mary. May they be guided by Your providence and strengthened by Your common grace to fulfill Your purposes for this Nation.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 29, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable ALEX PADILLA, a Senator from the State of California, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. PADILLA thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican whip.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I would like to just begin by acknowledging and thanking Pastor Bob Thune for his opening prayer this morning.

It should come as no surprise, based on the last name, we are related. He is my nephew. I have been blessed through the years with a rich, spiritual heritage, as has he. His father, my big brother, was the spiritual trailblazer in our family. He went on to pastor churches in the Midwest, on the West Coast for about 50 years. His son Bob, my nephew, is carrying on that great tradition.

Bob pastors a church, as was noted, called Coram Deo Church in Omaha, NE. Coram Deo is Latin for "the presence of God." Bob, on a weekly basis, proclaims the truth of the gospel from the pulpit. But on a daily basis, he and his congregation have, at the center of their daily lives, the presence of God as they seek to have an impact on their community and their region and on this world.

Bob is, in many respects, as it says in the Book of Acts, fulfilling God's purpose for his generation. I am grateful for the spiritual heritage that we share, for the way that he continues that today. I want to encourage him in

his work and just acknowledge how grateful we are that he was able to join us here in the U.S. Senate and offer that opening prayer which, on a daily basis, is offered by our Chaplain, Barry Black, who has been a great inspiration to me on so many levels and leads us in a weekly Bible study here on Capitol Hill for Senators.

I always try and do an advertisement to get more Senators to come to that Bible study. It is a rich time where we can have an opportunity to reflect on the important work that we do and the way that our faith applies to it on a daily basis.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

BUDGET PROPOSAL

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, now, yesterday, President Biden released 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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second budget of his administration, a strong, forward-looking, and optimistic vision of our country's potential. It is a budget calling for greater investments in the things that make the biggest difference in the lives of middle-class families and in those working to get to the middle class: more support for our schools, increased funding for childcare and healthcare services, strong investments in clean energy and climate change mitigation, support for our farmers and small businesses, as well as relief for our strained supply chains.

The Republican leader asserted yesterday that the President's budget is "fundamentally disconnected" from what America needs right now. This begs the question: Just how does the Republican leader think the recovery of the past 12 months came to pass?

We have seen the greatest jobs recovery in history, the strongest economic surge in 40 years, and a steady return to normal after the worst health crisis of modern times. Does he think it happened by magic? Of course not. These were the results of the right leadership pursuing the right policies at the right moment in our country: robust investments in vaccines, aid for families trying to feed their kids through a crisis, help for businesses and local communities struggling to stay open.

And as our recovery continues under President Biden, Republicans seem to think the right answer is to short-change the American people and cut off vital resources that help our country grow.

Republicans can't stand the thought of asking the ultrarich to pay their fair share, and as a result, efforts to strengthen the middle class, which would be paid for by taxes on those at the very top, are anathema to them. Keeping the wealthy wealthy is more important for Republicans than strengthening the middle class.

Republicans, indeed, seem to think it is "fundamentally disconnected" to increase investments in things like public education, Pell grants, title 1, which helps kids most at need. Republicans believe it is somehow wasteful or far left to dare help families afford childcare and pre-K, which never have been pricier than they are today.

And beholden as they are to corporate polluters, Republicans seem to think it is radical for the Federal Government to dedicate resources to a clean energy future: more renewables, more clean cars right here from America, and a more prosperous planet for our kids and our grandkids.

But, of course, Republicans think it is perfectly fine to try and rip away healthcare for millions of Americans and push trillion-dollar tax cuts that overwhelmingly benefit the wealthy, but helping the middle class with childcare and education and healthcare is a bridge too far for our Republican friends—sad.

For all these reasons, the contrast between President Biden's budget and

the vision we are seeing coming from Republicans is stark and glaring. One budget, ours, is for the working and middle class; the other, the Republican budget, is an offering entirely for the ultrawealthy.

NOMINATION OF LISA DENELL COOK

Mr. President, now on the Cook nomination, today the Senate will continue its work of advancing President Biden's well-qualified nominees. Last night, I filed cloture on five additional nominees, and this morning the Senate will vote on a motion to discharge Ms. Lisa Cook from the Banking Committee. As a reminder, a motion to discharge is necessary in this Congress whenever a nominee receives a deadlocked vote in committee, so the steps we are taking later today are exceedingly important, but, frankly, it is unfortunate that they are necessary at all.

Not very long ago, a nominee of Ms. Cook's qualifications would have sailed toward final confirmation with bipartisan support. She serves on the advisory board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and is a professor of Economics at Michigan State. Coming from humble beginnings in rural Georgia, where her family fought back against racial segregation, she would be the first Black woman ever to sit on the Federal Reserve Board of Governors. She is truly historic, in addition to being deeply qualified.

For as much as Republicans talk about inflation, it is bewildering and totally discrediting for them to reflexively oppose a qualified nominee like Ms. Cook, precisely tasked with helping the Fed hold down costs and maintain strong employment. Nevertheless, we will move forward with her nomination today with a motion to discharge. The bottom line is this: The Fed is not a political institution. Ms. Cook's position is not a political role. And for Republicans to obstruct her nomination purely for political purposes is deeply troubling and hurts our efforts to lower costs for American families.

AMERICA COMPETES ACT OF 2022

Mr. President, and now on the competitiveness legislation, last night, with a strong bipartisan vote of 68 to 28, the Senate passed an amended version of the House jobs and competitiveness legislation. It was amended and passed, to be clear, with the same language the Senate approved last summer when we approved USICA, the U.S. Innovation and Competition Act.

This bill now heads to the House, and I am optimistic that the House will be able to act on a motion requesting a conference committee very soon. It remains our goal to initiate a conference committee by the end of this work period.

Once again, I want to thank all of my colleagues for their good-faith work on this bill. This is the culmination of years of work on both sides of the aisle. Senator YOUNG and I began work on the Endless Frontier Act in 2019. There is more work to be done, but we, never-

theless, took an important step last night toward our goal of enacting this legislation into law.

And in doing so, I believe that this bill will go down as one of the most important steps Congress can take toward creating more jobs, fixing our supply chains, and refueling another generation of American ingenuity that will strengthen our economy for a long, long time.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr. President, on COVID, I am continuing to hold negotiations with my Republican colleagues on much needed COVID public health response funding. Even though cases and deaths and hospitalizations are, thankfully, down and falling across the board, it is still necessary and a matter of great urgency that we replenish funding for more vaccines, more therapeutics, more testing, and for new vaccines to meet the challenge of any new variant. The sooner we have these in place when, God forbid, a new variant hits, the healthier we will stay, the more life will stay normal. To deny it now, and then 3 months from now or 6 months from now, or whenever, be unprepared and let it spread unchecked until the COVID variant's tentacles are too deep in our society, makes no sense whatsoever.

But to pass more COVID public health response funding, we need bipartisan cooperation. It is a responsibility of both Republicans and Democrats to make sure we have the tools and resources in place that will keep the virus down, keep our schools, keep our communities open.

We are not there yet on reaching an agreement, but we are going to keep working in good faith to get there. I hope we can reach an agreement with our Republican colleagues very soon because nobody wants to find themselves in a situation where cases suddenly start rising again, and we aren't ready to respond quickly.

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. Mr. 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.

INFLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, Democrats' massive inflation is an inescapable, painful, daily reality for working families. These policy failures have hammered my home State of Kentucky. Last year, even as many Kentuckians earned raises, prices skyrocketed faster. Used car prices shot up 40 percent in the Commonwealth last year. In Louisville, the gas to drive those cars costs more than a dollar more per gallon today than a year ago.

In typical Bluegrass fashion, neighbors are helping one another as best they can. According to the owner of Parkette Drive-In in Lexington, even as prices for ingredients like chicken have nearly doubled, he has chosen to cut back as much as possible on his end to avoid raising prices for customers.

But as hard as Kentuckians try, Democrats' reckless policies are coming home to roost. As one father of four who lost his job following the devastating Mayfield tornado in December put it, "there's no stretching money at this point."

An outright majority of Americans say inflation is not at all under control. Seven in 10 say our economy is in bad shape, and by all accounts, they know exactly whom to blame for a year of painful challenges.

Sixty-three percent of Americans, nearly two-thirds, say they disapprove of how President Biden is handling the economy, and that number just keeps rising.

But Washington Democrats do not appear to have gotten the message. The Biden administration's new budget proposal leans even further into the policies that got us here in the first place.

Even as President Biden has already presided over soaring prices for gas and home heating fuels, he wants massive new tax hikes on American-made fossil fuels. He wants to skyrocket discretionary domestic spending on a whole catalog of liberal wish-list items, and he wants to compound the pain on our economy by slapping the biggest tax hikes in American history right on top of all of it.

So the past year has taught us how painful Washington Democrats' policies can be for hard-working Americans. The administration needs to stop trying to dig this hole any deeper.

FOREIGN POLICY

Mr. President, now, on another matter, runaway inflation and historic tax hikes aren't the only signs that President Biden's budget was crafted in fantasyland. And, amazingly, yesterday, even as the Biden administration was proposing the biggest tax hikes in American history, that wasn't even the biggest problem of the day.

Most of President Biden's press conference yesterday focused on seemingly major inconsistencies between his public remarks on foreign policy and the actual policy of his administration. A few days ago, President Biden seemed to dramatically change American policy toward Putin's regime during a major international speech before White House staff walked back his comment. Yesterday, the President suggested he was just sharing his personal moral view, not speaking in his policymaking capacity.

We are talking about the Commander in Chief here.

Another time recently, the President seemed to suggest that if Russia violated international law and used chemical weapons in Ukraine, the United States would respond "in kind." Again,

his staff had to quickly explain what the administration actually meant.

The United States does not maintain a chemical weapons stockpile for use. To the contrary, we are working hard to safely dispose of many decades-old munitions.

I know a lot about that. Throughout my career in Washington, I have worked to ensure the stockpile of chemical munitions at the Blue Grass Army Depot in my State are safely but surely disposed of.

But the head-scratching gaffes don't stop there. After spending weeks gratuitously listing all the things America would not do, such as deploy troops into Ukraine, President Biden in Poland seemed to tell American troops they would soon be seeing the bravery of Ukraine's resistance firsthand in person. Again, the White House claimed the President was not actually changing policy.

The troubling inconsistencies go beyond isolated gaffes. The confusion appears to run deeper. For months, White House officials repeatedly insisted the President and his administration were focused on deterring Russian escalation against Ukraine. They repeatedly stressed how the threat of sanctions would serve as a deterrent against further invasion.

But last week, with the world watching, President Biden shockingly claimed he never thought or intended that sanctions would actually deter Putin. This leaves unanswered the question of what he thought they would achieve.

The wild swings between the administration's overly cautious, almost skittish official posture and the President's emotional freelancing is becoming dizzying.

As NATO allies scrambled to help Ukraine fight back, the President refused to authorize a transfer of fighter jets. The administration strangely and unjustifiably felt if we merely facilitated—facilitated—such a transfer, it could be too provocative. But we are supposed to brush it off when the same President seems to actually call for regime change in Russia? Facilitating the transfer of some old fighter jets is too provocative, but remarks like that are just speaking from the heart?

Sadly, mixed messages and confusion have been one of the only consistent threads running through this administration's foreign policy from the very start. The White House chafed against clear warnings from its own military advisers about how quickly Afghanistan could fall after U.S. withdrawal. They stood by the President's assertion that "there's going to be no circumstance where you see people being lifted off the roof of an embassy of the United States," until that exact scene happened in Kabul.

With respect to both the Taliban and Putin, the administration has said repeatedly they think that the fear of becoming international pariahs will actually constrain their actions—as if these regimes cared a lick about global PR.

At the risk of repeating what I and many others have said for years, despots can't be shamed into conforming to polite international society. You can't check lawless violence with finger wagging.

We know what deters aggression: American strength and American clarity. That is what deters aggression.

I have just explained how American clarity has been in too-short supply. But, unfortunately, the Biden administration also seems unwilling to plan and invest in long-term American strength.

Even under the administration's wildly—wildly—optimistic projections about inflation, their budget proposal would only flat-fund our Armed Forces. In the best case scenario, they want American defense to just tread water, nowhere near the robust real growth that bipartisan experts say we need to modernize and keep pace with both Russia and China.

And in the more likely event that Democrats don't magically have inflation plummeting in just a few months, then President Biden's policy would amount to an actual cut—cut—to our defense spending, ramping down American military funding while China ramps theirs up.

China is building for the battlefield of the future. Iran continues funding terrorists and plowing forward with nuclear development. Russian aggression is actively challenging our capacity to keep ourselves and our partners armed.

And the Biden administration sees this as a moment to ease off the gas?

That could not be more mistaken.

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. THUNE. Mr. 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.

The Republican whip.

NOMINATION OF KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, last week's Judiciary Committee hearing gave Senators the opportunity to hear directly from President Biden's nominee to the Supreme Court, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, to help them decide whether she is an appropriate candidate for the Nation's highest Court.

My approach to deciding whether or not to vote for a Supreme Court nominee or any judicial nominee is pretty simple. I look at the character and qualifications, and most of all, I look at the question of whether the nominee understands the limited role of the judiciary and the separation of powers.

Our Federal Government, of course, has three distinct branches: the legislative branch, which makes the laws; the executive branch—the President and executive Departments—which executes the laws; and the judiciary,

which interprets the laws. Pretty simple, right? Civics 101. Too often, however, our colleagues on the left look to the judiciary to usurp the role of the legislative branch. They look for activist judges who will not just interpret the law but who will go beyond the law to deliver the policy outcomes that liberals are interested in, whether that is an aggressive abortion agenda, restraint of the free exercise of religion, or liberals' preferred approach to immigration.

President Biden, for example, specifically noted that he would only appoint judges who could be relied on to rule in favor of *Roe v. Wade* and a right to abortion. Well, that is a big problem because delivering specific political outcomes is not the job of the judicial branch. In our system of government, policy decisions are vested in the legislative branch and are made there by the people's democratically elected representatives. Judges have discretion in applying the laws, but their discretion is to be guided by the plain text of the law and by the intention of the people's representatives in drafting the statute. Otherwise, we end up not with government of the people but with government by an unelected, unaccountable group of judges.

President Biden has unfortunately placed himself squarely in the camp of those who would like to see the judiciary take an active role in making policy. "The people that I would appoint to the Court," President Biden said during his campaign for President, "are people who have a view of the Constitution as a living document, not as a staid document."

Well, let me just talk about that for a minute. What is a Constitution if not a staid document? If there is no fixed meaning to the Constitution, if it can be stretched and adjusted and expanded by judges at their discretion, then why have a Constitution? The whole point of the Constitution—of written law in general, I would argue—is that it is fixed, "staid," to quote the President. The rule of law, equal justice under the law—these concepts rely on the idea that the law has a fixed meaning, that there is one law that applies equally to everyone.

If the Constitution does not have a fixed meaning, it cannot be the supreme law of the land. It cannot be a guide to which we can all appeal. A living Constitution is a meaningless one. Of course that doesn't mean that the Constitution will always stay exactly the same. There is a process, as we all know, for amending the Constitution so that needed changes can be made. But these changes have to be made through the amendment process, with the concurrence of three-fourths of the States.

That is not what the President is talking about. When the President talks about a living Constitution, he is not talking about periodically amending the Constitution via the process laid out within the Constitution itself;

what he is talking about is nominating judges who will take it upon themselves to amend the Constitution through their rulings by finding new rights and authorities as needed to advance a particular political agenda. That is deeply concerning, particularly when we are talking about a lifetime appointment to the highest Court in the land.

Unfortunately, after watching last week's Judiciary Committee hearing and examining Judge Jackson's record, I am concerned that her jurisprudence reflects President Biden's belief in an activist judiciary.

As has become clear, Judge Jackson has a strong point of view when it comes to sentencing guidelines in certain cases. That is not in and of itself a problem, of course. Judges can and do have strong opinions about any number of issues that come up in the law. What is a problem is it seems that Judge Jackson has allowed her personal opinions to shape her judicial decisions.

For example, as a Federal trial judge, she repeatedly chose to reject sentencing guidelines and the recommendations of prosecutors in favor of lenient sentences for those who possess and distribute child pornography. It appears that she had a record of advocating for leniency with respect to these types of crimes during her time at the U.S. Sentencing Commission and that she then applied those opinions to her sentencing practices when she became a Federal judge.

For this reason and more, I am deeply concerned that her record suggests that she would allow her personal opinions on issues like sentencing to shape her decisions on the Supreme Court. A Supreme Court Justice's allegiance must be to the plain words of the law and the Constitution, not to any personal political opinion, and I am not convinced that Judge Jackson meets that standard.

My concern has only been heightened by Judge Jackson's inability or refusal to define her judicial philosophy. It should not be difficult for a nominee to the Supreme Court to lay out her theory of constitutional interpretation. Given how often her strong personal opinions have appeared to influence her decisions as a judge and absent a clearly expressed judicial philosophy that rejects personal opinion in favor of the plain meaning of the law and the Constitution, I am concerned that her judicial approach would follow the "living Constitution" model that President Biden embraces.

Finally, I was deeply concerned by Judge Jackson's refusal to reject Court packing. Court packing, of course, is a long-discredited idea that has been revived by members of the far left and increasingly embraced by the Democratic Party. The idea behind it is simple. If the Supreme Court isn't delivering the decisions you want, expand the number of Justices until you can be pretty sure you will get your preferred outcomes.

The problems with this approach are obvious, starting with the question, where does it end? It is easy to envision a Democrat-led Congress packing the Court with additional Democrat-selected Justices and then a Republican-led Congress coming in and matching those new Justices with additional Republican-appointed Justices and on and on and on. Pretty soon, the size of the Supreme Court would be approaching the size of the U.S. Senate. I can think of no approach more guaranteed to bring about a complete delegitimization of the Supreme Court.

Do Democrats seriously think that there is any—any—American who would regard the Supreme Court as a nonpartisan institution after it had been packed full of Democrat Justices or, if it were Republicans who were advancing this Court-packing plan, with Republican Justices? Court packing would instantly turn the Supreme Court into nothing more than a partisan extension of the legislative branch, which is why it is so concerning that Judge Jackson has repeatedly—repeatedly—declined to oppose it.

Both Justice Ginsburg and Justice Breyer spoke out against Court packing during their time on the Supreme Court, so this is a subject on which Judge Jackson can and should have felt free to speak. That she did not do so only underscored my concern that she is too open to allowing politics to shape the judiciary.

I enjoyed meeting with Judge Jackson, and I respect her achievements, but I cannot in good conscience vote for a Supreme Court Justice whose record indicates that she will allow her personal political opinions to shape her judicial decisions.

The rule of law depends upon having Justices who decide cases based on the plain meaning of the law and the Constitution, not on personal beliefs or political considerations.

I can only vote to confirm a Justice who I believe will respect the separation of powers and the limited role of a Justice and refuse to allow her personal opinions to influence her decisions on the Bench.

For these reasons, I cannot support Judge Jackson's confirmation to the Supreme Court.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF LISA DENELL COOK

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on the nomination of Professor Lisa Cook to serve as a Governor of the Federal Reserve Board.

At stake with Professor Cook's nomination is really how the Fed will respond to one of the most pressing challenges facing Pennsylvania and the Nation.

Earlier this month, we learned that inflation hit a four-decade high of almost 8 percent. Prices are skyrocketing for just about everything: gasoline, food, rent. The amount of money Americans have to pay for basic goods and services that they need every week are going up, and they are going up much faster than their wages. That means working Americans are falling further and further behind.

Under the guise of fighting this inflation, my colleagues across the aisle on the Senate Banking Committee have urged the swift confirmation of President Biden's slate of nominees to the Federal Reserve Board. The chairman of the committee said that President Biden's nominees are "ready to get to work fighting inflation." And yet we could have confirmed nominees many weeks ago.

We still haven't voted on two of the nominees who have unanimous Republican support and near-unanimous Democratic support, which makes you wonder about our colleagues' commitment to this urgency. Maybe it is because our Democratic colleagues know that even if we don't confirm these nominees, the Fed has 9 out of 12 voting members on the FOMC in place. That is more than enough to raise rates if they decide they should raise rates to fight inflation.

How do we know for sure that that is more than enough? Well, at their last meeting just 2 weeks ago, the Fed did, in fact, raise interest rates. So it was never the case that the Fed is somehow unable to fight inflation until the nominees are confirmed.

What we really should be asking ourselves is, Are these nominees going to be the inflation fighters that we need that the White House claims they are? In my view, one of these nominees in particular, Professor Lisa Cook, dramatically fails this test.

First of all, Professor Cook has nearly zero experience in monetary policy. Now, she does have a Ph.D. in economics, but not a single one of her publications concerns monetary economics.

The White House cites as her main qualification on U.S. monetary policy her appointment as a Chicago Fed director. That appointment was made in January of this year, 2 weeks before President Biden announced Professor Cook's nomination to be a Fed Governor.

And Professor Cook made very clear in her conversation with me that she had not participated in any policy or decisionmaking so far in her term at the Chicago Fed. In fact, she described her role as limited to "filling out paperwork"—that is her quote—for her new position, which is understandable. She had been there for 2 weeks before she was nominated to the Fed governorship. So that appointment to the re-

gional Fed certainly doesn't count as a qualification to serve as a main Fed Governor.

Professor Cook herself has acknowledged that her academic work on monetary issues is, let's say, sparse. When asked to list her top few works on monetary policy for the Banking Committee, she provided only one, and that was a book chapter about Nigerian bank reforms in 2005.

What is even more troubling is that in addition to having no monetary policy experience, Professor Cook also appears to have no opinion at all on how the Fed should address inflation.

Professor Cook repeatedly refused to endorse the Fed's decision to pull back its ultraeasy monetary policy and only did begrudgingly say that she agreed with the "Fed's path right now as we are speaking"—that is a quote—at her nomination hearing in February. Prior to that, she couldn't bring herself to acknowledge that maybe it was time for the Fed to change the policy that had contributed to the worst inflation that we have seen in 40 years.

Professor Cook's answers to basic questions about what tools the Fed should use and how should the Fed consider using them in order to get inflation under control, her answer was nothing more than an incomprehensible word salad.

Professor Cook has continued to insist that she would need to be confirmed to the Fed before she can have a view on inflation because, in her own words, "We don't have access to all the data that the Fed has," and also, "We don't have access to . . . the deliberations at the time they are being made."

These statements are bewildering coming from someone who has been nominated to address the most pressing inflationary threat in nearly two generations. To be clear, the Fed has no secret data, as Professor Cook seems to believe. In fact, monetary policy, including the recent 41-percent increase in the money supply, is extremely transparent. And if Professor Cook is counting on Fed economists to guide her in making a prediction about inflation, then, first of all, they have been wrong on inflation consistently, very wrong; and, secondly, what is she going to do on the Fed and what is her role there if all she is going to do is take instruction from the Fed staff?

Look, just about every economist in the country has an opinion about inflation right now because the data is all readily apparent and extremely disturbing. Every other nominee to the Federal Reserve has an opinion about inflation, and certainly, every Pennsylvanian I talk to has strongly held views about inflation.

Professor Cook's claim made at her nomination hearing just last month that "We have to be patient with the data"—and the data she was referring to was rising consumer prices—that certainly suggests, what is to me, an unacceptable toleration for the infla-

tion that is ravaging American consumers.

That brings me to my second point, and that is Professor Cook's history of extreme leftwing political advocacy and hostility to opposing viewpoints, the combination which I think makes her unfit to serve on the Fed. As I have said many times, it is extremely important that we keep politics out of the money supply. The Fed is supposed to be independent. The Fed is supposed to be apolitical so that it can focus on its job. But unfortunately, we have seen the encroachment of politics at the historically independent Federal Reserve, and we have seen that the Fed is not doing such a great job.

There are people on the left, including in the Biden administration, who openly advocate that the Fed use its regulatory powers to address complex political issues, including things like what to do about global warming, social justice, even education policy. Look, these are all very, very important issues—very important issues—but they are completely unrelated to the Fed's limited statutory mandate and expertise.

Professor Cook's record indicates that these are the topics that interest her the most, and she is likely to inject further political bias into the Fed's work at a time, exactly the time, when we need the Fed to be hyperfocused on getting inflation back under control.

We discovered that Professor Cook sent out, in recent years, over 30,000 public tweets and retweets—30,000. Included among them, she supports race-based reparations; she has promoted conspiracies about Georgia voting laws; she sought to cancel those who disagree with her views, such as she publicly called for a colleague of hers to be fired because he dared to tweet that he was opposed to defunding the police of Chicago.

After Banking Committee Republican staff highlighted these tweets and brought them to public attention, Professor Cook blocked the Banking Committee Republican Twitter account 1 day before her nomination hearing.

Apparently, Professor Cook not only realizes how inflammatory her own tweets are but also has pretty little regard for the Senate's constitutional responsibility to vet her public statements.

See, the Fed is already suffering from a credibility problem because of its involvement in politics, its departure from its statutorily prescribed limited role, and, frankly, the not-very-good job it has done in keeping inflation under control.

I am concerned that Professor Cook will further politicize an institution that must get back to being apolitical, so I urge my colleagues to vote against the motion to discharge Professor Cook.

I yield the floor.
THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

MR. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that prior to the

vote at 11:45, I be permitted to speak for 15 minutes and Senator SHERRON BROWN be permitted to speak for 2 minutes.

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

NOMINATION OF KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last week, the Senate Judiciary Committee was busy. We met for over 30 hours to consider the nomination of Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court.

During the meeting of the committee, hundreds of questions were posed to Judge Jackson. She spoke thoughtfully and at length about her years in public service, and, most importantly, she really imparted to the committee—and to America that has watched—what she thought about this great Nation, her pride in being an American, the opportunities which were given to her, and opportunities which she used to make this a better place for many.

I was one of the millions who came away from last week's hearing deeply impressed with Judge Jackson. It proved to me during the course of her testimony that the words over the steps of the Supreme Court, "Equal Justice Under Law," are a personal challenge and an invitation to a person just like Judge Jackson.

But it appears some of our Republican colleagues are more reluctant to support her at this moment. She is still making the rounds. Over 50 Senators have received personal visits, and even more will during the course of this week. They have reservations, and I have spoken to some of them and listened to their statements. They say that they don't have any question about her qualifications or experience. Well, thank goodness. She has a stellar resume. Anyone who is a lawyer in this Nation would look at her with envy to think what she has achieved against the odds in her life.

Unfortunately, some of the members of the committee misrepresented her record on several issues. I would like to try to set it straight at this moment.

There seems to be this passion amongst some Republicans to get this nominee to state in a word or two her judicial philosophy. I find that interesting. If a person came up to one of my colleagues and said, "What is your political philosophy?" there are a number of things a person might say. They might say, for example, "I am a fiscal conservative."

You might then ask, "Well, then why did you vote for the Trump tax cuts that gave tax breaks to the wealthiest Americans and added almost \$2 trillion to the national debt? And if you are a fiscal conservative, why is it that you only preach for a balanced budget amendment when there is a Democrat in the White House and never when there is a Republican?"

Basically what you are saying is, "I can hear you and your declaration, but I want to know what you have done."

When it comes to Judge Jackson, those who seek her judicial philosophy and want a simple label one way or the other just haven't done their homework. She has almost 600 published opinions. This woman, this jurist, has not held back in explaining, in case after case, how she views the law. It is there for the reading. Every Member of the Senate and the public has access to that information to get the true measure of a judicial philosophy.

What she said over and over again at the hearing was, I believe in judicial restraint. I think that is exactly what we need in a judge, personally. That is exactly what you will find when you review the hundreds of opinions she has written to date.

Then there is this litmus test question that meant so much to Senator MCCONNELL, the Republican leader in the Senate, that he led off his opposition to Judge Jackson on the issue. And the issue, quite simply, is whether or not Judge Jackson is willing to say what her position is on increasing the number of Justices serving on the Supreme Court—interesting question.

Most Americans think it has been nine for all time, but that is not true. I believe it was in 1869 that that number was established. Before then, it was a fewer number of Justices. It hasn't been changed since. There is speculation among some political quarters that people are thinking about changing it in the future.

So when it came to Senator MCCONNELL's opposition to Judge Jackson because she said it is a policy matter to be decided by Congress, not to be decided by the Court, as to the composition and number on the Supreme Court, Senator MCCONNELL went on to say that that disqualified her; that was the leading disqualification.

Well, you might ask Senator MCCONNELL: How did the previous nominee, Amy Coney Barrett—you went to great lengths in maintaining a vacancy on the Court so that a Republican judge could fill the vacancy—how did she answer this probing threshold question when it came to the future composition of the Supreme Court?

She said virtually exactly what Judge Jackson said: It is a matter for Congress to decide, not for the courts. That was an acceptable answer with Amy Coney Barrett, but for Senator MCCONNELL, it is an unacceptable answer when it comes to Judge Jackson.

The other questions that were raised were about her legal representation. Those of us who have practiced law understand that you don't necessarily agree with the legal position of every client who walks in the office, and sometimes you have no choice. If the court appoints you as a defender or as an attorney to represent someone who is an indigent client, you often have a client before you—not necessarily a savory character—who might have some questionable background. Your job is to be a zealous advocate for that client but never to lie to the court, stick with

the truth, do your best, and represent them in the course of litigation.

That is what Judge Jackson has done in her private practice and her years working for the Federal public defender. Most attorneys get it. Most of them understand that the client you are representing is not necessarily espousing your point of view, nor, really, boasting a lifestyle that you admire, but you have a professional obligation to do your best as a lawyer to represent them before the court of law.

Some of them were opposed to Judge Jackson because she represented detainees at Guantanamo Bay. That is curious because these same lawmakers once claimed that judicial nominees should not be held accountable for the views and actions of their clients.

It was the junior Senator from Missouri who not that long ago argued that litigators "do not necessarily share the views of the people [they represent]" but must "represent them effectively and fairly." He was right then, and he ought to remember it now.

Consider the words of the junior Senator from Texas, who told us in September of 2019:

Saying that the views of your clients or the positions of your clients are necessarily your own personal views is no more accurate than saying a criminal defense lawyer who represents capital defendants is advancing the cause of murder.

That is the quote from the junior Senator from Texas.

Finally, some of our Republican colleagues have accused Judge Jackson of being soft on crime. We had an interesting panel the last day when we considered the judge, and on that panel was a gentleman who is the president of the Black law enforcement organization known as NOBLE.

I asked him point blank: We know the Fraternal Order of Police has endorsed Judge Jackson's aspiration to the Court. We know that the International Association of Chiefs of Police also endorsed her. You, NOBLE, representing Black law enforcement agents across the Nation, have endorsed her. Would you or any of these organizations have even considered the endorsement if you thought she was soft on crime or wanted to defund the police? He was unequivocal. No, he wouldn't have considered her. But her critics ignore that reality.

I want to make it clear that any Senator considering her nomination has the right to make their own choice in this process. They can also look beyond the fact that she comes from a law enforcement family to her actual decisionmaking and sentencing. But to claim, as a few have—only a few—that somehow Judge Jackson was soft when it came to child predators or endangering children is just inaccurate and, frankly, insulting.

Look at the facts. Judge Jackson is well within the judicial mainstream of 70 to 80 percent of sentences by Federal judges when it comes to child pornography offenders—not out of the mainstream, in it—and she has put many

behind bars for decades. Her approach to these cases is comparable to that of many of President Trump's nominees on the bench today.

Independent fact checkers have exposed these baseless attacks for what they are. I can't say it any better than the conservative Federal prosecutor who wrote in a conservative magazine, the National Review, that this line of attack against Judge Jackson is "meritless to the point of demagoguery."

Let's be clear. None—absolutely none—of the attacks that have been leveled against Judge Jackson stand up to scrutiny. I assume that is why only a few of my Republican colleagues have spoken out in support of them.

So I want to thank the majority of Republican Judiciary Committee members who treated last week's hearing with dignity and respect. They posed challenging, probing questions to Judge Jackson, and that was their responsibility to do so. Judge Jackson's forthright responses showed the American public why she deserves this historic opportunity.

She is a brilliant jurist, evenhanded, with a model temperament. There were so many moments—for those who followed the hearing, they know what I am speaking of—when I looked up and saw her sitting at the table, thinking that she could stand up at this very moment and say "Enough. My family and I are leaving." But she didn't. She had the strength and the grace and the dignity and determination to weather even that political firestorm.

I am honored to support Judge Jackson. I look forward to our Judiciary Committee vote on her nomination next Monday.

(The remarks of Mr. DURBIN pertaining to the introduction of S. 3950 are printed in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

Mr. DURBIN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

NOMINATION OF LISA DENELL COOK

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I rise to urge my colleagues to join me in confirming Lisa Cook to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Dr. Cook hails from the Presiding Officer's home State of Georgia. She grew up in Milledgeville, GA, where my mother's college roommate—during World War II, before she moved to Washington to be part of the war effort—was a roommate of my mother who is from Mansfield, GA, as the Presiding Officer knows. She roomed with someone from Milledgeville, GA.

Lisa Cook has good smalltown values, good southern values. She now teaches at a great Midwestern State university with good midwestern values.

She is unquestionably qualified, an economist with many years of experience. She is a graduate of Spelman. She was a Truman Scholar in England, something that very few Americans

qualify for. It is a very small, elite, important program. She then got her Ph.D. at Berkeley.

She brings a breadth of research and international experience on monetary policy, on banking, and on financial crises. In fact, she is one of the country's leading researchers on international economic growth and innovation economics.

Dr. Cook currently serves as a dual-tenured professor of economics and international relations at Michigan State. She previously taught at the Kennedy School of Government. She served on the Council of Economic Advisers during the eurozone crisis and at the Department of Treasury.

She is a historic nominee. If confirmed, she would be the first Black woman ever in the more than 100-year history of the Fed. Think about that. In 1913, the Federal Reserve began, created by this body and the House of Representatives, signed by President Wilson. So in 109 years, seven Governors on the Fed—most stay no more than 5 or 6 or 7 years—and she will be the first Black woman to ever serve on the Federal Reserve.

I am thrilled about this nomination. I am thrilled because of the diversity of gender and race but also—maybe especially—the diversity of experience. She knows, in her recognition, that workers should be at the center of our economy. She knows that workers drive our economic growth. She knows how important local communities are. She spent her formative years in the South and a significant portion of her career in the industrial Midwest. She has seen how the economy works and sometimes doesn't work so well for all different kinds of people in different parts of the country.

She arrived on campus in East Lansing, MI, a few years before the financial crisis. She saw its impact on the students, the professors, the entire community. She takes that with her—that experience, that knowledge, that insight—to the Federal Reserve.

That is an unusual thing for a Fed Governor. She has made it clear she is dedicated to Fed independence. She will uphold the Fed's dual mandate of maximum employment and price stability.

Her nomination represents another example of the Biden administration's serious effort to make the economy work for everyone, not just those at the top. That is what especially makes her an outstanding nominee.

It is a critical time for the Fed. We need Dr. Cook and other qualified nominees on the job immediately to fight inflation. Dr. Cook is unquestionably qualified. She possesses bipartisan support from top economists, former Fed Governors, bankers, civil rights organizations.

Yet despite her broad support, a small but loud minority have wrongly claimed that she doesn't meet the standards for this position, standards that only seem to apply for certain nominees.

Still, she has met and she has exceeded those high bars. She is a Ph.D. economist and a tenured professor. She is sought by organizations around the world for her input, for her knowledge, for her wisdom, for her perspective. She will bring a critical voice to the Fed, one that has been missing for far too long.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Dr. Lisa Cook's nomination and getting her on the Board right away to help with our economic recovery.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON MOTION TO DISCHARGE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question occurs on agreeing to the motion to discharge the Cook nomination.

The yeas and nays were previously ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY).

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

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 49, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 110 Ex.]

YEAS—50

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

NAYS—49

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

NOT VOTING—1

Kennedy

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to S. Res. 27 and the motion to discharge having been agreed to, the nomination will be placed on the Executive Calendar.

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 725, Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Charles E. Schumer, Tina Smith, Brian Schatz, Angus S. King, Jr., Jon Ossoff, Tim Kaine, Chris Van Hollen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Raphael G. Warnock, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jack Reed, Tammy Baldwin, Ron Wyden, Gary C. Peters, Mazie Hirono, Christopher Murphy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 56, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 111 Ex.]

YEAS—56

Baldwin	Hassan	Padilla
Bennet	Heinrich	Peters
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Rosen
Brown	Kaine	Sanders
Cantwell	Kelly	Schatz
Cardin	Kennedy	Schumer
Carper	King	Shaheen
Casey	Klobuchar	Sinema
Collins	Leahy	Smith
Coons	Lujan	Stabenow
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Cramer	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Menendez	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warnock
Feinstein	Murkowski	Warren
Gillibrand	Murphy	Whitehouse
Graham	Murray	Wyden
Grassley	Ossoff	

NAYS—43

Barrasso	Hawley	Rounds
Blackburn	Hoeben	Rubio
Blunt	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Boozman	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Braun	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Burr	Lankford	Shelby
Capito	Lee	Sullivan
Cassidy	Lummis	Thune
Cornyn	Marshall	Tillis
Cotton	McConnell	Toomey
Crapo	Moran	Tuberville
Cruz	Paul	Wicker
Daines	Portman	Young
Ernst	Risch	
Fischer	Romney	

NOT VOTING—1

Hagerty

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SINEMA). On this vote, the yeas are 56, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:17 p.m. recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. SINEMA).

Moran	Sasse	Tillis
Paul	Scott (FL)	Toomey
Portman	Scott (SC)	Tuberville
Risch	Shelby	Wicker
Rounds	Sullivan	Young
Rubio	Thune	

NOT VOTING—1

Whitehouse

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 47. 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 C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Security and Non-Proliferation).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. KAINE. Madam President, I rise to talk about one of the Senate's foremost constitutional duties, the advice and consent of executive nominations.

The most senior nominees, like Cabinet Secretaries, go through a floor process that normally takes about 4 days, if you run through all the procedural steps by the book. Other nominees, typically people with highly specialized expertise, go through a rigorous committee process and are often confirmed by unanimous consent.

Any Senator can object; that is the right of the Senator. If they feel that even one of hundreds of lower-level nominees should take up nearly a full week of the U.S. Senate's time, they can insist upon that.

I think Presidents are due an appropriate level of discretion in picking their teams, and I believe this is true whether or not the President is one I support or oppose. I believe in having the executive branch staffed with qualified professionals. I do draw the line at three areas: if a nominee is totally unqualified for the job, if there is a well-justified reason to question a nominee's ethics or honesty or impartiality, and, finally, if a nominee is so outside the mainstream in ways that go beyond normal good-faith disagreement on matters of policy.

I opposed a number of President Trump's nominees who met one or multiple of these criteria, but I also supported a larger percentage of President Trump's nominees. Even though these were not people I expected to agree with on policy, they did not fall afoul of the three criteria that I look at in a primary way.

I am here today because of several nominees within the jurisdiction of multiple committees I sit on; they are being blockaded, and I would like to focus on one just now.

Amy Loyd is nominated to be the Assistant Secretary of Education for Career, Technical, and Adult Education.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

CLOTURE MOTION

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 791, C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Security and Non-Proliferation).

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Brian Schatz, Martin Heinrich, Alex Padilla, Jacky Rosen, Margaret Wood Hassan, Dianne Feinstein, Benjamin L. Cardin, Richard Blumenthal, Angus S. King, Jr., Bernard Sanders, Christopher Murphy, Sheldon Whitehouse, Sherrod Brown, Michael F. Bennet, Christopher A. Coons.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Security and Non-Proliferation), 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 Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) is necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 112 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Romney
Blumenthal	Kaine	Rosen
Booker	Kelly	Sanders
Brown	King	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Lujan	Sinema
Casey	Manchin	Smith
Collins	Markey	Stabenow
Coons	Menendez	Tester
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warnock
Feinstein	Murray	Warren
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden
Hassan	Padilla	
Heinrich	Peters	

NAYS—47

Barrasso	Cramer	Hoeben
Blackburn	Crapo	Hyde-Smith
Blunt	Cruz	Inhofe
Boozman	Daines	Johnson
Braun	Ernst	Kennedy
Burr	Fischer	Lankford
Capito	Graham	Lee
Cassidy	Grassley	Lummis
Cornyn	Hagerty	Marshall
Cotton	Hawley	McConnell

Ms. Loyd designed and led programs across the United States in her prior role at the education think tank Jobs for the Future and the Native American educational advocacy group the Cook Inlet Tribal Council.

She had a distinguished academic career, attending community college first in Santa Fe, prior to a doctorate in education leadership from Harvard Graduate School of Education. She is a lifelong professional in the field of career and technical education, and she brings personal life experience in the field, having begun her career at community college. I believe she is an outstanding point person for President Biden when it comes to matters of career and technical education.

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions advanced her nomination by a voice vote, with no recorded opposition. I sit on the HELP Committee. I am the chairman of the bipartisan Senate Career and Technical Education Caucus. I was proud to support her.

Although I do not know Ms. Loyd personally, I do have a personal connection to her nomination. My dad ran a welding and ironworking shop. I grew up working in that shop with my two brothers and my mother. I saw the power of career and technical education and the artistry of the ironworkers who worked in my dad's business.

When I was in the middle of law school, I took a year off to go be a missionary in Honduras, and I ran a school that taught kids to be carpenters and welders, again seeing the power of career and technical education. And I think that there is a bipartisan understanding in this body and the House—really, in society at large—that we may have undervalued career and technical education in recent generations; and as we are contemplating things like an infrastructure bill or other important priorities to grow the economy, we need to put more stress, not less, on the value of career and technical education.

So, as a Senator, I am proud to have made this one of my central policy fields: working on CTE bills with many, many colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

There is a hold on Amy Loyd's nomination, and that is the right of those who would hold her. But I am here specifically because I would like to know why.

I would ask my colleagues under which of the three buckets does Ms. Loyd's nomination fall short? Is there a perception that she is not qualified? Is there a perception that she is not ethical? Is there a perception that her views on career and technical education are outside the mainstream?

You don't have to support President Biden's nominees. If she is confirmed, part of her job will be answering tough questions from colleagues.

But I would ask my colleagues, if you are voting against nominees of any

President from the other party not because of flaws of the kinds that I have described, what does that get us?

The American people put Democrats for a period of time in charge of both the executive and the legislative branches. The American public often vote for divided government. Does that mean that any time the White House and the Senate are controlled by different parties, the parties just won't have anybody in their administration? What does that get our country? I think we know the answer: dysfunction.

Clearly, Madam President, as I conclude, there are nominees who engender significant controversy, either because of the peculiar nature of the post to which they have been nominated or because of aspects of their background or character. I know of no such controversy with this nominee, either about the position or about the individual herself. And I think if we are to succeed in the necessary project of elevating the importance of career and technical education, we need to have Ms. Loyd confirmed in her position.

For that reason, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination; Calendar No. 669, Amy Loyd, to be Assistant Secretary for Career, Technical, and Adult Education, Department of Education; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; and that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, reserving the right to object.

I do think it is significant that the party that is now in the majority that was previously in the minority took a different position when it was not in the minority—when it was not in the majority and when a President of their political party was not in power. There was elaborate and, I believe, an excessive delay in the confirmation of a lot of nominees, even more so than what we are seeing now.

I do have concerns that are particular as to this particular nominee and not generalized. They are not concerns that could be dismissed simply as a result of basic partisan disagreements, but based on views that are considerably outside the mainstream and that are radical and harmful.

Let me explain. As vice president of the think tank Jobs for the Future, Ms. Loyd was responsible for overseeing that organization's workforce development efforts through the lens of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

It is of great concern to me that this body of work produced reports that promulgated ideas aimed at furthering the divisive agenda of critical race theory and ESG scores. One of the most alarming of these reports is one that

was published on September 8, 2020, which asserted that due to "unconscious or implicit bias toward minorities," managers are limiting the advancement or promotion of minorities in the workforce.

These divisive, inflammatory assumptions are dangerous to the civil fabric of our society. Elevating individuals who espouse this dangerous and divisive ideology to key leadership positions within the Federal Government will only further divide Americans, pitting them one against another.

We should instead seek to elevate into positions of leadership those who aim to unify the American people and emphasize the importance of making sure that people are evaluated on the basis of the character of their heart, not the color of their skin. Her work has done the opposite of that.

In good conscience, I cannot and will not support the nomination of Ms. Loyd; and on that basis, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

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

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

ENERGY

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I come to the floor today to speak about unleashing American energy. Earlier this month, we saw the highest price ever for a gallon of gasoline in the United States. Inflation is over a high of 40 years. Energy costs are driving the cost of everything else, and there appears to be no end in sight. Joe Biden cannot hide from the fact that he is the President of high prices.

Meanwhile, in Europe, Vladimir Putin continues his onslaught. The Russian killing machine continues its assault on innocent people. Thousands of civilians have been killed. This includes hundreds of children.

Vladimir Putin's war crimes are all paid for with Russian energy. Energy accounts for nearly half of Putin's budget. Energy is the only successful industry in the Russian economy. If you want to defund Vladimir Putin, you have to drain his tank. You have to defund him on energy.

So what have we seen from the President of the United States? Well, Joe Biden spent all last year acting like Vladimir Putin was his "Secretary of Energy." Joe Biden played right along. Putin wanted it; Biden did it, followed the "Secretary of Energy."

Biden decided against sanctions on Putin's Nord Stream 2 Pipeline. People in this body, on both sides of the aisle, said: Mr. President, sanction the pipeline; don't allow it.

Putin said: I want it.

Biden gave it.

Actually, Joe Biden actually lobbied this body, the U.S. Senate, to not do what we knew was the right thing to do in terms of sanctioning Vladimir Putin and the pipeline. Biden caved to Putin.

Biden also caved to Putin by extending our nuclear arms reduction treaty without any conditions. He essentially gave Vladimir Putin exactly what he wanted: a permission slip to build up the military. Even after the invasion, 2 weeks in, Joe Biden was still fine with buying Russian oil. It took bipartisan Members of the House and the Senate to stop it.

He didn't ban Russian oil because of the war; it was because of this bipartisan effort in Congress. We finally forced his hand. Democrats in Congress were willing to stand up to the President of the United States and say they were willing to join the Republicans in overriding the President on this very matter. Joe Biden dragged his feet, so a bipartisan group in Congress had to drag Joe Biden.

Every Member of this body should remember what President Zelenskyy had to say to us. He said: If there had been sanctions, meaning in January, there would not have been a war. In January, I came to this floor, and I said history would not be kind to those who ran interference for Vladimir Putin. It is even more true today. History will not be kind to those who stood by as Vladimir Putin planned, prepared, and paid for the invasion.

At every step in this crisis, Congress has had to take the lead, and the President had to be pulled along. Congress had to drag Joe Biden into banning seven Russian banks from the SWIFT payment system. Congress had to drag Joe Biden into revoking Russia's trade status.

Congress had to drag Joe Biden into sending lethal aid to Ukraine. Two-thirds of this aid still hasn't been delivered. Congress signed a check for \$3 billion in weapons. So far, it looks like Joe Biden has provided to Ukraine about \$800 million.

So where are the weapons? Where are the weapons right now? There is no time to waste. Innocent people are being murdered. In so much of this, Joe Biden has been not just a day late but billions of dollars short, and he is leading from far, far behind.

But Joe Biden seems to be proud of himself. He went to Europe last week, bragged about the sanctions on Russia. Well, there is still a lot of work to do.

I am here on the Senate floor to tell you that we have more work to do in terms of dragging Joe Biden along. On Friday, Joe Biden announced an energy agreement with the European Union. The White House listed 14 things that they would do. Well, what was missing from that list? Well, I will tell you: the one thing that would actually work.

Missing from the list of 14 was the thing that would actually work, which is increasing the production of American oil and gas. Under the agreement, Europe will buy an additional 15 billion

cubic meters of natural gas each year. Now, that is about 10 percent of what they currently buy from Russia. So where is it going to come from? It is a legitimate question. They don't know. On Friday, a Biden official said this. He said: We can't speak to exactly where the natural gas is coming from.

The White House also said that the United States will "maintain its regulatory environment." In other words, no change to current policy. The war on American energy will continue.

And if you took a look at the budget that came out yesterday, there are 36 new taxes proposed, 11 of which are going to drive up the cost of American energy. At a time of the highest gas prices ever, 40 percent inflation, the Biden budget says we need to put more tax on the production of energy in this country.

We need to produce more energy. We need it. We will use it. Europe needs it. We have promised it to them. Joe Biden's regulators want to keep it in the ground.

Now, Secretary Granholm waited until last week to approve two pending applications for liquefied natural gas exports. She could have approved them last year; didn't. Waited until 2 weeks after Russia invaded Ukraine to finally approve two of six permits. It took weeks of bloodshed. There are still four more applications waiting on her desk. Oh, they have been sitting there for well over a year.

Time to wake up and approve the applications. Europe has woken up. They are wide awake from their addiction and reliance on their enemies for their energy. Joe Biden is still sleepwalking.

Now, Russia is still exporting energy all around the world. We put sanctions in place, but this is what the Washington Post had to say. They called the energy exports continuing today from Russia "the loophole that's keeping Russia's economy alive."

China is stocking up on Russian oil at a discount. None of Joe Biden's sanctions do a thing to stop China—not a one. China can continue to prop up the Russian war machine.

As Senator TOOMEY has said, we need secondary sanctions to stop the flow of cash to the Kremlin. Joe Biden's banking sanctions explicitly avoid hitting Russian energy. It is the key to this funding: \$5 to \$7 billion a week to the killing machine from exporting Russian energy.

The banking sanctions don't even go into effect until June 24. It is still March. April, May—June 24. The war may be over by then, but in the meantime, thousands of people could die.

Oh, and the President's sanctions do not include Russian uranium. They should, but they don't. As a result, our Nation, America, remains dependent on Vladimir Putin for one of the most important elements on Earth. You want to defund Putin's invasion, it is time to finish the job with banning of imports from Russia to the United States, and we must ban uranium. We need to do it now.

Now, earlier this month, I have introduced legislation to do just that. Now, I am grateful that Senator LUMMIS and Senator MARSHALL and Senator CRAMER have added their strong support. Here in America, we have vast uranium supplies, and it is especially true in my home State of Wyoming. There is no reason at all that America should be buying uranium from Vladimir Putin and Russia.

Now, Joe Biden is also helping sell Russian uranium in other countries because, right now, Joe Biden is pushing our Nation into a deal with Iran that was negotiated by Russia. Yes, you heard me right: negotiated by Russia—not negotiated by the Americans, not negotiated by—no. We let Vladimir Putin negotiate with Iran on a nuclear deal.

A deal with Iran would mean billions of dollars for Russia. You don't believe it? It is true. A Russia state-controlled nuclear energy company would get about \$10 billion out of the deal. More bullets, more bombs, more bloodshed paid for by Joe Biden's uranium deal.

When it comes to Iran and Russia, no deal is a good deal. Whether it is uranium, whether it is natural gas, the solution for Russian energy is American energy. We have it. We have it in abundance. This administration will not let us get it out of the ground.

Today, we are still producing 1.3 million fewer barrels of oil than we were prior to the pandemic. The administration is still sitting on 4,600 drilling permits. Joe Biden still hasn't had a single lease sale on Federal lands for oil and gas.

Just yesterday, Joe Biden proposed a \$43 billion tax increase on American energy. Who pays these taxes? Clearly, the hard-working families of this country in the form of higher prices. This is the last thing the country needs now at a time of 40-year high inflation and the highest gas prices ever.

Energy security is worth a lot more than climate zealotry. Our friends in Europe who are held hostage by Vladimir Putin will tell you that today. We are much better off as a nation selling energy to our friends than being forced to buy it from our enemies.

What President Biden and the Democrats don't seem to understand is this: Energy security is national security. For ourselves, for our allies, we need more American energy, and we need it now.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Iowa.

BIDEN FAMILY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Yesterday, Senator JOHNSON and I discussed a joint investigation into the Biden family's foreign financial entanglements. We reviewed much of our earlier work and provided a brief preview of the new material.

Today, we will give our second speech on our Biden investigation series. Once again, we are going to make public and we are going to describe new financial records relating to Hunter Biden and his connections to the communist Chinese Government. Most of that focus will be on his connections to the CEFC, a company that is effectively an arm of the Chinese Government.

But first we must go back to 2015. At that time, Hunter Biden served on the board of Burisma and was paid tens of thousands of dollars each month. Its owner was a corrupt Russian-aligned Ukrainian oligarch. But that is not all that Hunter Biden was up to.

In that year, CEFC International announced an agreement with Northern International Capital Holdings. Northern International is incorporated in China, and it is very much involved in the energy sector.

One of Ye Jianming's companies was a majority shareholder of CEFC International. Northern International purchased 123 million dollars' worth of CEFC's shares, binding the two companies together.

We must also mention Hudson West III and its financial connection to CEFC. Hunter Biden was an investor and a manager of Hudson West III. He was tasked with advancing its interests. Hudson West III also involved Chinese nationals connected to the communist regime, such as Gongwen Dong, whom I talked about yesterday.

Now let's look at this first poster.

I should note that Senator JOHNSON and I will make these documents public in full. We are providing snapshots for our presentation here on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

Here we have one portion of an LLC agreement from a bank. It shows the companies that have bound themselves together: Hudson West V, Hudson West III, and Owasco. Owasco is Hunter Biden's firm.

Now let's turn to the second poster.

The paragraph at the top shows the purpose for which the LLC agreement exists.

So what this tells us is that Hunter Biden and James Biden linked up with companies connected to the communist regime to assist them with finding projects for global and domestic infrastructure and energy.

As we know from my and Senator JOHNSON's report from last August, some energy project explorations between the Biden family and China were here in the United States. One example is a multimillion-dollar natural gas project in Louisiana.

Now let's move to the next paragraph at the bottom of this same poster, which defines the word "affiliate" in the agreement.

For the avoidance of doubt, CEFC China Energy Company Limited or any of its Affiliates shall be deemed as an Affiliate of Hudson.

Accordingly, this agreement between Hunter Biden's firm and Hudson West III and Hudson West V directly connects Hunter Biden to CEFC.

So was this agreement executed?

Let's look at this third poster, which contains a signature block executing the agreement.

Here we see Hunter Biden's signature with Gongwen Dong. As previously noted, Gongwen was an associate of Ye Jianming. Both men were connected to the communist regime, including its military elements.

Notably, Hunter Biden worked for Ye Jianming to get him involved in the natural gas project in Louisiana. That project eventually fell through.

Now let's bring up a fourth poster labeled a "Joinder Agreement" relating to the LLC agreement.

Again, Hunter Biden is signing with Gongwen Dong with respect to the LLC agreement. Accordingly, we can now conclude the following: Hunter Biden was financially connected to CEFC, a company that was an arm of the communist Chinese regime, for the purpose of advancing its energy interests.

This agreement also shows two additional findings: first, Hunter Biden's responsibility to advance Hudson West III's interests as of August 2, 2017; second, Hunter Biden's close association with Hudson West III, CEFC, and its affiliates as of August 2, 2017. That date is important as I will show you soon.

Let's turn to a fifth poster. On this fifth poster, look at the top.

This is a bank record showing an August 8, 2017, wire transfer from Northern International Capital to Hudson West III for \$5 million. This is \$5 million from a company that is connected to Ye Jianming and CEFC and its affiliates, which are essentially arms of the communist Chinese regime, and that transfer took place after Hunter Biden became closely associated with Hudson West III as the LLC agreement shows.

So what was the money for?

As noted, Hunter Biden was working with Chinese nationals linked to the communist regime to help them explore energy projects.

Now look at the bottom of this poster.

This is a paragraph from the LLC agreement. It shows that Hunter Biden was paid \$100,000 per month; that James Biden was paid \$65,000 per month; and that Hunter Biden will be paid a onetime retainer fee of \$500,000.

Again, this is money connected to Hudson West III, a company connected to CEFC and Gongwen Dong. Both are connected, in turn, to the communist Chinese regime.

We can now conclude this with respect to James Biden: James Biden was financially connected to CEFC, a company that was an arm of the communist Chinese regime, for the purpose of advancing energy interests.

After the LLC agreement was signed, money flowed from CEFC and its shareholders into the bank account of Hudson West III, including the \$5 million from Northern International. This LLC agreement was the trigger point for high-dollar financial transactions involving Hunter and James Biden.

Now let's turn to poster six and view the top.

This is a Hudson West III bank record that shows a wire transfer on August 31, 2017, for \$165,000. Notably, this is the same month as the \$5 million wire from Northern International. It is also the same month that Hunter Biden signed the August 2, 2017, LLC agreement. The wire is to Wells Fargo Clearing Services.

Now look at the bottom of this poster.

Senator JOHNSON and I have acquired more than just the bank statement; we have acquired underlying wire data.

So look at the fourth line at the bottom. It says:

Further credit to Owasco PC.

The underlying wire data shows that it went to Owasco, Hunter Biden's firm.

Senator JOHNSON and I have years of bank records that show multiple \$165,000 wire transfers from Hudson West III to Owasco. There were also wire transfers for other amounts—some for more, some for less. Most likely, some of those payments were for expenses under the LLC agreement.

So you have an August 2, 2017, LLC agreement with Hudson West III and Owasco noting \$100,000 a month to Hunter Biden and \$65,000 to James Biden. Then you have an August 8, 2017, wire transfer of \$5 million from Northern International to Hudson West III. After that August 8 wire, you see years of wire transfers from Hudson West III to Hunter Biden's company. The majority of these is for \$165,000—the exact amount due under the LLC agreement.

Based on the timing of the transactions, Hunter Biden's and James Biden's payments under the LLC agreement came from that \$5 million wire—a wire, mind you, that came from a company connected to Ye Jianming and CEFC, which is an arm of the Chinese Government.

These years of records show that Hunter Biden and James Biden were more connected to the communist regime's elements than had been previously known. These records place them at the center of Hudson West III, Gongwen Dong, and CEFC.

This is a finding that Senator JOHNSON and I made public in our Biden reports last Congress. These are the same reports that Members of the other political party in this body and the liberal press found fault with; that, somehow, it was Russian disinformation.

So I say this to the liberal media and our Democratic colleagues who tried to smear our work all of these years and accuse us of peddling Russian disinformation: You have seen all of

these documents that we have presented. Are these official bank records Russian disinformation?

To our Democratic colleagues and the liberal media, we deserve an answer because you made several efforts to smear our reputations as we were starting this investigation 2 or 3 years ago.

Now I am going to turn it over to Senator JOHNSON to discuss a name that I gave you yesterday, Patrick Ho, and related records to Patrick Ho that we have acquired.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wisconsin.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, as my colleague, the senior Senator from Iowa, has shown, Hunter Biden and James Biden received millions of dollars from companies connected to the communist Chinese regime. Frankly, it is worse than that. These companies were effectively an arm of the Chinese Government.

This isn't Russian disinformation; these are hard facts backed up by bank records of actual financial records and transactions that prove just how connected the Bidens were and how compromised President Biden probably is.

I use this next series of transactions to prove my point.

The first chart here shows a bank record showing a \$1 million wire transfer into the account of Hudson West III from CEFC Limited on November 2, 2017. As Senator GRASSLEY and I have already established, CEFC is effectively an arm of the communist Chinese regime. It is also important to note that at the time of this transfer, in November 2017, Hunter Biden was already invested in and providing management for Hudson West III. So a company that was effectively an arm of the Chinese Government transferred \$1 million in November 2017 to a company that Hunter Biden is managing and is invested in.

I also bring up the second record. Focus on the \$1 million wired out on March 22, 2018. Again, this is a record from Hudson West III's bank account. Like the previous record, this is showing the transfer of \$1 million, but this time the money is being transferred out of Hudson West III to OWASCO, another one of Hunter Biden's firms. This transfer took place on March 22, 2018, a little less than 5 months after the \$1 million transfer from CEFC to Hudson West III.

Hunter is transferring \$1 million between two firms he manages and has ownership in. So what is the purpose of these two \$1 million transfers? This next record seems to answer that question. This record shows OWASCO's receipt of the March 22, 2018, \$1 million transfer. It also shows what the transfer is for on the OBI line. "OBI" is an abbreviation for "originating beneficiary information." It is like the memo line on your personal check; it tells you really what that check was about. In this case, the OBI indicates the transfer is being made for "Dr. Patrick Ho Chi Ping representation."

So, to recap, on November 2, 2017, Patrick Ho's company, CEFC, wired \$1 million to Hunter Biden's company, Hudson West III. On March 22, 2018, Hudson West III wired \$1 million to OWASCO, another Hunter Biden company. The bank record clearly states that the \$1 million payment was being made for the purpose of representing Patrick Ho.

Represent him for what? Here is where things get interesting. We know that Patrick Ho was arrested by U.S. authorities in November 2017 for international bribery and money laundering charges. Keep in mind that this arrest occurred in the same month that Patrick Ho's company, CEFC, is wiring \$1 million to Hunter Biden's company, Hudson West III. According to the Department of Justice, "Ho orchestrated and executed two bribery schemes to pay top officials of Chad and Uganda in exchange for business advantages for CEFC China, a Shanghai-based multi-billion dollar conglomerate that operates in multiple sectors, including oil, gas, and banking." These are crimes for which Patrick Ho is eventually convicted and sent to Federal prison for committing.

So the company that Patrick Ho was making bribes for sends \$1 million to a company Hunter Biden manages and is invested in. That company, in turn, transfers a million dollars to another Hunter Biden company for the purposes of representing Patrick Ho, who is eventually convicted of international bribery and money laundering.

Guess what Patrick Ho did around the same time he was arrested by the FBI for corruption and bribery. He contacted James Biden, President Biden's brother. Patrick Ho's decision to call the Biden family around the same time he got arrested is revealing, particularly in light of the fact that the same month, a million dollars just happened to be transferred to Hunter Biden's company.

Now, Hunter Biden isn't a criminal defense attorney. Patrick Ho was charged and convicted for bribery and related Federal offenses and crimes. So what kind of representation was Patrick Ho's company paying Hunter Biden's firm to provide? Were they paying for his firm's legal expertise or for Hunter's political connections?

In March 2021, Senator GRASSLEY and I asked the Justice Department about Patrick Ho. Why? Because there is a Federal court filing that says the Department has FISA records on Patrick Ho. We requested these records. In response, the Department would not confirm whether they even had his records. Unfortunately, the Attorney General refuses to clarify that outrageous contradiction for Congress.

Oh, and one more tidbit. In a recently uncovered audio extracted from his laptop, Hunter Biden referred to Patrick Ho as the "[expletive deleted] spy chief of China." Let that sink in a minute. Hunter Biden referred to Patrick Ho in an audio as the "[expletive

deleted] spy chief of China." This quote alone tells you that Hunter Biden knew exactly who he was dealing with. He knew exactly who he was dealing with. He was dealing with the "[expletive deleted] spy chief of China." Now, that fact should alert the media and our Democrat colleagues to seriously consider the implications the Biden's family vast web of foreign financial entanglements have in the conduct of this administration's foreign policy and our national security, but I am not holding my breath.

In October 2020, Senator GRASSLEY and I requested to interview Hunter and James Biden about their financial dealings. If they had nothing to hide, they could have volunteered to come in and sit for an interview. If there was an innocent explanation for these foreign financial transactions, they could have used that interview to clarify what those transactions were about. Unfortunately, rather than being transparent, honest, and forthcoming, they declined to speak to us. Their silence speaks volumes.

Fortunately, facts are stubborn things. As the Bidens, our Democrat colleagues, and the media are learning, it is difficult to keep them hidden forever. Senator GRASSLEY and I will continue to investigate the Biden family's foreign financial entanglements and provide the American people with the truth to the best of our ability.

Our challenge is that the deep state does not give up its secrets easily. New evidence of Biden family influence peddling is surfacing on a regular basis, often coming from records from Hunter Biden's laptop—the same laptop, by the way, that the media and deep state foreign intelligence agency officials inferred—strongly inferred—was, you guessed it, Russian disinformation. And their guile worked.

Prior to the election, people bought the fact that that laptop was probably Russian disinformation. It wasn't. As the New York Times just admitted about a year too late—more than a year too late—that laptop is authentic, and the evidence it is producing is real. But, of course, that laptop wasn't Russian disinformation, nor is any of the information we presented in our reports and here on the floor of the Senate.

We may never know all the details of the Biden family foreign entanglements or the full extent to which those entanglements compromise our current President, but I am pretty confident I know who does know—intelligence operatives in Russia, China, Iran, and North Korea. Elements within our U.S. intelligence agencies probably also know; they are just not going to tell us or you, the American people.

Senator GRASSLEY and I will return for our third speeches in this series on the Biden family's foreign financial entanglements.

Until then, Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

UKRAINE

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, it has been more than a month since Russia launched an unprovoked and unwarranted attack against the people of Ukraine. In the interim, the world has marveled at the strength, the resiliency, and the courage of Ukrainian forces, as well as their leadership in President Zelenskyy.

Ukraine has a real shot at defeating this Russian aggression, but that can only happen if it has the weapons and resources it desperately needs.

I recently traveled to Poland and Germany with a bipartisan group of Senate colleagues to learn more about what Ukraine needs and the challenges our NATO allies are up against.

Over the course of 3 days, we met with American military leaders and diplomats, as well as members of the 82nd Airborne. We spoke with our NATO partners, who are supporting both the military and humanitarian needs of Ukraine, and we had the opportunity to talk to some of the Ukrainian refugees themselves. The primary message we heard, consistent message that we heard was, we need more and we need it faster—more Stingers, more Javelins, more air defenses, more lethal aid—and they reiterated their need for aircraft like the Poland MiGs.

Statements of support are important, but they do nothing to help Ukrainian forces defeat this Russian aggression.

It was an incredibly powerful and enlightening experience to hear directly from the incredible men and women on the ground, and I want to thank our friend, Senator ERNST from Iowa, for leading this bipartisan congressional delegation. I think it also sent a very strong message to our friends and allies in the region that 10 Senators—one-tenth of the United States Senate—were willing to make this trip on a bipartisan basis. I think we all came back with a deeper understanding of Ukraine's needs and a renewed sense of urgency to do everything in our power to make it happen.

Over the last 4 weeks, Russia has bombed Ukrainian hospitals, schools, apartment buildings, humanitarian refugee corridors even, and even civilians waiting in a bread line. It is pretty clear that we need to use every tool available to bolster Ukraine's defense and weaken the aggression of the Russian forces. It is not a matter of one or the other; we need to do both.

To support Ukraine, we need to answer the call for more defensive weapons. Whether intentionally or not, the administration has given Ukraine the bare minimum—just enough to keep it from being completely overrun by the Russians but not enough to help it win the war. In other words, the Biden administration is propping up Ukraine to keep taking further hits rather than giving it the full forces it needs to win the fight.

We need to help Ukraine vanquish Russian forces from its territory en-

tirely, not just to extend the length of this war. Actually, by not giving Ukraine everything it needs in order to repulse Russian aggression, we are playing into Putin's hands, because Putin has clearly changed his tactics. From the initial reports of trying to encircle Kyiv and perhaps assassinate President Zelenskyy and install a puppet government, clearly, Putin has bitten off more than he can chew when it comes to invading Ukraine and executing on that original mission.

But now, he is engaged in a war of attrition, flattening Ukrainian cities, killing innocent civilians from outside of Ukrainian airspace because he is worried about the anti-aircraft capabilities of the Ukrainians using things like MANPADS and Stinger missiles.

Well, time is on Putin's side, and we need to level the playing field and actually give the Ukrainians what they need in order to stop this war as soon as possible, before further loss of life and further damage to their country is done.

Now, the most effective way to do this—since Ukraine is not a member of NATO, we are not going to send troops there, as President Biden has said, appropriately so; but we need to ensure that the Ukrainians have everything they need in order to do the job themselves. As President Zelenskyy has said:

Ukraine can't shoot down Russian missiles with shotguns and machine guns.

Unfortunately, there are a lot of roadblocks standing in the way, and unfortunately, one of those is the reluctance of the Biden administration to quickly and expeditiously get the Ukrainians what they need.

For example, Poland offered to transfer its entire fleet of MiG-29 fighters to the United States for delivery to Ukraine. Ukrainian forces already know how to fly these Russian aircraft, and President Zelenskyy assured us that they are desperately needed. But the Biden administration rejected the offer after, first, Secretary Blinken seemed to give it the green light. The administration changed its mind out of fear that they might provoke Putin—once again, playing right into his hand. All Putin has to do is rattle his saber to deter the United States and its allies from helping Ukraine to the maximum of our capability.

Another big obstacle that the Ukrainians are finding is the redtape associated with anything that the Federal Government seems to do. Ukraine has provided a detailed list of the resources it needs: fighters, anti-aircraft missile systems, more Stingers, more Javelins. It is not a list of items they will need next month or the next; it is what they need right now in order to survive. The process of getting defense articles into Ukrainian soldiers' hands includes some big bureaucratic hurdles that not only make it harder to act quickly but make it more difficult to send Ukraine the resources they desperately need.

Fortunately, there is strong precedent from World War II that we could follow to help expedite the process. During World War II, when Britain was hanging on by a thread and the United States was a noncombatant in that worldwide war at the time, President Roosevelt vowed to transform the United States into the "arsenal of democracy," as he called it; and he worked with Congress to pass the Lend-Lease Act.

This legislation allowed the United States to use its industrial might to supply Britain and our other allies with the resources they needed at a critical time in World War II and without lengthy delays.

Borrowing inspiration from President Roosevelt, I introduced bipartisan legislation with colleagues called the Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act, which will expedite getting Ukrainian forces the resources they need to win the fight without any unnecessary delays.

I also think that, in addition to the actions by the administration, I think it sends a strong bipartisan message of support from this body and gives encouragement to our friends in Ukraine, who are fighting for their very existence. This legislation authorizes the President to enter lend-lease agreements directly with Ukraine and provide Ukrainian forces with lethal weapons needed to defend their sovereignty.

But I think, rather than the piecemeal approach being used by the administration, this would open this arsenal of democracy known as the American industrial base to provide Ukraine what it needs and give them the assurance that, whether they need it today or tomorrow or they need it replenished next week, it will be there for them as long as they need it.

I am proud to have worked with a number of colleagues on this bipartisan bill, including Senators CARDIN, WICKER, SHAHEEN, and many others. So far, more than 20 Senators have cosponsored this legislation, and I hope we can pass it without any further delay. This is obviously an urgent crisis.

Putin thought this was going to be like the Taliban taking Afghanistan after the United States and NATO's withdrawal. He thought he could take Ukraine without firing a bullet—well, so much for Putin's plans, his arrogance, and his underestimation of the willingness of the Ukrainian people to fight for their own country.

But we need to pass this legislation and ensure Ukrainian forces that they will have what they need when they need it. As I said, we have a moral obligation—maybe not a treaty obligation under NATO, but I believe we have a moral obligation to support people fighting for their very freedom and their very lives in a democratically run country like Ukraine.

The United States and our allies have imposed crippling sanctions on Russian businesses, banks, and oligarchs, which

have sent the country's economy into a tailspin. But in typical Russian fashion, they planned for some of these sanctions, and they have found loopholes in the current sanction regime. It has taken a page out of Venezuela's book by using the purchase and sale of gold to bring in cash with which to run their economy. The Russian Federation is buying gold to offset the devaluation of the ruble, its currency, and then selling that gold in international markets in exchange for high-value currency.

In short, Russia is laundering money through the gold market, and we need to put a stop to it. I, along with other colleagues, introduced the Stop Russian GOLD Act that would bring an end to this practice. We talked to Secretary Yellen, and she agreed that this would be supplemental to what the administration has already done unilaterally.

This legislation would apply sanctions to parties who help Russia finance their war by buying or selling this blood gold. That means anyone who buys or transports gold from Russia's central bank would be the target of sanctions. This would be a huge deterrent to anyone considering doing business with Russia and helping them evade sanctions. In short, we need to take every possible step to cut the financing for Putin's war machine, and this is one additional way to do so. Along with the lend-lease bill I mentioned a moment ago, I hope we can pass this legislation without further delay.

There is more we can do to support Ukraine and hit Russia where it hurts and to raise the costs associated with its unprovoked and unwarranted invasion of Ukraine, but it is past time to continue to ramp up the pressure to the maximum ability that we can.

At this juncture, principled leadership and decisive action are absolutely critical. As Leader MCCONNELL put it, President Biden has generally done the right thing, but never soon enough. For example, last year, the President ignored the immense pressure to sanction the Nord Stream 2 Pipeline. He finally, after resisting, imposed those sanctions last month.

As Russian troops mounted on Ukraine's borders late last year, the administration withheld millions of dollars in aid for weeks before finally releasing it. President Biden disregarded bipartisan calls to impose paralyzing sanctions on Russia before the invasion in order to try to deter it. Instead, he waited until after the invasion happened to try to impose costs on Russia. President Biden ignored calls to stop Russian oil imports until it became clear that Congress would pass legislation to do just that. Once the handwriting was on the wall, the President announced an import ban to try to get ahead of congressional action.

President Biden has been so preoccupied with how Putin might react that Putin has been deterring the ad-

ministration from acting with the sort of expediency and dispatch that are absolutely necessary and called for. Waiting until the court of public opinion is not the kind of leadership that this emergency requires. Mr. President, Ukraine is being bludgeoned by Russia every day. We need to act with all deliberate speed to get them the additional resources they need, which means we need to do it now so they can fight and ultimately prevail.

The United States may be an ocean away from this conflict, but democracy itself is on the front lines. We know President Putin is motivated by a vision of restoration of the Russian Empire, after having called the fall of the Soviet Union one of the greatest geopolitical tragedies in history.

So we don't know when Putin will stop or if he will stop, which gives us the only option of doing everything we can to assist our Ukrainian friends from stopping him themselves. We stand in solidarity with our partners in Europe, and we are committed to supporting Ukraine as it defends its sovereignty.

So, in the coming days—hopefully in the coming hours—I hope the Senate will take action on these bipartisan bills and impose greater costs on Russia in the interest of peace and Ukrainian sovereignty.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF NANI A. COLORETTI

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise in support of Nani Coloretti's nomination to be the Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Ms. Coloretti is a dedicated public servant and a proven leader who is well qualified to serve as OMB Deputy Director. She has over 20 years of experience at the Federal, State, and local level executing complex government programs, improving service delivery, and managing large organizations.

Ms. Coloretti served with distinction in the Obama administration as the Assistant Secretary for Management at the U.S. Department of the Treasury and then as the Deputy Secretary at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

It is absolutely critical that we have Senate-confirmed leaders in place at OMB, and I have no doubt that Ms. Coloretti's experience will serve the Agency and the American people well.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Nani Coloretti's nomination to be OMB Deputy Director.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

NOMINATION OF AMY LOYD

Mr. KAINÉ. Mr. President, I rise to do a couple of things. I am awaiting the arrival of the Senator from Missouri. I am going to make a UC motion to bring up a very important nominee in the Secretary of Defense Department, but before I do, I want to comment on a UC that I made 2 hours ago. I stood here in this spot, and I sought unanimous consent to bring forward the nomination of Amy Loyd, who is the nominee to be Assistant Secretary of Education for Career and Technical Education. She passed out of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee unanimously.

We knew there was a hold on her nomination. We didn't know why. So I sought to bring forward her nomination, and the Senator from Utah, Mr. LEE, appeared, and I asked him why he was objecting to Amy Loyd. The good news was, he answered. He didn't have to, but he gave me an answer, and he said that her work indicated an attachment to critical race theory. That was his response, and he cited an article.

I went up to him after, and I asked him what the article was, and he referred me to an article dated August 2020, titled "Diversifying Apprenticeship: Acknowledging Unconscious Bias to Improve Employee Access." That was the reason he and, he said, on behalf of others were opposing Ms. Loyd's nomination for a really important position focusing on career and technical education in the country.

I went back to my office, and I got the article. The article is seven pages long, August 2020—it is actually six pages long. It is entirely uncontroversial. Listen to this. There is a block that says "What Is Unconscious Bias?" Talk about fair and balanced language:

Unconscious biases are social stereotypes about certain groups of people that individuals form outside their conscious awareness.

Is that controversial? Is that controversial?

There are recommendations for diversifying apprenticeships because, as we know, there are a lot of apprenticeships where there are not many women in apprenticeships. Ms. Loyd is a woman. She wants to diversify apprenticeships. That doesn't seem that unusual.

The recommendations for diversifying apprenticeships in this controversial article where the phrase "critical race theory" is never mentioned are widen the selection pool; seek out workers across skill levels; develop transparent, detailed, and uniform criteria; get multiple perspectives; complement selection processes with program designs that increase access. This is just basic human resources. There is nothing in this document about critical race theory.

When I read it thinking I was going to find some real reason to oppose Ms. Loyd, I found this basic human resources 101—nothing about critical race theory. But then I realized something even more amazing. I looked at

the author of the article. This was being held against Ms. Loyd's confirmation. The author of the article is Jessica Toglia, senior program manager of JFF. Unless this is a nom de plume, Amy Loyd had nothing to do with the article that was cited to block her confirmation for this position.

So then I looked further. There are acknowledgements on page 7. Ms. Toglia thanks 10 different people who gave her ideas and thoughts that she put into these six pages. Amy Loyd's name isn't among the 10.

There are then 28 footnotes and references citing articles and other pieces of scholarship that were written. None of them are by Amy Loyd—none.

So in response to my request as the son of a welder that we ought to have somebody at the Department of Education who values career and technical education, this well-qualified individual, who got out of the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee by unanimous vote, is now being sort of tarred with the "critical race theory" label based upon an article that she had nothing to do with—nothing to do with.

I knew if I came back and stated this, like, well, who would listen, and who would care? You can assert a reason. But the reason for opposition to her nomination has nothing to do with her.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE
CALENDAR

Mr. President, I am here on another nomination, the nomination of Christopher Lowman to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment.

That position, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment, is the principal assistant and adviser to the Department on logistics and materiel readiness. The Assistant Secretary prescribes the policies and procedures for the conduct of logistics, maintenance, materiel readiness, strategic mobility, sustainment support in the DOD, supply, maintenance, and transportation—extremely important functions to have a military that works.

We are watching the Russian military bog down in Ukraine right now for a lot of reasons, but one of the reasons is that their military has not been sustained and maintained, and a lot of their equipment is bogging down.

Mr. Lowman is the person who would do this important job, and he has been pending before us since November with a vacancy in that position at the Pentagon.

Let me tell you about Mr. Lowman. He spent his entire life serving this country in the military, and I mean entire life. He was born on a military base in Germany because his father was an Army civilian. When he graduated from high school, he went to Monmouth University and then immediately joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1984.

Since 1984—38 years—Mr. Lowman has worked first as a U.S. marine and then as an Army civil servant, totaling more than 30 years. He most recently

served as the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff to the G-3/5/7 Directorate, which provides planning and staff management for Agencies under the authority of the Combined Arms Support Command. He served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition Policy and Logistics. He deployed as a Director of Sustainment for the Combined Security Transition Command in Afghanistan from October 2017 to 2018. Prior to that deployment, he served as the Director for Maintenance Policy for the U.S. Army in the Office of the Chief of Staff. He was the Chief, Supply and Maintenance, at headquarters, U.S. Army Europe.

He is a much awarded member of both the military and the military civil service—the Department of the Army Integrated Logistics Support Achievement of the Year Award; three Army Meritorious Civilian Service Awards; the Army Ordnance Corps Samuel Sharpe Award; the Army's Quartermaster Corps Distinguished Order of Saint Martin.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment is the principal staff assistant and adviser to the Department on logistics and materiel readiness. This is a most important function.

Mr. Lowman is a Virginian who has served his entire life from his birth in military families, serving this Nation as an Active-Duty marine and then as an Army civil servant.

For that reason, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 777, Christopher Joseph Lowman, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; and that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I thank the Senator from Virginia for accommodating me here and allowing me to come to the floor, and I thank him for his remarks. I only got to hear the second half of his remarks, but I thank him for his remarks and am sure that he is in earnest about this nomination.

Let me tell you why I am here, and I will be brief. I know we have a vote that is about to kick off. But let me tell you what I am in earnest about.

The crisis in Afghanistan—the attack at Abbey Gate this past August that cost 13 American servicemembers, including 1 from my home State, from the State of Missouri, their lives—is a catastrophe unparalleled in our foreign policy in my lifetime. It is my firm conviction and it is also a promise that I made to the family of the fallen marine from my State that we should do—this Senate should perform its oversight functions related to the cata-

strophic withdrawal from Afghanistan and in particular the events leading up to that attack at Abbey Gate that resulted in the deaths of those servicemembers and the deaths of hundreds, I am afraid—hundreds—of civilians and many hundreds of other Americans left behind.

I have come to this floor before many times now to ask the Senate to hold accountable those who planned and led or failed to lead, in some instances, this operation leading to the attack at Abbey Gate, leading to that catastrophic loss of life, and leading, I am afraid, to the disastrous turn in our foreign policy, the effects of which we continue to feel.

So it is my humble but earnest request that the Senate perform its basic oversight functions, and, very briefly, let me mention one.

U.S. Central Command ordered a report of the events leading up to the Abbey Gate attack that we learned of in February. February 8, I believe, we learned that that report had been completed. It is several thousand pages long. I have the barest summary of it here.

My staff and I have been through all of it, the thousands of pages. They had over 169 interviews that U.S. Central Command conducted, again, to try to understand how we got to this crisis point leading up to and including Abbey Gate.

We have not had a single hearing in the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee on this report. Now, I applaud Central Command for carrying out the report, for ordering it, for putting it together, but we should be learning what we can and holding accountable those who need to be held accountable. Who has been fired? No one. Who has been relieved of duty? No one. And if you read the report—and I commend it to my colleagues. If you read the report, you will see individual after individual, commanders on the ground warning that we are not prepared, that the administration was not prepared to get civilians to safety in Kabul; warning that the planning was not adequate; warning that there were dangers.

So, Mr. President, I ask again that the committee do its basic oversight job, perform its basic function, hold a hearing on this report, hold accountable those who failed in that catastrophic withdrawal from Afghanistan. Until that time, I am going to continue to ask that the Senate observe regular order in leadership positions in the Department of Defense.

And for those reasons, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KAIN. Mr. President, I respect my colleague's right to object, obviously. But I would say that while the Senator from Missouri raises very valid concerns, none of those concern this nominee, Christopher Lowman, and none of his concerns are addressed or

enhanced by leaving the Pentagon without an Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment during a war in Europe where the U.S. military is playing a very important role.

I yield the floor.

VOTE ON COLORETTI NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Coloretti nomination?

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have been requested.

Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON).

The result was announced—yeas 57, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 113 Ex.]

YEAS—57

Baldwin	Hassan	Peters
Bennet	Heinrich	Reed
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Cantwell	Kelly	Schumer
Cardin	Kennedy	Shaheen
Carper	King	Sinema
Casey	Klobuchar	Smith
Collins	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Lujan	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Cramer	Markey	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Warnock
Feinstein	Murphy	Warren
Gillibrand	Murray	Whitehouse
Graham	Ossoff	Wicker
Grassley	Padilla	Wyden

NAYS—41

Barrasso	Hagerty	Risch
Blackburn	Hawley	Romney
Blunt	Hoeven	Rounds
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Braun	Inhofe	Sasse
Burr	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Capito	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Lee	Shelby
Cornyn	Lummis	Thune
Crapo	Marshall	Tillis
Cruz	McConnell	Toomey
Daines	Moran	Tuberville
Ernst	Paul	Young
Fischer	Portman	

NOT VOTING—2

Cotton
Menendez

The nomination was confirmed.

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

NOMINATION OF C.S. ELIOT KANG

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise today to express my support for the nomination of Dr. Eliot Kang to be Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Non-Proliferation, ISN.

At a time of increasing concern about the potential use of chemical or biological weapons in Ukraine by Rus-

sia, it is vital the United States have a Senate-confirmed official in place to counter these dangers, as well as other nuclear threats. ISN leads the State Department's efforts to halt the spread of weapons of mass destruction—nuclear, chemical, and biological—as well as the means to deliver them. We need a Senate-confirmed expert at the helm to coordinate prevention and response with the Ukrainian Government, our allies, and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Dr. Kang is eminently qualified to do just that. He has the substantive expertise to lead ISN and advance U.S. national security interests. During his 18-year career at the State Department, Dr. Kang has worked on a wide variety of nonproliferation issues. This includes the denuclearization of North Korea, international efforts to halt the spread of chemical weapons, and nuclear safety. He has held senior positions in ISN, where he currently serves as Acting Assistant Secretary, and served as the Department's most senior official for Arms Control and International Security.

But because of Republican delays he has not yet been confirmed, despite the fact that he was first nominated 341 days ago. Think about that—that was nearly a year ago—and he has not yet been confirmed.

The delays and obstacles facing nominees on the Senate floor and in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee are hampering our national security. Each day that goes by without critical national security posts being filled does a disservice to our country and our national security interests. Dr. Kang could have and should have been confirmed long ago.

I strongly support confirming Dr. Kang, and I respectfully urge my colleagues to join me in advancing his nomination, along with all of the foreign affairs nominations pending before this body.

VOTE ON KANG NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Kang nomination?

Mr. DURBIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) is necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON).

The result was announced—yeas 52, nays 46, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 114 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Baldwin	Booker	Cardin
Bennet	Brown	Carper
Blumenthal	Cantwell	Casey

Collins	Leahy	Schatz
Coons	Lujan	Schumer
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Shaheen
Duckworth	Markey	Sinema
Durbin	Merkley	Smith
Feinstein	Murkowski	Stabenow
Gillibrand	Murphy	Tester
Hassan	Murray	Van Hollen
Heinrich	Ossoff	Warner
Hickenlooper	Padilla	Warnock
Hirono	Peters	Warren
Kaine	Reed	Whitehouse
Kelly	Romney	Wyden
King	Rosen	
Klobuchar	Sanders	

NAYS—46

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Rounds
Blunt	Hawley	Rubio
Boozman	Hoeven	Sasse
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Scott (FL)
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (SC)
Capito	Johnson	Shelby
Cassidy	Kennedy	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cramer	Lee	Tillis
Crapo	Lummis	Toomey
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Paul	
Graham	Portman	

NOT VOTING—2

Cotton
Menendez

The nomination was confirmed.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

FOREIGN POLICY

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, a lot of Americans are tracking day by day what is happening in Russia and Ukraine, as we watch the Russian Army continue to be able to roll its way through Ukraine and, city by city, pummel innocent people—so, literally, to shell homes, apartments, businesses; to level whole cities to the ground for the sake of Russia's aggression.

This Congress and this body in particular, in the Senate, have spoken out often on this issue. I am grateful that the President has engaged to be able to apply sanctions, to be able to cut off purchases with Russia, to be able to slowly open up the weaponry that we are giving to the Ukrainians, as they continue to ask for more. They are looking for help. The Oklahomans whom I talked to want us to provide help.

But it is ironic, and some people may not know, that while we are isolating Russia in every way that we possibly can, right now, this administration is working with the Russian representatives to be our spokesmen to Iran negotiating a revised nuclear deal with Iran. We are not doing face-to-face negotiations with Iran. We are working through the Russian representative to represent our beliefs to the Iranians.

Now, if anyone in this room could say they trust the Russians to represent our values at the table with Iran, please, rise, because we don't and we shouldn't, and it makes absolutely no sense that a revised nuclear deal is

being done with Iran through the Russian negotiations while Russia is currently pummeling Ukraine. I wish I could tell you that is even the worst part of this deal.

Iran has a couple of things that they need to be able to get to a nuclear weapon. The two things they need are time and money. They have the technology. They have the know-how. They have the facilities. They have the advanced centrifuges. They just need time and money. My frustration with the Iranian nuclear deal that was done under the Obama administration was that it gave them both time and money. It set a 10-year window where they couldn't have nuclear material that could be usable for a nuclear weapon, but it allocated \$100 billion in relief of sanctions to the Iranians—\$100 billion to the Iranian regime.

Now, I have no beef with the Iranian people. They are remarkable people, extremely well educated, but they live under the thumb of a horrible regime.

What did the Iranian regime do with the \$100 billion that they were given?

Well, we saw the advance of the war in Yemen that happened as the Iranians were supplying the Houthis to be able to attack the Saudis and the Emiratis. We saw what happened in Lebanon with the support for Hezbollah to be able to attack Israel and to continue to destabilize. We saw what the Iranians did in Syria, supporting Bashar al-Assad and becoming his army in many areas across Syria, and that ruthless dictator is still there today because of Iranian support, because of the \$100 billion that was given to Iran so they could prop up Assad and so he could stay in place. That is what happened with the \$100 billion that Iran was given last time.

Then, the Trump administration came in and took away that and imposed maximum pressure on the Iranians, walked away from the deal, and said: We are not going to give the largest state sponsor of terrorism in the world billions of dollars of access to capital; that seems like a terrible idea.

And I can assure you, the people of Syria understood that was a terrible idea.

But now, what? President Biden has reopened negotiations, as I mentioned before, by using Russia as our proxy to be able to negotiate this. Today, we had negotiators that were brought on by the Biden administration, who are former negotiators under the Obama administration, to renegotiate this deal, who have quit the negotiating team and who have said that this negotiation is going so badly that they will not be a part of it, and they walked away.

We don't know everything that is in this deal, and I would say to you, quite frankly, I am not encouraged by what bit of rumors that I am hearing in this deal. I am hearing that this deal puts us back into the timetable that was done years ago under the Obama administration to give the 10-year win-

dow, that we are back into that same window that allows them to move to a nuclear weapon at an end-time period, that it doesn't challenge their terrorist activities, that it doesn't challenge their missile development.

Literally, they are developing ballistic missiles designed to carry a nuclear warhead, and that is not part of this agreement, apparently, to restrict their development of a missile capable of carrying nuclear material, as long as they don't actually work to develop that nuclear material.

It releases sanctions to them. So, again, they get billions of dollars. And in the negotiations we hear, at this point, it lifts sanctions on the entities in Iran that took away the property and the homes from Iranian Jews in 1979, which we have had sanctions on. We understand it takes the sanctions off of those responsible for the Beirut bombing in 1983 that killed 243 Americans, mostly marines.

We also understand that it changes the status of Iran from being recognized as a state sponsor of terrorism—even though they are—and that there is a negotiation to take the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps off the list of a foreign terrorist organizations.

Are you kidding me?

This is not a good deal for the peace of the region. This does not prevent Iran from becoming a nuclear power. This continues to destabilize our relationships with our allies in the region, as Saudi Arabia and the Emiratis and the Israelis and everyone stare at the Americans and say: Why in the world would you make this deal that would allow Iran to become a nuclear power in the days ahead?

Let me tell you, this is personal for many American families who lost a loved one in the battle in Iraq, when Iran engages the Iranian Revolutionary Guard to provide lethal equipment to the Iraqis so they could kill more Americans. Many Americans died in Iraq because of Iranian actions.

On March 11, 2020, Technical Sergeant Roberts from Owasso, OK, was killed in Iraq when an Iran-backed militia group, equipped by Iranians, supported by the regime, arbitrarily launched rockets at American forces in Iraq, killing Technical Sergeant Roberts.

Listen, this is personal for a lot of families. This is not some theoretical negotiation. This is a problem.

Why we would say to the Russians, "Negotiate on our behalf," while they are slaughtering Ukrainians and we are sanctioning those same Russians. Makes no sense. But a deal that lifts the sanctions on the Iranian Revolutionary Guard, on those that killed Americans in 1983 in Beirut, to give access to missile technology and to look away from their terrorist activities with Hezbollah and Hamas and in Yemen and in multiple other places in the world is not a deal Americans should make.

Mr. President, walk away from this. There is a reason that your own staff is

walking out of the conversation—because you are headed the wrong way.

CHINA

Madam President, this body is also in the process of negotiating issues with China.

I have had quite a few folks from Oklahoma who have caught me and have said: Hey, while the world is focused on Russia and Ukraine, have we taken our eye off the ball in China?

I would pray we have not, and I continue to be able to encourage our Pentagon and officials across our government to not lose focus on Taiwan and to not lose focus on what is happening in trade agreements.

Right now, the Senate is actually negotiating a bill dealing with China, and I have to tell you I didn't support this bill and don't. It is a quarter trillion dollars in new spending—a quarter trillion. It is enormous in size, but the basic philosophy is, the Chinese have a state-controlled system for how they are putting out semiconductors and research; so we should do that in America and invest a quarter trillion to try to keep up with them in the way they are doing it.

Can I tell you? The United States and our free market system have raised up the greatest entrepreneurs the world has ever known in areas of research. There are quite a few areas wherein we have government and private sector cooperation, both in disease research and in technology. There are all kinds of research that have happened that have been very successful in transitioning into marketable products. Yet a quarter trillion dollars is a big number and philosophically shifts us into a very different structure of trying to be able to "keep up with the Chinese."

Now, I do have to grant that the Senate bill is much better than the House bill. The House put together a bill dealing with China that is classic House of Representatives at this point. They sent over a bill to us that they called their China bill, but it actually uses the word "climate" in it more than it uses the word "China" in it. It actually authorizes \$4 billion a year into the U.N. Green Climate Fund, which actually gives grants to Iran, China, and North Korea to help with their green transitions.

The House bill—also, again, their China bill—has a whole section in it on providing access to financial institutions for marijuana. Now, if you are wondering why marijuana banking is ending up in the China bill, so am I. The only thing I can come up with is, if you are nervous about China, smoke some weed, and you will be more relaxed, I guess. I am not sure why that ends up in the China bill—to have a whole marijuana section in the United States on it.

A meaningful China bill would focus in on critical minerals, which neither bill does. All of us see the supply chain issues that are happening with China right now. We all see it, but neither bill actually deals with the serious

issues that we have with critical minerals and rare Earth minerals. As to some of the areas on critical minerals, China has access to 85 percent of them, and we are not responding to that. That is a problem.

The bill itself—the quarter trillion that is spent—actually exposes us even more to Chinese debt. Ironically enough, to be able to pay for this bill, we are going to have to borrow money from China to compete with China. I find that a little ironic.

It doesn't address the Belt and Road Initiative. As China continues to be able to expand around the world by putting in airports, by putting in ports, and to be able to do its expansion through its own system, we are not addressing that nor even trying to focus in on just keeping a list. I even asked for the ability just for us to keep a list of all of the places into which China is actually expanding, and that is actually not included in the bill.

Another area, like internet freedom for the people of Hong Kong, who are living under the oppression of China, is not included.

Countering the Chinese influence in multilateral organizations, like the U.N., the World Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, as China moves to put key positions in place so they control these multilateral organizations—there is no push in this bill for this.

There is no push to be able to push the Chinese off our college campuses, as they move Confucius Institutes onto our campuses in order to plant the Chinese influence on those campuses.

It also doesn't deal with something as basic as agriculture. Now, why do I bring up agriculture? Because the Chinese are purchasing land all over the United States, especially in my State, as they snap up private land and start to do activities there wherein they own that land, control that land, and develop it. There are no CFIUS restrictions that deal with Chinese espionage dealing with agriculture at all, and this bill doesn't address that. I see that as a problem.

We need expansive, very engaged issues to be able to deal with China. China is on the move. They are becoming more and more aggressive. They continue to be more and more aggressive as they deal with a multitude of issues—everything from agriculture and all the way through biotech engineering, chemistry, the ownership of intellectual property, the theft of intellectual property. They continue to be able to move across our supply chain to be able to dominate things worldwide. We need to address that. This fails to do those critical things.

Now, does it take some steps? Yes, it does, but we are not even debating the other issues. We are not even discussing them. We are conferencing with a House bill that focuses more on climate than it does on China and that focuses on marijuana banking more than it does on the supply chain. We

have got to get serious on these issues for the sake of our children and our freedom in the days ahead.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

NOMINATION OF ALVARO M. BEDOYA

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I rise this evening to urge my colleagues to oppose the nomination of Alvaro Bedoya to be a Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission.

Recently, the Commerce Committee deadlocked on this nomination, with all Republican members voting no and all Democratic members voting yes. So it will take a discharge petition here on the Senate floor to move Mr. Bedoya's nomination further. If our Democratic colleagues are successful, Mr. Bedoya will become the fifth tie-breaking Commissioner of the FTC.

Let me just observe, as someone who has been on the Commerce Committee for years and years here in the U.S. Senate, that the Federal Trade Commission, which is where Mr. Bedoya would become a member, has always approached issues and addressed the public in a spirit of bipartisanship.

Unlike with the Federal Communications Commission, the FCC, where we are used to the vote being 2 to 3, in a very partisan manner—that is the FCC for you—we haven't had that, over time, with the Federal Trade Commission. The Federal Trade Commission has had a tradition of bipartisanship. They have had a tradition of issuing policy statements with all five of them participating and issuing statements to the Commerce Committee, before testimony, with the one statement speaking for the entire Federal Trade Commission.

Mr. Bedoya's records show that he would bring that sort of partisanship that we have had at the FCC to the Federal Trade Commission, and I hope we can avoid that. As a matter of fact, Mr. Bedoya has publicly supported eliminating the longstanding bipartisan policy statements, and he has advocated for excluding minority party Commissioners from Agency investigations. This would be a troubling step for a Commission that has been bipartisan.

Mr. Bedoya has a long history of divisive social media statements. For example, he called for the elimination of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency. He has called for the elimination of ICE. That is how extreme and out in left field this nominee, Alvaro Bedoya, is. He has called on local law enforcement agencies not to cooperate with ICE. So, if you are a local police department, just don't cooperate with the Federal Agency in charge of immigration and customs enforcement. He has accused Cabinet-level Departments of committing human rights abuses. He has even demanded that several of our colleagues here in the U.S. Senate resign.

He is a hothead, plainly said—more appropriate for a talk radio host of the

far left rather than the fifth vote on the Federal Trade Commission.

Additionally, as the Judiciary Committee continues to consider a Supreme Court nomination, I think it is instructive to recall that, in the fall of 2020, this nominee, Mr. Bedoya, urged Senate Democrats to boycott the Judiciary Committee's hearings on the nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to serve on the Supreme Court.

Now, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would be outraged if Republican members of the Judiciary Committee actually refused to attend the committee's hearings which occurred last week. This is exactly what Mr. Bedoya, the FTC nominee, called on the Democrats to do just 18 months ago. Clearly, he is out of the mainstream.

This is not the temperament we need to send to the FTC, particularly at a time when the Agency's current leadership has pursued a more partisan agenda as of late. We need to get away from that trend.

Then, beyond temperament, Mr. Bedoya has demonstrated a lack of experience and a lack of knowledge on the major policy areas that he would be responsible for regulating as an FTC Commissioner. Although the FTC is the Nation's premier regulator of consumer privacy, Mr. Bedoya's experience on the topic of privacy comes from his time on the staff of the Senate Judiciary Committee. There, he largely dealt with issues of government surveillance, which falls outside the FTC's jurisdiction. So even the limited experience Mr. Bedoya has gives him no help in dealing with Federal Trade Commission issues.

Through the Commerce Committee's vetting process, Mr. Bedoya has also shown a limited knowledge of the competition and antitrust issues that are at the heart of today's major policy debates at the FTC.

I don't want the FTC to lack a tie-breaking vote forever—that is not the reason every Republican on the Commerce Committee voted no—but I do want the Agency to be able to tackle these important issues: to rein in Big Tech's dominance of so many marketplaces; to support a 21st century economy that spurs innovation; and to protect consumers from fraud and other unfair and deceptive business practices. I want the FTC to return to its traditional standing as an Agency driven by bipartisanship and as an Agency that can be counted on to use its broad authority with a steady hand and a measured approach.

I do not believe Mr. Bedoya is the right person to do this. I do not believe someone with his temperament and lack of experience and lack of knowledge about the issues will be able to put the Federal Trade Commission back on track.

For those reasons, I urge my colleagues to support any effort to discharge Mr. Bedoya's nomination from the Commerce Committee to the Senate floor.

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.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

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

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

The motion was agreed to.

MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2022—Motion to Proceed

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 310, H.R. 4373.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 310, H.R. 4373, a bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 310, H.R. 4373, a bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Jack Reed, Robert Menendez, Michael F. Bennet, Tammy Baldwin, Tim Kaine, Angus S. King, Jr., Margaret Wood Hassan, Tina Smith, Gary C. Peters, Tammy Duckworth, Christopher Murphy, Mark Kelly, Alex Padilla, Richard Blumenthal, Patty Murray, Elizabeth Warren.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion filed today, March 29, be waived.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session.

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

The motion was agreed to.

MOTION TO DISCHARGE

Mr. SCHUMER. Pursuant to S. Res. 27, the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee being tied on the question of reporting, I move to discharge the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee from further consideration of Alvaro M. Bedoya, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner for the term of seven years from September 26, 2019.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the provisions of S. Res. 27, there will now be up to 4 hours of debate on the motion, equally divided between the two leaders, or their designees, with no motions, points of order, or amendments in order.

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 yeas and nays are ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

NOTICE OF A TIE VOTE UNDER S. RES. 27

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to print the following letter in the RECORD.

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

To the Secretary of the Senate:

PN1028, Mr. Leopoldo Martinez Nucete, of Virginia, to be United States Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank for a term of three years, having been referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee, with a quorum present, has voted on the nomination as follows—

(1.) on the question of reporting the nomination favorably with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed, 11 yeas and 11 nays; and

(2.) In accordance with section 3, paragraph (1)(A) of S. Res. 27 of the 117th Congress, I hereby give notice that the Committee has not reported the nomination because of a tie vote, and ask that this notice be printed in the Record pursuant to the resolution.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 789, Mallory A. Stewart, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RIMA KHABBAZ

Mr. WARNOCK. Madam President, I rise today to extend my most sincere gratitude to Rima Khabbaz, MD, the director of the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases. Dr. Khabbaz is retiring after spending 38 years at NCEZID, where her work focused on fighting the spread of infectious diseases.

For the past 5 years at NCEZID, Dr. Khabbaz has led staff who monitor and work to control dangerous pathogens in the United States and across the world. Her time as NCEZID director concludes three decades of leadership at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which is headquartered in the great State of Georgia, beginning with her role as chief of the Human Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit in CDC's Hantavirus Task Force in 1993 and 1994.

Dr. Khabbaz began her career at CDC as an epidemic intelligence service officer in CDC's Hospital Infections Program from 1980 through 1982. She returned to CDC in 1986 and a year later became a medical epidemiologist in the Retrovirus Diseases Branch. She quickly took up leadership roles in historic outbreak responses, including those for hantavirus pulmonary syndrome, anthrax, SARS, monkeypox, Ebola, Zika, and COVID-19.

Over the past two decades, Dr. Khabbaz has led CDC's infectious disease activities through some turbulent times and at the highest levels. She was CDC's deputy director for infectious diseases and director of the Office of Infectious Diseases from 2010 to 2017, where she also temporarily served in dual roles as interim acting director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases and interim acting director of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention.

Previously, she has served as director of the National Center for Preparedness, Detection, and Control of Infectious Diseases; director, acting director, and associate director for epidemiologic science in the National Center for Infectious Diseases; and deputy director and associate director for medical science in NCID's Division of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases.

Dr. Khabbaz's departure from NCEZID marks the end of a truly distinguished career. She will be especially missed by her colleagues, who unfailingly describe her as an exceedingly insightful and caring leader. Dr. Khabbaz's contributions to the health of the State of Georgia, the United States, and the world are greatly appreciated. I wish her a restorative and gratifying retirement following her nearly 40 years of government service.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO GABRYELLE PERKINS

• Mr. DAINES. Madam President, today I have the distinct honor of recognizing Gabryelle Perkins of Sweet Grass County as Montanan of the Month for her devotion to the Big Timber community and her passion for educating and supporting young Montanans both in and out of the classroom.

Gabby was born and raised in the great State of Montana and, like myself, is a proud graduate of Montana State University—"Go Cats!" Upon wrapping up her studies at MSU, Gabby earned a degree in English education and a minor in writing. For the past 11 years, Gabby—or as her students know her, Ms. Perkins—has taught English at Sweet Grass County High School.

Her passion for working with students extends far beyond the classroom. Gabby encourages her students to be involved in extracurricular activities that have a positive impact on Big Timber and Sweet Grass County. Every year, she works with her students to put on a play for their community. When Gabby isn't helping her students on the stage or serving as a student council adviser, she leads a volunteer group for Montana students to give back. Gabby's students involved in SAVY, also known as Serving and Volunteering Youth, participate in local coat and food drives, leadership workshops, recycling programs, and fundraising events. The SAVY group also develops resources to help provide clothes or food for students in need.

I have no doubt that Gabby's students and everyone in Big Timber are grateful for her commitment to supporting young Montanans. It is because of teachers like Ms. Perkins that Montana has the best and brightest students in the Nation. It is my honor to recognize Ms. Perkins for her devotion to supporting young Montanans in and out of the classroom. Keep up the great work, Gabby.●

TRIBUTE TO DAVID URE

• Mr. ROMNEY. Madam President, I rise today to recognize a remarkable Utahn who recently announced his retirement after a long and fruitful career for our great State. David Ure will conclude his civil service following his tenure as director of the Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, SITLA.

David's career in public service began with his election to the Utah House of Representatives in 1993. A dairyman and rancher by trade, he successfully balanced his legislative responsibilities with his livelihood, an accomplishment underscored by his Summit County's 1996 Rancher of the Year award. As a legislator, David was instrumental in guiding many pieces of legislation to the Governor's desk, and after spending more than a decade in the statehouse,

he continued his public service on the Summit County Council before joining the SITLA board of trustees.

In 2016, Governor Herbert appointed David to serve as SITLA's director. The independent State agency, created to generate funds for Utah's schoolchildren and other trust beneficiaries, flourished under David's stewardship. In this role, he led the agency's operations and administrative functions, including a myriad of energy initiatives and real estate development projects. During David's tenure as director, SITLA's trust grew by 40 percent and added over a billion dollars to the significant benefit of Utah's public education system, State institutions, and communities in need.

David has also served on a number of important State boards, including the Weber Basin Conservation District, Intermountain Healthcare board of trustees for the Heber Valley Hospital, the Park City Chamber of Commerce, and the National Association of State Trust Lands.

Thank you, Dave, for your outstanding career of public service to Utah. Your accomplishments will continue to yield positive outcomes for individuals, families, and communities across the State, and they will brighten the lives and livelihoods of generations untold.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Swann, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:38 p.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 bill, without amendment:

S. 3294. An act to obtain and direct the placement in the Capitol or on the Capitol Grounds of a statue to honor Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Sandra Day O'Connor and a statue to honor Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

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

H.R. 1621. An act to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. Res. 1004. Resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Donald E. Young, a Representative from the State of Alaska.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 1621. An act to amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing.

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-3456. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Butoxypolypropylene glycol, et al.; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9574-01-OCSPP) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3457. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Zinc Stearate; Tolerance Exemption" (FRL No. 9608-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 24, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3458. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tetraacetylenediamine (TAED) and its metabolite Diacetylenediamine (DAED); Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9348-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 24, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3459. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bicyclopyrone; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9472-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 24, 2022; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3460. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3461. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Ronald A. Boxall, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3462. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on

the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13536 with respect to Somalia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3463. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13848 with respect to the threat of foreign interference in United States elections; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3464. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14046 with respect to Ethiopia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3465. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13224 with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3466. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "State Small Business Credit Initiative; Demographics-Related Reporting Requirements" (RIN1505-AC79) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 22, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3467. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Applicability of Annual Independent Audits and Reporting Requirements for Fiscal Years Ending in 2021; Correction" (RIN3064-AF77) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 22, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3468. A communication from the Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy in the position of Inspector General, Export-Import Bank of the United States, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 23, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3469. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Maryland; Philadelphia Area Base Year Inventory for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 9382-02-R3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 24, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3470. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Standards and Practices for All Appropriate Inquiries" (FRL No. 9334-02-OLEM) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 15, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3471. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Priorities List" (FRL No. 9184-01-OLEM) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 15, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3472. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Manage-

ment Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Pennsylvania; Allegheny County Area Fine Particulate Matter Clean Data Determination" (FRL No. 9587-02-R3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 15, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-3473. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Delegation of New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for the States of Arizona and California" (FRL No. 9400-02-R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3474. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; West Virginia; 2020 Amendments to West Virginia's Ambient Air Quality Standards; Correction" (FRL No. 8931-03-R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3475. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Delaware; Philadelphia Area Base Year Inventory for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 9381-02-R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3476. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California; Correcting Amendments" (FRL No. 9598-02-R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 25, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3477. A communication from the Natural Resource Specialist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Technical Corrections for Four Midwest Mussel Species" (RIN1018-BE37) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 22, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3478. A communication from the Biologist, Branch of Delisting and Foreign Species, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing San Benito Evening-Primrose (*Camissonia benitensis*) From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants" (RIN1018-BE11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 15, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3479. A communication from the Biologist, Branch of Delisting and Foreign Species, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of Morro Shoulderband Snail From Endangered to Threatened With Section 4(d) Rule" (RIN1018-BD45) received in the Office of the

President of the Senate on March 23, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3480. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.247 Trial, 'Acceptability of Probabilistic Risk Assessment Results for Non-Light Water Reactor Risk-Informed Activities'" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 22, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-3481. A communication from the Director of the Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Imposition of Import Restrictions on Categories of Archaeological and Ethnological Material of Albania" (RIN1515-AE67) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 24, 2022; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-3482. A communication from the Chair, Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "March 2022 Report to Congress on Medicaid and CHIP"; to the Committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MENENDEZ for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Deborah E. Lipstadt, of Georgia, to be Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism, with the rank of Ambassador.

Nominee: Deborah Esther Lipstadt.

Post: Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism.

Nominated: January 4, 2022.

(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:

Deborah Lipstadt: \$250, 02/12/2018, Lindy Miller Campaign, Georgia; \$38.60, 04/30/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$38.60, 05/30/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$38.60, 06/30/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$38.60, 07/30/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$35.00, 08/06/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$36.10, 08/02/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$38.60, 08/30/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$27.50, 09/02/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$38.60, 09/30/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$27.50, 10/02/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$38.60, 10/07/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$27.50, 10/07/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$37.10, 10/08/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$31.10, 10/09/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$42.20, 10/09/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$42.20, 10/09/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$36.00, 10/16/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$27.50, 10/16/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$55.00, 10/20/2018, ActBlue DCCC/Claire McCaskell; \$100.00, 10/24/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$37.10, 10/27/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$37.10, 11/03/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$37.10, 11/03/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$36.00, 11/08/2018, ActBlue DCCC; \$37.10, 08/11/2020, Biden Victory Campaign; \$200.00, 08/18/2019, AIPAC.

Maria Fabiana Jorge, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank.

Barbara A. Leaf, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Near Eastern Affairs).

(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. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. SMITH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 3942. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit the exclusion of individuals from service on a Federal jury on account of disability; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 3943. A bill to establish due process requirements for the investigation of intercollegiate athletics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 3944. A bill to improve the safety of the air supply on aircraft, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HAGERTY (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 3945. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to address the solicitation of proxy with respect to securities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 3946. A bill to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2017, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 3947. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to permit different tick sizes for emerging growth companies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 3948. A bill to amend the Investment Company Act of 1940 to prohibit limitations on closed-end companies investing in private funds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 3949. A bill to reauthorize the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. COONS):

S. 3950. A bill to establish the Baltic Security and Economic Enhancement Initiative for the purpose of increasing security and economic ties with the Baltic countries and to establish the Baltic Security Initiative for the purpose of deepening security cooperation with the Baltic countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3951. A bill to establish appropriate penalties for possession of child pornography, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND
SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. Res. 559. A resolution expressing gratitude on behalf of the people of the United States to the journalists and news staff who are risking injury and death, are subject to grave threat, and have sacrificed their lives, to chronicle and report on the ongoing war in Ukraine resulting from the Russian Federation's invasion; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 560. A resolution recognizing the significance of endometriosis as an unmet chronic disease for women and designating March 2022 as "Endometriosis Awareness Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. CARPER):

S. Res. 561. A resolution designating the first week of April 2022 as "National Asbestos Awareness Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KING, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. KELLY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. Res. 562. A resolution designating March 24, 2022, as "National Women in Agriculture Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 563. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of Charles Isham Taylor on the 100th anniversary of his passing; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 564. A resolution honoring the life and legacy of James Frederick "Jimmy" Hanley; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN,

Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 565. A resolution honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Representative Don Young; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. Res. 566. A resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and the importance of Commission on Cancer-accredited programs in ensuring comprehensive, high-quality, patient-centered cancer care; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 888

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 888, a bill to prohibit discrimination based on an individual's texture or style of hair.

S. 1408

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1408, a bill to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to Glen Doherty, Tyrone Woods, J. Christopher Stevens, and Sean Smith, in recognition of their contributions to the Nation.

S. 2236

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2236, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide an option for first responders age 50 to 64 who are separated from service due to retirement or disability to buy into Medicare.

S. 2344

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2344, a bill to award grants for the creation, recruitment, training and education, retention, and advancement of the direct care workforce and to award grants to support family caregivers.

S. 2512

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2512, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a code of conduct for justices and judges of the courts of the United States.

S. 2607

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors 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. 3091

At the request of Mr. OSSOFF, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3091, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish the advanced solar manufacturing production credit.

S. 3169

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3169, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prohibit the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of food packaging containing intentionally added PFAS, and for other purposes.

S. 3331

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3331, a bill to amend the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 to improve the semiconductor incentive program of the Department of Commerce.

S. 3389

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3389, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a demonstration project to improve outpatient clinical care for individuals with sickle cell disease.

S. 3399

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3399, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide a process to lock and suspend domain names used to facilitate the online sale of drugs illegally, and for other purposes.

S. 3664

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from California

(Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3664, a bill to assist in the conservation of the North Atlantic right whale by supporting and providing financial resources for North Atlantic right whale conservation programs and projects of persons with expertise required for the conservation of North Atlantic right whales, and for other purposes.

S. 3675

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3675, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a system to notify individuals approaching Medicare eligibility.

S. 3700

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) were added as cosponsors of S. 3700, a bill to provide for appropriate cost-sharing for insulin products covered under Medicare part D and private health plans.

S. 3802

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3802, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a windfall profits excise tax on crude oil and to rebate the tax collected back to individual taxpayers, and for other purposes.

S. 3903

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3903, a bill to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish procedures for conducting maintenance projects at ports of entry at which the Office of Field Operations conducts certain enforcement and facilitation activities.

S. 3908

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3908, a bill to provide that certain policy statements of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall have no force or effect unless certain conditions are met, and for other purposes.

S. 3915

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3915, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to provide technology grants to strengthen domestic mining education, and for other purposes.

S. 3924

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3924, a bill to amend the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Ac-

countability Act to extend the sunset for sanctions with respect to human rights violations.

S.J. RES. 25

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 25, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

S.J. RES. 41

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 41, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services relating to “Ensuring Access to Equitable, Affordable, Client-Centered, Quality Family Planning Services”.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. COONS):

S. 3950. A bill to establish the Baltic Security and Economic Enhancement Initiative for the purpose of increasing security and economic ties with the Baltic countries and to establish the Baltic Security Initiative for the purpose of deepening security cooperation with the Baltic countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, on another matter, Senator ROB PORTMAN of Ohio and I are cochairs of the bipartisan Senate Ukraine Caucus. Tomorrow, we are hosting a meeting for Senators with members of the Ukrainian Parliament. The Parliament there is known as the Rada. They are coming to Washington to discuss how we can help even more in assisting the valiant people of Ukraine defending against this barbaric invasion by Vladimir Putin. I hope our colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join us to send a clear message to Ukraine that we stand united in their efforts.

Putin’s unprovoked and unconscionable war on Ukraine has revealed what he is really all about. He is a tyrant seething with resentment, driven by delusions of great mother Russia, willing to slaughter innocent men, women, and children to restore a lost Russian Empire.

We know from his current ravings and his past actions, Putin's ruthless pursuit of Russia's lost empire didn't begin with this war, and if we don't do something about it, it won't end there either.

In 2003, the people of Georgia—another Soviet Republic—waged a Rose Revolution to claim a place among the family of democratic nations. Putin's aggrieved response was to send troops into that country to occupy portions of it—South Ossetia and Abkhazia—to redraw Georgia's national boundaries by force. I traveled to that area in 2012 and saw firsthand what Putin's occupation of that tiny nation meant.

In 2014, the people of Ukraine rose up to demand change as well—the Revolution of Dignity, they called it. They succeeded and threw out the deeply corrupt Russian-backed President. They ousted him from Parliament. When they did, he fled to Moscow, his real home. Putin's revenge months later was to send Russian troops to invade and annex the Crimean peninsula and the Donbas regions of eastern Ukraine by force. They have continued to wage that war.

I have mentioned many times my concern for this region, and I guess it is attached to the fact that my mother was born in Lithuania and came here as a little girl. Her family fled from the oppression of czarist Russia, which then controlled the Baltic States and far beyond.

During World War II, the Baltic States endured brutal Nazi occupation, and after the war, they were held captive behind the Iron Curtain by the USSR.

In August 1989, 2 months before the fall of the Berlin Wall, 2 million people in Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia physically, literally, joined hands in a peaceful protest. They formed a human chain, declared that they wanted to join Europe and be part of the family of democracies.

Two years later, the Baltics threw off Russian occupiers and reclaimed their independence. It was a festive day. I was honored to be a witness to part of it. They worked to achieve the reform fundamental to democracies, to weed out corruption, establish market economies, and encourage the growth of civil society.

In 2004, in a historic moment, a live-or-die moment for the Baltics, they became part of NATO. It was the first time—the very first time that NATO had opened its doors to nations that had been part of the Soviet Union. Over the years, the Baltic States strengthened their militaries to prove they would be assets and not liabilities to the alliance.

Today, the Baltics provide a home to activists and dissidents from Russia and Belarus and are a beacon of democracy. And I say that with personal pride to have any association with these great nations.

In 2008, after Russia had annexed parts of Georgia, the President of Po-

land visited Georgia's capital of Tbilisi and warned of the threat posed by Russia to the entire region. He said:

Today Georgia, tomorrow Ukraine, the day after tomorrow—the Baltic States and, later, perhaps, time will come for [his] country, Poland.

Well, today, Senator GRASSLEY and I are introducing a bill to discourage Russia from extending Putin's war into NATO territory and forcing the alliance to invoke its article 5 collective security commitment.

Our bill is called the Baltic Defense and Deterrence Act. It directs the Department of State and the Department of Defense to establish and implement economic and security initiatives to deepen U.S. ties with the Baltic States. Our bill will strengthen our strong partnership. It will enhance the capability of the region's critical allies in NATO's eastern flank to respond to threats, including Russia's misinformation and disinformation, their cyber warfare, and, in Lithuania's case, growing economic pressure.

Cosponsors come from both sides of the aisle: Senators STABENOW, KING, FEINSTEIN, BLUNT, BLUMENTHAL, BALDWIN, DUCKWORTH, BOOKER, and Senator SCOTT of Florida. Representatives RUBEN GALLEG0 and DON BACON are cosponsoring a bipartisan companion bill in the House.

In conclusion, in 1997, Russian President Boris Yeltsin offered the Baltic States unilateral security guarantees if they would give up aspirations to join NATO. They refused. They were determined to become their own sovereign states, their own democracy, and they have succeeded.

Kurt Volker, former U.S. Ambassador to NATO and former U.S. Special Representative to Ukraine, has said that, far from being a burden on NATO, the admission of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia has reinvigorated the alliance. In his words, the Baltic States turned out to be "the best democratic and economic reformers, the ones most committed to build fresh new militaries, and the ones willing to support the U.S. in other fora."

They have sent troops on costly U.S. missions, and their troops have fought and died alongside NATO forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. By securing America's economic and security partnerships with the Baltics, our bill will help deter Vladimir Putin from extending his barbaric war into NATO territory.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 3950

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 "Baltic Defense and Deterrence Act".

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) supporting and strengthening the security of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania (referred to in this Act as the "Baltic countries") is in the national security interests of the United States;

(2) continuing to strengthen and update the United States-Baltics security cooperation roadmap is critical to achieving strategic security priorities as the Baltic countries face ongoing belligerence and threats from the Russian Federation, including amid the Russian Federation's illegal and unprovoked war in Ukraine that began on February 24, 2022;

(3) the United States should encourage advancement of the Three Seas Initiative to strengthen transport, energy, and digital infrastructures among Eastern European countries, including the Baltic countries; and

(4) improved economic ties between the United States and the Baltic countries, including to counter economic pressure by the People's Republic of China, offer an opportunity to strengthen the United States-Baltic strategic partnership.

SEC. 3. BALTIC SECURITY AND ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT INITIATIVE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State shall establish and implement an initiative, to be known as the "Baltic Security and Economic Enhancement Initiative", for the purpose of increasing security and economic ties with the Baltic countries.

(b) OBJECTIVES.—The objectives of the Baltic Security and Economic Enhancement Initiative shall be—

(1) to ensure timely delivery of security assistance to the Baltic countries, prioritizing assistance to bolster defenses against hybrid warfare and improve interoperability with the military forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization;

(2) to mitigate the impact on the Baltic countries of economic coercion by the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China;

(3) to identify new opportunities for foreign direct investment and United States business ties; and

(4) to bolster United States support for the economic and energy security needs of the Baltic countries, including by convening an annual trade forum with the Baltic countries and the United States International Development Finance Corporation.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for the Department of State, \$60,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027 to carry out the initiative authorized under subsection (a).

SEC. 4. BALTIC SECURITY INITIATIVE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish and implement an initiative, to be known as the "Baltic Security Initiative", for the purpose of deepening security cooperation with the Baltic countries.

(b) OBJECTIVES.—The objectives of the Baltic Security Initiative shall be—

(1) to achieve United States national security objectives, including deterring aggression by the Russian Federation and bolstering the long-term security of North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies;

(2) to enhance regional planning and cooperation among the Baltic countries, particularly with respect to long-term regional capability projects, including—

(A) long-range precision fire systems and capabilities;

(B) integrated air and missile defense;

(C) maritime domain awareness;

(D) land forces development, including stockpiling large caliber ammunition;

(E) command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance;

(F) special operations forces development; and

(G) coordination with and security enhancements for Poland, which is a neighboring North Atlantic Treaty Organization ally; and

(3) to improve the Baltic countries' cyber defenses and resilience to hybrid threats.

(c) STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report setting forth the strategy of the Department of Defense to achieve the objectives described in subsection (b).

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall include a consideration of—

(A) security assistance programs for the Baltic countries managed by the Department of State;

(B) the ongoing security threats to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's eastern flank posed by Russian aggression, including as a result of the Russia Federation's 2022 invasion of Ukraine with support from Belarus; and

(C) rising tensions with, and presence in the Baltic countries of, the People's Republic of China, including economic bullying of the Baltic countries by the People's Republic of China.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Defense, \$250,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2027 to carry out the initiative authorized under subsection (a).

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 559—EX-PRESSING GRATITUDE ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE JOURNALISTS AND NEWS STAFF WHO ARE RISKING INJURY AND DEATH, ARE SUBJECT TO GRAVE THREAT, AND HAVE SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES, TO CHRONICLE AND REPORT ON THE ONGOING WAR IN UKRAINE RESULTING FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S INVASION

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CASSIDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 559

Whereas Ukraine declared independence from the Soviet Union on August 24, 1991, and that independence was reaffirmed in a popular referendum on December 1, 1991;

Whereas, on February 24, 2022, the Russian military invaded the sovereign country of Ukraine under the direction of President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin (referred to in this preamble as "Putin"), carrying out attacks on cities with ballistic missiles, heavy artillery, and tanks;

Whereas Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions includes the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts, prohibiting attacks on civilian persons and populations, and defines journalists and war correspondents as civilians;

Whereas the Russian Federation was an original signatory to the Geneva Conventions until Putin removed the Russian Federation from Protocol in October 2019, demonstrating a clear disregard for innocent life;

Whereas, as of March 29, 2022, thousands of civilians, including children, are recorded as

having been killed during the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine;

Whereas journalists and news staff are on the ground in Ukraine, reporting freelance, reporting for global networks and media, and working on documentary efforts to record the ongoing humanitarian crisis and war caused by the Russian Federation's invasion of the sovereign country of Ukraine;

Whereas many of the journalists and news staff covering the war in Ukraine are United States citizens or working for United States news agencies;

Whereas shelling by Russian Federation forces has included the shelling of humanitarian corridors, maternity hospitals, schools, and other primarily civilian locations;

Whereas journalists and news staff are on the ground along Russian-targeted humanitarian corridors and in major cities across Ukraine;

Whereas dozens of members of the free press have been murdered or injured by Russian Federation forces as of March 29, 2022, with more casualties and injuries likely;

Whereas, on February 26, 2022, Danish journalist Stefan Weichert was shot and wounded while reporting near Okhtyrka, Ukraine;

Whereas, on February 26, 2022, Danish journalist Emil Filtenborg was shot and wounded while reporting near Okhtyrka, Ukraine;

Whereas, on February 28, 2022, British Sky News chief correspondent Stuart Ramsay was shot and wounded when his car was ambushed by Russian soldiers in Kyiv, Ukraine;

Whereas, on February 28, 2022, British Sky News camera operator Richie Mockler was shot and wounded when his car was ambushed by Russian soldiers in Kyiv, Ukraine;

Whereas, on March 1, 2022, Ukrainian-based journalist and camera operator Yevhenii Sakun was killed when Russian Federation forces shelled a television tower in Kyiv, Ukraine;

Whereas, on March 6, 2022, Swiss journalist Guillaume Briquet was wounded and robbed by Russia soldiers who shot at his car on the road to Mykolaiv, Ukraine;

Whereas, on March 13, 2022, United States documentarian and film director Brent Renaud was shot in Irpin, Ukraine, and later died of his wounds;

Whereas, on March 13, 2022, United States journalist Juan Arredondo was shot and wounded while reporting in Irpin, Ukraine;

Whereas, on March 15, 2022, Ukrainian Fox News journalist Oleksandra Sasha Kuvshinova was killed in Horenka, Ukraine, when her vehicle was struck by incoming arms fire;

Whereas, on March 15, 2022, Irish Fox News cameraman and photographer Pierre Zakrzewski was killed in Horenka, Ukraine, when his vehicle was struck by incoming arms fire;

Whereas, on March 15, 2022, United States Fox News correspondent Benjamin Hall was wounded when his vehicle was struck by incoming arms fire in Horenka, Ukraine;

Whereas it is possible that additional Ukrainian and foreign press have been or will be injured and killed so long as Russian Federation forces continue their brutal attack on civilians;

Whereas all civilians, including journalists and news staff, should be spared violence by military forces;

Whereas Putin and his cronies have demonstrated complete disregard for innocent life, the sovereignty of Ukraine, the right to free speech, and the rights and value of a free press;

Whereas Putin is engaged in a propaganda war, as well as a military war, and the Russian Federation continues to push a false narrative about Russian military presence in Ukraine;

Whereas the United States supports a free and fair press and rejects any and all propagandist efforts by the Russian Federation to cover up and hide the truth behind the Russian Federation's invasion;

Whereas journalists and news staff on the ground in Ukraine who are reporting the truth to the world, including journalists and news staff from the United States, are instrumental in combating false propaganda pushed by Putin and his cronies; and

Whereas, despite the overwhelming threat and risk to their lives and the sacrifices already made, journalists and news staff continue to report bravely from Ukraine: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) declares its gratitude on behalf of the people of the United States to the journalists and news staff who continue to put themselves in harm's way to report on the humanitarian crisis and ongoing war on the ground in Ukraine following the Russian Federation's invasion;

(2) remembers the journalists and news staff who have lost their lives or have been severely injured reporting from Ukraine and conveys the sympathies and appreciation of the people of the United States to their families for their sacrifice;

(3) condemns President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin, President of the Republic of Belarus Aleksander Lukashenko, and their officials for authorizing and executing attacks on innocent Ukrainian civilians, residential areas, and humanitarian corridors, resulting in the loss of life of civilians, including journalists and news staff; and

(4) honors the contributions of journalists and news staff reporting from the war in Ukraine as essential in the ongoing struggle for the rights of a free press and free speech internationally, pivotal in pushing back against false propaganda by tyrants, and crucial to informing the people of the United States and the world of the horrors being wrought against the Ukrainian people.

SENATE RESOLUTION 560—RECOGNIZING THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ENDOMETRIOSIS AS AN UNMET CHRONIC DISEASE FOR WOMEN AND DESIGNATING MARCH 2022 AS "ENDOMETRIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH"

Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 560

Whereas more than 6,500,000 women in the United States are living with endometriosis; Whereas endometriosis is a painful and debilitating chronic disease affecting—

(1) approximately 190,000,000 women throughout the world;

(2) an estimated 1 in 10 women of reproductive age in the United States; and

(3) primarily women in their 30s and 40s, but can affect any woman who menstruates;

Whereas the cause of endometriosis is not known, but risk factors include—

(1) having a mother, sister, or daughter with endometriosis;

(2) menstrual cycles that started at an early age;

(3) menstrual cycles that are short; and

(4) periods that are heavy and last more than 7 days;

Whereas endometriosis occurs when tissue similar to that normally found in the uterus begins to grow outside the uterus;

Whereas the only way currently available to be certain of an endometriosis diagnosis is to have a surgical procedure known as a laparoscopy;

Whereas the primary symptoms of endometriosis include pain and infertility, and many women with endometriosis live with debilitating, chronic pain;

Whereas symptoms of anxiety and depression are common among women with the endometriosis, with reported rates as high as 75 to 90 percent;

Whereas, although endometriosis is one of the most common gynecological disorders in the United States, there is a lack of awareness and prioritization of endometriosis as an important health issue for women;

Whereas women can suffer for up to 10 years before being properly diagnosed;

Whereas approximately 75 percent of women with endometriosis experience a misdiagnosis;

Whereas endometriosis is 1 of the 3 main causes of female infertility, and between 30 and 50 percent of women with endometriosis experience infertility;

Whereas health care providers must focus on managing the symptoms of endometriosis, which may include in vitro fertilization (IVF), low-dose oral contraceptives, intrauterine devices (IUDs), painkillers, including nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), and gonadotropin-releasing hormone (GnRH) agonist therapy;

Whereas endometriosis is associated with increased health care costs and poses a substantial burden to patients in the health care system;

Whereas, in the United States, the estimated average direct health care cost associated with endometriosis per patient is more than \$13,000 per year;

Whereas 40 percent of women with endometriosis report impaired career growth due to endometriosis, and approximately 50 percent of women with endometriosis experience a decreased ability to work;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that the average number of “bed days” for patients with endometriosis was 18 days per year;

Whereas women with endometriosis can lose 11 hours per workweek through lost productivity;

Whereas the physical and psychological impact of endometriosis affects all domains of life, including social life, relationships, and work;

Whereas medical societies and patient groups have expressed the need for greater public attention and updated resources targeted to public education about this unmet health need for women;

Whereas there is a need for more research and updated guidelines to treat endometriosis;

Whereas there is an ongoing need for additional clinical research and treatment options to manage this debilitating disease; and

Whereas there is no known cure for endometriosis: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 2022 as “Endometriosis Awareness Month”;

(2) recognizes the importance of endometriosis as a health issue for women that requires far greater attention, public awareness, and education about the disease;

(3) encourages the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs—

(A) to provide information to women, patients, and health care providers with respect to endometriosis, including available screening tools and treatment options, with a goal of improving the quality of life and

health outcomes of women affected by endometriosis;

(B) to conduct additional research on endometriosis and possible clinical options; and

(C) to update information, tools, and studies currently available with respect to helping women live with endometriosis; and

(4) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

SENATE RESOLUTION 561—DESIGNATING THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL 2022 AS “NATIONAL ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK”

Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. CARPER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 561

Whereas dangerous asbestos fibers are invisible and cannot be smelled or tasted;

Whereas the inhalation of airborne asbestos fibers can cause significant damage;

Whereas asbestos fibers can cause cancer, such as mesothelioma, asbestosis, and other health problems;

Whereas symptoms of asbestos-related diseases can take between 10 and 50 years to present themselves;

Whereas the projected life expectancy for an individual diagnosed with mesothelioma is between 6 and 24 months;

Whereas little is known about late-stage treatment of asbestos-related diseases, and there is no cure for those diseases;

Whereas early detection of asbestos-related diseases might give some patients increased treatment options and might improve the prognoses of those patients;

Whereas, although the consumption of asbestos within the United States has been substantially reduced, the United States continues to consume tons of the fibrous mineral each year for use in certain products;

Whereas thousands of people in the United States have died from asbestos-related diseases, and thousands more die every year from those diseases;

Whereas, although individuals continue to be exposed to asbestos, safety measures relating to, and the prevention of, asbestos exposure have significantly reduced the incidence of asbestos-related diseases and can further reduce the incidence of those diseases;

Whereas thousands of workers in the United States face significant asbestos exposure, which has been a cause of occupational cancer;

Whereas a significant percentage of victims of asbestos-related diseases were exposed to asbestos on naval ships and in shipyards;

Whereas asbestos was used in the construction of a significant number of office buildings and public facilities built before 1975;

Whereas people in the small community of Libby, Montana, suffer from asbestos-related diseases, including mesothelioma, at a significantly higher rate than people in the United States as a whole; and

Whereas the designation of a “National Asbestos Awareness Week” will raise public awareness about the prevalence of asbestos-related diseases and the dangers of asbestos exposure: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the first week of April 2022 as “National Asbestos Awareness Week”;

(2) urges the Surgeon General to warn and educate people about the public health issue of asbestos exposure, which may be hazardous to their health; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Office of the Surgeon General.

SENATE RESOLUTION 562—DESIGNATING MARCH 24, 2022, AS “NATIONAL WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE DAY”

Ms. ERNST (for herself, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mrs. STABENOW, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. WARREN, Ms. SINEMA, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RISH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. DAINES, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KING, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. KELLY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Ms. HIRONO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 562

Whereas the United States proudly recognizes agriculture as one of the most impactful industries of the United States, and acknowledges the countless women who help agriculture prosper both at home and abroad;

Whereas there are more than 1,200,000 female agricultural producers in the United States, making up more than a third of the agricultural producers in the United States;

Whereas, in 2017, farms operated by women in the United States sold \$148,000,000,000 in agricultural products, accounting for 38 percent of the total agriculture sales in the United States for that year;

Whereas, in addition to leading farming operations, women working in agriculture make a difference across the United States in various commodity and industry fields, such as research and development, manufacturing, sales and distribution, agricultural education, agribusiness and advocacy, which extends benefits to individuals across the globe through the international trade of the United States;

Whereas the United States recognizes that women are vital in fostering the next generation of the agricultural workforce by promoting STEM and agricultural education and entrepreneurial and community initiatives and by serving as mentors for 4-H, FFA, the Cooperative Extension System, and numerous postsecondary agricultural science educator programs;

Whereas March is National Women’s History Month; and

Whereas female professionals, instructors, and leaders in the agricultural field should be celebrated for their efforts during National Ag Week, which takes place between March 21 and March 25, 2022: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 24, 2022, as “National Women in Agriculture Day”;

(2) recognizes the important role of women in agriculture as producers, educators, leaders, mentors, and more; and

(3) encourages all citizens to—

(A) recognize women working in agriculture; and

(B) praise the significant positive impact those women have on the food resources and the agricultural workforce of the United States by encouraging and empowering women to—

(i) enter the agricultural field, which is a high-demand field of work;

(ii) cultivate opportunities to lead; and

(iii) feed a hungry world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 563—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CHARLES ISHAM TAYLOR ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PASSING

Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 563

Whereas Charles Isham Taylor (referred to in this preamble as "Taylor") was born on January 20, 1875, in Anderson, South Carolina;

Whereas Taylor joined the United States Army and served as a private with the Buffalo Soldiers of the Tenth Cavalry Regiment during the Spanish-American War;

Whereas, in 1899, Taylor enrolled at Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia, where he joined the Clark College baseball team as the starting third baseman;

Whereas, in 1904, Taylor started the first Black professional baseball team in Birmingham, Alabama, the Birmingham Giants;

Whereas Taylor moved to Indiana in time for him to assume the leadership of the West Baden Sprudels for the 1910 season;

Whereas, in 1914, Taylor became an owner and team manager of the Indianapolis ABCs, along with Thomas Bowser;

Whereas, under the leadership of Taylor, the West Baden Sprudels and the Indianapolis ABCs had notable success against several Major-Minor League all-star teams;

Whereas Taylor was also co-founder and vice president of the Negro National League;

Whereas Taylor passed away on February 23, 1922, in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the age of 47; and

Whereas the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum awards the C.I. Taylor Legacy Award to the best manager of each Major League Baseball league: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Charles Isham Taylor was a pioneer who was dedicated to providing African Americans the same opportunities to compete in the sport of baseball as white individuals, especially in the State of Indiana;

(2) Charles Isham Taylor made significant contributions to the sport of baseball and the city of Indianapolis; and

(3) on the 100th anniversary of his passing, Charles Isham Taylor should be commemorated and remembered for the impact and significance his life had on providing opportunities for African Americans in the State of Indiana.

SENATE RESOLUTION 564—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JAMES FREDERICK "JIMMY" HANLEY

Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 564

Whereas James Frederick "Jimmy" Hanley (referred to in this preamble as "Hanley") was born on February 17, 1892, in Rensselaer, Indiana;

Whereas Hanley was educated at Champion College and the Chicago Musical College;

Whereas, in 1914, Hanley joined the United States Army and served during World War I in the 82d Division;

Whereas, during Hanley's service in the Army, he wrote and produced an Army musical show entitled "Toot Sweet";

Whereas Hanley became part of the Tin Pan Alley music scene in New York;

Whereas, as a vaudeville performer and writer, Hanley wrote the Broadway stage scores for "Jim Jam Jems", "Spice of 1922", "Big Boy", "Honeymoon Lane", "Sidewalks of New York", and dozens of other popular songs;

Whereas Hanley wrote such Broadway hits as "Second Hand Rose" in 1921, performed by Fanny Brice in the Ziegfeld Follies of 1921, and "Zing! Went the Strings of My Heart" in 1934, later popularized by Judy Garland in 1938;

Whereas, in 1917, Hanley co-wrote "(Back Home Again in) Indiana" with Ballard MacDonald, which was a hit and was based on the State song of Indiana, "On the Banks on the Wabash, Far Away" by Paul Dresser; and

Whereas "(Back Home Again in) Indiana" has remained popular and has been performed at every Indianapolis 500 since 1946: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) James Frederick "Jimmy" Hanley (referred to in this resolution as "Hanley") was a talented Hoosier who provided many musical compositions that were significant during the 1920s and 1930s;

(2) Hanley's compositions, especially "Indiana", have continued to be culturally significant in introducing Indiana to individuals throughout the world who have never physically visited the State;

(3) the lyrics of "Indiana" provide vivid imagery of the natural beauty of the State and the wonder of calling Indiana home to both current Hoosiers and those who were raised in Indiana and now live elsewhere; and

(4) Hanley should be commemorated and remembered on the 130th anniversary of his birth for the cultural impact and significance that his compositions and music continue to have throughout the world.

SENATE RESOLUTION 565—HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REPRESENTATIVE DON YOUNG

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr.

CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MENEDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 565

Whereas Donald Edwin Young was born on June 9, 1933, to James Young and Nora (Bucy) Young in Meridian, California;

Whereas Don Young earned an associate degree from Yuba Junior College and a bachelor's degree in teaching from Chico State University;

Whereas Don Young began what would be decades of service to the United States when he served in the Army as part of the 41st Tank Battalion from 1955 to 1957;

Whereas Don Young moved to Alaska in 1959 and found his true home in the village of Fort Yukon, which is located 7 miles above the Arctic Circle;

Whereas Don Young met and married the first love of his life, Lula "Lu" Young, in Fort Yukon;

Whereas Don Young and Lu had 2 wonderful daughters, Dawn and Joni, and later 14 grandchildren;

Whereas Don Young taught fifth grade at a school run by the Bureau of Indian Affairs during the winter and worked in construction, mining, fishing, and trapping, and as a tugboat captain in the warmer months;

Whereas Don Young was elected mayor of Fort Yukon in 1964 and served in that role until 1967;

Whereas Don Young was elected to and served in the Alaska House of Representatives from 1967 to 1970 and the Alaska State Senate from 1970 to 1973;

Whereas Don Young was elected to the House of Representatives in 1973 in a special election and served 24 additional and consecutive terms;

Whereas Representative Young served as Chairman of the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives from 1995 to 2001, and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives from 2001 to 2007;

Whereas Representative Young was a champion for Alaska Native peoples, including as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs of the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives;

Whereas Representative Young fiercely defended Alaska and Alaskans as the sole Representative for the largest State in the

United States and devoted himself to fulfilling the immense promise of his home State;

Whereas Representative Young was a leader in strengthening the role of Alaska in providing for the national defense of the United States through his support for the Coast Guard, the Alaskan Command, and the ballistic missile defense and his steadfast commitment to the leadership of the United States in the Arctic;

Whereas Representative Young sponsored at least 85 bills that were enacted into Federal law and sponsored and cosponsored many more measures that were part of broader legislation;

Whereas legislative achievements by Representative Young span the policy spectrum, from authorizing the construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System to important amendments and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.);

Whereas Representative Young authored and advocated for generational laws, including the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) in 1975, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (Public Law 94-265; 90 Stat. 331) in 1976, the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-57; 111 Stat. 1252) in 1997, SAFETEA-LU (Public Law 109-59; 119 Stat. 1144) in 2005, Multinational Species Conservation Funds Reauthorization Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-132; 121 Stat. 1360) in 2007, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58; 135 Stat. 429) in 2021;

Whereas Representative Young formed strong relationships and friendships with members on both sides of the aisle and proudly worked with 10 different presidents;

Whereas Representative Young married his second love, Anne Garland Walton, in 2015, in the United States Capitol;

Whereas, on December 5, 2017, Representative Young became the 45th Dean of the House of Representatives, reflecting his status as its most senior member;

Whereas Representative Young was the longest-serving Republican in the history of Congress; and

Whereas Representative Young ultimately served the 49th State with dedication and distinction for 49 years and 13 days, which is more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the period in which Alaska has been a State: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) mourns the death of Don Young, congressman for all Alaska and the 45th Dean of the House of Representatives;

(2) honors Representative Young for his lifetime of service to Alaska and the United States, his spirited bipartisanship, and his enduring respect for and devotion to the House of Representatives;

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate—

(A) communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives; and

(B) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the Honorable Don Young; and

(4) at the time that the Senate adjourns or recesses today, the Senate stands adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Don Young.

SENATE RESOLUTION 566—RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS COMMISSION ON CANCER AND THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMISSION ON CANCER-ACCREDITED PROGRAMS IN ENSURING COMPREHENSIVE, HIGH-QUALITY, PATIENT-CENTERED CANCER CARE

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 566

Whereas the Commission on Cancer was established by the American College of Surgeons in 1922 as a consortium of professional organizations dedicated to improving survival rates and quality of life for cancer patients through standard setting, which promotes cancer prevention, research, education, and monitoring of comprehensive quality care;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer is comprised of individuals and representatives of more than 50 cancer-related organizations;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer establishes standards to ensure quality, multidisciplinary, and comprehensive cancer care delivery in health care settings;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer conducts surveys in health care settings to assess compliance with those standards;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer collects standardized data from Commission on Cancer-accredited health care settings to measure cancer care quality;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer uses data to monitor treatment patterns and outcomes, and enhance cancer control and clinical surveillance activities;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer develops effective educational interventions to improve cancer prevention, early detection, cancer care delivery, and outcomes in health care settings;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer has accredited more than 1,500 cancer programs in the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

Whereas accreditation from the American College of Surgeons is a voluntary commitment by a cancer program that ensures patients will have access to the full scope of services required to diagnose, treat, rehabilitate, and support patients with cancer and their families;

Whereas accreditation allows cancer programs to continually evaluate performance and take proactive, corrective actions when necessary;

Whereas continuous evaluation reaffirms the commitment of the cancer program to provide high-quality, patient-centered cancer care;

Whereas accreditation is regarded as important in improving oncologic outcomes through compliance with standards that include continuous quality improvement;

Whereas quality standards required for accreditation ensure that patients receive comprehensive care with a multidisciplinary team approach to coordinate the best available treatment options;

Whereas patients treated by accredited cancer programs receive information about ongoing cancer clinical trials and new treatment options and access to a cancer database that offers lifelong patient follow-up;

Whereas accreditation promotes access to prevention and early detection programs, cancer education, and support services;

Whereas patients treated in accredited cancer programs have access to the full con-

tinuum of patient-centered care, including distress screening, patient navigation, and delivery of survivorship care plans that detail treatments received and provide detailed information on future care needs;

Whereas accreditation requires evaluation of the entire scope, organization, and activity of a cancer program by external peer review from specially trained surveyors who evaluate compliance with stringent standards designed to promote high-quality care;

Whereas the quality reporting tools from the over 30,000,000 cases reported to the Commission on Cancer's National Cancer Database provide feedback needed to initiate quality improvement studies, which ultimately lead to implementation of quality improvements in accredited cancer programs;

Whereas the cancer accreditation programs of the American College of Surgeons use data submitted to such Database to verify and improve quality of care in cancer programs and to further scientific research; and

Whereas the American College of Surgeons accredited cancer programs in the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico care for approximately 70 percent of newly diagnosed cancer patients in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes the 100th anniversary of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and the importance of Commission on Cancer-accredited programs in ensuring comprehensive, high-quality, patient-centered cancer care.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5016. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6968, to prohibit the importation of energy products of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5016. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 6968, to prohibit the importation of energy products of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, strike lines 8 through 11, and insert the following:

(A) has ceased hostilities toward Ukraine and withdrawn all forces from the territory of Ukraine;

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, I have eight 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 29, 2022, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 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 29, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 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 29, 2022, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, March 29, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 561, S. Res. 562, S. Res. 563, and S. Res. 564.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles 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 resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

HONORING AND CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REPRESENTATIVE DON YOUNG

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 565, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 565) honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Representative Don Young.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent 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. 565) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 642, 643, 734, and 789; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the Record; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and the Senate resume legislative session.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the following nominations en bloc: Lisa A. Carty, of Maryland, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations; Laura S. H. Holgate, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador; Christopher John Williamson, of West Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health; and Mallory A. Stewart, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance)?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 30; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Pryor nomination; that the cloture motions filed during Monday's session ripen following disposition of the motion to discharge the Bedoya nomination, and that the Senate vote on the motion to discharge the Bedoya nomination at 11:45 a.m.; further, that if cloture is invoked on the Pryor nomination, all postcloture time be considered expired at 1:30 p.m.; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session of the Senate, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the provisions of S. Res. 565, following the remarks of Senator CANTWELL.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

NOMINATION OF ALVARO M. BEDOYA

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I thank the leader for mentioning the move to have a vote on Alvaro Bedoya to be Commissioner of the Federal Trade Commission. This is such an important task, and I know that the leader probably knows that Mr. Bedoya hails from New York, but it also must be a very proud moment for him as well.

The FTC is the security guard for America's consumers. If a company is lying to its customers about their products and what they can do or teaming up with competitors to keep prices high, the FTC is the policeman on the beat, saying those things are not allowed here.

Mr. SCHUMER. Would the Senator from Washington yield for a minute?

Ms. CANTWELL. Yes.

Mr. SCHUMER. I want to thank the Senator for her leadership on this issue.

We all know that we have seen prices go way up. We also all suspect that a lot of it is due to different kinds of gouging and manipulation. The FTC is

about the best Agency to look for this, but without Mr. Bedoya on the FTC, the chair and the members would be handicapped in moving that forward. This is a really important motion to discharge.

I hope anyone who cares about inflation and rising prices and collusion and all kinds of manipulation to prevent those prices from coming back down should be voting for this motion to discharge and the nomination.

Once again, the Senator from Washington has led the way on this issue, and I salute her. This is a very, very important motion to discharge.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I thank the majority leader for that concise documentation of what really the FTC is about. It is about getting somebody on there who is going to fight to protect consumers on issues.

We know that we need the FTC now more than ever. We needed their muscle during the COVID pandemic, as opportunistic scammers stole \$5.9 billion out of the pockets of Americans, and that is just the reported amount. That doesn't include people who never knew that they were scammed or were too embarrassed to report what happened.

So Congress, on a bipartisan basis, pumped up the FTC's power, and at the end of 2020, we passed the COVID-19 Consumer Protection Act to help root out promoters of dangerous, fake treatments and cures.

Second, we gave the FTC \$30 million in the American Rescue Plan to promote and protect Americans against scams that targeted their COVID stimulus payments.

Last year, we confirmed the FTC Chair, Lina Khan, with support from 21 Republicans in this body, and today we are talking about the next important step in protecting consumers, and that is moving to confirm Mr. Bedoya to fill the last seat on the Federal Trade Commission.

Mr. Bedoya has the right experience we need to tackle the problems that we are facing right now—some of the most complicated and pressing issues regarding how to protect our privacy and protect children's online privacy. I say that because I heard comments from my colleague about Mr. Bedoya and the fact that he issued various tweets about this or that in his time in the private sector.

I guarantee you that if we voted for people based on what their tweets are, there would be a lot of people who wouldn't be approved at all, including some of the people who have been through this process.

Mr. Bedoya served as the chief counsel of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and Law. So I would say that as it relates to the FTC's ability to do some-

thing about reining in some of the bad practices that we see online, I think he is a very qualified person and individual.

Mr. Bedoya graduated summa cum laude from Harvard and holds a law degree from Yale, where he served on the Yale Law Journal and received the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowship for New Americans.

So I think that Mr. Bedoya is a person who has dug in on a variety of issues and has the experience and leadership in one of the most critical areas—technology—that the FTC is dealing with today.

So I encourage my colleagues to support him. That is why he is supported by the current Republican FTC Commissioners. They also support his nomination. They say they recognize his willingness and expertise and ability to reach across the aisle and find common ground on solutions that work for people.

It is that skill set that we are looking for at the FTC to help hard-working Americans get a fair shake in the marketplace, whether that is at the pharmacy, the gas pump, or online.

And I know that as a proud immigrant, Mr. Bedoya will also use his role to expand the FTC's work in underserved communities.

The FTC needs to be able to protect all Americans, and to accomplish that, we need to have a Commission that is not deadlocked now but has somebody like Mr. Bedoya, who can help us move ahead on these issues.

He has experience working, as I said, in the Judiciary Committee. In 2009, he cofounded the Esperanza Education Fund, an immigration status-blind college scholarship for immigrant students, and has been working on various issues within the community.

Right now, we need an FTC that is going to look at market systems and make sure there is fair competition to make sure that consumers are protected and that there is a level playing field.

I think his experience here on the Hill lets him understand exactly what that is. He has testified before Congress and State legislatures and appeared in numbers of publications about these critical issues on privacy and on the online world in which we need to have more oversight.

So, finally, Mr. Bedoya's experience on, as I said, data privacy specifically, the internet and making it a safe place for children—he exposed racial bias in facial recognition software, helped to protect innocent people from prosecution and companies that have already collected data on millions of Americans. We need that kind of expertise that Mr. Bedoya knows and understands how we are using that today and what we can do to better protect the American consumer.

I hope that my colleagues will join us to approve and move quickly to discharge the committee of Alvaro Bedoya's nomination to be a Commissioner of the FTC and support his nomination as we get this to the Senate floor.

I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 AM TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, and pursuant to S. Res. 565, the Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m., Wednesday, March 30, 2022, and does so as a further mark of respect for the late DON YOUNG, former Representative from Alaska.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 7:59 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, March 30, 2022, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nomination received by the Senate:

PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD

TRAVIS LEBLANC, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES OVERSIGHT BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 29, 2023. (REAPPOINTMENT)

DISCHARGED NOMINATION

The Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of the following nomination pursuant to S. Res. 27 and the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar:

LISA DENELL COOK, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF FOURTEEN YEARS FROM FEBRUARY 1, 2010.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate March 29, 2022:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LISA A. CARTY, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, DURING HER TENURE OF SERVICE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

LAURA S. H. HOLGATE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NANI A. COLORETTI, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

CHRISTOPHER JOHN WILLIAMSON, OF WEST VIRGINIA, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR FOR MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MALLORY A. STEWART, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (VERIFICATION AND COMPLIANCE).

C.S. ELIOT KANG, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE (INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AND NON-PROLIFERATION).

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRENTON NOLAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Trenton Nolan for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Trenton Nolan is a 12th grader at FutureForward Bollman and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Trenton Nolan 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 Trenton Nolan for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, on Monday, March 28, 2022, I was unavoidably detained and missed the day's votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Yea on Roll Call Vote 83, H.R. 1621—To amend section 3661 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the consideration of acquitted conduct at sentencing; and

Yea on Roll Call Vote 84, S. 3294—To obtain and direct the placement in the Capitol or on the Capitol Grounds of a statue to honor Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Sandra Day O'Connor and a statue to honor Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MAJOR GENERAL BILLY NABORS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of Major General Billy Nabors whom I have had the pleasure of serving with in the Mississippi National Guard. He is celebrating his retirement after 27 years of service and I wish him all the best in this exciting new chapter in life.

Major General Nabors was commissioned through Officer Training School and graduated Undergraduate Pilot Training at Columbus Air Force Base in 1985. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Millsaps College in Jackson. He served eight years active duty as a T-37 instructor, Air Training Command, and KD-135C/R aircraft commander, Strategic Air Command. As of his retirement, he has served as the Assistant Adjutant General and Commander, Mississippi Air National Guard. He is responsible to the Adjutant General for directing Air National Guard operations and establishing policy to ensure the combat readiness and mission capability of the 186th Air Refueling Wing, 172d Airlift Wing and Combat Readiness Training Center. Major General Nabors is a combat veteran of Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Kosovo and Enduring/Iraqi Freedom. Prior to his current role, General Nabors was the Chief of Staff, Mississippi Air National Guard.

Major General Nabors has served on a wide variety of assignments and received numerous awards over the course of his career including the Legion of Merit Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Mississippi War Medal with bronze star, just to name a few.

I am grateful for Major General Nabors' lifetime of service to the state of Mississippi and this nation. I join him, his family and loved ones in celebrating his retirement and wish him well.

HONORING VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

HON. DARRELL ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Vietnam Veterans Day.

For too long, the veterans of the Vietnam War did not receive the recognition or appreciation of a grateful Nation that their service warranted and their commitment earned.

With the adoption of March 29 as National Vietnam Veterans Day, we take another step to rectify that. Every year going forward, we will now honor those who answered the call of their country, left home for faraway lands, and held the line in what was then America's longest war.

Abraham Lincoln said: "The soldier puts his life at stake, and often yields it up in his country's cause. The highest merit, then is due to the soldier." These words and this special day honor the service, sacrifice, and steadfast spirit of the more than nine million Americans who made and kept an oath to stand strong for freedom around the world . . . and to ensure the success and survival of liberty.

In 2020, I was proud to host Vietnam Veteran recognition ceremonies throughout the 50th District of California. Here, veterans, family members and the community gathered to

salute more than 300 veterans and express our gratitude for their efforts.

We owe a debt beyond words to these veterans who wore the Nation's uniform, many of whom went halfway around the world, set records for courage and commitment, and served with indomitable courage. I am proud to rise today to commemorate Vietnam Veterans Day for these courageous veterans and their service to our Nation.

KENDYL GILLETTE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kendyl Gillette for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Kendyl Gillette is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kendyl Gillette 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 Kendyl Gillette 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.

2022 CONGRESSIONAL TEACHER AWARDS WITH FLORIDA'S 16TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a number of outstanding public school teachers in Florida's 16th Congressional District.

I was once told that children are 25 percent of the population, but they are 100 percent of the future.

And it's true. The education of a child is an investment, not only in that student, but in the future of our country.

Therefore, I established the Congressional Teacher Awards to honor educators for their ability to teach and inspire students.

An independent panel has chosen the following teachers from Manatee, Sarasota, and Hillsborough counties to receive Florida's 16th District's 2022 Congressional Teacher Awards for their accomplishments as educators:

Victoria Adriano for her accomplishments as a Student Support Specialist teacher at Ballard Elementary School in Bradenton

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

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

Erica Burton for her accomplishments as an English Language Arts teacher at Lincoln Memorial Middle School in Palmetto

Tammy Harper for her accomplishments as a Chemistry teacher at Lakewood Ranch High School in Lakewood Ranch

Eric Lostorto for his accomplishments as a Math teacher at Tuttle Elementary School in Sarasota

Angelee Gens for her accomplishments as a Life Science teacher at Brookside Middle School in Sarasota

Shannon Nelson for her accomplishments as an Exceptional Student Education teacher at Sarasota High School in Sarasota

Kim Keebler for her accomplishments as a Reading teacher at Newsome High School in Lithia

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, I congratulate each of these outstanding teachers and offer my sincere appreciation for their service and dedication.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOE
SCALLORNS' RETIREMENT

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, it is with profound gratitude that I rise today as Missouri's Fifth Congressional District celebrates the decades-long career of an individual who has gone above and beyond for the people of Missouri and the men and women of our armed forces: Mr. Joe Scallorns. Joe's dedication to his community is truly exemplary. Through more than thirty years as a community banker, enthusiastic support for America's military as an Air Force Civic Leader, and as a board member of several community organizations, Joe has always put the needs of others ahead of his own.

Before he began his distinguished career, Joe was a student at the University of Missouri and Rutgers University, where he studied business, finance, and banking. Recognized for his exceptional leadership abilities, Joe went on to serve as the President and CEO of the Farmers and Traders Bank in California, Missouri. His educational background, industry knowledge, and professional experience have proved useful and insightful during his time as a board member for the Whiteman Air Force Base Community Council, the Civic Leaders Group of Air Force Global Strike Command, and the Whiteman Area Leadership Council. As a founding member of the Army and Navy Club in Washington, D.C., a board member for the Strategic Deterrent Coalition, and President Emeritus of both groups, Joe has helped bridge the divide between the members of our nation's military and the civilian population they faithfully protect.

Joe's commitment to our armed forces is demonstrated in his numerous honors: the Secretary of the Air Force Distinguished Public Service Award, the Air Force Scroll of Appreciation, and his designation as Honorary Chief Master Sergeant by Whiteman Air Force Base. His devotion and leadership, though, has extended to all manner of causes: the Rotary Club, the American Bankers Association, and the Missouri Girls Town Foundation. You name it, and Joe has played a role in it, all

across our district. These deserved achievements are a testament to his love and passion for giving back.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Joe for his tremendous accomplishments, his wisdom, and his tireless community service. His enthusiasm is infectious; his service is a model for all of us. I speak with the voice of Missouri's entire Fifth District as we say a heartfelt "thank you" to Mr. Joe Scallorns. I congratulate Joe on reaching the next chapter of his life. I wish him health and happiness in his well-earned retirement.

CABIN AIR SAFETY ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I reintroduce the "Cabin Air Safety Act," with U.S. Senator RICHARD BLUMENTHAL (D-CT). I thank the original cosponsors for their support of this critical legislation: U.S. Senators EDWARD J. MARKEY (D-MA) and DIANNE FEINSTEIN (D-CA) and Congressmen BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK (R-PA), KAIALI'I KAHELE, (D-HI), and DON BACON (R-NE).

All Americans have the right to expect safe, clean air when travelling or reporting to work. I am deeply concerned by the documented cases where pilots, flight attendants, and airline passengers have been incapacitated or even hospitalized following exposure to toxic cabin air.

The "Cabin Air Safety Act" takes common-sense steps to protect airline crewmembers and the traveling public from toxic fume events, which occur when air contaminated by engine exhaust, fuel fumes, deicing fluids, and ozone enters the aircraft cabin through the jet-engine intake or the auxiliary air intake at the stern of the aircraft when on the ground. Exposure to even low levels of these contaminants can incapacitate passengers and crew. Long-term exposure could lead to serious, debilitating health issues.

Our bicameral, bipartisan legislation would better protect airline passengers and crew by mandating training on how to respond to toxic fumes, requiring the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to record and monitor reports of toxic fume events, ensuring that investigations occur following reported toxic fume events, and installing air quality monitoring equipment such as carbon monoxide sensors on commercial aircraft as standard equipment.

At the start of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the FAA under the Trump Administration claimed it could not set standards to ensure cabin air quality and protect public health. Our reintroduced "Cabin Air Safety Act" for this Congress makes clear that the FAA can indeed set standards for cabin air quality to safeguard the health of airline crewmembers and the traveling public.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members of the House to join me in cosponsoring this bicameral, bipartisan legislation. As a senior member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation, I plan to make the "Cabin Air Safety Act" a major priority in the next FAA reauthorization.

LEIANNA DEMOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Leianna Demos for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Leianna Demos is a 6th grader at Adams City Middle School and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Leianna Demos 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 Leianna Demos for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
GLENN ADAMS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Lieutenant Colonel Glenn Adams after 32 years of service to the United States and the State of Mississippi. I thank him for his dedication and wish him well in this new chapter.

Over the course of his career, Lieutenant Colonel Adams has served in every leadership role within the Commissioned Officer Ranks, from a Bradley Track Commander to the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team Executive Officer. He enlisted into the Mississippi Army National Guard on March 25, 1989 in Det 1, Headquarters Company, 1-198th Armor, Fulton, MS. LTC Adams served as an NCO until March 1992 and was commissioned as a 2LT in August 1992 as an Armor Officer. He received his baccalaureate degree in history from the Mississippi University for Women in 1995. He then served as the executive officer and then Commander for Co C, 1st BN, 198th Armor Regiment from October 2000 to September 2003. He was hired into the Active Guard Reserve program on March 15, 2006.

LTC Adams was deployed twice in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2004 to 2005 and 2009 to 2010. During the 2009 deployment I had the honor of serving alongside LTC Adams. LTC Adams served as my Operations Officer and was always a consummate professional that embodies the qualities expected of our commissioned officer corps. Accordingly, he was awarded the Bronze Star for his contributions. After returning from deployment, he served at the Mississippi National Guard Joint Force Headquarters from September 2012 until September 2017. LTC Adams mobilized again from June 2018 to March 2019 in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. When he returned, he served as the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team Executive Officer and the full-time Administrative Officer.

Glenn also served his community and state outside of the Armed Services. For nearly three decades, he officiated football at the high school and collegiate level. Most recently, he officiated with the Mississippi Community College, Gulf South, and Great American Conferences.

LTC Adams celebrates one of the most storied careers in the Mississippi National Guard, and I am grateful for his 32 years of service to our state and this Nation. I have the upmost respect and admiration for Glenn and am happy to call him a friend and brother in arms.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CEREBRAL PALSY RESEARCH PROGRAM ACT

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize March as Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month and to urge my colleagues to support federal funding for cerebral palsy research.

Cerebral palsy is the most common life-long physical disability, occurring in approximately 1 out of 345 children in the United States. It is also the most common disability that has no dedicated federal funding.

No dedicated federal funding for cerebral palsy means there are fewer treatment options, less prevention, less education, and a lack of standards of care across the lifespan. Additionally, there is not a reliable system to count how many people in the U.S. have cerebral palsy, so the estimates on cerebral palsy prevalence are just that—estimates.

I am working to change that and urge my colleagues to join me. Today, I introduced a bipartisan bill with Congressmen BRIAN FITZPATRICK and EMANUEL CLEAVER to create a Cerebral Palsy Research Program within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support research on the diagnosis, treatment, mitigation, health care costs, and societal costs of cerebral palsy. It also directs the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to update and publish their Strategic Plan on Cerebral Palsy.

I hope my colleagues will join me in this effort to support more research on cerebral palsy—a disability that affects approximately 1 million people in the United States, has few reliable treatments, and no cure.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF EVA GARCIA

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize contributions of Eva Garcia to the Contra Costa community and congratulate her on her retirement.

Eva Garcia was born in Argentina and immigrated to the United States in 1971. Through her many positions throughout her career, it has been clear that Eva has worked hard and works in service of others. In 1998, Eva joined the staff at Contra Costa County Service Inte-

gration Program, which is now SparkPoint Contra Costa. In 2000, Eva advanced to the top leadership position at SparkPoint's Career Center thanks to her hard work and dedication.

In this role, Eva has assisted so many in the area with job training and mentoring. Eva has also been appointed to the Bay Point Municipal Advisory, serving on the advisory board to Supervisor Federal Glover, and is a member of the Mt. Diablo Unified School District Bay Point Ad/Hoc Committee, Vice President of the Bay Point Historical Society, and Secretary of the Bay Point Association. Eva's leadership is commendable and Contra Costa has benefited greatly thanks to her work.

In her personal life, Eva is a mother to her twin children and has been a proud resident of Bay Point for the past 30 years. Her love for her family and her community is clear to all who know her.

We thank Eva for her 24 years of service and for her passion for Bay Point and its residents. Please join me in honoring Eva and congratulating her on her retirement.

DOMINIC CHAVEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dominic Chavez for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Dominic Chavez is a 12th grader at Riverdale Ridge High School and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dominic Chavez 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 Dominic Chavez for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP FREDERICK C. JAMES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend, legendary faith leader, consummate community activist and astute political observer.

Bishop Frederick C. James, a stalwart of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AMEC) and civil rights activities, will celebrate his 100th birthday on April 7, 2022. He was born in Prosperity, South Carolina, to Rosa Lee Gray and Edward James in 1922. His father, a mechanic with a 7th grade education, died when he was just 10 years old, and his moth-

er, instilled in him the desire to see the good in everyone.

Bishop James graduated from Drayton Street High School in Newberry, South Carolina. He earned a bachelor's degree in history and English from Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina in 1943 and answered a call to the ministry at an early age. In 1947 he graduated from the Howard University School of Divinity in Washington, D.C. and furthered his studies at Dickerson Theological Seminary in Columbia and Union Theological Seminary in New York, New York.

Bishop James began his ministerial career as pastor of Friendship AME Church in 1945 and Bishop Memorial AME Church in 1946, both in Columbia, and added Wayman AME Church in Winnsboro South Carolina to his charge in 1947. In 1949, James became Dean of Dickerson Theological Seminary and pastor of Chappelle Memorial AME Church in Columbia in 1950.

In 1953, Bishop James moved to my hometown of Sumter, South Carolina, to become pastor of Mt. Pisgah AME Church, which is when I came to know him. He was very active in the activities that led to Briggs v. Elliott the initial federal court case that resulted in the 1954 Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision. I was serving as President of the NAACP Youth Council at the time, and we went on to have a lifelong friendship and close bond.

In 1960, James was elected director of social action for the AME Church, and became close with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. His career was dedicated to faith and social activism, and he rose to great heights in both arenas.

Beloved among those in the AME movement, he was elected the 93rd Bishop of the AME Church in 1972. He served the 18th and 15th Episcopal Districts from 1972 to 1976, the 12th from 1976 to 1984, the 7th from 1984 to 1992, and the 2nd from 1993 to 1996. Among his many accomplishments, Bishop James led AME-sponsored colleges Shorter College, in Little Rock, Arkansas to full accreditation in 1981 and Allen University to full accreditation in 1992. He also served as Ecumenical Bishop and Chaplaincy Endorsement Officer of the AME Church in 1992. In 1996, Bishop James retired from leadership in the AME Church.

Bishop James' interest in civic engagement began while he was very young. He joined the NAACP as a teenager and actively became involved in voter registration efforts. He was very active in the student movement while on the campus of Allen University.

While living in Sumter, he helped organize and chair the Sumter Citizens Committee. He also served as president of the Effective Sumter Movement. These groups organized demonstrations, raised bail to get protestors out of jail, and met with local white organizations and government officials in the effort to change hearts and minds.

In addition to his civil rights activism, Bishop James served as chair of Allen University's Board of Trustees and of the Howard Junior High School Center in Prosperity, South Carolina. He was also a board member of the Columbia Housing Authority. In 1994, Bishop James was selected by his good friend, President Bill Clinton, to serve as a member of the delegation to attend the inauguration of South African President Nelson Mandela.

Bishop James is a former member of the White House Advisory Board on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and of the U.S. State Department's Advisory Board on Religious Freedom and served as National Vice President of the Interfaith Alliance. Bishop James is a life member of the NAACP and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and is a 33rd degree Mason. He was also the first African American to serve on the board of directors at the National Bank of South Carolina and as a member of the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce.

Among his many honors, Bishop James holds an honorary doctorate of humanities from Monrovia College in Liberia. He received South Carolina's highest honor, the Order of the Palmetto, in 2003. In 2020, Bishop James received the Leon A. Love Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Carolina African American Heritage Foundation and "Columbia SC 63: Our Story Matters." He has been inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame and the Columbia Housing Authority Wall of Fame.

Bishop James married Theresa Gregg on December 30, 1944, and the couple enjoyed 76 years of marriage before she passed away on January 25, 2021.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in celebrating the centennial anniversary of Bishop Fred James' birth. He was a mentor to me and so many others as he preached the gospel and the need for equality and justice for all. This important milestone, is a good time to let Bishop James know that we all feel blessed by his efforts to fulfill the charge of Micah to, "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly."

HONORING L.A. BLACK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD EARL "SKIP" COOPER II

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the legacy of Earl "Skip" Cooper II as he retires from the Black Business Association of Los Angeles.

For the last 50 years, Skip Cooper has fought tirelessly to break down barriers and uplift not only African American businesses, but all minority businesses. He has developed programs to assure that businesspeople, artists, and entrepreneurs had access to the financing, contracting, mentoring, and support that it takes to succeed, and he has served as an advisor to both the Latin and Asian business associations in Los Angeles prior to their formation. As a result, he has played a pivotal role in the success of countless businesses across the Los Angeles region.

Young Skip had a newspaper delivery route by age 10, and he never forgot the power of relationships and mentoring. Skip would go on to serve as a medic in the Vietnam War, and he returned home from service to study at Oakland's Merritt College, where he became one of the first in the country to earn an AA degree in African American Studies. He would later earn bachelor's and MBA degrees as well.

Early in his career, Skip interned at a Los Angeles area minority business resource cen-

ter where he saw the need to promote and support minority-owned businesses. At the end of Skip's internship, he joined the staff of what became the Los Angeles Economic Development Corp. where, as program manager, Skip oversaw a state initiative that helped minority owned businesses secure purchasing contracts with public and private sector organizations. That led him to join the BBA where, in 1976, he embarked on its first trade mission to Washington, D.C.

Over decades of advocacy, Skip has had a significant role in the passage and implementation of legislation and regulations at the federal, state and local levels. He worked closely with legislators, especially the late California Asm. Gwen Moore and the late U.S. Rep. Parren Mitchell, to pass laws to address the historic disadvantage of minority businesses that had been shut out of public and private programs and funding opportunities.

The BBA will continue its annual salutes to Black history, Black women and Black music, its twice-annual veterans' procurement conference, and its e-commerce venture: a Black business shopping guide, all of which will further Skip's legacy, and his lifelong commitment to economic empowerment for people of color.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF GRADY WIGGINTON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Grady Wigginton, as he passed away on February 12, 2013.

Mr. Wigginton was born just west of Guntown, MS on June 30, 1937. Mr. Wigginton was proud to grow up in rural Mississippi where he was able to learn about the nature and creatures of God's creation. After graduating from High school Mr. Wigginton decided to join the USMC. In his time serving the country he achieved the great accomplishment of being promoted to the rank of Sergeant (E-4) in just twenty-two months. He believed in God first, Country second, and family third. We thank him for his commitment to service.

After Mr. Wigginton's service to his country he worked for CPI. At CPI he went on to become both a district and regional manager. He enjoyed hiring and working with new employees as he saw it was his responsibility to motivate them to do their jobs to the best of their ability. Due to his commitment to a hard-working staff both his district and regional teams won multiple awards for sales and profit.

Mr. Wigginton will be greatly missed, and we thank him for his service to his country and community.

DOMINIC SANCHEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dominic San-

chez for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Dominic Sanchez is a 12th grader at North Valley School for Young Adults and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dominic Sanchez 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 Dominic Sanchez for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

HONORING CRAIG MCLEAN ON FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

HON. MIKIE SHERRILL

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Assistant Administrator Craig McLean on his retirement after forty years of distinguished service in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). This son of New Jersey grew up on the Passaic River and turned a childhood passion for ocean diving and exploration into a forty-year career that started as a commissioned NOAA Corps deck officer charting the ocean floor and culminated as a preeminent champion of NOAA's mission to understand and predict changes in climate, weather, ocean, and coasts.

Craig started working on diving boats as a teenager. As a college student at Rutgers University, where he earned his B.A. in Zoology in 1979, he investigated barges dumping toxic sludge into waterways. While serving as a NOAA Corps officer and, later as a senior executive of NOAA, Craig was instrumental to founding NOAA's Ocean Exploration and Research Program and its mapping of U.S. waters to advance oceanographic scientific knowledge and discover deep ocean secrets including new species, historical shipwrecks, and undersea mountains. With Craig's leadership, NOAA mapped two million square kilometers of the ocean floor, collected ocean data in the waters of sixteen countries and the high seas, and contributed to key conservation decisions for vital marine habitats such as establishment of new marine national monuments and deep sea protection areas.

Craig served as Assistant Administrator for NOAA Oceanic and Atmospheric Research for over six years. He expertly led an enterprise of ten federal laboratories across the country and six major programs. Under his tenure, NOAA Research achieved vital advancements for the benefit of the Nation, including improved forecasting of weather extremes such as hurricanes, winter storms, and excesses and deficits of precipitation, enabling society to be better prepared to reduce the severe impacts of these events on life and destruction

of property. These advancements greatly increased our understanding of the earth's climate system, improved modeling of the weather and climate seamlessly across timescales, and strengthened the scientific basis for investigating climate change.

On the international stage, Craig helped broker a consensus on the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO for global biogeochemical Argo sensors that enabled a \$53 million commitment to expand deployments to improve ocean health and climate forecasting. He championed a global framework under the U.N. Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development initiative to ensure ocean science can support countries and achieve the United Nations' 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Craig boldly stepped forward as a complainant when NOAA experienced high-level, public political interference, putting himself at risk to uphold NOAA's scientific integrity and reputation. Afterward, he worked with other federal agencies on the National Science and Technology Council's effort to restore public trust in government through scientific integrity in policymaking.

On behalf of the Committee on Science, Space and Technology, I thank Craig for his forty years of service. His leadership and personal commitment to scientific integrity and the public good exemplify the highest ideals of public service. I wish Craig a long and joyful retirement.

RECOGNIZING BOB WILLIAMS

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, my heart is heavy as I rise today with Rep. GARY PALMER to honor the life of my dear friend, Bob Williams, who passed away on March 15, 2022. My prayers are with Bob's wife Jane, his family, and all who loved him as we mourn his passing.

Bob was a humble public servant who loved Washington with all his heart. He dedicated a decade of his life to serving the people of Washington in the State House of Representatives and even made a run for governor in 1988.

Shortly after, I met Bob for the first time in Olympia. I had just been elected to the State House, and I remember being struck by his big smile and even bigger heart. We became fast friends, bonding over our common pursuit of a more perfect Union. I was inspired by Bob's commitment to individual liberty, free enterprise, and a limited accountable government.

In 1991, he founded the Freedom Foundation to advance those very ideals we both held dear. Since its founding, the Freedom Foundation has been a beacon of Bob's vision for America, and his legacy will live on in their work for years to come.

Bob was one of the brightest minds I've ever known, and I will always miss him stopping by the office with a new idea or a word of encouragement. His commitment to fighting for freedom and opportunity for all was unwavering, and it inspires me to this day. He believed in the importance and value of covering

every day in prayer and impressed upon me how time on the plane was prime time to read my Bible and pray. Each and every one of us who had the privilege of knowing Bob in this life are better because of it, and I thank God for giving me the blessing of calling him my friend.

Madam Speaker, Bob Williams lived an amazing life that deserves to be celebrated. In honor of his legacy, passion, and contributions that inspired so many, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bob Williams. May God grant him eternal peace in His kingdom.

RECOGNIZING THE ANNUAL MAY FAIRE EVENT OF MATHEWS COUNTY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mathews County's annual May Faire event on Saturday, May 7, 2022. In the event is a joyous celebration that brings the entire community together to celebrate its rich history. May Day Festivities were commonplace in Mathews from the early 1900 to the 1980s.

The Mathews Historical Museum reintroduced the festival concept in 2016 renaming it 'May Faire'. May Faire honors the heritage of Mathews County each year exploring different themes from the county's past. The last and past event in 2019, celebrated Mathews' veterans on its "Wall of Remembrance" posting over 800 photographs of their sons and daughters dating back to the War of 1812 and to the war in Afghanistan.

This year's theme, "Celebrating Mathews Watermen" will be a tribute to the residents who work or have worked on the water. Some of the local watermen have made their living on the water for over 50 years, including several working as successful menhaden captains. There will be a photo display, much like the veterans "Wall of Remembrance", that will display those local watermen and a permanent part of the museum.

The Mathews May Faire event will be held on the Historic Court Green, at the Historic Court House as well as in the Mathews Historic Museum, Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The opening ceremony will include thanking the Coast Guard for remaining in Mathews. The day will proceed with hosting conversations with watermen, exhibits on crab pot making, net mending and a traditional 'Maypole' dance by local school children.

The Museum will host for its first traveling exhibit, "Bay to Belly" on loan from the Yorktown Watermen's Museum from April 1–May 30. During that time Mathews school children will be able to tour the museum to learn about the Chesapeake Bay and its incredible resources.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the celebration of Mathews County's May Faire 2022 and their rich history it symbolizes.

SAGE SCHLEGEL-CRISTENSEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sage Schlegel-Cristensen for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sage Schlegel-Cristensen is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sage Schlegel-Cristensen 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 Sage Schlegel-Cristensen for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I strongly support passage of S. 3294, legislation to obtain and place statues in the Capitol or Capitol grounds of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the first two women to serve as associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States. I would have voted in favor of this legislation; however, I was regrettably unable to be present on the floor because I was attending and asking questions at a hearing of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. I offer my congratulations to the family and friends of Justice O'Connor and Justice Ginsburg and my gratitude that these statues will provide inspiration to millions of Americans upon visiting their Capitol for decades to come.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF POLICE CHIEF MITCH NABORS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the service of Fulton Police Chief Mitch Nabors. Chief Nabors has been serving the great state of Mississippi for the last 30 years. He has served the force since shortly after his 22nd birthday, and announced his retirement this year.

Chief Nabors is a well renowned leader within the department. His colleagues speak to his loyalty and commitment to those with which he served. The city of Fulton is a better and safer place because of him.

I congratulate Chief Nabors on a successful career in public service, and thank him for his lifetime commitment to the community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY SHERIFF EARL BUTLER

HON. DAVID ROUZER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Cumberland County's longtime former Sheriff, Earl Butler. Following a battle with leukemia, Sheriff Butler passed away while surrounded by his family at the age of 84 years old.

Butler served as sheriff of Cumberland County for 22 years before retiring in 2016. He was beloved by his community, his family and friends, and his law enforcement colleagues. He believed in his work, and he was passionate about giving back to his community and keeping its citizens safe.

He helped make the Sheriff's office a fully accredited law enforcement agency, increasing their ability to fight crime and protect the community. He also led the building and development of a new detention center, and he was the founder of the Shop with A Sheriff Program which helps provide a memorable Christmas to less fortunate children within Cumberland County. Sheriff Butler and his wife, Julia, were dedicated members of Massey Hill Baptist Church where they attended every Sunday and he taught Sunday school.

The contributions Sheriff Butler made to Cumberland County were numerous. He made Cumberland County a better place to live leaving behind a great legacy that will be felt for years to come.

Sheriff Butler's was a life very well-lived, and I extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends. He will be long remembered and cherished in the hearts of all who knew him and those for whom his influence touched.

LAILANI AGUIRRE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Lailani Aguirre for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Lailani Aguirre is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Lailani Aguirre 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 Lailani Aguirre 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 WES WAGESTER FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE ALMONT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mrs. McCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize a distinguished public servant of the Almont Township community, Wes Wagester.

For over 30 years, Wes has served his community with honor and selflessness. He has served as a member of the Almont Township Parks and Recreation board, and since October 1991, has been a dedicated member of the Almont Michigan Lions Club. Recently he assisted in the installation of new playground equipment at Almont Community Park, which will be enjoyed by families of the community for years to come.

It is really no surprise that Wes dedicated decades of his life to his community. In the first part of his life, he served his country as a member of the United States Navy.

Our country and state have been honored to have him as our own. I applaud Wes for the service he has given to his beloved community. He has been a pillar, and the example he set will be hard to follow. I know Wes will continue to give his time to Almont whenever he can, and I wish him the best in whatever endeavors he next takes.

MARCH CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH KAILLIE HUMPHRIES

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. LEVIN of California. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Carlsbad resident and Olympic athlete Kaillie Humphries as my Constituent of the Month for March. Kaillie has had a long and extraordinarily successful career as a bobsled athlete, including four Olympic medals and five championships in the International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation (IBSF) World Championships, making her the most decorated woman in bobsled history. She had won two gold and one bronze medal for Team Canada in previous Olympic competitions, and this year, she won gold in the monobob event for Team USA. She is the only female athlete in Olympic history to have earned Olympic gold medals for two nations.

Kaillie had to overcome significant adversity during her journey to the 2022 Winter Olympics. After leaving the Canadian team due to abuse and harassment she endured, Kaillie began the arduous process of becoming a United States citizen with little time to spare before the games, all while continuing to train vigorously for the competition. As a Carlsbad resident and constituent of mine, Kaillie reached out to my office for help. With assistance from my staff, Kaillie became a United States citizen just two months before the Olympics began, allowing her to compete for Team USA. It is hard to overstate the stress and pressure Kaillie experienced, but she persevered and ultimately made our CA-49 community and our entire country very proud.

Kaillie is not only an extraordinary athlete, she is a person of integrity and upstanding

character who is an excellent role model for all of us. It is my honor to recognize her as our Constituent of the Month, particularly during Women's History Month.

HONORING INMAN AND NELLIE MOORE

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the lives of Reverend Inman Moore, who passed away on January 26, 2022, at the age of 96, and his wife, Nellie Moore, who passed away on February 6, 2021, at the age of 95. Inman and Nellie were stalwarts in the San Gabriel Valley, dedicated to leaving their community better than they found it. And they did just that.

Nellie Moore was born in rural Southern Mississippi in 1926 as an only child to a single mother after her father died of pneumonia right before her birth. Nellie married Inman Moore in 1947, and she dedicated herself to being a minister's wife, becoming an active member of the church communities that she and her husband joined. After settling in Pasadena in 1970 with her husband and children, Nellie served as an administrative assistant at the famous Jet Propulsion Laboratory and later started and ran two successful businesses in Pasadena alongside her husband.

Inman Moore was born on September 8, 1925, in southern Mississippi. While he intended on attending medical school, Inman's plan changed following his service in the Navy during World War II. Upon returning home, he enrolled in Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi and decided to follow in the footsteps of his father, a Methodist minister, by receiving a graduate degree in theology from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia.

Inman went on to serve in various churches in Mississippi, a segregated state, during the rising civil rights movement of the 1960s. He was a founding member of the Mississippi Human Relations Council, an interracial organization dedicated to improving race relations through educational programs. Additionally, while serving as pastor at the renowned Leggett Memorial United Methodist Church in Biloxi, Mississippi in 1963, Inman was one of 28 Mississippi Methodist ministers who signed a "Born of Conviction" statement opposing the perpetuation of a segregated society.

Inman, Nellie and their children then relocated to California in 1963 where Inman became a pastor at the Palmdale United Methodist Church and later became a minister at the Crescenta Valley United Methodist in La Crescenta. In 1970, Inman retired from the ministry and started two successful Pasadena companies with Nellie: Moore Vending and Tournament Souvenirs. After nearly 30 years in business, Inman and Nellie sold their companies and retired in 1997.

Years later, when Grace United Methodist—a predominantly Black congregation in Altadena, CA—lacked the funding to afford a full-time minister, Inman came out of retirement without hesitation to serve as their part-time minister for four years. Inman even came out of retirement a second time to serve as associate pastor at the First United Methodist in

Burbank, California for five years, and served as a guest pastor for several other churches throughout the Southern California region. At the age of 90, Inman penned his own autobiography, "On the Road to Civil Rights," sharing his incredible journey of activism and faith. When a need presented itself in the community, Inman was there.

Inman and Nellie were happily married for 73 years, and are survived by their children, Linda, Robert, and David Leon Moore, their grandchildren Saul, Marisa, Nate, Sarah, Anna, and Nellie, and four great-grandchildren. Inman was known as a force of nature for his powerful preaching abilities, his unyielding moral code and his commitment to racial justice and civil rights. Nellie will be remembered by kindness and humor, and her dedication to her community. Inman and Nellie Moore embody what it means to put the needs of others, whether that be family, parishioners, or community members, above their own. I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the lives of these two extraordinary individuals.

BLAKE ALBERTSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Blake Albertson for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Blake Albertson is an 8th grader at Bennett Middle School and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Blake Albertson 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 Blake Albertson for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MIKE HAINSEY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mike Hainsey on his retirement from the Golden Triangle Regional Airport. He has greatly served as the executive director for the last 19 years. Under his command, many great projects took place to help better the airport operations.

I have witnessed personally the great expansions he has made in growing this business. In his time, he oversaw 30 million dollars' worth of total expansion. In the 30 million worth of expansion projects the highlights were runway expansion to help Air Force,

growth of two terminals, and an increase in passenger traffic which led to adding more parking. These are all viewed as important projects to help better the overall functionality of the airport.

Lastly, I want to thank Mr. Hainsey again for his hard work for the first district of Mississippi. The community and I are very grateful for what he has done. We are excited to welcome Matt Dowell as the new executive director, and we know he had a great teacher to learn from in Mr. Hainsey.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH MOSSA

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Mr. Joseph Mossa. Mr. Mossa will be honored by the Amerigo Vespucci Society of Long Branch, New Jersey as the 2022 Man of the Year, and I would like to join with its members in congratulating Mr. Mossa.

Joseph Mossa takes great pride in his family and heritage. The son of Carmine Anthony and Maryann (Cuccinello) Mossa, he was named after his maternal grandfather Joseph Cuccinello and can trace his lineage to various parts of Italy. He maintains his Italian heritage through his involvement with the Amerigo Vespucci Society and by sharing his travel experiences to Italy with others.

A member of the Amerigo Vespucci Society for more than a decade, Mr. Mossa has become an active and integral member. Currently serving as Vice President, Mr. Mossa has held several, executive positions on the board and has undertaken various projects and events, including the Saint Joseph's Dinner. Near and dear to his heart, Mr. Mossa brought back the annual dinner in honor of his late father, which he continues to chair today.

Mr. Mossa received his bachelor's degree in Marketing from King's College in Pennsylvania and has led a successful career in sales, receiving accolades for his performance. In addition to his work with the Amerigo Vespucci Society, Mr. Mossa is a member of the Business Advisory Council at King's College—McGowan School of Business and an usher at Saint Veronica's Parish, among other previous community service roles. Despite his active leadership in the community, Mr. Mossa devotes his life to his family. Together with his wife, Lindsay, he has three daughters and a son-in-law.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Mr. Joseph Mossa as he is honored by the Amerigo Vespucci Society and thanking him for his service to the community.

IN MEMORY OF JOAN BUSER

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mrs. Joan Buser, a very special person to me and all of Oakland County. She was an incredible community leader,

beloved wife, mother, and friend to many. I was fortunate enough to also call her my aunt and mentor. Joan passed away surrounded by her family on October 4, 2021 and is genuinely missed by the many who loved her.

Mrs. Buser was a dedicated public servant and trusted community leader in Oakland County, Michigan, and residents are better off because of her efforts. In 1988, Joan became Supervisor of Oakland Township, Michigan, being reelected multiple times and serving until 1999. She was beloved by the staff and community alike in this role, earning her many friends and confidantes. Upon her retirement in 1999, her staff presented her a sword to mimic that of Joan of Arc, on which was inscribed "Joan of Oakland." This unique and thoughtful gift served as a testament to the tireless work Joan did to bring the community together and lead by example.

Joan is also dearly missed by her beloved husband of 61 years, Donald Buser, and her sons Greg (Angie) and Steven (Megan). She was also a wonderful grandmother to her four grandchildren, Nicholas, Alexander, Brian, and Salla. She is also survived by her loving and adoring brother, James R. Stevens, who attests to the profound impact she made on his life as his older sister and protector.

Her legacy continues through the values she instilled in her community, including service to others, kindness, and hard work. The Oakland County community is stronger as a result of her efforts, and I am proud to channel the lessons learned from Joan of Oakland when representing Oakland County in Congress.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Joan Buser was a champion for Oakland County, a faithful servant, and loving friend and family member. All of us are better off because of Joan's many years of leadership and mentorship that make our community stronger. Her legacy continues through the many people who pay her acts of kindness forward, and we all owe Joan our gratitude for the positive imprint she left on the world. Please join me in remembering the life of Mrs. Joan Buser and her legacy that survives.

DANIEL CERNA GARCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Daniel Cerna Garcia for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Daniel Cerna Garcia is a 10th grader at Thornton High School and Future Forward at Bollman and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Daniel Cerna 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 Daniel Cerna Garcia for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CEN-
TER (AHEC) WEEK 2022

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the contributions of the nation's Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) and applaud the vitally important health care workforce programs they conduct to improve access to care for medically underserved individuals, particularly in the Tampa Bay area.

AHECs, established by Congress in 1971 as one of the Title VII Health Professions Training programs, are the workforce development, training and education machine for the nation's health care safety net programs. Over the past 5 years, the AHEC program has trained 2 million health care professionals who are prepared to deliver culturally appropriate, high-quality, team-based care, with an emphasis on primary care for rural and underserved populations.

The nation's 300 AHECs are in nearly every state and in multiple U.S. territories, offering hands-on and innovative health career curriculums for pre-college level students. They are committed to continuing education, clinical training of health professionals, and responding to community health needs. This is accomplished by forming academic and community partnerships that link the resources of academic health centers with the needs of the communities.

AHEC clinical training placements put health professions students in a variety of real-world settings, such as migrant, urban, and rural community health clinics and health departments that provide care to rural and underserved communities. Connecting students to their communities helps facilitate future engagement, encouraging health career students to remain in their clinical practice regions following their training. As the nation's population becomes more diverse, it is important that the health care workforce follows suit.

I have long supported the work of AHECs and particularly that of the University of South Florida AHEC program. Established in 1993, USF AHEC and its centers provide youth from diverse backgrounds with programs to inspire and support their interest in health careers through programs such as the Brain Expansion Scholastic Training (BEST), Recruitment and Education Assistance for Careers in Health (REACH), and AHEC Scholars. Students interested in medicine, nursing, dentistry, public health, pharmacy, and other disciplines are exposed to local free clinics in the Tampa Bay area—clinical training opportunities that illustrate the real-world impacts that poverty, racism, and inadequate access to health care have on the lives of their patients and families.

As part of a statewide system of 15 federally and state supported AHEC program offices and centers serving all of Florida's 67 counties, USF AHEC and its partners across the state have leveraged their statewide infrastructure to create numerous programs to benefit the residents of Florida. Since 2008, Florida's AHEC network has conducted a \$10 million annual comprehensive tobacco education

program and group cessation counseling initiative; worked with the state's Opioid Response Program to provide over \$1 million in education and training on opioids for health care providers, students, and community health workers; and partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to deliver HPV vaccine education and training programs.

Congress has tasked AHECs with an extraordinarily important mission, and the need to strengthen the health care workforce in our country continues to grow. According to a new report by the Association of American Medical Colleges, the U.S. could see a shortage of up to 124,000 physicians by 2034, and the American Hospital Association says more than 200,000 new registered nurses are needed each year to meet increasing health care needs and to replace nurses entering retirement. AHECs continue to be committed to addressing shortage areas and expanding the health care workforce, while maximizing diversity and facilitating distribution, especially in rural and underserved communities.

On behalf of my constituents at the USF Area Health Education Center and the AHEC program more broadly, I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing March 28th to April 1st, 2022 as National AHEC (Area Health Education Centers) Week.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MAJOR
GENERAL GARY WAYNE JOHN-
STON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Major General Gary Wayne Johnston who passed away on January 20, 2022. My deepest condolences are with his family, friends, and loved ones during this time of mourning.

Gary Johnston was born on October 21, 1964 in Russellville, Arkansas. He served in the U.S. Army for over 34 years. He served overseas in Germany, the first Gulf War and Afghanistan and commanded the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Additionally, he was a director of intelligence of the United States Special Operations Command and the deputy chief of staff for intelligence for Resolute Support Mission. After retiring from the Army in 2021, Gary joined Touchstone Futures as the executive Vice President for Intelligence, Security, and Risk. He served on the advisory board for Leyden Solutions.

Left to cherish his memory are his beloved wife, Brigadier General Amy Johnston; his mother, Bonnie; children, Lauren, Blake, and Parker.

The Johnston family and all those who had the opportunity to know and serve with him are in my thoughts and prayers.

BARNEGAT, NEW JERSEY
VIETNAM WAR VETERANS DAY

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude for the service of our Vietnam veterans and the patriotism shown by the community of Barnegat, New Jersey as they honor Vietnam War Veterans Day. Today families gather to commemorate the 49th anniversary of final U.S. combat troops departing South Vietnam.

I had the opportunity to attend the second annual event in 2019 and have seen firsthand how much this day means not only to the veterans and their families, but to the visitors who travel from all over New Jersey to attend. Barnegat is the only town in the entire country to have a Vietnam veterans' monument fully funded by an individual Vietnamese refugee. Barnegat is setting an example on how we can honor the sacrifices Vietnam veterans made for our country and I sincerely hope this inspires others to reimagine how we remember our Vietnam veterans and all of our veterans.

New Jersey's 3rd Congressional District is home to one of the largest concentrations of veterans in the country, a place where more than sixty thousand veterans call Burlington and Ocean Counties home. With such a large population, we see brave servicemembers who have kept us safe every single day. To honor such a sacrifice, I know putting together a meaningful ceremony dedicated to the hundreds of Vietnam veterans here today is no small feat. Truly, it is people's passion and organizing that provides hope that military service will never be forgotten. Thy Cavagnaro and her team have done an exceptional job putting this together.

Our appreciation for our veterans should not solely be in ceremonies alone. The simple promise we make is that if someone steps up to protect us, our families, and our nation's security, we will have their backs for the rest of their lives. This promise is one that we as a nation have not always kept, and I am trying to fix that so our veterans and their families receive the benefits they have earned. Whether it is passing the Honoring our PACT Act to ensure all veterans exposed to toxic chemicals during their service have access to the care and benefits they deserve, or making everyday connections directly with veterans in the community, it is on all of us to recognize and celebrate our veterans every day.

For the thousands of Vietnam War veterans and the hundreds being recognized today at this ceremony, know we are eternally grateful and free thanks to their service.

HONORING LOS ANGELES JAZZ
ICON BARBARA MORRISON

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life and legacy of jazz and blues artist Barbara Morrison, founder of the California Jazz and Blues Museum in Leimert Park.

At age 10, Barbara recorded her first radio performance, and moved to Los Angeles in the early 1970s at the age of 21. During her historic career she released numerous albums and performed alongside legendary musicians like Dizzy Gillespie, Ray Charles, Etta James, Tony Bennett, Nancy Wilson, and Dr. John. A three-time GRAMMY nominee, Barbara's wide vocal range and her soulful interpretations of jazz and blues classics resonated deeply with audiences across the globe.

Over her six-decade career, Barbara dedicated her life to her music and her community. In 2009, she founded the Barbara Morrison Performing Arts Center in Leimert Park, a hub of African American arts and culture in my district. There she provided music lovers with the opportunity to hear live jazz, blues, and soul music from musicians around the world. Two years later, she created the California Jazz & Blues Museum in the same location.

Barbara also nurtured new talent and fostered a love of music in young people, including with nocost music and voice lessons for children. The Center and the Museum offer gathering places where lovers can come together, collaborate and learn.

Committed to teaching, Barbara's work extended to academia. She served as an adjunct associate professor of global jazz studies at the Herb Alpert School of Music at the University of California, Los Angeles. As a UCLA professor and as a music teacher in Leimert Park, Barbara's joy for music brought generations together. Barbara led with compassion and grace, and used music to heal and uplift her community. In celebration of April as International Jazz Month, the Center plans to honor Barbara Morrison's music, spirit, and significant contributions to the City's artistic history and its future. I'm proud to know that her legacy will live on.

AUDYANNA VIALPANDO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Audyanna Vialpando for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Audyanna Vialpando is a student in Adams County and received this award because their determination and hard work have allowed them to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Audyanna Vialpando 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 Audyanna Vialpando for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt they will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of their future accomplishments.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OF BERNIE BLUESTEIN

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Madam Speaker, today I wish to honor the distinguished service of Bernie Bluestein, a resident of Schaumburg, Illinois and of my district who is one of nine veterans of the "Ghost Army," an elite U.S. military unit during World War Two, still alive today.

During the war, the Ghost Army operated covertly, deploying tactics such as inflatable tanks, the use of sound effects, radio deception, and impersonation to gain an upper hand on the enemy by concealing the strength and location of American troops. In June 1945, the unit returned home after having served with four U.S. armies throughout England, France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Holland, and Germany.

There is no doubt that the Ghost Army's efforts, while not officially declassified until 1996, were critical to our military's success in turning the tide of the war in Europe. It is estimated that the brave missions undertaken by the Ghost Army saved around 30,000 American lives during the war. Mr. Bernstein's service as a part of this unit was heroic, and Illinois' Eighth Congressional District was incredibly proud to see him awarded the Congressional Gold Medal earlier this year.

Mr. Bluestein has, however, done much more in his life in addition to his exemplary service as a soldier. Since returning home, he has become a lifelong learner, enrolling in classes at Harper College for more than 30 years and finishing art school. This year, at 98 years old, he is fulfilling his life-long dream of learning to sculpt by taking classes at Harper College.

Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the tremendous sacrifice and accomplishments of this humble man from Schaumburg, Illinois. Mr. Bluestein is a distinguished serviceman and remarkable citizen. He represents the values of integrity, service, and character that make our country a beacon to others around the world.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF RONALD CURTIS KNIGHT

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Ronald Curtis Knight who passed away on Monday, February 21, 2022 at North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo. I join his family, friends, and loved ones in mourning his loss.

Curtis was born December 9, 1953 in Amory to Hubert Carroll Knight and Emma Miller Langford. He briefly lived in Texas before returning to Amory. He attended Amory High School and joined the Army, where he served for 6 years. He worked on a riverboat on the Mississippi River for 15 years and was also employed by True Temper Sports. In 1994, he began his 28 year career in law enforcement.

He began his career with the Aberdeen Police Department then joined the Monroe County Sheriffs department. He served as a jailer, patrol, chief investigator, and retired as Chief Deputy. He served as Sheriff of Monroe County from June to December 2021.

Outside of his law enforcement career, Curtis was a Master mason in the J.A. Mayfield Lodge and he played golf, fished, and woodworked. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Amory.

Left to cherish his memory are wife, Tina; son, Josh; daughters Nikki and Tiffany; along with his brother, sister, and grandchildren.

I am grateful for Curtis' lifetime of service to the state of Mississippi. My deepest condolences are with his family at this time.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUNNY KING

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Sunny King Automotive Group.

In 1922, E. D. King acquired the Ford Motor Company franchise currently operated by King Motor Co., Inc. As a Ford franchise continuously operated by the same family in the United States, it's the second oldest in the State of Alabama and 18th oldest in the United States.

Through a 1922 merger involving principals E. D. King, J. F. King and J. C. Wheeler, as well as Wheeler Motor Company and Oxford Motor Company, King-Wheeler Motor Co. was formed. An advertisement appearing in the April 7, 1922, edition of The Anniston Star stated King and Wheeler had been "in the Ford business for a number of years" and claimed the new combination assured "the trade of the best and finest service available".

King Wheeler Motor Co. was conveniently located at 110 East 11th Street in downtown Anniston and the business retailed both cars and tractors. The company operated under the core principle: "every transaction must be satisfactory . . . to every customer."

J. F. King left King Wheeler Motor Co. to pursue and operate a Lincoln franchise while E. D. King retained King Wheeler Motor Co. The name of the company was later changed to King Motor Company which was initially incorporated as King Motor Co., Inc. on December 15, 1947.

In the early 1950s the leadership of King Motor Company transitioned from E. D. King, Sr., the meticulous, organized businessman to E. D. "Sunny" King, Jr., the flamboyant, energetic promoter with the magnetic personality. E. D. King, Sr. became President and major shareholder in Anniston National Bank, that is now Regions Bank.

Under the leadership of Sunny King, Jr., Sunny King Ford became a local household name through advertising and promotion. NASCAR stock car racing was a constant through sponsorship of great drivers like Bill Elliot, Donnie Allison and Ken Schrader.

In 1971, the expansion of Sunny King Ford required relocation to a newly constructed facility located at 1507 South Quintard Avenue. This expansion continued until 1989 with the

addition of Honda, Chrysler Plymouth, AMC-Jeep-Renault, Isuzu, Subaru, Yugo, Daihatsu, Hyundai, Volvo, Sterling, Pontiac-Cadillac-GMC and Toyota franchises. Additional Honda franchises were opened in Auburn and Sylacauga and Acura franchises were located in Hoover and Huntsville.

E. D. King, III and Henry L. King continue to operate the Auburn Honda franchise and the Hoover Acura franchise, respectively, to this day.

Sunny King became a well-known, accomplished community leader throughout his career. His many accomplishments included Time Dealer of the Year for Alabama (1988), Anniston Star Citizen of the Year in 1988 and an invitation to join the national Honda Dealer Council.

King was a huge contributor and supporter of his community. Organizations such as Knox Concert Series, Northeast Alabama Boys and Girls Club, J. S. U. Foundation, Rainbow Omega, Salvation Army, United Way, Cerebral Palsy Center, CAST, Alabama Baptist Children's Home and numerous schools, churches and local charities have benefitted from this long-term generosity. Notable annual events such as the Sunny King Charity Classic, the Woodstock 5K and the Sunny King Criterium, continue to receive support from the Sunny King Automotive Group organization.

On September 11, 1990, King, Jr. passed away following a brief battle with cancer. Patricia M. King became the third successive King to assume the leadership role of the organization, taking control during a difficult business and legal environment. In 2015, John T. Bryan, Jr. became the fourth President of King

Motor Co., Inc. and the first not named King to assume that position. Through the leadership of Patricia M. King and John T. Bryan, Jr. the Sunny King Automotive Group organization was able to survive and grow.

The company focused its financial resources on the Ford, Honda and Toyota franchises. New facilities were constructed for Sunny King Honda (2002) and Sunny King Toyota (2006) in Oxford. A major renovation to the 1507 South Quintard facility of Sunny King Ford was completed in 2013.

The Sunny King organization will celebrate this milestone on April 22 at the Anniston Country Club.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Sunny King Automotive Group on their 100th Anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF
COLONEL JOHN C. MICHAUD

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, Colonel John C. Michaud has honorably served the United States Army for more than twenty-six years. He has served in numerous leadership roles within the officer corps from platoon leader to the Command Inspector General for the Mississippi National Guard. Colonel Michaud leaves a legacy defined by selfless service and sacrifice which will have a lasting impact on the U.S. Army.

Colonel Michaud received a commission as a Second Lieutenant after graduating from the United States Military Academy at West Point on June 3, 1995. Upon completion of the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, He was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barrack, Hawaii where he served in numerous leadership roles, culminating in his serving as a battery commander.

In 2005, Colonel Michaud graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School with a degree in Operations Research and was subsequently assigned to the TRADOC Analysis Center in FT. Leavenworth, Kansas where he served in numerous roles as a strategic analyst. In 2007, Colonel Michaud was mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and assigned to Combined Joint Task Force 82 located in Bagram, Afghanistan.

Upon his return from Afghanistan, he continued his service as an analyst for major commands across the Department of Defense including the Defense Logistics Agency; United States Central Command; and United States Strategic Command.

In 2018, Colonel Michaud was assigned as the Command Inspector General for the Mississippi National Guard where he provided his assistance and expertise on complicated and critical matters affecting the Soldiers and Airmen of the Mississippi National Guard. Colonel Michaud will effectively retire on August 31, 2022, after having led an exemplary career.

I am grateful for Colonel Michaud's service to the state of Mississippi and this Nation.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1811–S1840

Measures Introduced: Ten bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3942–3951, and S. Res. 559–566. **Page S1832**

Measures Passed:

National Asbestos Awareness Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 561, designating the first week of April 2022 as “National Asbestos Awareness Week”. **Page S1836**

National Women in Agriculture Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 562, designating March 24, 2022, as “National Women in Agriculture Day”. **Pages S1836–37**

100th Anniversary of passing of Charles Isham Taylor: Senate agreed to S. Res. 563, honoring the life and legacy of Charles Isham Taylor on the 100th anniversary of his passing. **Page S1837**

Honoring James Frederick “Jimmy” Hanley: Senate agreed to S. Res. 564, honoring the life and legacy of James Frederick “Jimmy” Hanley. **Page S1837**

Honoring Representative Don Young: Senate agreed to S. Res. 565, honoring and celebrating the life and legacy of Representative Don Young. **Pages S1837–38, S1839**

Measures Considered:

Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 4373, making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2022. **Page S1829**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of Cathy Ann Harris, of Maryland, to be Chairman of the Merit Systems Protection Board. **Page S1829**

Prior to the consideration of this measure, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S1829**

Motion to Discharge Cook Nomination: By 50 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. EX. 110), Senate agreed to the motion to discharge the nomination of Lisa DeNell Cook, of Michigan, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Subsequently, the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 27, relative to Senate procedure in the 117th Congress. **Pages S1817, S1840**

Motion to Discharge Bedoya Nomination: Pursuant to S. Res. 27, Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation being tied on the question of reporting, the Majority Leader made the motion to discharge the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation from further consideration of the nomination of Alvaro M. Bedoya, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner; under the provisions of S. Res. 27, there will be up to 4 hours of debate on the motion, equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; with no motions, points of order, or amendments in order. **Page S1829**

Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, March 30, 2022, Senate resume consideration of the nomination of Judith DelZoppo Pryor, of Ohio, to be First Vice President of the Export-Import Bank; that the motions to invoke cloture filed during the session on Monday, March 28, 2022, ripen following disposition of the motion to discharge the nomination of Alvaro M. Bedoya, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, and that the Senate vote on the motion to discharge the nomination of Alvaro M. Bedoya, at 11:45 a.m.; and that if cloture is invoked on the nomination of Judith DelZoppo Pryor, all post-cloture time on the nomination be considered expired at 1:30 p.m. **Page S1839**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 57 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. EX. 113), Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Director of the Office of Management and Budget. **Page S1826**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 56 yeas to 43 nays (Vote No. EX. 111), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S1817–18**

By 52 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. EX. 114), C.S. Eliot Kang, of New Jersey, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (International Security and Non-Proliferation). **Pages S1818–29**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 112), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S1818**

Christopher John Williamson, of West Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health.

Mallory A. Stewart, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance).

Lisa A. Carty, of Maryland, to be an Alternate Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as Representative of the United States of America on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Laura S.H. Holgate, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador. **Page S1840**

Nomination Received: Senate received the following nomination:

Travis LeBlanc, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board for a term expiring January 29, 2028. **Page S1840**

Nomination Discharged: The following nomination were discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Lisa DeNell Cook, of Michigan, to be a Member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the unexpired term of fourteen years from February 1, 2010, which was sent to the Senate on January 13, 2022, from the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. **Page S1840**

Messages from the House: **Page S1830**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S1830**

Executive Communications: **Pages S1830–31**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S1831**

Notice of a Tie Vote Under S. Res. 27: **Page S1829**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1832–33**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:

Pages S1833–38

Additional Statements: **Page S1830**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S1838**

Authorities for Committees to Meet:

Pages S1838–39

Record Votes: Five record votes were taken today. (Total—114) **Pages S1817–18, S1826**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Representative Don Young, in accordance with S. Res. 565, at 7:59 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 30, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S1840.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense concluded a hearing to examine the Defense Health Program, after receiving testimony from David Smith, performing the duties of Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Lieutenant General Ronald Place, Director, Defense Health Agency, Lieutenant General R. Scott Dingle, Surgeon General of the Army, Lieutenant General Robert Miller, Surgeon General of the Air Force, and Rear Admiral Bruce L. Gillingham, Surgeon General of the Navy, all of the Department of Defense.

U.S. EUROPEAN AND TRANSPORTATION COMMANDS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded open and closed hearings to examine the posture of United States European Command and United States Transportation Command, after receiving testimony from General Tod D. Wolters, USAF, Commander, United States European Command/North Atlantic Treaty Organization Supreme Allied Commander Europe, and General Jacqueline D. Van Ovost, USAF, Commander, United States Transportation Command, both of the Department of Defense.

MEDICAL DEBT

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the economic impact of the growing burden of medical debt, after receiving testimony from Emily Stewart, Community Catalyst, Boston, Massachusetts; Benedic N. Ippolito, American Enterprise Institute, and David A. Hyman, Georgetown University Law Center, both of Washington, D.C.; Berneta L. Haynes,

National Consumer Law Center, Atlanta, Georgia; and Robyn King, Cleveland, Ohio.

THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the strategic importance of the Freely Associated States to the United States and our allies in the Indo-Pacific region, including the Compacts of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau, after receiving testimony from Mark Lambert, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands, Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, Department of State; Siddharth Mohandas, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for East Asia, Department of Defense; and Keone Nakoa, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, Department of the Interior.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S.J. Res. 17, requiring the advice and consent of the Senate or an Act of Congress to suspend, terminate, or withdraw the United States from the North Atlantic Treaty and authorizing related litigation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

S. 3199, to promote peace and democracy in Ethiopia, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;

The Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Chile for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed in Washington on February 4, 2010, with a Protocol signed the same day, as corrected by exchanges of notes effected February 25, 2011, and February 10 and 21, 2012, and a related agreement effected by exchange of notes (the “related Agreement”) on February 4, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 112–8); and

The nominations of Maria Fabiana Jorge, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Alternate Executive Director, Inter-American Development Bank, and Deborah E. Lipstadt, of Georgia, to be

Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, with the rank of Ambassador, and Barbara A. Leaf, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary (Near Eastern Affairs), both of the Department of State.

RETIREMENT AND SAVINGS

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine improving retirement and enhancing savings, after receiving testimony from Ida Rademacher, The Aspen Institute, and Cindy Hounsell, Women’s Institute for a Secure Retirement, both of Washington, D.C.; Petros Koumantaros, Spectrum Pension Consultants, Inc., Seattle, Washington; and Doug Chittenden, TIAA, Charlotte, North Carolina.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Freedom of Information Act, focusing on improving transparency and the American public’s right to know for the 21st century, after receiving testimony from Bobak Talebian, Director, Office of Information Policy, Department of Justice; Alina M. Semo, Director, Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration; and James R. McTigue, Jr., Director, Strategic Issues, Government Accountability Office.

HONORING OUR PROMISE TO ADDRESS COMPREHENSIVE TOXICS ACT

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the Honoring Our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2021, after receiving testimony from Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and Kristina Keenan, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Shane L. Liermann, Disabled American Veterans, and Christopher J. Slawinski, Fleet Reserve Association, all of Washington, D.C.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 21 public bills, H.R. 7260–7280; and 6 resolutions, H. Res. 1009–1014, were introduced. **Page H3970**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H3971–72**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5343, to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to submit a report to Congress on case management personnel turnover, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 117–281);

H.R. 6865, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–282);

H.R. 2954, to increase retirement savings, simplify and clarify retirement plan rules, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–283, Part 1); and

Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol. Resolution Recommending that the House of Representatives find Peter K. Navarro and Daniel Scavino, Jr., in Contempt of Congress for Refusal to Comply with Subpoenas Duly Issued by the Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol (H. Rept. 117–284). **Pages H3969–70**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative McEachin to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H3899**

Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Con. Res. 74, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition. **Page H3901**

Call of the Private Calendar: Agreed by unanimous consent that the call of the Private Calendar be dispensed with on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, and Tuesday, May 3, 2022. **Page H3901**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2022: H.R. 6865, amended, to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 378 yeas to 46 nays, Roll No. 85; and

Pages H3901–25, H3950–51

Amending the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the retirement plan period of service requirements for long-term, part-time employees: H.R. 2954, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the retirement plan period of service requirements for long-term, part-time employees, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 414 yeas to 5 nays, Roll No. 86. **Pages H3925–52**

Order of Business: Agreed by unanimous consent that debate under clause 1(c) of rule 15 on a motion to suspend the rules relating to H.R. 2954 be extended to 80 minutes. **Page H3925**

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Monday, March 28th.

Better Cybercrime Metrics Act: S. 2629, to establish cybercrime reporting mechanisms, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 377 yeas to 48 nays, Roll No. 87; **Page H3952**

Homicide Victims' Families' Rights Act: H.R. 3359, amended, to provide for a system for reviewing the case files of cold case murders at the instance of certain persons, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 406 yeas to 20 nays, Roll No. 88; and **Pages H3952–53**

COVID–19 American History Project Act: H.R. 4738, amended, to direct the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress to establish a history project to collect video and audio recordings of personal histories and testimonials, written materials, and photographs of those who were affected by COVID–19, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yeas-and-nays vote of 376 yeas to 47 nays, Roll No. 89. **Pages H3953–54**

Communication from the Sergeant at Arms: The House received a communication from William J. Walker, Sergeant at Arms. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, following consultation with the Office of Attending Physician, Mr. Walker notified the House that the public health emergency due to the novel coronavirus SARS–CoV–2 remains in effect. **Page H3955**

Announcement by the Chair: The Chair announced the extension, pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 8, and effective March 31, 2022, of the covered period designated on January 4, 2021. **Page H3955**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H3901.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yeas-and-nays votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear

on pages H3950–51, H3951, H3952, H3952–53, and H3953–54.

Adjournment: The House met at 3 p.m. and adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Committee Meetings

A 2022 REVIEW OF THE FARM BILL: HORTICULTURE AND URBAN AGRICULTURE

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research held a hearing entitled “A 2022 Review of the Farm Bill: Horticulture and Urban Agriculture”. Testimony was heard from Jennifer Lester Moffitt, Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Department of Agriculture; Terry Cosby, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture; and public witnesses.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing on the Office of Inspector General, U.S. Department of Agriculture. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Agriculture officials: Phyllis K. Fong, Inspector General; Kevin M. Tyrrell, Assistant Inspector General for Investigations; Gil H. Harden, Assistant Inspector General for Audit; Jenny Rone, Assistant Inspector General for Analytics and Innovation; and Ann M. Coffey, Deputy Inspector General.

THE PRESIDENT’S FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The President’s Fiscal Year 2023 Budget”. Testimony was heard from Shalanda Young, Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President of the United States.

TRUSTING THE TAP: UPGRADING AMERICA’S DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change held a hearing entitled “Trusting the Tap: Upgrading America’s Drinking Water Infrastructure”. Testimony was heard from Kareem Adeem, Director of Water and Sewer Utilities, Newark, New Jersey; and public witnesses.

DEVALUED, DENIED, AND DISRESPECTED: HOW HOME APPRAISAL BIAS AND DISCRIMINATION ARE HURTING HOMEOWNERS AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Devalued, Denied, and Disrespected: How Home Appraisal Bias and Discrimination Are Hurting Homeowners and Communities of Color”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, CYBER DIVISION

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Cyber Division”. Testimony was heard from Bryan A. Vorndran, Assistant Director, Cyber Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife held a hearing on H.R. 6427, the “Red River National Wildlife Refuge Boundary Modification Act”; H.R. 6734, the “Keep America’s Refuges Operational Act of 2022”; and H.R. 7025, the “Human Rights-Centered International Conservation Act of 2022”. Testimony was heard from Representative Johnson of Louisiana; Stephen Guertin, Deputy Director for Policy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING PATHWAYS TO UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Examining Pathways to Universal Health Coverage”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

CATALYZING ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH SBA COMMUNITY-BASED LENDING

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Tax, and Capital Access held a hearing entitled “Catalyzing Economic Growth through SBA Community-Based Lending”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held a hearing on H.R. 1182, the “Veteran Deportation Prevention and Reform Act”; H.R. 1183, the “Honoring the Oath Act of 2021”; H.R. 5916, the “Wounded

Warrior Access Act”; H.R. 6131, the “Veterans Disability Claims Notification Improvement Act”; H.R. 6064, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine for a review of examinations, furnished by the Secretary, to individuals who submit claims to the Secretary for compensation under chapter 11 of title 38, United States Code, for mental and physical conditions linked to military sexual trauma; H.R. 6165, the “Department of Veterans Affairs Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Processing Claims Improvement Act of 2021”; legislation to amend 38 USC § 103(d) to add a new paragraph that would allow surviving spouses who remarry after 10 consecutive years of receipt, or entitlement to, benefits relating to Dependency Indemnity Compensation to retain 50 percent of the amount payable under such provision and those who remarry after 20 years to retain the full amount; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to update certain terminology related to marriage under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to improve equitable access to certain benefits of the Department of Veterans Affairs for the survivors of veterans, and for other purposes; legislation to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to create fact sheets, for veterans and for survivors of veterans, that compare benefits and compensation, to such individuals under laws administered by the Secretary, to monthly insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act, and supplemental security income under title XVI of the Social Security Act; legislation on the Department of Veterans Affairs Principles of Benefits Automation Act; legislation on the Modernizing Department of Veterans Affairs Disability Benefit Questionnaires Act; legislation on the Expediting Temporary Ratings for Veterans Act; and legislation to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve outreach by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to dependents of deceased veterans, and for other purposes. Testimony was heard from Chairman Takano, and Representatives Bost, Luria, Nehls, Aguilar, Rosendale, Neguse, Newman, and Mrvan; Brianne Ogilvie, Assistant Under Secretary for Policy and Oversight, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; Ray Tellez, Executive Director, Office of Business Integration, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

PROPAGANDA AND CENSORSHIP IN RUSSIA

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine propaganda and censorship in Russia, after receiving testimony from Fatima Tlis, Voice of America; Peter Pomerantsev, Johns Hopkins University; and Vladimir Kara-Murza, Echo of Moscow Radio.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2023, 11 a.m., SD–608.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine behavioral health care when Americans need it, focusing on ensuring parity and care integration, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy, to hold hearings to examine the assault on freedom of expression in Asia, 2 p.m., SD–106/VTC.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 3677, to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the President to provide professional counseling services to victims of emergencies declared under such Act, S. 3875, to require the President to develop and maintain products that show the risk of natural hazards across the United States, S. 3868, to correct the inequitable denial of enhanced retirement and annuity benefits to certain U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officers, an original bill entitled, “Preventing Organizational Conflicts of Interest in Federal Acquisition Act”, S. 3890, to improve intergovernmental cooperation and reduce duplicative spending, S. 3511, to require a report on Federal support to the cybersecurity of commercial satellite systems, S. 3903, to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish procedures for conducting maintenance projects at ports of entry at which the Office of Field Operations conducts certain enforcement and facilitation activities, S. 3655, to amend the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Collection Act of 2018 to extend the termination date of the Civil Rights Cold Case Records Review Board, S. 3904, to enhance the cybersecurity of the Healthcare and Public Health Sector, S. 3897, to require the reduction of the reliance and expenditures of the Federal Government on legacy information technology systems, S. 3884, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 404 U.S. Highway 41 North in Baraga, Michigan, as the “Cora Reynolds Anderson Post Office”, S. 3825, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3903 Melear Drive in Arlington, Texas,

as the “Ron Wright Post Office Building”, S. 3826, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1304 4th Avenue in Canyon, Texas, as the “Gary James Fletcher Post Office Building”, S. 3905, to prevent organizational conflicts of interest in Federal acquisition, S. 3650, to require the Director of the Office of Personnel Management to establish and maintain a public directory of the individuals occupying Government policy and supporting positions, H.R. 735, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 502 East Cotati Avenue in Cotati, California, as the “Arturo L. Ibleto Post Office Building”, H.R. 1298, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1233 North Cedar Street in Owasso, Oklahoma, as the “Technical Sergeant Marshal Roberts Post Office Building”, H.R. 2324, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2800 South Adams Street in Tallahassee, Florida, as the “D. Edwina Stephens Post Office”, H.R. 3539, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 223 West Chalan Santo Papa in Hagatna, Guam, as the “Atanasio Taitano Perez Post Office”, H.R. 3579, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 East Main Street in Maroa, Illinois, as the “Jeremy L. Ridlen Post Office”, H.R. 3613, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 Trumbull Street in Saint Clair, Michigan, as the “Corporal Jeffrey Robert Standfest Post Office Building”, H.R. 4168, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6223 Maple Street, in Omaha, Nebraska, as the “Petty Officer 1st Class Charles Jackson French Post Office”, H.R. 5577, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3900 Crown Road Southwest in Atlanta, Georgia, as the “John R. Lewis Post Office Building”, and the nominations of Ernest W. DuBester, of Virginia, to be a Member, and Kurt Thomas Rumsfeld, of Maryland, to be General Counsel, both of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, Krista Anne Boyd, of Florida, to be Inspector General, Office of Personnel Management, and Dana Katherine Bilyeu, of Nevada, Javier E. Saade, of the District of Columbia, Leona M. Bridges, of California, Michael F. Gerber, of Pennsylvania, and Stacie Olivares, of California, each to be a Member of the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, 11 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Rules and Administration: to hold oversight hearings to examine the Smithsonian Institution, 11 a.m., SR-301.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: to hold hearings to examine the supply chain crisis and the implications for small businesses, 1:45 p.m., SD-215.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, budget hearing on the U.S. Capitol Police, 10:30 a.m., 2362-B Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “National Security Challenges in Europe”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled “Patient Safety and Quality of Care in the Military Health System”, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “FDA User Fee Reauthorization: Ensuring Safe and Effective Medical Devices”, 9 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Investor Protection and Capital Markets, hearing entitled “Oversight of America’s Stock Exchanges: Examining Their Role in Our Economy”, 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Mobilizing our Cyber Defenses: Securing Critical Infrastructure Against Russian Cyber Threats”, 2 p.m., 310 Cannon and Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis, hearing entitled “The Biden Administration’s Progress in Combating the Pandemic and a Plan for the Next Phase”, 2 p.m., Zoom.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 3617, the “MORE Act”; and H.R. 6833, the “Affordable Insulin Now Act”, 1 p.m., H-313 Capitol.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing on H.R. 6052, the “VA OIG Training Act”; legislation on the Faster Payments to Veterans’ Survivors Act; legislation on the Improving Oversight of the Veterans Community Care Providers Act; legislation on the VA Preventing Duplicate Payments Act; legislation on the Improving VA Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Act; legislation on the Improving VA Workforce Diversity Through Minority-Serving Institutions Act; legislation on the VA Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) Data Improvement Act; H.R. 5776, the “Serving Our LGBTQ Veterans Act”; H.R. 6638, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements to the Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; and legislation to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out an information technology system to manage supply chains for medical facilities of Department of Veterans Affairs, 2 p.m., HVC-210 and Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Biden Administration’s 2022 Trade Policy Agenda”, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth and Webex.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 30

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, March 30

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Judith DelZoppo Pryor, of Ohio, to be First Vice President of the Export-Import Bank.

Senate will vote on the motion to discharge the nomination of Alvaro M. Bedoya, of Maryland, to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, and on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Judith DelZoppo Pryor, at 11:45 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Judith DelZoppo Pryor, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 1:30 p.m.

Following disposition of the nomination of Judith DelZoppo Pryor, Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of January Contreras, of Arizona, to be Assistant Secretary for Family Support, Department of Health and Human Services.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

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