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House of Representatives

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

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
April 27, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

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

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

RECOGNIZING CLAY HENRY ON HIS RETIREMENT

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

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of one of Arkansas' most-admired sports journalists, Clay Henry.

Clay has retired after decades of covering Arkansas Razorback athletics, notably the publisher of Hawgs Illustrated, the weekly publication dedicated to the coverage of our beloved Hogs.

It was natural for Clay, given that he was the son of another sports legend in Arkansas journalism, Orville Henry. I am quite confident his introduction to Razorback sports was while he was still in diapers. Then later as a stat man for the Arkansas Gazette at the age of 14. He was produced by the best, tutored by the best, and like those before him, became the best.

Stops along the way at publications like the Log Cabin Democrat in Conway and the Tulsa World helped prepare him for a gig in 1992 with a new Arkansas magazine called Hawgs Illustrated. Leaving the Tulsa World for an upstart might have been a tough decision for a lot of people, but with Clay, it just seemed a natural fit. After all, Clay was a Hog, not a Sooner.

Clay partnered to buy the publication with George Billingsley before eventually selling to Stephens Media, then later to the Hussman Company, WEHCO Media, which became the sole owner. In every step, the common denominator that found its way into the mailboxes of Hog fans everywhere was Clay Henry. Lots of contributing writers, amazing photographers, great salesmen, but only one Clay Henry. He served 27 years as publisher.

Now, it is off to the Norfork River where the trout now have a full-time enemy—that is, when Jean Ann, his bride of 43 years doesn't have him doing honey-dos, or assuming the Razorbacks don't come calling.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Clay for a journalism career of enormous success and professionalism. The Hog Nation is forever grateful.

CANOO

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, more than a half century ago, Americans walked on the Moon for the first time. Now, a new lunar mission is upon us in 2024, and the Third District of Arkansas will support this next step in space exploration.

NASA has chosen Canoo, a high-tech mobility company with announced headquarters and facilities in northwest Arkansas, to produce a transportation fleet for astronauts, part of the Artemis program. That is right, as the crew prepares for their historic launch, they will be moved by state-of-the-art vehicles manufactured in Bentonville, Arkansas.

A demonstration of ingenuity and the Natural State's focus on harnessing emerging technology and novel ideas, great things can be achieved when the public and private sectors work together.

I am so proud that the future of space discovery is being supported by the Third District and our incredible workforce. The pioneering spirit of Arkansas and America will be on display as fully suited astronauts ride to their liftoff location.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Canoo for the role they are playing in such an incredible moment in American history. From Arkansas to the Moon—and eventually on to Mars—their work is driving innovation forward.

CANCELING SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, trying to cancel a subscription can take you in as many circles as looking for summertime parking at Newport Beach. I have experienced it myself.

For too long, dishonest companies have gotten away with trapping Americans into subscriptions by intentionally making it easy to start and nearly impossible to stop. As a longtime consumer advocate, I am pleased that the Federal Trade Commission is now holding corporations accountable for this abusive practice.

The FTC has made it clear that businesses should make it as straightforward for customers to unsubscribe

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as it was to sign up. If they don't and they lock consumers in with abusive practices, they will face penalties. Policing unfair and deceptive business practices makes our capitalist economy stronger, safer, and more competitive. That is the FTC's job, and I am glad they are a cop on the consumer protection beat.

I am committed to saving Orange County families time and money. If a company won't let you cancel a subscription, you can report this fraud on the FTC's website or contact my office for help.

SECURE DAVID LIN'S RELEASE

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of David Lin who, has been imprisoned in China since 2006 on charges of contract fraud.

Although the Chinese Government has reduced David's sentence, the fact remains that David has been separated from his family for nearly 16 years and may die in prison. He has already missed his children's graduations, his daughter's wedding, and the birth of his grandchild.

At age 67, his health is declining, and he may never have the opportunity to hold his grandchildren or see his family again. Recently, his daughter was diagnosed with breast cancer. This is urgent.

Americans wrongfully detained overseas should be allowed to come home to their loved ones, and I urge President Biden to continue doing everything in his power to secure David's release.

SOUTHWEST CARPENTERS VISIT

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, Orange County infrastructure is getting an upgrade because of Federal funds.

Last week, I had the opportunity to wear an orange safety vest and a hard hat and join the Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters Local 714 at one of their job sites. I saw firsthand how they are working to improve our freeways and keep families safe. Their commitment to quality work was an inspiration.

This project will improve 16 miles of the 405 in Orange County. It will revamp road conditions and upgrade bridges with safer sidewalks and bike lanes. It was paid for, in part, through Federal funds.

I was proud to support the bipartisan infrastructure law, which makes additional investments to create millions of jobs and strengthen our economy. This law will make necessary infrastructure projects possible, and I will continue supporting Federal legislation that brings resources back home to Orange County.

INFLATION—FOOD AND WATER SHORTAGES

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Madam Speaker, we are dealing with an awful lot of grave issues. Indeed, they become crises when they aren't managed correctly in this country.

So we are hearing a lot about inflation and feeling the effects, especially regular people, middle-income people, lower-middle-income people, low-income people are being harmed by the policies put forth the last year and a quarter.

We hear a lot about how Americans are paying more:

Vehicles. You can't hardly find a new vehicle, and the price of used vehicles has skyrocketed.

Gas at the pump. Do I need to talk about that anymore?

Lodging.

Airline fares to even get us to our jobs here in Washington, D.C., but for regular people on vacation and doing their business as well.

What isn't being talked about enough? The cost of food and the availability of food.

Inflation is hitting it hard, too.

Cost of inputs.

In my home State, lack of water. Lack of water in California.

Why does that matter to the rest of the country? Well, I will tell you. Farms and ranches produce about $50 billion in output in California, but there needs to be water for the crops.

Environmental laws are forcing the release of water down the rivers and out to the oceans for coho salmon, delta smelt, et cetera.

Our agriculture sector in California is the most important in the United States. There are a lot of other very important sectors as well.

We lead the Nation in over 77 different crops, including many fruit and vegetable specialty crops. Our top commodities are milk, almonds, grapes, cattle and calves, strawberries, pistachios, lettuce, walnuts, floriculture, tomatoes, rice, broilers, carrots, hay, broccoli, tangerines, oranges, and lemons, to name a few.

Our State is the only producer—which means 99 percent or more—of almonds, artichokes, celery, figs, garlic, honeydew, nectarines, olives, peaches, sweet rice, and walnuts.

For almonds, California grows all the domestic production, and 77 percent of global production comes from California.

So it is kind of important that the water flows through our State. That is one of the important inputs that we are short on.

I talked about the energy costs. On my own farm, we are fortunate enough to have a fairly decent water allocation where I live in my part of the State, but I have neighbors to the west and south of me receiving, in some cases, zero percent allocations. Zero.

Take rice production, for example. It is going to be down probably by about half. As a rice grower that gravely concerns me, but as a food producer, and all of you as food consumers, you need to be greatly concerned. These policies can be avoided. We still have a point that we can save this springtime and get crops planted with water that is available presently.

Instead, we are watching world events here. Ukraine, their farmers are dodging bombs right now trying to get crops planted. Russia has actually been somewhat of an important exporter, not so much to this country but we import some things from them: fertilizer, some of our energy.

We need to be putting a stop to that and become self-sufficient like we can. We should have energy independence. We had that up until a year ago.

So we are going to keep shorting ourselves on crops growing because of environmental laws, taking the water away, shifting it to a fish that doesn't even exist in the delta anymore in northern California, the smelt. Trillions of gallons of water going out into the ocean and fields being idled; permanent crops being destroyed; trees and vines just dying because there is no water for them.

We are going to feel that. We are already feeling it in the stores. When you can go to a major supermarket and see a whole freezer section has nothing in it, in the United States of America, that blows my mind. We can grow plenty here, and we always have until these times. Environmental laws are trumping what people need. Bad energy policy is driving the cost of everything.

Some of the fertilizer I have to put on my crops has over doubled in price. That all has to be made up somewhere. Either the farmer eats it and goes out of business, or it has to be made up on a store shelf. Somewhere along the chain it has to be made up for.

We can produce the energy that produces fertilizer that fuels the tractors, the trucks, the combines, everything it takes to bring a crop in, we can produce it here. We are capable of it. Yet, we are being paralyzed by policies at the Federal level and at my home State level as well.

One of the ideas in the legislature on top of everything, on top of this $6 gas we have in California, is to add more gas tax on top of that by our State legislature.

That is not your problem, the rest of the country. I mean, sometimes we are a comic show at what we do out there, and we get laughed at by the rest of the country, but we won't fix it here. It needs to be fixed there.

Don't do what we do, okay, rest of the country?

We need to set policy here where we can in Congress at the Federal level that brings us energy independence and helps put food back on the table instead of taking the water away and raising the costs of everything so much that we can't farm this country anymore.

□ 1015

HONORING THE LEGACY OF ART FRANKLIN

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

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a pioneer of broadcast journalism, news anchor Art Franklin, who will be making his departure from CBS 42 in Birmingham, Alabama, on Friday, April 29.

Art Franklin is a multiple Emmy Award-winning journalist whose broadcast career has spanned more than 38 years and earned him more than 100 community and journalism awards, including two Emmy Awards. And, most recently, he was awarded an Edward R. Murrow Award in 2021 for excellence in innovation as anchor of CBS 42's Coronavirus House Calls.

Art currently anchors the CBS 42 Evening News at 4 p.m., 5 p.m., 6 p.m., and 10 p.m., after returning to Birmingham to anchor the CBS 42 Morning News with Art Franklin, and served as a managing editor.

Art first came to Birmingham in 1991 and spent 12 years at WBRC-TV, where he was a trailblazer, becoming Birmingham's first African-American male to anchor in prime time.

During his career of almost four decades, Art has worked as a radio announcer, a radio news director, a production manager, a talk show host of both radio and television, a television news producer, host of a television public affairs show, and the producer of the National Association of Black Journalist Awards show that was aired on BET.

In addition to his time as a journalist, Art was the CEO of Atlanta-based independent record company 285 Records.

The author of a book, ''Give It All You Got,'' Art launched in 2021 the Art Franklin Collection, a clothing line of men's ties, bow ties, shirts, and custom suits.

Art sits on numerous boards in the State of Alabama. He is an avid cook and tennis player, and he is a proud member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Art Franklin for his extraordinary career and contributions to broadcast journalism.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Art. We in Birmingham are so proud of all that he has done, and we wish him much luck in his endeavors.

RECOGNIZING PRINCETON BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Princeton Baptist Medical Center and Baptist Health System in Birmingham, Alabama.

For a century, the Princeton Baptist Medical Center has been dedicated to serving the most vulnerable in our communities by prioritizing community health and expanding access to healthcare.

As a faith-based hospital, Princeton was built on the premise that it would provide services to patients, regardless of their ability to pay. During its first day of operation, Princeton served 39 patients, with 11 more admitted by the day's end, without any operating capital.

Since then, the Princeton Baptist Medical Center began expanding rapidly, undergoing multiple major hospital renovations. As the hospital's infrastructure grew, so did its network, expanding to meet the needs of its patients by adding new departments to expand critical services and research, as well as to keep abreast of the latest medical developments.

During the 1990s, additional hospitals joined Princeton Baptist to build one of our State's largest and most comprehensive network of acute-care hospitals: The Brookwood Baptist Health.

Since its humble beginnings, Princeton Baptist Medical Center has remained active in the community, hosting several residency and mentoring programs. It even became the first healthcare center in the United States to implement a pastoral education program and student internship.

Now, with more than 230 physicians, an additional 1,700 employees, and 505 licensed hospital beds, Princeton Baptist Medical Center continues to be a centerpiece in our Birmingham community. I am honored to be their partner in our fight to expand healthcare access to all Alabamians.

I am proud to honor Princeton Baptist Medical Center for its profound contributions to our community as they celebrate 100 years of service.

Madam Speaker, I thank Princeton Baptist Medical Center.

MAKING EVERY AMERICAN TOWN A BORDER TOWN

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

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, reports of clandestine flights taking thousands of illegal immigrants across the country on behalf of U.S. taxpayers are extremely concerning.

In his 45 years as a United States Senator, and Vice President, and now President, Joe Biden has sworn to defend the U.S. Constitution from all enemies, foreign and domestic, on eight separate occasions, presumably including invasions of our border. Nowhere in the Constitution does it describe using taxpayer dollars to transport illegal immigrants to every corner of this country.

Employees of the airline in question are fearful that they may be participating in human trafficking as unaccompanied minors are on many of these flights.

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas must answer whether American taxpayers are paying for these secret flights and, if so, why. All parties involved should be held accountable, including President Biden.

None of this would be an issue if we had just followed through on President Trump's plan to build a wall at our southern border and secure our borders. Instead, President Biden seems determined to make every town in America a border town.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MILLARD VAUGHN OAKLEY

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the late Millard Vaughn Oakley, one of the greatest Tennesseeans I have every known. His legacy will live on in our State's history for generations to come.

He started life as a shoeshine on the Livingston, Tennessee, square, and checked out as a multimillionaire, chasing the excitement of the next great business deal or opportunity or challenge. He was a faithful husband, a loving father, and grandfather, an exemplary public servant, and a passionate believer in his small town and the surrounding region.

If you took a trip to Overton County, Tennessee, you wouldn't have to look far to find someone directly blessed by Millard Vaughn Oakley. That is certainly true for me.

We come from opposing political parties. I am a conservative Republican. He was a southern Democrat, having served as a State Representative and State Insurance Commissioner under a Democratic Governor. But that never impeded his willingness to encourage me or hear me out. Our debates and disagreements were always cordial. There was never a time when I did not glean something valuable from a conversation I had with him. He cared and believed in me, and that meant the world.

Countless Tennesseeans would say the same about this mighty man. There was not a person in the town who Mr. Oakley did not endeavor to know. Whether you were the gas station clerk, a sheriff's deputy, or a student, you mattered to Millard Vaughn Oakley.

What I will always miss is his most sincere compassion. He gave life to the dreams of many. His generosity will live on through the numerous funds and scholarships to multiple schools and foundations.

As you venture down Interstate 40 in Cookeville and exit to State Route 111, you will find yourself on Millard Vaughn Oakley Parkway. That is the main thoroughfare into the town so dearly loved by this treasure of a Tennesseean. Up that State Route, you will find an impressive public library giving children and adults access to thousands of books and a new magnificent county building, each made possible by the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Oakley.

There is no replacing Millard Vaughn Oakley, only honoring him by being better, doing better, and leaving this world a little better in memory of a great Tennesseean who did it better

than anyone I have ever known. I pray that we will all take up the mantle and leave our communities a little better than we found them.

ENHANCING SOCIAL SECURITY

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

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I am here this morning to talk about Social Security. I start with commending Chairman NEAL of the Ways and Means Committee, and especially for his formation of the Racial Equity Committee that was headed up by one of the previous speakers, TERRI SEWELL, and STEVEN HORSFORD, and JIMMY GOMEZ.

Our great colleague, John Lewis, said that Social Security would be the next civil rights movement. John had probably no idea about what the pandemic would bring. What the pandemic has done has underscored the plight and the need of all of our fellow Americans.

What I mean by that is this: This pandemic has hit the country hard. It is turning everybody's lives upside down. There are close to a million people in our country that have perished during this pandemic because of COVID–19; but 740,000 plus are over the age of 65.

In that same group over the age of 65 are, of course, the recipients of Social Security. Those recipients also are the people who are on a fixed income. People on a fixed income are hurt the hardest by the inflationary times that we are in.

That is why we have proposed Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust, that is currently in the process of being marked up in the Ways and Means Committee. It is being marked up so that we can address what Martin Luther King best described as the fierce urgency of now.

What is that fierce urgency? For every Member of this body to go home and look at your brothers and sisters, their coworkers, the people you go to church and worship with, and understand that it has been more than 50 years since Congress enhanced any benefit in Social Security.

A gallon of milk was 71 cents back in 1971. Look at the cost of milk. Look at the cost of gas. Look at the cost of heating and cooling your home. Look at the cost of groceries and prescription drugs.

And for Congress to be negligent and not address this issue—this is not something, Madam Speaker, that can be done through executive order, nor is the Supreme Court going to adjudicate. This is the direct responsibility of the United States Congress, and the last time it did something was in 1983. Ronald Reagan was the President. Bob Dole was the Senate leader, and Tip O'Neill, the Speaker. They made the program more solvent then, but they did it by cutting benefits; the last of which just went into effect this January, with raising the age to 67.

Now, it sounds good when you say, well, people are living longer so we have got to raise the age. But consider the logic: If you are living longer, how is it that you can sustain a cut in Social Security?

It hasn't been enhanced in more than 51 years. It is Congress' responsibility. Ten thousand baby boomers a day become eligible for Social Security. It affects our rural communities more than it affects our urban communities. And in doing so, who has it impacted? Close to 5 million of our fellow Americans who get below-poverty-level checks from the Federal Government at a time we are passing out tax cuts to the wealthiest 1 percent in this country.

If, indeed, Black lives matter and is more than just a slogan, we will be voting on this issue on this floor to send a message to the more than 65 million Social Security recipients that help is on the way. No one will ever work all their lives and then retire into poverty because we are going to create a new floor that will be 125 percent of what the poverty level is.

Madam Speaker, I urge the body to take a look at Social Security 2100: A Sacred Trust. This is bipartisan. If you look at the data, 80 percent of Democrats, 75 percent of Independents, 69 percent of Republicans agree that these benefits need to be enhanced. It is a commonsense, practical way in this pandemic to both deal with inflation and give long-overdue relief to our senior citizens.

Social Security is the number one anti-poverty program for the elderly. It is the number one anti-poverty program for children. Our veterans utilize Social Security disability more than the VA.

It is long overdue for this body to do one simple requirement that we all take an oath of office for, and that is to vote, and vote on increasing and enhancing Social Security and its benefits, something that hasn't been done in this body for more than 50 years.

□ 1030

PENNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL WOMEN'S VARSITY SOCCER CHAMPIONS

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

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous accomplishment of the 2020 Pennridge High School women's varsity soccer team.

At a time when our schools were just reopening, the Pennridge women's soccer team seized the moment and went on to win their first PIAA Class 4A title on November 21, 2020.

This victory was years in the making, following a 2018 overtime loss in the final tournament game. Thanks to the visionary leadership of Coach Audrey Anderson, the Pennridge women's varsity team pushed past the adversity and clinched the championship win.

With both teams battling through a contentious 80 minutes of regulation and 27 minutes of overtime, freshman forward Tori Angelo chipped a pass over to junior Leah Malone to score the game-winner with just a few minutes remaining.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize these champions today for their leadership and their outstanding efforts in their 2020 season, and I formally enter their names in the RECORD:

Head Coach Audrey Anderson, Assistant Coach Jason Lollar, Assistant Coach Erin Stevenson, captain Lindsey DeHaven, captain Leah Malone, captain Maddie Angelo, captain Emily Kriney, Sierra Shaeffer, Cady McKean, Anna Croyle, Zoe Sabol, Liv Grenda, Riley Hepler, Tori Angelo, Kera Dam, Casey Malone, Brielle Tasher, Jess Levush, Joey Tomlinson, Lauren Atchley, Lavi Baldovin, Lindsey Balmer, Raina Adelman, Sophie Craig, Aubrey Long, Avery Drumbore, Danae Luecke, Lauren Moylan, Maggie Hayes, Ryan Hodder, Sammi McBride, Sam Kiwak, and Phia Lowery.

Madam Speaker, along with that victory, it is with a heavy heart that I recognize the team's assistant coach who recently passed away, Robert Lee Miller.

Anyone who had the privilege of knowing Robert knows that he could always be found on the soccer field, lending his strengths and gifts to coach dozens of teams and mentor thousands of youth players.

As our Bucks County community mourns his loss and remembers his passion for the game, I would like to offer a moment of silence for Robert Miller.

Madam Speaker, we are incredibly grateful for the inspiration and impacts that the coaches of the entire Pennridge women's soccer team and, of course, the team's parents have had on our community. They are a tremendous asset.

We are very proud of all of them, and I look forward to seeing them all and presenting them with flags individually that were flown over the U.S. House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE POWELL PANTHERS CHAMPIONSHIP FOOTBALL TEAM

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

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, might I say that is a wonderful outfit you are wearing today.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Powell Panthers football team for winning its first-ever Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association State championship in 2021.

On December 3, 2021, the Panthers defeated the Page High School Patriots

by a final score of 42–34 at Chattanooga's Finley Stadium to win the Class 5A BlueCross Bowl championship. That is the equivalent to our State championship, if anybody is wondering.

This victory was significant for all the players and coaches, including the Panthers' head coach, Matt Lowe. Back in 2011, Coach Lowe was a freshman player on the Powell football team when the Panthers lost in a heartbreaker State championship game to Henry County High School.

A decade later, he led his alma mater to a championship that brought pride to every student at Powell High School and the community.

It was not an easy win for the Panthers. The Patriots were competitive throughout all four quarters, but the Panthers claimed the title when the final whistle sounded.

Winning this championship was the Panthers' goal all season long, and nothing was going to stand in their way. The team kept its eye on the prize and gave it their all to capture its first State championship in the end.

The Powell Panthers worked hard and supported each other the entire season, and it paid off with a State title.

Congratulations to all the players, Head Coach Matt Lowe, the team support staff, and the entire Powell High School community on this great victory.

CELEBRATING THE DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF ALBERT HARB

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to sing the praises of a man who I feel is probably the greatest legal mind in America. It is my good friend Albert Harb. He has been an attorney in East Tennessee since the 1980s, and Albert will retire from practicing law this spring. I rise to celebrate his distinguished career.

Albert earned both his undergraduate and law degrees from the University of Tennessee. After working with fellow attorney Joe Yancey for several years, Albert went to work for the firm Hodges, Doughty & Carson in 1984. He has been employed by the firm ever since.

Throughout the years, East Tennessee has sought out Albert's legal expertise in commercial litigation, construction law, product liability, personal injury, domestic litigation, and occasional divorce cases. He also provides legal services for business transactions, corporate law, and wrongful death suits.

Organizations such as the Best Lawyers in America, Best Lawyers Consumer Guide, Who's Who American Law, and Mid-South Super Lawyers have all recognized Albert for his excellent representation in the fields of commercial litigation and personal injury.

In the Knoxville News Sentinel, a noted politician was quoted as saying that he was the best legal mind in America. Additionally, he is consistently recognized by Cityview Magazine as one of Knoxville's top lawyers for personal injury and construction law.

Outside of practicing law, Albert is engaged with the Knoxville community. When West High School's mock trial team won the Tennessee State championship, Albert mentored the students by serving as their attorney coach.

He also held leadership positions with WDVX, the Peninsula Club, and the Ramallah Club of Knoxville.

Albert and his wonderful wife, Carmen, are parents to Ashley, Nicholas, and Noel, and they have several grandchildren.

Albert, thank you for your dedicated legal representation to East Tennesseans. I wish you the best in your retirement, and congratulations on achieving of counsel status.

RECOGNIZING LUCY AND RAY HAND AS KNOXVILLIANS OF THE YEAR

Mr. BURCHETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Lucy and Ray Hand, two of my all-time favorite people and two incredibly amazing people who helped me through one of the toughest periods of my life.

They were recently recognized by the Junior Achievement of East Tennessee as Knoxvillians of the Year.

When I was going through a particularly tough time in my life, I had a lot of bad press. On a Tuesday, I always recall, I received a call from Lucy Hand. She said: Kickoff for the UT game is this Saturday at noon. I expect to see you in the skybox with us.

I asked if she had seen what the paper was saying about me, and she said: TIMMY, kickoff is at noon. Don't make me send Raymond after you.

You know it is serious business, Madam Speaker, when Lucy brings up Ray.

So, I went to the game, and the Hands, of course, were gracious hosts to me as they always are. At halftime, I decided to go down to the lower section of Neyland Stadium and check out some renovations that were recently completed and to see General Neyland's statue.

When I got there, I heard the most beautiful noise in the world. It was the sweetest little 4-year-old girl I think I had ever seen. She was wearing some unbelievably cool little red shoes. They were sparkling, and she was spinning around. I can see it in my mind's eye right now.

After I saw her, I looked to my left, and it was the most beautiful woman that I had ever seen. Her name was Kelly, and she would later become my wife, and Isabel would soon become my daughter.

That day changed my life. Lucy and Ray Hand were there for that moment, just like they were there when my parents died, when I married Kelly, and when I adopted my Isabel. They were also here in Washington in 2019 when I was sworn into Congress.

I remember when they were standing in line, and the Capitol policeman asked me if they were my family because they were escorting family through. I looked at him and said, yes, they are my family. Madam Speaker, they are my family.

I thank them for being my friends, and I thank them for bringing Kelly and Isabel and me together and creating a wonderful family for me.

I congratulate them on winning Knoxvillians of the Year.

RECOGNIZING SEAN HANNITY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, we appreciate your million-dollar smile.

Living legend Sean Hannity of FOX News is now officially the longest running prime-time cable news host in television history, passing the former record of Larry King.

I especially appreciate his professionalism, having myself minored in journalism and being editor of my high school, college, and law school newspapers, and also being an intern reporter for The Post and Courier, the daily paper of Charleston, South Carolina.

He is a champion for freedom, and he cites each day that has passed in honor of the 13 dead Americans in Kabul. He also points out, sadly, the Americans left behind in Afghanistan.

He stands with the heroes of Ukraine fighting war criminal Putin as President Volodymyr Zelenskyy inspires: Live free or die.

As aptly written in an April 21 FOX News story by Brian Flood: ''Hannity, who has been with the network since it was launched in 1996, has hosted a prime-time program on FOX News for 25 consecutive years, 6 months, and 15 days.

'' 'Sean's authenticity and insightful commentary have created one of the most enduring connections with our audience, and it has been an honor to watch him over the years. A FOX News original, he has helped innovate the industry, and we are incredibly proud of his extraordinary success,' FOX News Media CEO Suzanne Scott said in a statement.

''Hannity's eponymous program has been one of the most-watched cable news programs on a regular basis. 'Hannity' has finished number one in its time slot for 13 consecutive years among both total viewers and the advertiser-coveted demographic of adults age 25 to 54 since launching as a solo hour in January 2009, according to Nielsen Media Research.

'' 'I am extremely grateful to FOX News Media and to our loyal, dedicated viewers, whom I am proud to serve every night,' Hannity said.

''Before landing a solo program, Hannity was one half of the popular 'Hannity & Colmes' with the late Alan Colmes.

''Last year, Hannity joined 'FOX & Friends' to discuss the network's 25th

anniversary. 'It was a bold innovation. Everybody laughed. Nobody thought it would be successful. Not only did we quickly become number one, but we have been able to maintain that number one position for a very long period of time,' Sean Hannity said.

''FOX News finished the first quarter of 2022 as basic cable's most-watched network, crushing CNN and MSNBC for the 81st straight quarter during a busy news cycle that included Russia's'' hideous ''invasion of Ukraine,'' sadly, ''the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, and round-the-clock political news.''

''Over the last 25 years, Hannity has interviewed newsmakers, including former President Trump, former Vice President Mike Pence, former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu . . . and most recently, award-winning actor and director Sean Penn. Hannity is also the author of four New York Times bestselling books.''

Congratulations, Sean. Thank you for providing America with news we can trust by telling the truth.

I have another personal interest. Our family really appreciates newscasters. My oldest son, Alan, the attorney general of South Carolina, married the leading newscaster of South Carolina, Jennifer Miskewicz, of WIS-TV. Because he married over his head, he was elected the youngest attorney general of the United States.

As I conclude, as the co-chair of the French Caucus, I congratulate President Emmanuel Macron on his reelection. America appreciates our first ally with extraordinary representation by Ambassador Philippe Etienne.

We stand together for the people of Ukraine and with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

SKYROCKETING PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK. Madam Speaker, this week, I hosted a seniors' townhall in my district in which many had concerns about their access to long-term care, the price of prescription drugs, and their Social Security benefits.

Every day, 10,000 Americans turn 65 years old. That is 65 years of raising families, paying their taxes, protecting our country, and building our communities.

After six decades of working hard for this country, they have the right to the benefits and resources they have earned for retirement. We do not need to cut benefits but, instead, expand access to the full range of long-term care services that help seniors within their communities.

Unfortunately, it has become far too expensive for middle-class friends and families to care for our seniors. Prescription drug prices are a major component of the overall cost of caring for the elderly.

While Medicare part D pays for some medications for those enrolled in the plan, it is reported that over 65 percent of our seniors' prescription drug costs are out of pocket. No American should ever have to break the bank to pay for lifesaving care.

□ 1045

But today, too many Americans are forced to make the decision between paying their bills or buying their pills.

Democrats have been fighting to bring down healthcare costs and lower prescription drug prices by holding insurance companies and drug companies accountable while strengthening Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.

In his State of the Union Address, President Biden announced an initiative to improve quality long-term care for our Nation's beloved seniors and people with disabilities.

The announcement uplifts what I have long championed: every person in the United States deserves to age with dignity, respect, and access to quality healthcare.

These actions will be part of a long-overdue comprehensive reform to protect the welfare, safety, and rights of seniors and people with disabilities living in nursing homes.

Our country and our economy are stronger and healthier when every American has access to quality, affordable healthcare, and long-term care.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to make sure these issues are addressed and that we support and look out for our Nation's seniors.

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 46 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

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

PRAYER

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

Almighty God, again we lift up our prayers to You on behalf of the people of Ukraine. After one of the holiest weeks in the Orthodox Church, though they were once companions in belief, with whom sweet fellowship was possible in the House of God, the wicked have sown confusion. The evil continue to spread threats and lies.

We appeal to You to speak into both sides of the conflict. Judge the betrayal of brothers in faith and enlighten them to Your truth. Allow those who have remained faithful to Your will, who live according to the loving example You have shown us, who adhere to Your word, to have their voices heard above the fray of falsehood and propaganda.

In Your infinite mercy, answer the voices who cry out to You in distress. Bring redemption to the innocent from the horror besieging them. Give refuge to those who ardently defend their cities from the unthinkable violence and strife.

Holy God, comfort those whose hearts are anguished. Calm those who are beset with fear and trembling. For in You, our Lord, is our only hope. We pray to You for Ukraine's deliverance.

In the 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 gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WALBERG 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.

MILITARY HISTORY IS IN JEOPARDY

(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 today to sound the alarm on an urgent situation that requires the Federal Government to deploy an emergency response.

A retired U.S. Navy vessel at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval and Military Park is sinking. Without help, the USS *The Sullivans*, which was part of an elite class of World War II destroyers and is a national historic landmark, will be lost forever.

The visual of a partially submerged ship in Buffalo's harbor provides a vivid warning that irreplaceable military history is in jeopardy if we don't act.

This isn't the only vessel in need of support. Maritime heritage grants, national preservation programs, and the Department of Defense are potential

sources of funding to help these vessels.

Dedicated sailors operated these vessels to defend our Nation. It is our turn to protect their stories and the lessons they provide to future generations. We, as a Nation, cannot abandon them or these ships.

HERO ZELENSKYY

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has shown the world he is a leader to be respected and admired. He has earned being a hero to the people of Ukraine, to win for freedom.

Prior to his election in 2019, Mr. Zelenskyy was a former actor and comedian. Some questioned these credentials, but President Zelenskyy is the right leader at the right time for the world.

The cowardly Putin invasion has left untold thousands of Ukrainian civilians murdered. Yet, instead of retreating, Zelenskyy has stood up to Putin as a compassionate man of the people.

Just yesterday, he went to another Kyiv hospital visiting with a pair of orphaned children who lost their parents to Putin bombs.

''In the first days of the war, everybody was in shock, and everybody was thinking what to do. . . .'' ''The President's decision was that no one goes anywhere. We stay in Kyiv, and we fight. That cemented it,'' explained an adviser.

Terrorists, sadly, are emboldened worldwide with three rocket attacks in the last week from Gaza into Israel, as America stands with Ambassador Michael Herzog.

God bless Ukraine. God save Ukraine. God bless Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

CONGRATULATING JOHN MARTINCIC

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John Martincic, president of Forest Scientific Corporation, for being named the 2022 Pennsylvania Small Business Association Small Businessperson of the Year, and the 2022 Western Pennsylvania SBA District Small Businessperson of the Year.

For more than 30 years, John has been involved with the design, repair, and manufacturing of computer numerical control machines.

John has always been an entrepreneur and, as the founder and president of Forest Scientific Corporation, his work in the CNC space has supported businesses of all sizes. His machines are used for a multitude of applications, ranging from sign making to aerospace.

In addition, John spends time promoting the education and training surrounding CNC and entrepreneurship at schools and FabLabs worldwide.

Congratulations, John, on this much-deserved award and recognition.

WELCOMING TREVOR REED HOME

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

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, today is a momentous day, as we have just received the news that my constituent, Trevor Reed, a Texan, a marine, and a patriot, has been released from a Russian prison after being held for an anguishing 985 days as a political pawn.

Trevor's parents, Paula and Joey Reed of Granbury, Texas, have been tireless advocates for the release of their son, and I cannot imagine the relief that they are feeling right now. The Reeds have been living a 2½-year nightmare, fighting every day for their son's release. And today, our prayers have been answered.

I thank my colleagues in Congress on both sides of the aisle for working in a bipartisan manner to pass the resolution calling for Trevor's release, and continuing to draw attention to his case, including my predecessor, Mike Conaway, Chairman MIKE MCCAUL, Senator CORNYN, Leader MCCARTHY, Congresswoman JACKSON LEE, and Congressman CASTRO, and my entire office that represents the 11th District, my staff.

I especially recognize Ambassador Sullivan and his team, as well as those that work in the NSA, the NSC, and the SPEHA.

Finally, President Biden, thank you for bringing Trevor Reed home. Thank you for believing in leaving no American overseas.

AIDING UKRAINE'S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

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

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I just returned from a trip to Ukraine with my colleague, Representative SPARTZ, last night. We were invited by Ukrainian officials to see firsthand their immediate needs.

The destruction and loss of life was heartbreaking. Everywhere we went, we saw the evidence of Putin's war crimes. One stop we made was at a residential building in Odesa that had been hit by Russian missiles the day before. A grandmother, her daughter, and her daughter's baby were killed in that same apartment. They were among 18 other innocent victims killed in the attacks.

Yet, in the face of such evil actions, the Ukrainian spirit remains strong. To aid their fight for freedom, more must be done by both the United States and the international community. Advanced weaponry, humanitarian supplies, and much more can and should be ramped up.

The Ukrainians are brave people, and they will win the war against Russia's invasion if they have the tools and the resources to do so in hand.

God bless Ukraine.

IMMIGRATION

(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, the situation with our border, it couldn't be a whole lot worse. Here are the numbers for February and March; border crossings were 220,000. The numbers keep going up.

So at a time here where a recent decision by a judge enabled us to not have to wear masks to get on airplanes or other public transportation because America's health is improving, the President wants to get rid of the title 42 provision put in place by President Trump to help keep America safe from those that have health issues or disease issues from coming across our border exacerbating already this giant problem we have.

If title 42 is allowed to expire, then this will open the floodgates even wider. So I appreciate the decision to at least uphold title 42 while our Federal Government fights that decision and resources are used by legal folks, Department of Justice, whatever, to make it where title 42 is waived.

I want to ask what side is the President and his administration on, if not for the American people's health?

PUT MORE MONEY IN AMERICANS' POCKETS

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

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, in the last 15 months, President Biden and House Democrats have dumped trillions of dollars on the struggling economy already weighed down by left-wing overspending.

We warned them that if they continued to print money to fund their reckless liberal wish list, inflation would hammer the American people. Now, inflation will cost the average American family an extra $5,000 this year. Folks are traveling less; they are buying less because of Joe Biden. Inflation is crushing the working-class people.

Last week, I introduced the Household Income Tax Suspension Act to provide the equivalent of a 6-month Federal income tax holiday for millions of hardworking Americans.

Americans want relief. Let's allow them to keep more of their own money instead of weighing down the economy with ineffective stimulus. This is common sense. We need to put more money back into the working people's pockets.

UNCONSTITUTIONAL MANDATES SACRIFICE FREEDOM

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

Mr. CAWTHORN. Mr. Speaker, the United States was born out of disobedience. It was disobedience to a tyrannical government that led to the founding of our Constitution and our American ideals. Today, patriots still sometimes disobey, even at the cost of great personal hardship.

Twenty-year veterans of law enforcement agencies have turned in their badges because they refuse to bow the knee to vaccine mandates.

Nurses have worked and studied for years, only to have their jobs stripped away because of a virus that they themselves committed to defeating.

Servicemembers, firefighters, EMTs, are all sacrificing their careers to stand for their convictions and for freedom.

Unconstitutional mandates sacrifice freedom on the altar of safety. Mask mandates are dying because patriots have fought back. Let's do it again with vaccine mandates. This is not a matter of health; it is a matter of liberty.

These heroes will not go away quietly, and we will defend them because they have defended us.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to end medical tyranny, end Federal Government overreach, and end vaccine mandates.

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.

PATENTS FOR HUMANITY ACT OF 2021

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5796) to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a competition to award certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5796

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 ''Patents for Humanity Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. AWARD OF CERTIFICATES TO ACCELERATE CERTAIN MATTERS AT THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

(a) AWARD.—Chapter 2 of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 28. Award of certificates to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a competition, to be held not less frequently than biennially, to award eligible entities certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate one of the following matters:

''(1) An ex parte reexamination proceeding, including one appeal to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board from that proceeding.

''(2) An application for a patent, including one appeal to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board from that application.

''(3) An appeal to the Patent Trial and Appeal Board of a claim twice rejected in a patent application or reissue application or finally rejected in an ex parte reexamination, without accelerating the underlying matter which generated the appeal.

''(4) A matter identified under subsection (d)(4).

''(b) ADMINISTRATION.—The Director shall administer the competition established by subsection (a).

''(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity seeking an award under subsection (a) shall submit to the Director an application, at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Director may require.

''(d) RULEMAKING AUTHORITY.—With respect to the competition established by subsection (a), the Director shall conduct a rulemaking proceeding to promulgate rules on the—

''(1) entities eligible to receive an award;

''(2) process and metrics by which applications are judged, including the criteria for selecting judges for the competition;

''(3) factors that will be considered in selecting the eligible entities that receive an award; and

''(4) additional matters for which a certificate described under subsection (a) may be awarded.

''(e) PROMOTION OF COMPETITION.—The Director shall promote the competition through the satellite offices established pursuant to section 1.

''(f) TREATMENT AS SUCCESSOR.—The competition established under subsection (a) shall be treated as a successor to the Patents for Humanity Program (established in the notice entitled 'Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program', published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012)).

''(g) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'eligible entity' means a entity that—

''(1) submits an application under subsection (c) for a patent that addresses a humanitarian issue; and

''(2) is eligible to receive an award under subsection (d)(1).''.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section, or the amendments made by this section, may be construed as prohibiting the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office from administering the competition established by section 28 of title 35, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), before the date on which all rules are promulgated under the rulemaking proceeding required by subsection (d) of such section.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 2 of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''28. Award of certificates to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 5796.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1215

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5796, a bipartisan bill which codifies a competition at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office called Patents for Humanity.

The Patents for Humanity program highlights the ways that innovation and intellectual property help solve global humanitarian challenges.

I am proud to sponsor this bipartisan legislation, alongside Representative SPARTZ, to ensure that special recognition permanently extends to inventors who turn their genius toward helping the world's most needy and vulnerable.

The Founders of our country understood that society would benefit if we incentivized creativity and innovation. That is why Article I, Section 8, Clause 8 of the United States Constitution gives Congress the power to create a robust intellectual property system to promote the progress of science and useful arts.

As Members of Congress, we have often worked together in a bipartisan fashion to carry out this constitutional mandate, as we are doing today.

The Patents for Humanity Act simply codifies an already existing annual competition run by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that incentivizes the use of patented technologies for humanitarian purposes. It is run without cost to the taxpayer, as USPTO is a fee-based entity.

The award for the Patents for Humanity competition is a certificate to accelerate select matters before USPTO and public recognition during a ceremony held by that Office.

Winners are selected by a panel of judges who look for inventions that address either humanitarian needs among an impoverished population or that further research by others with respect to humanitarian technologies. Applications are considered in categories including: medicine, nutrition, sanitation, household energy, and living standards. The 2022 competition also included a category for COVID–19-related inventions.

Since its implementation as a pilot program 10 years ago, winners have included not-for-profit organizations, startups, universities, corporations, as well as individual inventors throughout the country. Winning submissions have included an all-terrain wheelchair; improvements to water purification systems and clean water storage; rechargeable lanterns for those

without access to reliable energy sources; a portable, low-water kidney dialysis machine; and an affordable and highly adjustable prosthetic limb system. These and many other innovations have improved the quality of life of millions of individuals.

By codifying H.R. 5796, we strengthen and recognize the importance of this program while providing the USPTO the flexibility to continue to improve its implementation.

In December, this bill passed the House Committee on the Judiciary unanimously, building upon the work of Representative MCBATH, who successfully led a bipartisan effort to pass the Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act into law last Congress, which allows award certificates to be transferable.

Today, we go a step further by ensuring this program is a permanent feature of our innovation system and economy.

Once again, I thank Representative VICTORIA SPARTZ for her partnership on this legislation, as well as her leadership as it relates to the terrible situation in Ukraine. I also thank my colleague, Representative ISSA, for his leadership as well.

The Patents for Humanity program shows how American innovation and creativity can continue to change the world.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation and vote ''yes'' on H.R. 5796, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in what I believe will be unanimous support for the continued promotion of works useful to humanity. This pilot program, after 10 years, has proven to be not only a good one but one that continues to be necessary.

In 1790, when President Washington evaluated and signed the first patent, he did so in a matter of a few weeks from submission. It was an expectation that a timely patent was, in fact, critical. That first patent improved the production of potash, often used in fertilizer.

The fact is, over the years, our ability to quickly evaluate patents has, in fact, not continued to keep pace. So, when you have something like these humanitarian offerings, the fact that we are able to, at least in these cases and for known inventors, reward them with an accelerated consideration as part of their continued work, I think that is the kind of an award that means a great deal when it is the advancement of items of humanitarian interest and need.

My colleague from New York did a wonderful job of talking about some of those inventions. We could go on for hours about what inventive genius has come from this and other incentives.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote for this renewal and, lastly, to recognize that the one area that America leads in is innovation. This body has a continued obligation to do everything it can to promote that innovation, including the modernization and the improvement of the Patent and Trademark Office.

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

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from California for his continued leadership in this area.

Once again, Congress is coming together in a bipartisan way to uplift American innovation and innovators, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5796, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COURTHOUSE ETHICS AND TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3059) to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to provide for a periodic transaction reporting requirement for Federal judicial officers and the online publication of financial disclosure reports of Federal judicial officers, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3059

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 ''Courthouse Ethics and Transparency Act''.

SEC. 2. PERIODIC TRANSACTION REPORTS AND ONLINE PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS OF FEDERAL JUDGES.

(a) PERIODIC TRANSACTION REPORTING REQUIREMENT FOR FEDERAL JUDGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(11) Each judicial officer.

''(12) Each bankruptcy judge appointed under section 152 of title 28, United States Code.

''(13) Each United States magistrate judge appointed under section 631 of title 28, United States Code.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to applicable transactions occurring on or after the date that is 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) ONLINE PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS OF FEDERAL JUDGES.—Section 105 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) ONLINE PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE REPORTS OF FEDERAL JUDGES.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF DATABASE.—Subject to paragraph (4), not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of the Courthouse Ethics and Transparency Act, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall establish a searchable internet database to enable public access to any report required to be filed under this title by a judicial officer, bankruptcy judge, or magistrate judge.

''(2) AVAILABILITY.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which a report is required to be filed under this title by a judicial officer, bankruptcy judge, or magistrate judge, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall make the report available on the database established under paragraph (1) in a full-text searchable, sortable, and downloadable format for access by the public.

''(3) REDACTION.—Any report made available on the database established under paragraph (1) shall not contain any information that is redacted in accordance with subsection (b)(3).

''(4) ADDITIONAL TIME.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the requirements of this subsection may be implemented after the date described in paragraph (1) if the Administrative Office of the United States Courts identifies in writing to the relevant committees of Congress the additional time needed for that implementation.

''(B) PUBLICATION REQUIREMENT.—The Administrative Office of the United States Courts shall continue to make the reports described in paragraph (1) available to the public during the period in which the Administrative Office of the United States Courts establishes the database under this subsection.''.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 103(l) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by subsection (a)(1)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (9), by striking '', as defined under section 109(12)''; and

(B) in paragraph (10), by striking '', as defined under section 109(13)''.

(2) Section 105 of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) (as amended by subsection (b)) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(1), by striking ''be revealing'' and inserting ''by revealing''; and

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in the first sentence, by striking ''be,,'' and inserting ''be,''; and

(II) in the third sentence, by striking ''may be may'' and inserting ''may be, may''; and

(ii) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking ''described in section 109(8) or 109(10) of this Act'' and inserting ''who is a judicial officer or a judicial employee''.

(3) Section 107(a)(1) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) is amended in the last sentence by striking ''and (d)'' and inserting ''and (e)''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to

revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 3059.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 3059, the Courthouse Ethics and Transparency Act of 2021, embodies an important bipartisan effort to address an alarming lack of transparency in the personal financial holdings of Article III Federal judges and the conflicts, or appearance of conflicts, those holdings can create in the cases these judges are asked to preside over and decide.

This legislation makes incremental but necessary progress toward accountability by building on Federal statutes that already prohibit judges from deciding cases in which they have a personal financial stake in the outcome.

It has been the law in this country since the 1970s that judges must recuse themselves from any case in which they hold a legal or equitable interest of any size in any party or property under consideration.

To help ensure that recusals occur as required, Federal law often mandates that judges file annual reports disclosing their personal financial interests so that the litigants, press, and the general public can monitor and check these responsibilities.

Unfortunately, recent reporting by a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter and a hearing by the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet have shown that the law is not working as intended. The infrequency of judges' financial disclosures and the inaccessibility of the reports have made actual transparency practically impossible.

When the House first passed this version of the legislation last year, an investigation revealed that, between 2010 and 2018, over 130 Federal judges had decided cases in which they are part owners of the parties before them. Over 60 judges have actively traded shares in entities involved in their courthouse deliberations while their cases were still ongoing and, in some cases, profited from these trades.

At the time, this investigation also discovered approximately 685 cases where judges should have, according to the law, recused themselves. That number has continued to climb and now stands north of a thousand cases. So far, judges in 836 cases have notified the parties that the case can be reopened because the judge unlawfully failed to recuse.

While these numbers are incredibly alarming on their own, they may simply be the tip of the iceberg. I am sorry to say that we can expect these numbers may continue to grow as more data becomes available and investigations continue.

The consequences of these actions are both acute and widespread. Failure to recuse can cause real harm to parties seeking fair and impartial justice and leave a cloud of doubt over any decision that is made once the conflicts are subsequently uncovered.

S. 3059 addresses these problems by requiring Federal judges to abide by the same periodic transaction reporting laws already applicable to Members of Congress and senior executive branch officials.

The bill also requires the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts to create an online database of judicial financial disclosure reports and to timely update that database with searchable, sortable, and downloadable copies of disclosure reports as they become available so that litigants, the press, and the public can analyze and access this information in real time.

The two versions of this legislation, including the original version passed by the House and the bill currently before us, S. 3059, make two notable changes.

First, it makes it crystal clear that these reforms also cover bankruptcy and magistrate court judges. This is a welcome change.

Second, in response to concerns raised by the courts, it allows the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts to take more than 180 days to develop the public website and database containing judicial financial disclosure reports so long as the Director provides the Congress with a date certain when the website will launch. We expect that the Administrative Office of the Courts will request no more time than a few more months and will not use this authority to delay disclosure.

These simple solutions are long overdue and the product of bicameral and bipartisan collaboration.

I thank Congresswoman ROSS for her leadership in this area and Congressman ISSA for championing this legislation. I also thank my friend from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON), chairman of the Subcommittee on the Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet, as well as Senator CORNYN and the other Senators who worked on this bipartisan bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1230

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I join with the chairman in support of all of the changes that were added in the Senate, they were thoughtful, and I believe not just appropriate but necessary.

I don't want to pile on the same statements made already because they were accurate and I agree with them. Rather, because there has been fairly public pushback from some members of the Article III court that we are meddling in their business, I have given it a lot of thought and discussed it with a number of scholars.

I think the American people need to understand that the executive branch does not have the authority to pass laws, and the judicial branch does not have the ability to pass laws. When it comes to establishing laws for transparency reporting and the American people's right to know, there is, in fact, only one body that can initiate and send for the President's signature statutes of transparency and accountability.

So even though this is a 1978 law being modified, the fact that there is pushback from a branch saying that under separation of powers we are somehow meddling by substantially harmonizing what the executive branch and this branch do to make sure the American people have confidence in what we own that might, in fact, be influencing what we do. It seems to be one of those areas in which I believe the American people, properly explained, would fully support.

For that reason, I would hope that as this bill becomes law that the members of the court would recognize we had no choice. Faced with clear examples—even one being too much—of a judge who had holdings and simultaneously affected the value of those holdings while either owning them or trading them or both, we had no choice but to recognize that that absence of transparency was critical.

I want to simply close by saying that this is likely not to lead to a lot more recusals. This is certainly going to lead to the kind of information that attorneys need to have on behalf of their clients when they are working through a case.

If you know that a judge or his spouse or her spouse owns something, why wouldn't you be aware of that when you have a case involving that company? If you know that they own a substantial amount of a sister company, one that is not involved in the litigation, but in fact, could benefit by an adverse decision, the attorneys for both sides should know that.

We are just not dealing in the failure to recuse here. Reporting transparency, in fact, empowers both sides to know the lay of the land that might be very meaningful in a case. Yes, there will be some that see that and ask for recusals. I trust that judges who, after the fact when these 130 cases were reported, some of the judges said they didn't know about it, they didn't know they had it, or they didn't know their spouse had these holdings. That may very well be true. Some of them said they didn't know they were supposed to report. That may be true.

But when this is implemented we will be in a position to say, of course the public knew, and empowering the public on this not private information because ultimately we are public officials. I am a public official, the chairman is a public official, the Speaker is a public official, and so are those honored to serve as magistrates, bankruptcy judges, and Article III judges.

I hope that this minor change will represent a major step for us in bringing back the confidence of the American people that they do not have to blindly go into a case not knowing whether the heavy hand of the law might be weighing against them without their knowledge.

Mr. Speaker, it seems like only yesterday I was speaking on this subject.

This is an important step. I know that we will have broad bipartisan support on it. I hope that we will have not just acceptance but an embracement by the judges who now will be reporting and providing more information to the public that the public has—and particularly litigants—have every right to know before they go before that judge.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chair for his help in shepherding this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Framers, in their infinite wisdom, created a system of government with three separate and coequal branches: Article I, legislative branch; Article II, executive branch; and Article III, judicial branch, three separate but coequal branches of government.

Justice Brandeis once said: In a democracy, sunlight is the best of disinfectants. There are standards of transparency and disclosure that already exist as relates to the Article I legislative branch and senior officials within the Article II executive branch. Those same standards of transparency and disclosure allowing for accountability should exist across the three branches of government. This legislation takes a meaningful step in that direction.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Congresswoman ROSS for her leadership. I thank Congressman ISSA for his leadership. I thank Chairman JOHNSON, as well as Senator CORNYN, and those who have worked on this important legislation in a bipartisan, bicameral way.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3059.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OR TO RELEASE UNITED STATES CITIZEN PAUL WHELAN

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 336) calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 336

Whereas United States citizen Paul Whelan is a resident of Novi, Michigan, and a United States Marine Corps veteran;

Whereas Paul Whelan traveled to Moscow for the wedding of a personal friend on December 22, 2018;

Whereas Russia's Federal Security Service arrested Paul Whelan at the Metropol Hotel in Moscow on December 28, 2018, and charged him with espionage;

Whereas the Federal Security Service has never provided any evidence of supposed wrongdoing;

Whereas Paul Whelan was imprisoned in Lefortovo Prison and was held there for more than 19 months after his arrest in pretrial detention;

Whereas a Moscow court extended Paul Whelan's pretrial detention multiple times without publicly presenting justification or evidence of wrongdoing;

Whereas even Paul Whelan's Federal Security Service-appointed lawyer, Vladimir Zherebenkov, said on May 24, 2019, ''[The Federal Security Service] always roll[s] out what they have, but in this case, we've seen nothing concrete against Whelan in five months. That means there is nothing.'';

Whereas the then United States Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Jon Huntsman, responded on April 12, 2019, to a question about the detention of Paul Whelan, ''If the Russians have evidence, they should bring it forward. We have seen nothing. If there was a case, I think the evidence would have been brought forward by now.'';

Whereas then Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov on May 14, 2019, and urged him to ensure United States citizens are not unjustly held abroad;

Whereas the Kremlin has refused Paul Whelan full access to his lawyer and the so-called evidence against him;

Whereas any evidence he has seen is in Russian, a language Paul does not read or speak;

Whereas Lefortovo pretrial detention facility and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs refused to provide medical treatment for Paul Whelan's medical condition, despite being aware of its worsening state, resulting in emergency surgery on May 29, 2020;

Whereas Paul Whelan was wrongfully convicted on June 15, 2020, and sentenced to 16 years in a Russian labor camp by a 3-judge panel, in a trial witnessed by then United States Ambassador John Sullivan, who referred to it as ''a mockery of justice'' due to the denial of a fair trial and the exclusion of defense witnesses;

Whereas in August 2020, on an unknown day because he was moved secretly, Paul Whelan was transferred to camp IK–17, a penal labor camp in Mordovia, where he is forced to work 6 days a week in a garment factory;

Whereas Ambassador John Sullivan, while visiting Paul Whelan at the labor camp in Mordovia, stated that ''Russian authorities . . . have never shown the world evidence of his guilt,'' and reiterated his call that the Russian authorities correct this injustice and release Mr. Whelan; and

Whereas Secretary of State Antony Blinken spoke with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on February 4, 2021, and urged him to release Americans detained in Russia, including Paul Whelan and Trevor Reed, so that they are able to return home to their families in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) demands the Government of the Russian Federation present credible evidence on the allegations against Paul Whelan or immediately release him from imprisonment;

(2) demands the Government of the Russian Federation comply with its international treaty obligations and provide unrestricted consular access to Paul Whelan while he remains imprisoned in Russia;

(3) calls on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide Paul Whelan, Trevor Reed, and all others imprisoned for political motivations or otherwise unjustly imprisoned their constitutionally afforded due process rights and universally recognized human rights; and

(4) expresses sympathy to the family of Paul Whelan for this travesty to justice and personal hardship, and expresses hope that their ordeal can soon be brought to a just end.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 336, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 336, calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative STEVENS for her tireless work on behalf of her constituent, Paul Whelan, whom Russia has held hostage as a political prisoner for over 3 years.

For more than 1,300 days the Russian Government has put Paul and his family through unimaginable torment: taking away Paul's freedom, threatening his health, and denying him his most basic human rights—all for the purpose of using an American citizen—a human being—as a political bargaining chip.

Paul's treatment at the hands of the Russian Government and its so-called justice system is shocking, but unfortunately, hardly surprising.

As we witness the horrors committed by Putin, his enablers, and Russian forces in Ukraine, we are reminded of the lengths that the authoritarian regime in the Kremlin will go to achieve its nefarious objectives. But neither Paul nor any political prisoner is a tool to be used for an end. They are human beings with families who just want to see justice served and see their loved ones home safe and sound.

In light of the horrific treatment Paul has endured, I thank our wonderful diplomats in Russia, particularly Ambassador John Sullivan, as well as Special Envoy for Hostage Affairs, Roger Carstens, working under tremendous pressure from the Russian Government to see that Paul Whelan, Brittney Griner, and other Americans detained in Russia are treated with dignity and that their human rights are respected.

Good news today, we are thrilled that in large part due to their work, Trevor Reed is now on his way home. We cannot stop until Paul's family and other families with Americans detained overseas are given that same relief. These families work tirelessly to remind us that we cannot stop pushing—they deserve that same level of dedication from all of us.

H. Res. 336, calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan, takes another step toward securing that safe and swift release of American citizens from unjust detention abroad.

Mr. Speaker, I support this important resolution and thank the gentlewoman from Michigan for introducing it. I urge all Members to vote in support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to be here with Congressman DEAN PHILLIPS as we work together, unintentionally united by war criminal Putin, as Democrats and Republicans are united for freedom.

Mr. Speaker, on December 28, 2018, U.S. citizen Paul Whelan was arrested in Moscow. On June 15, 2020, he was sentenced to 16 years in a Putin labor camp. He remains behind bars to this day for a crime he did not commit. No real evidence of Paul's guilt was ever provided, defense witnesses were excluded, and he was denied a fair trial.

U.S. Ambassador John Sullivan described Paul's wrongful conviction exactly right—a mockery of justice. Paul is an American and a U.S. Marine Corps veteran. The U.S. Congress cannot remain silent as Paul remains unjustly held by the thug in the Kremlin.

The resolution we are considering today shows we have not forgotten—and will never forget—Paul or any other American wrongfully detained in Russia.

I was thrilled and relieved today to learn that Trevor Reed has been released from his unjust detention in Russia. Trevor, another former U.S. Marine, had spent years behind bars on completely fabricated charges.

However, we cannot rest until Paul and every single wrongfully detained American is home safely with their families as well.

As it launched its full-scale murderous invasion of Ukraine, the Putin regime has stepped up its reprehensible practice of targeting Americans for unfounded detentions. In February, Brittney Griner, a WNBA—that is the Women's National Basketball Association—player was arrested for allegedly bringing drugs into Russia. She faces up to 10 years in prison, if convicted. I fear she too will be held hostage by the Russian dictator. I appreciate her Member of Congress, SHEILA JACKSON LEE of Houston, for being such an outspoken proponent for her release.

I would be remiss not to mention Vladimir Kara-Murza too. He is one of the fiercest advocates of a democratic Russia, who has been poisoned twice by the Putin regime, and who faces up to 15 years in prison for speaking the truth about Putin's unprovoked war of aggression and murder in Ukraine. He is a brave freedom fighter who does not deserve to be locked up for shining a light on Putin's brutality and corruption.

Putin must stop using innocent Americans as diplomatic pawns and release them immediately.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution so Paul and his family know that the U.S. Congress stands with them, Democrats and Republicans, and will do everything in our power to make sure Paul can join Trevor in coming back home.

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

□ 1245

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS).

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today—as I have every day I have served in this very Chamber—on behalf of my constituent, Paul Whelan, who has been wrongfully detained in Russia since the end of December, 2018.

Throughout Mr. Whelan's detention, the Russian Government has repeatedly violated his rights, denied him proper medical care, and refused to provide any evidence to substantiate the charges against him. He was held in pretrial detention for over 18 months in the notorious Lefortovo Prison. Then Mr. Whelan's trial was held behind closed doors, and his defense was prohibited from calling witnesses. Mr. Whelan now serves a 16-year sentence of hard labor, and he is in his fifties. He is currently being held in a prison camp where he has been since August 2020, facing unbelievably harsh conditions, injury, and illness.

Early this morning the news broke that fellow American, Trevor Reed, a marine and Texan who had also been wrongfully imprisoned in Russia, was freed through a prisoner swap orchestrated by President Biden. This is incredible news.

While this is incredible news for Mr. Reed and his family, let us say in this Chamber that Paul and his family deserve to experience the same joy and relief. Paul has been imprisoned longer than any other detained American in Russia. He has had years stolen from him, including precious time with his aging parents and siblings. One by one, he has lost his home in Novi, his job, his ability to communicate with friends, his beloved dog, Flora, and so much more. I want to see my constituent of Novi, Michigan, back home.

This innocent man has had his life and his livelihood stolen from him by Vladimir Putin. Today, we have the opportunity as a Congress to denounce Paul's wrongful imprisonment and stand up to the lawlessness of the Putin regime. In the years since Paul's detention, we have seen Mr. Putin further isolate himself on the world stage as his government has dissolved into one of true lawlessness leading to threats and violence. We have all borne witness to the tragic loss of life of thousands of innocent Ukrainians and watched while a democratic nation is being destroyed at the directive of this dangerous war criminal. We must stand up from this Chamber.

I thank my colleagues who have joined us. I thank Mr. KEATING, and I certainly recognize the chairman, Mr. MEEKS, and the ranking member, Mr. MCCAUL, for their attention to this matter.

If Paul is watching this, he will know that I am praying for him, I am rooting for him, and I will never stop fighting for him. Let's pass H. Res. 336 immediately.

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from South Carolina for the time, and, of course, I thank my friend, Mr. PHILLIPS, for leading the debate on this important issue.

Once again, we gather on the House floor in unity—Republicans and Democrats—to counter Putin's behavior.

Last year, I cofounded the first Congressional Task Force for American Hostages and Americans Wrongfully Detained Abroad with my friend, TED DEUTCH, from Florida.

I thank Representative STEVENS for being one of the first members of that task force, and that is why I rise in strong support of my friend HALEY STEVENS' resolution which calls for the release of Paul Whelan who is, in fact, unjustly imprisoned in Russia.

We have heard today in the debates some of the details of Paul's arrest and nearly 2 years in pretrial detention with no evidence publicly presented justifying wrongdoing.

All parts of our government, especially Members of Congress, who directly represent the families of those held hostage or wrongfully detained, must engage with friends and enemies alike, to ensure that Americans in situations like Paul Whelan's are expeditiously brought home. Further, Congress must continue to engage with the administration in situations like these to disincentivize the wrongful detention or hostage taking of Americans.

Last year, we passed a similar resolution on this floor in support of Trevor Reed and Paul Whelan. It was, in fact, rewarding this morning to hear that Trevor was released; but, he should have never been held, and the exchange of prisoners should have never been necessary.

But today, Mr. Speaker, on a combined basis, Republicans and Democrats, let us issue a message to Paul Whelan: We have not forgotten you.

And let this message be clear that countries that engage in political hostage taking must stop the disgraceful practice and be held accountable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support Representative STEVENS' resolution.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG).

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 336 and, once again, call on the Russian Government to release American citizen, Paul Whelan. I thank my colleague, Congresswoman HALEY STEVENS, for her undying leadership in fighting this travesty—and it is a travesty.

It has now been over 3 years since Paul Whelan—a marine veteran, a Michigan resident, and, most importantly, an American citizen—was imprisoned in Russia without proper evidence or a fair trial. It was a sham trial; that is the messaging Paul wanted to convey to the world as an unjust Russian judicial system handed out a ridiculous sentence. Throughout his detainment, he has also been denied access to proper medical treatment, despite a sharp decline in his health.

Just this week, I returned from Ukraine where Russian atrocities have been on display to the entire world. Make no mistake about that. We saw heartbreaking devastation that has impacted so many lives. But tragically, Vladimir Putin's barbaric behavior is not new. He has no concern for even the most basic of human rights.

Today, the House must send an unequivocal message to the Kremlin: It is time to end the maltreatment of Paul Whelan.

We just learned the good news that Trevor Reed, another American detained in Russia, was released from prison. We are calling for Paul to be next.

I want to close with a message to Paul's dear parents, Rosemary and Ed, who live in my district in Manchester, Michigan; and to Paul's siblings, Elizabeth, David, and Andrew. I know this has been an incredibly trying time for your family. I admire your resolve in the face of adversity. I grieve with you. I pray for you. And I continue to stand with you.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for Paul Whelan to come home to Michigan.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank Representative HALEY STEVENS for her work on this resolution. You can tell it is from the heart, and we are working together, again, Republicans and Democrats.

How fortunate we are, with the leadership of Congressman TIM WALBERG, to have spent the Orthodox Christian Easter weekend in Ukraine to visit with Lviv, to be in Kiev, to be in the Bucha region where the atrocities were so horrific, and to be on a delegation with Congresswoman VICTORIA SPARTZ, who was actually born in Soviet Ukraine, and now she has seen it become a free Ukraine. Our country is so blessed by the number of Ukrainians who have come to live in our country and then support their maintenance, victory, and winning for freedom in Ukraine.

As the world watches in horror at the war crimes and atrocities that the war criminal Putin is committing in Ukraine, we must also condemn the Russian dictator's practice of exploiting innocent Americans as political pawns.

I urge my colleagues to join in supporting this resolution. This will send a strong message to Paul and the other wrongfully detained Americans in Russia that Congress will not rest until they are returned home to their families.

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

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

I also thank my dear friend and colleague from South Carolina for delivering to me a Ukraine-United States solidarity pin that I now wear proudly on my lapel.

Freedom is at the core of our American values. It is the backbone of democracy. We have Americans stuck in Russia and around the world being held against their will and without explanation to be used as political bargaining chips.

During this time of horrific atrocities, their safe and secure release is all the more imperative. H. Res. 336 takes action to secure the safety of our fellow Americans, including Brittany Griner and Paul Whelan, who are at the mercy of Vladimir Putin, an evil dictator who has no regard for human life.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 336, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ASSESSING XI'S INTERFERENCE AND SUBVERSION ACT

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7314) to require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on the People's Republic of China's support to the Russian Federation with respect to its unprovoked invasion of and full-scale war against Ukraine, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7314

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 ''Assessing Xi's Interference and Subversion Act'' or ''AXIS Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) On February 4, 2022, weeks ahead of the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine, Russia and the People's Republic of China released a joint statement following a meeting between Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping, which outlined a strategic partnership with ''no limits'' and no ''forbidden'' areas for cooperation.

(2) On February 24, 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine in an unprovoked and unjustified act of war.

(3) China abstained from voting on the February 25, 2022, United Nations Security Council resolution and the March 2, 2022, United Nations General Assembly resolution condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

(4) As of April 1, 2022, China has not publicly condemned Russia's unprovoked and illegal invasion of Ukraine.

(5) In his call with Xi Jinping on March 18, 2022, President Joe Biden communicated that there would be ''implications and consequences if China provides material support to Russia as it conducts brutal attacks against Ukrainian cities and civilians''.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the People's Republic of China's disinformation efforts relating to the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine make it culpable in whitewashing Russia's war crimes, which include the indiscriminate killing of countless Ukrainian men, women, and children; and

(2) if China is found to be materially supporting Russia in its war against Ukraine, there should be swift and stringent consequences for China.

SEC. 3. REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce and the Director of National Intelligence as appropriate, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on whether and how the People's Republic of China, including the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese Communist Party, any Chinese state-owned enterprise, and any other Chinese entity, has provided support to the Russian Federation with respect to its unprovoked invasion of and full-scale war against Ukraine.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include a discussion of the People's Republic of China support to the Russian Federation with respect to—

(1) helping the Government of Russia or Russian entities evade or circumvent United

States sanctions or multilateral sanctions and export controls;

(2) deliberately inhibiting onsite United States Government export control end-use checks, including interviews and investigations, in China;

(3) providing Russia with any technology, including semiconductors classified as EAR99, that supports Russian intelligence or military capabilities;

(4) establishing economic or financial arrangements that will have the effect of alleviating the impact of United States sanctions or multilateral sanctions;

(5) furthering Russia's disinformation and propaganda efforts;

(6) coordinating to hinder the response of multilateral organizations, including the United Nations, to provide assistance to the people or Government of Ukraine, to condemn Russia's war, to hold Russia accountable for the invasion and its prosecution of the war, or to hold those complicit accountable; and

(7) providing any material, technical, or logistical support, including to Russian military or intelligence agencies and state-owned or state-linked enterprises.

(c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form and published on the Department of State's publicly available website.

(d) SUNSET.—The requirement to submit the report required by subsection (a) shall terminate on the earlier of—

(1) the date on which the Secretary of State determines the conflict in Ukraine has ended; or

(2) the date that is 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7314, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7314, the AXIS Act, authored by our committee colleague, Representative ANDY BARR.

The world watched in horror as Russia launched its latest invasion of Ukraine, marking an egregious violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and a disdain for the rules-based international order. Russia has mercilessly killed thousands of innocent civilians. Graphic images of death and destruction from Bucha and Mariupol lay bare: There is no defense for Putin's barbarity.

Amid this carnage, the international community has overwhelmingly come together to condemn Russia's brutal, unprovoked aggression against Ukraine and hold Russia accountable for the gross atrocities being committed.

While China has tried to distance itself from Russia's war of choice against Ukraine, it has, at best, remained neutral in the face of this violence, demonstrating a woeful abdication of its self-proclaimed role as a responsible stakeholder. Worse, growing signs indicate China is aligning itself more closely with Russia.

Just before Russia's invasion of Ukraine, President Putin and Chairman Xi released a joint statement calling for closer strategic cooperation. While China has publicly denied any foreknowledge of the invasion, it discounted and ignored American intelligence showing Russian buildup around Ukraine. At no point since the invasion began has China condemned Russia for its invasion nor for its subsequent human rights atrocities.

The PRC has chosen to employ a disinformation campaign to spread harmful narratives about Russia's assault on Ukraine. Both within China and abroad, the PRC is promoting Russian propaganda about the war and echoing Russian's absurd justifications for the invasion, going so far as accusing the United States for Russia's one-sided aggression.

President Biden has warned China that there will be consequences if it decides to materially support Russia's war or helps it skirt U.S. export controls and sanctions. H.R. 7314 would require the Secretary of State to report on any efforts made by the PRC to support Russia's unprovoked, unjust, and illegal invasion of Ukraine.

This bipartisan measure is vital to ensure Congress and the American people stay informed about how, if at all, China might be supporting Russia in Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, I support swift passage of this timely and urgent bill, I urge my colleagues to do the same, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the AXIS Act, A-X-I-S, a bill that is to require the Department of State to report on China's support of Putin's unprovoked, full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, the Chinese Communist Party is complicit in Russia's crimes against the people of Ukraine.

Xi and Putin established a no-limits partnership with their joint statement that foolishly cast NATO as an aggressor. They coordinated the timing of the invasion to avoid disturbing the CCP's genocide Olympics. The Chinese state media has regurgitated Russian propaganda, and instead of joining the world in sanctioning Putin, the CCP is working with Putin to avoid sanctions.

□ 1300

We are already seeing the results of this unholy alliance between the two dictators, and it is essential that CCP support of the Russian invasion of Ukraine become a matter of public record.

I thank our colleague from Kentucky (Mr. BARR) for introducing the AXIS Act. This bill requires an unclassified report on the full scope of CCP support of the Putin invasion, from sanctions violations, to disinformation, to the sale of controlled technology.

If the United States is going to counter the national security threat of this new axis of autocrats working together, we must understand how they are working together in the conflict between autocrats, which are ruled by gun, against democracy, which is ruled by law.

Mr. BARR's bill fills this need. I thank the gentleman for introducing the AXIS Act, and I urge our colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. BARR).

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from South Carolina for his leadership on the Foreign Affairs Committee, his leadership in the Congress, and his advocacy for the free people of Ukraine.

Mr. Speaker, as the United States, our NATO allies, and other allies respond to Vladimir Putin's unprovoked and brutal attack on the free, sovereign, and independent nation of Ukraine, we must assess the many ways in which Russia is seeking to evade sanctions. That includes the extent to which Russia is turning to China to enable its aggression.

Mr. Speaker, the unholy alliance between the Chinese Communist Party and the authoritarian oligarchs running the Kremlin is a serious threat to the United States and our allies. It is enabling this illegal aggression against Ukraine.

On February 4, Russia and the CCP released a joint statement following a meeting with Vladimir Putin and Xi Jinping outlining a strategic partnership with ''no limits.''

Following Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, China refused to condemn Russia's gross violation of international law. China has continued to be silent while Russia targets and kills innocent women, children, and civilians in Ukraine.

Instead of condemning Putin's war crimes, the CCP is rewarding them. On February 28, after the invasion, the CCP struck a massive deal with the Russian energy company Gazprom. Gazprom will deliver 50 billion cubic meters of natural gas per year to the CCP under the agreement.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the United States to confront this new axis of evil

head-on. My legislation, the Assessing Xi's Interference and Subversion Act, or the AXIS Act, requires the U.S. State Department to submit an ongoing report to Congress detailing the CCP's support for Russia before and since the invasion of Ukraine. This includes troubling reports about CCP efforts to assist Russia in evading the effects of international sanctions.

The AXIS Act also requires the State Department to submit its first report to Congress within 30 days of the bill being enacted and 90 days thereafter. I plan on receiving a commitment from Secretary Blinken at tomorrow's Foreign Affairs Committee hearing that he will comply with this deadline.

I thank my Democratic and Republican colleagues on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, including Chairman MEEKS and Ranking Member MCCAUL, for their support. I thank my friend from Minnesota for his support of this legislation, and I thank my friend from South Carolina, as well, for helping us unanimously pass this bill out of committee.

The threat that this new axis of evil poses to the United States is not a Republican one or a Democratic one. It is an American one. This full report on the Russia-CCP alliance will inform the American public and enable lawmakers to begin positioning the United States to overcome this geopolitical challenge.

As a member of the House China Task Force, and with my strong belief that freedom must be defended from the aggression of authoritarians, like this invasion that we have seen, we must confront it; we must repel it; and we must call it out when we see it. That is why I urge all of my colleagues in the House to vote ''yes.''

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. WILSON for yielding and for his leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the AXIS Act. We must take strong steps to investigate if and how the Chinese Government and affiliated entities are helping Russia evade sanctions after Vladimir Putin's unprovoked invasion of Ukraine.

While the United States, our NATO allies, and countries around the world have strongly condemned and taken action during Vladimir Putin's invasion, the silence and deference from Chinese Government officials is deafening.

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi continues to say Russia is China's most important strategic partner. We know that as Russia continues to invade Ukraine, China is eyeing Taiwan. We must show dictators that they cannot invade a free country and ally unprovoked without consequences.

I am proud to cosponsor the AXIS Act, and I thank my friend, Congressman ANDY BARR, for leading this bill.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I especially appreciate the people of China. My father served in 1944 as a member of the Flying Tigers, the 14th Air Force of the Army Air Corps of the United States, to defend the people of China in World War II. He served in Kunming, Chengdu, and Xi'an, and he had a deep affection for the people of China. We want the best for the people of China.

Sadly, at every step of Russia's unprovoked, full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the CCP has chosen to reject the free world and embrace Putin's mass murder. Just last week, one of the CCP's top Foreign Ministry officials promised to increase strategic coordination with Russia, regardless of Russia's war crimes. But we know that Ukraine will win with the leadership of President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

They need to be held accountable at the CCP, and Congressman ANDY BARR's legislation does just that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, when it comes to China and Russia, I do not trust empty words; I verify.

H.R. 7314, the AXIS Act, will help Congress and the American people stay informed about how, if at all, China might be supporting Russia in its unprovoked, unjust, and illegal invasion of Ukraine.

It is of the utmost importance for this body and the world to understand whether China is complicit in the gross atrocities and war crimes being committed against the Ukrainian people. Doing so will allow us to adjust our strategies and policies as necessary to further isolate Russia and deepen support for the Ukrainian people.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7314, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

PROTECTING SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAIN MATERIALS FROM AUTHORITARIANS ACT

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7372) to amend the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 to require the President to establish a semiconductor supply chain working group in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and submit reports to Congress on potential future disruptions to the supply chain.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7372

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Protecting Semiconductor Supply Chain Materials from Authoritarians Act''.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO THE UKRAINE FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT OF 2014.

The Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 8921 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 11 as section 13; and

(2) by inserting after section 10 the following new sections:

''SEC. 11. WORKING GROUP ON SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY DISRUPTIONS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the President shall establish an interagency working group to address semiconductor supply chain issues caused by the Russia's illegal and unprovoked attack on Ukraine.

''(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The interagency working group established pursuant to subsection (a) shall be comprised of the head, or designee of the head, of each of the following:

''(1) The Department of State.

''(2) The Department of Defense.

''(3) The Department of Commerce.

''(4) The Department of the Treasury.

''(5) The Office of the United States Trade Representative.

''(6) The Department of Interior.

''(7) The Department of Energy.

''(8) The Department of Homeland Security.

''(9) The Department of Labor.

''(10) Any other Federal department or agency the President determines appropriate.

''(c) CHAIR.—The Secretary of State shall serve as the chair of the working group established pursuant to subsection (a).

''SEC. 12. REPORTS ON SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAIN DISRUPTIONS.

''(a) REPORT ON IMPACT OF RUSSIA'S INVASION OF UKRAINE.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of State shall submit to the committees listed in subsection (b) a report of the interagency working group that—

''(1) reviews and analyzes—

''(A) the impact of Russia's unprovoked attack on Ukraine on the supply of palladium, neon gas, helium, and hexafluorobutadiene (C4F6); and

''(B) the impact, if any, on supply chains and the global economy;

''(2) recounts diplomatic efforts by the United States to work with other countries that mine, synthesize, or purify palladium, neon gas, helium, or hexafluorobutadiene (C4F6);

''(3) quantifies the actions resulting from these efforts to diversify sources of supply of these items;

''(4) sets forth steps the United States has taken to bolster its production or secure supply of palladium or other compounds and elements listed in paragraph (1)(A);

''(5) lists any other important elements, compounds, or products in the semiconductor supply chain that have been affected by Russia's illegal attack on Ukraine; and

''(6) recommends any potential legislative steps that could be taken by Congress to further bolster the supply of elements, compounds, or products for the semiconductor supply chain that have been curtailed as a result of Russia's actions.

''(b) COMMITTEES LISTED.—The committees listed in this subsection are—

''(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives; and

''(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

''(c) ANNUAL REPORT ON POTENTIAL FUTURE SHOCKS TO SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAINS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report of the interagency working group that—

''(A) outlines and plans for the most likely future geopolitical developments that could severely disrupt global semiconductor supply chains in ways that could harm the national security or economic interests of the United States;

''(B) forecasts the various potential impacts on the global supply chain for semiconductors, and products that use semiconductors, from the developments outlined pursuant to subparagraph (A), as well as the following contingencies—

''(i) an invasion of Taiwan or geopolitical instability or conflict in East Asia;

''(ii) a broader war or geopolitical instability in Europe;

''(iii) strategic competitors dominating parts of the supply chain and leveraging that dominance coercively;

''(iv) a future international health crisis; and

''(v) natural disasters or shortages of natural resources and raw materials;

''(C) describes the kind of continency plans that would be needed for the safe evacuation of individuals with deep scientific and technical knowledge of semiconductors and their supply chain from areas under risk from conflict or natural disaster; and

''(D) evaluates the current technical and supply chain work force expertise within the Federal government to carry out these assessments.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7372.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7372, the Protecting Semiconductor Supply Chain Materials from Authoritarians Act.

The pandemic has exposed how intricate, how fragile, and how globalized supply chains are in 2022. Many of the products our families know and use every day, whether it is our cars, our computers, our smartphones, or our refrigerators, are the products of complex components assembled all around the globe. Semiconductors are a prime example, as they power just about every electronic device in existence.

America is the global leader in semiconductors because our semiconductor design companies are the global leaders. No country is capable of making advanced semiconductors without American innovation and know-how.

But we are also reliant on other nations that are a part of the semiconductor supply chain. Ukraine and Russia are crucial providers of important compounds and elements that are necessary for their production, including palladium, neon gas, helium, and C4F6. Without these gases, many types of semiconductors cannot be produced. Most chip-making companies had a little extra supply of these products before Putin started his immoral, unjustifiable invasion, but these stores are quickly dwindling.

This bill directs the President to quickly address this problem and forces the administration to work with our allies and partners to ramp up production of these key elements and compounds. It also asks the administration to look ahead to future geopolitical threats and analyze how we can prepare for potential instability down the road.

I thank Representative TITUS for her work on this important bill and for working in a bipartisan way with Representative MEIJER.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this valuable legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Protecting Semiconductor Supply Chain Materials from Authoritarians Act.

H.R. 7372 would set up a high-level interagency task force to make sure that we have a whole-of-government effort to anticipate and respond to the impacts on the supply chain for semiconductors.

The semiconductor supply chain has long been under strain, which has only been exacerbated by the COVID pandemic. On top of that, the war criminal Putin's invasion of Ukraine has only added to the problem. It has interrupted critical inputs into the semiconductor supply chain, such as palladium, neon gas, and helium.

While it certainly is important to know the impacts on this critical supply chain caused by Russia's invasion, the United States must take a holistic approach and work with our allies and partners to strengthen the entire semiconductor supply chain and protect it from being dominated by the Chinese Communist Party.

I am pleased that this bill also requires forward-looking assessments to understand the impact to the supply chain by a possible invasion of Taiwan, a courageous beacon of democracy in the East that manufactures 90 percent of advanced logic semiconductors.

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

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MEIJER).

Mr. MEIJER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 7372, the Protecting Semiconductor Supply Chain Materials from Authoritarians Act.

This bill, which I helped introduce with Representative TITUS, is an incredibly timely bill and focuses on two of the most pressing issues today: the war in Ukraine and our semiconductor supply chain shortages.

Over the past 2 years, we have seen unprecedented challenges to our supply chain. The current war in Ukraine has exacerbated each and every one of these challenges, threatening our supply of critical minerals, including the supply for semiconductors.

□ 1315

From cell phones and cars to medical devices, we all know the integral role that semiconductors play in our everyday lives. My home State of Michigan knows all too well the challenges that the semiconductor shortage have created for our economy. A threat to our supply chains is a matter of both economic and national security, and we need a robust and coordinated response to any threats to our semiconductor supply chain. This bill offers just that.

By establishing a working group focused specifically on the threats to our semiconductor supply chain as a result of Putin's illegal war of aggression in Ukraine, we can ensure that all available resources and expertise are being used to examine how our critical mineral supply is affected by the ongoing war. This legislation also examines how we can bolster our supply of critical minerals, as well as how we in Congress can offer legislative solutions to help support and strengthen our supply chains.

We know now that our global supply chain is at a critical juncture, and if it can be disrupted for semiconductors, the threats will be endless to our economic and national security. This legislation allows us to take meaningful steps to identify how the ongoing war threatens the chain and what we can do to shore up our supply domestically.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) for leading this effort, and I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to close.

Mr. Speaker, the U.S. share of global semiconductor production has dropped from 37 percent in 1990 to 12 percent today, and it is projected to decline even further without a comprehensive U.S. strategy to support the industry.

This bill is a small step in the right direction, but we must do more to ensure these vital supply chains for semiconductors. If we fail, the impacts to our economy and national security will be monumental.

We are in a conflict of democracy with rule by law opposed by authoritarians of rule by gun.

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

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

H.R. 7372 is important legislation that will take practical steps to solve supply chain problems that would affect all Americans in a bipartisan way.

This is exactly the type of work we were elected to do. I applaud the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MEIJER) for their work on the Protecting Semiconductor Supply Chain Materials from Authoritarians Act.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7372.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

UKRAINE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 496) to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded by Russia, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 496

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 ''Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act''.

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to never recognize the illegal, attempted annexation of Crimea by the Government of the Russia or the separation through the use of military force or recognition of independence of any portion of Ukrainian territory; and

(2) to consider any alien who, while serving as an official of the Government of Russia, was responsible for or directly carried out particularly severe violations of religious freedom in the sovereign territory of Ukraine that Russia illegally occupies, controls, or recognizes as independent, including through non-state armed groups and illegal entities it commands or otherwise supports or which act on Russia's behalf, to have committed particularly severe violations of religious freedom for purposes of applying section 212(a)(2)(G) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)(G)) with respect to any such alien.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF RUSSIA AS A COUNTRY OF PARTICULAR CONCERN FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

For purposes of making a determination of whether to designate Russia as a country of particular concern for religious freedom under section 402 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6442), the President shall consider any particularly severe violation of religious freedom in the territory of Ukraine that Russia illegally occupies, controls, or recognizes as independent, including through non-state armed groups and illegal entities it commands or otherwise supports or which act on Russia's behalf, during the period of time that is the basis for the determination and designation, to be a particularly severe violation of religious freedom that the Government of Russia has engaged in or tolerated.

[SEC. 4. 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 Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 496, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H.R. 496, the Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act, and thank my committee colleague and friend, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON), for introducing it.

As we speak here in this Chamber, Russian forces are ravaging Ukrainian cities and towns. They are committing unspeakable atrocities and war crimes against innocent civilians and continuing to wage an unprovoked and unjustified war. The world cannot and will not overlook or forget Russia's heinous acts of aggression, nor the war crimes and other human rights violations it is committing.

But, sadly, Russia's human rights violations against Ukrainian civilians and on sovereign Ukrainian territory started well before February of this year. Ever since Russia illegally attempted to annex Crimea and backed the separatists in the Donbas region, Russia and Russian-backed forces, as well as the so-called authorities in those regions, have demonstrated a complete disregard for human rights, including the rights of Ukrainians and others to practice their religions freely.

That is why H.R. 496 is so critically important. We must hold accountable those Russians and Russian-backed individuals responsible for committing severe violations of religious freedom on Ukrainian sovereign territory. Not only must we ensure that it is held accountable for the daily human rights violations that characterize its illegal war in Ukraine, but also for those committed long before this latest invasion.

Given that the U.S. may take actions, including by withdrawing development assistance, against countries who defy religious freedoms protected under U.S. Federal law, H.R. 496 directs the President to include Russia-controlled areas and groups when determining concern for religious freedoms and funding eligibility for Russia.

Mr. Speaker, I support this important legislation and thank the gentleman from South Carolina once again for introducing it. I urge all Members to vote in support, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, April 20, 2022.

Hon. GREGORY MEEKS,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MEEKS: This letter is to advise you that the Committee on the Judiciary has now had an opportunity to review the provisions in H.R. 496, the ''Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act,'' that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. I appreciate your consulting with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee has no objection to your including them in the bill for consideration on the House floor, and to expedite that consideration is willing to forgo action on H.R. 496, with the understanding that we do not thereby waive any future jurisdictional claim over those provisions or their subject matters.

In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, the Judiciary Committee reserves the right to request an appropriate number of conferees to address any concerns with these or similar provisions that may arise in conference.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our committees.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2022.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 496, Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act, as amended. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation.

I acknowledge that provisions of the bill fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary under House Rule X, and that your Committee will forgo action on H.R. 496 to expedite floor consideration. I further acknowledge that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your jurisdiction. I also acknowledge that your Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward, and will support the appointment of Committee on the Judiciary conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation.

Lastly, I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation regarding the legislation. I look forward to continuing to work with you as the measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

GREGORY W. MEEKS,
Chairman.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bill that I am grateful to have introduced with the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLEAVER), my longtime friend and codel colleague, the Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act.

It is important that we first acknowledge the heinous escalation by the war criminal Putin, as he continues to wage a one-sided, full-scale war in sovereign, democratic Ukraine. Putin's war in Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea have dragged on for 8 years. The human toll is staggering.

Prior to the full-scale invasion, fighting in the Russian-occupied regions had already claimed over 13,000 Ukrainian lives, including thousands of innocent civilians. That is even before the current invasion.

Another casualty of Russian aggression in Ukraine has been the attack on religious freedom. Russian occupation authorities in Crimea continue to persecute and intimidate the minority Christian, Muslim, and other religious groups, like the Jehovah's Witnesses.

Putin's puppets in Crimea during the duration of their occupation subjected them to kidnappings, torture, forced psychiatric examinations, and imprisonment. Muslim Crimean Tatars have been sentenced to serve lengthy terms in Russian prisons on the entirely baseless charge of terrorism.

Minority religious groups in the area of eastern Ukraine controlled by pro-Putin proxies have also been forced to flee in order to escape the oppressive conditions. The religious persecution in Ukraine being committed at the hands of the Putin authorities is self-destructive and must be stopped.

Throughout American history, the United States has worked tirelessly to advance religious freedom and protect religious minorities around the globe. The bill follows that strong tradition by accomplishing the following:

One, making clear that it is the policy of the United States to never recognize the illegal attempted annexation of Crimea by Russia or the separation through the use of military force or recognition of independence of any portion of Ukrainian territory;

Second, it helps ensure that war criminal Putin and his cronies are held accountable by considering any official involved in carrying out severe violations of human rights in sovereign Ukrainian territory by applying the provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Three, additionally, this legislation requires a determination of whether to designate Russia as a country of concern for religious freedom.

We cannot allow these grave violations to continue. It is vital that the United States continues to be a leader in advancing international religious freedom around the world.

This bill not only brings international attention to the religious persecution being committed in the territory of Ukraine that Putin illegally occupies or controls through illegal armed groups it commands, but also ensures that war criminal Putin and his thugs are held accountable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is vital that the United States continue its tradition of advancing religious freedom and human rights around the world.

This bill brings accountability to the Putin regime for its crimes of oppressing religious minorities as it illegally occupies sovereign Ukrainian territory.

Additionally, it is so critical that the United States continue to send a clear message that it will never recognize Putin's illegal occupation of sovereign Ukrainian territory.

Mr. Speaker, as ranking member of the Helsinki Commission, I especially recognize our dear friend, the late Chairman Alcee Hastings for championing this issue and the Helsinki Commission for prioritizing human rights and holding war criminal Putin accountable for his continued violations of human rights and religious liberty in Ukraine.

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

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

I thank my friend and colleague from South Carolina. He is a gentleman and a champion of religious freedoms around the world. This is an example of what this institution, and we Americans can do together when we find common ground and set our minds to it in the face of such aggression and risk around the world.

Putin's flagrant violations of the basic human rights of Ukrainian civilians on Ukraine's sovereign territory are disturbing, and they are unacceptable. Freedom of religion is a moral imperative that the United States must continue to strive to defend as we support the people of Ukraine through these incredibly trying and horrific times.

This is personal to me. My own family fled Russian persecution during the pogroms of the late 19th century to come to this extraordinary country. Little could they have imagined that I would be standing here with you, my friend from South Carolina, talking about religious freedoms and doing everything we can as a country to preserve and protect those all around the world. That is what it means to be an American, not just here, but all around the world.

We must take action where we can, including by ensuring that the President considers all regions where Russian influence is determining future development funding for the Nation. I trust my colleagues will join me in supporting this terribly important bill to defend these freedoms all around the world.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 496, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

ASSET SEIZURE FOR UKRAINE RECONSTRUCTION ACT

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6930) to authorize the confiscation of assets subject to United States jurisdiction of certain foreign persons, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6930

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 ''Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act''.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress as follows:

(1) The President should take all constitutional steps to seize and confiscate assets under the jurisdiction of the United States of foreign persons whose wealth is derived in part through corruption linked to or political support for the regime of Russian President Vladimir Putin and with respect to which the President has imposed sanctions.

(2) The President, by means of instructions, licenses, or other regulations as may be promulgated and in a manner consistent with due process of law, should confiscate any property or accounts subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, valued over $2,000,000, and belonging to Russian energy companies or to foreign persons whose wealth is derived in part through corruption linked to or political support for the regime of Russian President Vladimir Putin and with respect to which the President has imposed sanctions.

(3) All rights, title, and interest in any property so confiscated should vest, upon the terms directed by the President, in such agency or person as the President may designate from time to time, and upon such terms and conditions as the President may prescribe.

(4) Such interest or property should be held, used, administered, liquidated, or sold, by such agency or person and such designated agency or person should perform any and all acts incident to the accomplishment or furtherance of these purposes.

(5) The President should use all liquidated funds for the benefit of the people of Ukraine, including for the following:

(A) Post-conflict reconstruction in Ukraine.

(B) Humanitarian assistance.

(C) United States government assistance provided to the security forces of the government of Ukraine.

(D) Provisions to support refugees and refugee resettlement in neighboring countries and in the United States.

(E) Technology items and services to ensure the free flow of information to the Ukrainian people in Ukraine, including items to counter internet censorship by Russian authorities, to circumvent efforts to shut down internet or communication services by Russian authorities and bolster the cybersecurity capabilities of Ukrainian Government or non-governmental organizations.

(F) Humanitarian and development assistance for the Russian people, including democracy and human rights programming and monitoring.

SEC. 3. INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP.

The President shall establish an interagency working group, which shall be headed by the Secretary of State, to determine the constitutional mechanisms through which the President can take steps to seize and confiscate assets under the jurisdiction of the United States of foreign persons whose wealth is derived in part through corruption linked to or political support for the regime of Russian President Vladimir Putin and with respect to which the President has imposed sanctions.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON STEPS AND AUTHORITIES.

Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, on behalf of the interagency working group, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report about the steps taken by the interagency working group to accomplish the steps laid out in section 2, a report that includes any recommendations to impose additional energy-related sanctions on the Government of Russia, and a report on any additional authorities the President needs to take such steps.

SEC. 5. EXPANSION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO MEMBERS OF THE RUSSIAN PARLIAMENT.

Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report, which may be submitted in classified form if necessary, that contains a justification for any determination of whether or not, in addition to the sanctions imposed pursuant to Executive Order 14024 (86 Fed. Reg. 73; relating to blocking property with respect to specified 11 harmful foreign activities of the Government of the Russian Federation), imposing sanctions on 328 members of the Russian State Duma, a determination as to whether remaining members of the Duma and the Russian Federation Council, which includes officials who may be involved in corrupt and other sanctionable activities, who voted on February 22, 2022, to recognize the Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) and the Luhansk People's Republic (LPR), as well as the Russian Federation Council in its entirety, should be subject to sanctions under the such Executive Order.

SEC. 6. 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 Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) and the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Minnesota.

□ 1330

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6930, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6930, the Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act, as amended.

Mr. Speaker, we have long known the Russian oligarch class is an important pillar of President Putin's brutal and corrupt regime. These Russian oligarchs have been able to enrich themselves and use their wealth to consolidate power within their country and increase their influence abroad.

As President Putin continues in his unjustified and premeditated full-scale invasion into Ukraine, the United States must do all that it can to identify and sanction his cronies bankrolling this brutality.

The Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act, as amended, takes an important step in this direction. The bill expresses the sense of Congress that the President should confiscate property subject to U.S. jurisdiction worth over $2 million belonging to Russian energy companies or Russian oligarchs whose wealth is derived from corruption or by support of President Putin. It expresses the sense that such property should be held, used, administered, liquidated, or sold, and that any funds gained from such sale should be used to benefit the Ukrainian people.

Furthermore, this legislation would also create an interagency working group to determine the proper constitutional mechanisms through which this could be achieved.

The luxury villas and fancy yachts and private airplanes of Putin and his cronies are tainted with the blood of the Ukrainian people. Their corrupt assets should be seized and should be used to rebuild Ukraine.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Sadly, on February 24, war criminal Putin launched an unprovoked, unjustified murderous war of aggression against the people of Ukraine.

The humanitarian toll has been devastating. More than 5 million refugees have fled Ukraine. More than 7 million are believed to be internally displaced, and we have seen on our screens the heart-wrenching images of Putin's horrific war crimes in Bucha, Mariupol, and elsewhere.

The economic toll for Ukraine is no less devastating. The World Bank has forecasted that Ukraine's economy could contract by 45 percent this year with a worst-case scenario seeing its GDP shrink by 75 percent.

The Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal said last week during a visit to Washington, that Ukraine would need around $5 billion a month in budgetary support as long as the war continued and then roughly $600 billion for a broader rebuilding effort.

To rebuild this country, the Ukrainian Prime Minister requested not only additional financial support from the United States and its allies and partners, but also the transfer of Russian assets that have been frozen by the global sanctions regime to Ukraine.

The U.S. must answer this call.

The resolution we are considering urges the President to establish an interagency working group to determine the constitutional mechanisms through which the United States could not only freeze but seize the assets of Russian oligarchs within the United States if this property was derived through corruption linked to the Putin regime.

The liquidated funds are to be repurposed for the benefit of the people of Ukraine, including post-conflict reconstruction when the Ukrainians win, humanitarian assistance, and assistance for the security forces of the Government of Ukraine.

I was grateful to colead this legislation with our colleague, TOM MALINOWSKI of New Jersey. Thanks to an amendment from our colleague, PETER MEIJER, the bill also urges the administration to expand sanctions on members of the Russian Parliament, the duma, who voted in support of recognizing the Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republic, which are illegal fabrications. This vote served as part of Putin's pretext to Russia's unprovoked and unjustified war of aggression against the people of Ukraine. Anyone who supported that vote must fall under U.S. sanctions—full stop. The administration needs to seriously consider how we can use the frozen Russian assets to help Ukraine fight and continue winning, then rebuild its country. Therefore, I urge all colleagues to join me in supporting this important bill.

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

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. MEIJER).

Mr. MEIJER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act, which I was proud to help introduce with my colleague, Congressman MALINOWSKI.

This bill sends a strong and clear message of support to the Ukrainian people and a clear message to Putin and his cronies that their ill-gotten assets are no longer welcome in the United States.

The Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act encourages the administration to take necessary steps allowed by the Constitution and existing laws to seize Russian assets valued over $2 million and repurpose them towards post-conflict reconstruction and humanitarian assistance in Ukraine.

It also includes my amendment that aims to expand sanctions on members of Russia's Parliament who took the reckless and illegal vote to recognize two breakaway states in the Donbas and authorize Putin to use military force in Ukraine.

Although the Biden administration sanctioned 328 duma members who voted on February 15 for a resolution calling on Putin to recognize the Ukrainian breakaway states, the so-called Luhansk People's Republic and Donetsk People's Republic, it has still not imposed similar sanctions on the remaining duma members and the 154 members of the Federation Council who voted just one week later to authorize Putin's senseless war in Ukraine.

These Russian politicians, as well as the oligarchs who so comfortably store their assets on U.S. territory, play a role in Putin's illegal war, and they all deserve to be punished. Our bill ensures that they do not escape accountability for their complicity in the atrocities against Ukraine, which has left thousands of civilians dead, and many millions displaced.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this critical and urgent bill.

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

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, rather than financing war crimes in Ukraine and multi-million-dollar yachts and real estate for Putin's cronies, this money could be much better spent on urgently needed humanitarian aid and weapons for Ukraine.

This makes sense for the people of Ukraine as well as for the American taxpayer. I, therefore, urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act, as amended, sends a statement to Vladimir Putin and his cronies that the U.S. Congress will make sure the United States is not a safe haven for their corrupt assets.

The legislation makes it clear that the President should take measures to seize and confiscate their assets subject to U.S. jurisdiction and use the proceeds from such sales to help the Ukrainian people, all while protecting and preserving the rights enshrined in our Constitution.

I thank Representative MALINOWSKI for authoring the bill, and I urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6930, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

GEORGIA SUPPORT ACT

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 923) to support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Georgia, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 923

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Georgia Support Act''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
Sec. 2. United States policy.

TITLE I—ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS

Sec. 101. United States-Georgia security assistance.
Sec. 102. Report on United States democracy and governance assistance to Georgia.
Sec. 103. United States cybersecurity cooperation with Georgia.
Sec. 104. Enhanced assistance to combat Russian disinformation and propaganda.

TITLE II—SANCTIONS PROVISIONS

Sec. 201. Imposition of sanctions on persons complicit in or responsible for serious human rights abuses, including right to life in Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia occupied by Russia.

TITLE III—DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS

Sec. 301. Determination of budgetary effects.

SEC. 2. UNITED STATES POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States to—

(1) support continued development of democratic values in the Republic of Georgia, including free and fair elections, an independent and accountable judiciary, public sector transparency and accountability, the rule of law, and anticorruption efforts;

(2) support Georgia's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders;

(3) support Georgia's capacity to protect its sovereignty and territorial integrity from further Russian aggression or encroachment on Georgian territory in light of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine;

(4) support the right of the people of Georgia to freely determine their future and make independent and sovereign choices on foreign and security policy, including regarding their country's relationship with other nations and international organizations, without interference, intimidation, or coercion by other countries;

(5) support Georgia's Euro-Atlantic and European integration;

(6) not recognize territorial changes effected by force, including the illegal invasions and occupations of Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia by the Russian Federation;

(7) condemn ongoing detentions, kidnappings, and other human rights violations committed in the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia forcibly occupied by the Russian Federation, including the recent killings of Georgian citizens Archil Tatunashvili, Giga Otkhozoria, Davit Basharuli, and others in the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia; and

(8) support peaceful conflict resolution in Georgia, including by urging the Russian Federation to fully implement the European Union-mediated ceasefire agreement of August 12, 2008, and supporting the establishment of international security mechanisms in the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia and the safe and dignified return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees, all of which are important for lasting peace and security on the ground.

TITLE I—ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. UNITED STATES-GEORGIA SECURITY ASSISTANCE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) In fiscal year 2021, the United States provided Georgia with $2,200,000 in assistance under chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2347 et seq.; relating to international military education and training) and $35,000,000 in assistance under section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763; relating to the Foreign Military Financing Program) and in 2021 announced the Georgia Defense and Deterrence Enhancement Initiative (GDDEI) to enable further modernization of the Georgian Ministry of Defense and the Georgian Defense Forces.

(2) Georgia has been a longstanding NATO-aspirant country.

(3) Georgia has contributed substantially to Euro-Atlantic peace and security through participation in the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and Resolute Support Missions in Afghanistan as one of the largest troop contributors.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that United States assistance to the Republic of Georgia under chapter 5 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act should be increased.

(c) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States, in consultation with the Republic of Georgia, to enhance Georgia's deterrence, resilience, and self-defense, including through appropriate assistance to improve the capabilities of Georgia's armed forces.

(d) REVIEW OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate United States departments and agencies, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report reviewing United States security assistance to the Republic of Georgia.

(2) COMPONENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of needed security assistance to improve Georgia's capacity to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity from further invasion of Georgian territory by Russian forces, including an assessment of need for anti-armor, anti-air, and anti-tank weapons, as well as intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capabilities.

(B) A detailed review of all United States security assistance to Georgia from fiscal year 2008 to the date of the submission of such report.

(C) An assessment of threats to Georgian independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, including an assessment of changes to the force posture or intent of Russian forces occupying Georgian territory.

(D) An assessment of Georgia's capabilities to defend itself, including a five-year strategy to enhance Georgia's deterrence, resilience, and self-defense capabilities that incorporates plans to address the capability gaps subject to the assessment described in subparagraph (A).

(3) FORM.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 102. REPORT ON UNITED STATES DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE ASSISTANCE TO GEORGIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal departments and agencies as appropriate, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report on United States democracy and governance assistance to the Republic of Georgia.

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

(1) A description of goals for United States democracy and governance assistance to Georgia and its democratic institutions, including how such assistance is supporting Georgia's stated goals for European integration.

(2) An assessment of the impact of United States democracy and governance assistance to Georgia since fiscal year 2008, including challenges to achieving the goals described in paragraph (1).

(3) An assessment of Georgia's progress relating to freedom of the press and support for independent media, including steps to hold accountable those responsible for attacks on independent media and on LGBTQ rights activists on July 5, 2021, in Tbilisi.

(4) An assessment of Georgia's progress on strengthening its democratic institutions, including through electoral and judicial reforms necessary to build public confidence.

(5) A description of barriers and challenges to United States investment in the Georgian economy, as well as an assessment of how support from the United States International Development Finance Corporation in Georgia could help create a better developed and more transparent investment climate.

(c) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 103. UNITED STATES CYBERSECURITY COOPERATION WITH GEORGIA.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should take the following actions, commensurate with United States interests, to assist the Repubic of Georgia to improve its cybersecurity:

(1) Provide Georgia such support as may be necessary to secure government computer networks from malicious cyber intrusions, particularly such networks that defend the critical infrastructure of Georgia.

(2) Provide Georgia support in reducing reliance on Russian information and communications technology.

(3) Assist Georgia to build its capacity, expand cybersecurity information sharing, and cooperate on international cyberspace efforts.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report on United States cybersecurity cooperation with the Republic of Georgia.

(2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include information relating to the following:

(A) United States efforts to strengthen Georgia's ability to prevent, mitigate, and respond to cyber incidents, including through training, education, technical assistance, capacity building, and cybersecurity risk management strategies.

(B) The potential for new areas of collaboration and mutual assistance between the United States and Georgia to address shared cyber challenges, including cybercrime, critical infrastructure protection, and resilience against automated, distributed threats.

(C) NATO's efforts to help Georgia develop technical capabilities to counter cyber threats.

SEC. 104. ENHANCED ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT RUSSIAN DISINFORMATION AND PROPAGANDA.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It shall be the policy of the United States to enhance the capabilities of the Republic of Georgia to combat Russian disinformation and propaganda campaigns intended to undermine the sovereignty and democratic institutions of Georgia, while promoting the freedom of the press.

(b) REQUIRED STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate United States departments and agencies, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report outlining a strategy to implement the policy described in subsection (a).

(2) COMPONENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A detailed assessment of Russian disinformation and propaganda efforts across all media platforms targeting the Republic of Georgia.

(B) An assessment of Georgia's capabilities to deter and combat such Russian efforts and to support the freedom of the press.

(C) A detailed strategy coordinated across all relevant United States departments and agencies to enhance Georgia's capabilities to deter and combat such Russian efforts.

(3) FORM.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

TITLE II—SANCTIONS PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS ON PERSONS COMPLICIT IN OR RESPONSIBLE FOR SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES, INCLUDING RIGHT TO LIFE IN GEORGIAN REGIONS OF ABKHAZIA AND TSKHINVALI REGION/SOUTH OSSETIA OCCUPIED BY RUSSIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall impose on a foreign person the sanctions described in subsection (b) if the President determines that such foreign person, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) is responsible for, complicit in, or responsible for ordering, controlling, or otherwise directing the commission of serious human rights abuses in the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia forcibly occupied by the Russian Federation;

(2) is materially assisting, sponsoring, or providing significant financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to, a foreign person described in paragraph (1); or

(3) is owned or controlled by a foreign person, or is acting on behalf of a foreign person, described in paragraph (1).

(b) SANCTIONS DESCRIBED.—The sanctions described in this subsection are the following:

(1) ASSET BLOCKING.—The exercise of all powers granted to the President by the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of a person determined by the President to be a person described in subsection (a) if such property and interests in property are in the United States, come within the United States, or are or come within the possession or control of a United States person, including by taking any of the actions described in paragraph (1) of section 203(a) of such Act (50 U.S.C. 1702(a)).

(2) INADMISSIBILITY OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—

(A) INELIGIBILITY FOR VISAS AND ADMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES.—A person determined by the President to be a person described in subsection (a) is—

(i) inadmissible to the United States;

(ii) ineligible to receive a visa or other documentation to enter the United States; and

(iii) otherwise ineligible to be admitted or paroled into the United States or to receive any other benefit under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(B) CURRENT VISAS REVOKED.—A person determined by the President to be a person described in subsection (a) is subject to the following:

(i) Revocation of any visa or other entry documentation regardless of when the visa or other entry documentation is or was issued.

(ii) A revocation under clause (i) shall—

(I) take effect immediately; and

(II) automatically cancel any other valid visa or entry documentation that is in the foreign person's possession.

(C) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT OBJECTIVES.—Sanctions under subparagraph (A) shall not apply to an individual if admitting such individual into the United States would further important law enforcement objectives or is necessary to permit the United States to comply with the Agreement regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, signed at Lake Success June 26, 1947, and entered into force November 21, 1947, between the United Nations and the United States, or other applicable international obligations of the United States.

(c) WAIVER.—The President may waive the application of sanctions under subsection (b) with respect to a person if the President determines that such a waiver is important to the national interests of the United States.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION; PENALTIES.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The President may exercise all authorities provided to the President under sections 203 and 205 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1702 and 1704) to carry out subsection (b)(1).

(2) PENALTIES.—A person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of subsection (b)(1) or any regulation, license, or order issued to carry out such subsection shall be subject to the penalties specified in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) to the same extent as a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of such section.

(e) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and at least once every 180 days thereafter for a period not to exceed two years, the President, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall transmit to Congress a detailed report with respect to persons that have been determined to have engaged in activities described in subsection (a).

(f) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions under this title shall not include the authority or requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(2) GOOD DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''good'' means any article, natural or man-made substance, material, supply or manufactured product, including inspection and test equipment and excluding technical data.

TITLE III—DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS

SEC. 301. 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 Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 923, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the author of the Georgia Support Act and as co-chair of the Congressional Georgia Caucus to express my support for this legislation, which we introduced with my Republican colleague and Georgia Caucus co-chair, Mr. ADAM KINZINGER of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation has twice passed the House with broad bipartisan support. This bipartisan effort enhances the U.S.-Georgia relationship on several fronts by bolstering security assistance, promoting democratic governance reforms, enhancing cooperation to fight Russian disinformation, and strengthening economic ties.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate, as Russia continues its tragic and horrific invasion of sovereign Ukrainian territory, that we reflect on 2008 and the invasion by Russia and continued occupation of sovereign Georgian territory in Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

To this day, Russian troops committing abhorrent violations of human rights, international humanitarian law, and war crimes in sovereign Ukrainian territory are the same troops that have fomented unrest, aided separatist movements, and committed clear and evident violations of human rights for the past 14 years in the Russian-occupied parts of Georgia.

This bill directs the United States Government to enforce targeted sanctions on malign actors committing these violations in Russian-occupied territory.

The Georgia Support Act also requires the administration to examine how best we can utilize the $35 million or more of United States aid that we provide Georgia in security assistance every year and reinforces U.S. policy to never recognize Russian sovereignty over Georgia territory.

As the number one per capita contributor of forces in Afghanistan, Georgia has demonstrated its dedication to security cooperation with the West. The United States must continue to reciprocate by helping Georgia develop the capacity to defend itself against further incursion of Russian forces.

Mr. Speaker, attacks on Georgian sovereignty have not been simply through the occupation of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, as bad as that is. This bill directs the administration to enhance cooperation with our Georgian partners to help them defend themselves from the various cyberattacks and disinformation and propaganda campaigns Russia has launched with the goal of undermining the sovereignty and democratic institutions of the Country of Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, I traveled to Tbilisi numerous times, both with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, of which I am President, and with the House Democracy Partnership to meet with government officials, civil society, and the Georgian people.

I am pleased that this iteration of the Georgia Support Act seeks to buttress Georgian democratic institutions through U.S. democracy and governance programs that promote Georgian judicial independence, electoral reforms, freedom of the press, and accountability for attacks on independent media and Tbilisi Pride activists in 2021.

This legislation provides an opportunity for the United States to express its robust, bipartisan support for Georgia's sovereignty, continued democratic and economic development, and security against renewed Russian aggression.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Georgia Support Act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2022.

Hon. GREGORY MEEKS,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MEEKS: This letter is to advise you that the Committee on the Judiciary has now had an opportunity to review the provisions in H.R. 923, the ''Georgia Support Act,'' that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. I appreciate your consulting with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee has no objection to your including them in the bill for consideration on the House floor, and to expedite that consideration is willing to forgo action on H.R. 923, with the understanding that we do not thereby waive any future jurisdictional claim over those provisions or their subject matters.

In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, the Judiciary Committee reserves the right to request an appropriate number of conferees to address any concerns with these or similar provisions that may arise in conference.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have

worked regarding this matter and others between our committees.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2022.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 923, Georgia Support Act, as amended. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation.

I acknowledge that provisions of the bill fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary under House Rule X, and that your Committee will forgo action on H.R. 923 to expedite floor consideration. I further acknowledge that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your jurisdiction. I also acknowledge that your Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward, and will support the appointment of Committee on the Judiciary conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation.

Lastly, I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation regarding the legislation. I look forward to continuing to work with you as the measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

GREGORY W. MEEKS,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 22, 2022.

Hon. RICHARD NEAL,
Committee on Ways and Means, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NEAL: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 923, Georgia Support Act, as amended. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation.

I acknowledge that provisions of the bill fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means under House Rule X, and that your Committee will forgo action on H.R. 923 to expedite floor consideration. I further acknowledge that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your jurisdiction. I also acknowledge that your Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward, and will support the appointment of Committee on Ways and Means conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation.

Lastly, I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation regarding the legislation. I look forward to continuing to work with you as the measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

GREGORY W. MEEKS,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, April 25, 2022.

Hon. GREGORY MEEKS,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MEEKS: In recognition of the desire to expedite consideration of H.R. 923, Georgia Support Act, the Committee on Ways and Means agrees to waive formal consideration of the bill as to provisions that fall within the rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Committee on Ways and Means takes this action with the mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues within our jurisdiction. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letter on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 923.

Sincerely,

RICHARD E. NEAL,
Chairman.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support as well of H.R. 923, the Georgia Support Act.

Since Russia invaded Georgia in 2008, Putin has illegally occupied 20 percent of Georgia's territory, embroiling Georgia in an existential battle for its sovereignty.

The ongoing, flagrant invasion of Ukraine proves that Putin will stop at nothing to accomplish his heinous goals. Our allies in Georgia need strong U.S. support now more than ever. It must be made abundantly clear to Putin that the American people stand with Georgia and will not tolerate a further incursion into Georgia's territory.

This bill will reaffirm U.S. support for Georgia's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity by authorizing a review of security assistance to Georgia to determine key capability gaps, as well as looking at U.S.-Georgia cybersecurity cooperation and assistance to combat Russian disinformation.

□ 1345

Russian meddling in Georgia's political processes and active disinformation campaigns continue to threaten Georgia's democratic trajectory.

But critically, the bill also addresses the need for Georgia to maintain its focus on democracy and governance development in order to stay on its Euro-Atlantic path.

Finally, this bill authorizes the President to impose sanctions on individuals responsible for human rights abuses in Georgia's occupied territories, Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

By erecting and constantly moving the border further into Georgia's territory, restricting freedom of movement and conducting arbitrary detentions, killings, and kidnappings, Putin has jeopardized the lives of all Georgians on both sides of the boundary line with his occupied territories.

Passing this bill is a timely opportunity to show support for an ally that has been on the front line of Putin's belligerence for well over a decade.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we cannot allow Putin to believe he can turn to Georgia next after his despicable invasion of Ukraine. Georgia, a longstanding U.S. partner in a tough neighborhood, has for too long been on the front line of Putin's unchecked aggression.

This bill passed in the House the last two Congresses by an overwhelming bipartisan majority, and I urge my colleagues to support our Georgian allies yet again.

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

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

I thank my friend for his support. And I think it is very important that there be a clarion statement from this Congress, not only about Ukraine, but about other nations that are threatened by Russian aggression; Georgia and Moldova are two of the most prominent.

It is critical that the Congress speak with one voice to those nations, to those peoples, and to Vladimir Putin and Russia, should he have further designs on either of those two countries.

So I think this is an important piece of legislation. I urge its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I, for many, many decades, have had a strong and very deep commitment to the people of the Republic of Georgia. As a matter of fact, after Russia invaded South Ossetia and Abkhazia in 2008, I traveled to Tbilisi, and spent a week there, with a people at war.

As it turned out, there were three young people from my district who were stuck behind enemy lines. One being held up in and very fearful in Abkhazia, and two who were in South Ossetia. And when I went, several Members of Congress gave me names of people that were also behind the South Ossetia and Abkhazia Russia-dominated lines. It was very tense, with Chechens walking around with guns, drunk and committing atrocities. We were all concerned.

Within a week or so, we got all of the children out. We worked with the OSCE mission there, we worked with the International Committee of the Red Cross, and with the French, who had the chair in office that year for the European Union. That ambassador actually traveled to the place where the two children in South Ossetia were, put them in his car, and brought them to safety.

So, Georgia and the importance of our strong friendship with the Georgian people,

and their heroic resistance to Russia, has always been close to my heart.

And also, I note that past is prologue.

The same justifications Putin used for invading Crimea—that they were going in to liberate Russians—was the exact same pretext used in Georgia. What a lie and deception that was and is. Putin simply seeks to reconstitute the Soviet empire under himself.

So I'm very supportive of the intent behind the legislation.

I had offered an amendment at markup, which was voted down on strictly partisan lines, which I believe would have made this legislation more precise and also improved its chance for passage in the Senate.

Simply put, I had offered an amendment that would have replaced the vague and imprecise ''serious human rights abuses'' language with the phrase ''Gross violations of internationally-recognized human rights,'' which has a long-standing, defined meeting in U.S. law, as codified in the Foreign Assistance Act, 22 U.S.C. 2304(d)(1).

To wit, ''gross violations of internationally recognized human rights'' includes ''torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, prolonged detention without charges and trial, causing the disappearance of persons by the abduction and clandestine detention of those persons, and other flagrant denial of the right to life, liberty or the security of the person.''

The reason this is relevant is because recently, our colleagues across the aisle sought to import the imprecise ''serious human rights abuses'' language into the Global Magnitsky Act, and again had rejected offers to negotiate compromise language that would have tied such abuses to specific treaties the United States had ratified, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Convention Against Torture.

As a result, that held up passage of the Global Magnitsky Act, which otherwise had broad bipartisan support in the Senate, and caused a stalemate until the parties agreed to revert to the previous, precisely-defined ''gross violations of internationally-recognized human rights'' language.

Similarly, this Georgia bill otherwise enjoys broad bipartisan support, but for the vague and imprecise formulation, which now will likely have to be fixed in the Senate.

I also note that I had tried to find a solution which could have kept the ''serious human rights abuses'' language, but would have tied it to abuses that were specified elsewhere in the legislation so as to avoid vagueness, namely ''detentions, kidnappings, and other human rights violations committed in the Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia forcibly occupied by the Russian Federation including [] recent killings' and similar violations of human rights.''

My colleagues across the aisle, I anticipate will again say that we have used ''serious human rights abuses'' in other country- and region-specific legislation. Leaving aside the fact that that was before the recent attempted Global Magnitsky partisan end run, I would also point out that ''serious human rights abuses'' were tied to specific abuses specified in the legislation at issue.

Thus in past legislation we called out ''serious abuse or violation of human rights against persons associated with the protests in Nicaragua that began on April 18, 2018,'' or ''serious human rights abuses connected with forced labor'' in Xinjiang.

That was all that we were asking for here—either adopt a precise statutory definition, ''gross violations of internationally-recognized human rights,'' or tie ''serious human rights abuses'' to what is specified in the legislation.

But instead, we got a party line vote and a raw exercise of power, marring what should have been a unified statement of support of the Republic of Georgia and opposition to the butcher Vladimir Putin.

I have been in Congress for over 40 years. I have been in the minority, and I have been in the majority. On bills like this, we used to try to find unity.

I am sad to say that the raw exercise of political power that we have seen with regard to both the Global Magnitsky bill and this Georgia Support Act, and the unwillingness to seek compromise in the face of legitimate concerns that an ideologically-driven administration could use vague language to pursue an agenda that is not shared by over half the country, has disappointed me.

I am not going to oppose this bill, given the larger context of support for the oppressed people of Georgia. Majorities come, and majorities go. I wish that my colleagues across the aisle had been willing to compromise and find common ground, but they did not.

With passage, it is on to the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 923, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR MOLDOVA'S DEMOCRACY, INDEPENDENCE, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND STRENGTHENING UNITED STATES AND MOLDOVA RELATIONS

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 833) expressing support for Moldova's democracy, independence, and territorial integrity and strengthening United States and Moldova relations, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 833

Whereas the Republic of Moldova gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991;

Whereas the United States established diplomatic relations with Moldova on February 18, 1992, and the 2 countries have since enjoyed expanded and positive relations;

Whereas United States assistance to Moldova and the Strategic Dialogue between the United States and Moldova, which was launched on March 3, 2014, has strengthened the relationship between the 2 countries and focused on advancing shared interests in democracy, good governance, rule of law, anticorruption, energy independence, economic development, and security cooperation;

Whereas Congress and State and local communities have a history of engaging with Moldovan young leaders, civil society, and Members of Parliament through official exchanges;

Whereas Moldova ratified an association agreement containing comprehensive free trade provisions with the European Union in 2014 and the agreement became fully effective in July 2016;

Whereas Moldova's main trading partner is the European Union;

Whereas Moldova is a member of the European Union's Eastern Partnership;

Whereas since the Russian Federation's unprovoked full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, Moldova has opened its border to refugees fleeing Ukraine;

Whereas, on March 3, 2022, Moldova submitted an application to become a member of the European Union;

Whereas the Moldovan 2020 Presidential and 2021 parliamentary elections resulted in a government with a mandate to fight corruption, reinvigorate economic reforms, enhance judicial independence, revitalize European integration efforts, and strengthen relations with the United States;

Whereas, in November 2020, Moldova elected its first female President, Maia Sandu, and since August 6, 2021, women serve as both Moldova's head of state and head of government;

Whereas according to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the most recent elections were ''well administered, competitive and fundamental freedoms were largely respected'';

Whereas in a judgment in 2004, the European Court of Human Rights found that Moldova's separatist region of Transnistria was created with the support of the Government of the Russian Federation and considered it ''under the effective authority or at least decisive influence'' of the Kremlin;

Whereas the United States supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Moldova and on that basis participates as an observer in the ''5+2'' negotiations to find a comprehensive settlement that will provide a special status for Transnistria within Moldova's internationally recognized borders;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation maintains a contingent of military forces and a stockpile of military equipment and ammunition within the Transnistrian region constituting an occupation of Moldovan territory and a violation of Moldova's territorial sovereignty;

Whereas the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Mission to Moldova, and the Government of Moldova have called upon the Kremlin to remove its troops from the territory of Moldova;

Whereas, in July 2017, the Moldovan Parliament adopted a declaration calling on the Kremlin to withdraw its troops from Moldova;

Whereas, on September 22, 2021, Moldovan President Maia Sandu addressed the United Nations General Assembly and called for the Kremlin to withdraw its troops from the Transnistrian region;

Whereas Moldova has been a valued and reliable partner in promoting global security

by participating in United Nations peacekeeping missions in the Central African Republic, Kosovo, and South Sudan, supporting United States efforts to increase international cooperation in combating terrorism, and providing demining units and postconflict humanitarian assistance in Iraq;

Whereas, since 1996, Moldova's Armed Forces have participated in the United States National Guard State Partnership Program as a partner to the North Carolina National Guard, which led to the creation of the Moldova-North Carolina Bilateral Partnership, which has facilitated cooperation in the areas of civil emergency operations, expansion of markets, coordination of humanitarian efforts and cultural, scientific, and academic exchanges;

Whereas Moldova cooperates with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization through the Partnership for Peace program, including participation in the Defense and Related Security Capacity Building Initiative, a flagship defense reform partnership focused on reforming and modernizing Moldova's Armed Forces to improve expertise, interoperability, and peacekeeping capabilities; and

Whereas, on September 21, 2021, President Biden addressed the 76th United Nations General Assembly stating that the democratic world ''lives in the proud Moldovans who helped deliver a landslide victory for the forces of democracy, with a mandate to fight graft, to build a more inclusive economy'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) urges the United States Government, European Union, and other transatlantic partners to increase cooperation, coordination, and support for the Republic of Moldova's democratic development, economic and energy independence, and efforts to root out corruption;

(2) reaffirms that it is the policy of the United States to support the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Moldova and the inviolability of its borders;

(3) affirms Moldova's sovereign right to determine its own partnerships free of external coercion and pressure, and affirms Moldova's right to associate with the European Union or any regional organization;

(4) encourages increased activity related to the Strategic Dialogue as a means to strengthen relations between Moldova and the United States;

(5) supports the Joint Commercial Commission between the United States and Moldova to strengthen the bilateral trade and investment relationship between the 2 nations and improve Moldova's investment climate;

(6) encourages the United States Government to engage at a leadership level to enhance United States partnerships with the Government of Moldova and civil society organizations;

(7) encourages the Secretary of State, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, the Chief Executive Officer of the Development Finance Corporation, the Secretary of Energy, and the United States Trade Representative to increase and focus assistance on justice sector reform, strengthening democratic institutions, promoting an open and transparent government, fostering indigenous independent media and an open information environment, increasing domestic energy development, diversification of energy supplies and energy efficiency, improving transport and communication infrastructure, as well as the promotion of trade and investment opportunities, along with inclusive economic growth focusing on the rural areas beyond the capital;

(8) commends Moldova's efforts to take in Ukrainian refugees and urges increased assistance by the United States, European Union, and other allies and partners to Moldova to assist with those efforts;

(9) reaffirms the importance of free, fair, and transparent elections in Moldova;

(10) urges the Secretary of State, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, the Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media, and other heads of Federal departments and agencies to continue to work with the Government of Moldova and Moldovan civil society to strengthen independent media and combat Russian disinformation and propaganda;

(11) calls upon the Government of the Russian Federation to fulfill its commitments made at the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's Istanbul summit in 1999, and to withdraw its military forces and munitions from within the internationally recognized territory of Moldova;

(12) calls upon the Government of the Russian Federation to refrain from military and economic threats to Moldova and cease any and all actions that support the so-called ''authorities'' in the separatist region of Transnistria;

(13) supports a results-oriented 5+2 process as a constructive format for resolving the Transnistria conflict through a comprehensive settlement that secures Moldova's sovereignty and territorial integrity; and

(14) affirms that lasting stability and security in Moldova is in the strategic interest of the United States and that these can only be achieved if the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Moldova and all European countries are respected.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Res. 833, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

I rise today in support of H. Res. 833, which clearly champions Moldova's push toward democracy and our common work in strengthening our bilateral ties.

I first thank my colleague, Representative PRICE of North Carolina, for drafting this important measure and his years of work on the House Democracy Partnership.

Moldova, a small country in Europe, nested between Ukraine and Romania, rightfully deserves our attention today. After centuries of being fought over and by larger neighboring powers, the country is making strides toward democracy, combating deep-seated corruption, and moving closer to the Euro-Atlantic community.

With the Russian invasion in Ukraine, the stakes are now so much greater. Indeed, more than 400,000 Ukrainian refugees have arrived in tiny Moldova since February, a number that represents more than 10 percent of Moldova's own population.

Furthermore, Moldova is no stranger to malign Russian influence and interference. Transnistria, a Kremlin-backed breakaway region in Moldova's east, is an area of active risk. Moscow uses this wound to manipulate fears and politics in Moldova. We are reminded of that constant potential with the explosion in the region earlier this week and the constant dangerous rhetoric from the so-called authorities there.

Thankfully, despite these challenges, the Moldovan Government is in a position to tackle them and advance an agenda to modernize and democratize its society and its economy.

President Maia Sandu and the parliament in Moldova are ambitiously fighting corruption and implementing needed reforms, all while strengthening relations with the European Union and with the United States.

The Moldovan people's good work to build a stronger democracy is admirable and deserves our full support, especially today; and passing this resolution, coupled with the Biden administration's highlighting of Moldova's progress during the Summit for Democracy, sends a strong signal that the entire United States Government stands with them.

This resolution looks to build on the momentum in this decisive moment from Moldova, ensuring that the progress is meaningful and sustainable. I support this resolution, and I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

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

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 22, 2022.

Hon. RICHARD NEAL,
Committee on Ways and Means,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NEAL: I am writing to you concerning H. Res. 833, Expressing support for Moldova's democracy, independence, and territorial integrity and strengthening United States and Moldova relation, as amended. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation.

I acknowledge that provisions of the bill fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means under House Rule X, and that your Committee will forgo action on H. Res. 833 to expedite floor consideration. I further acknowledge that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your jurisdiction. I also acknowledge that your Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward, and will support the appointment of Committee on Ways and Means conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation.

Lastly, I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation regarding the legislation. I look forward to

continuing to work with you as the measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

GREGORY W. MEEKS,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,
Washington, DC, April 25, 2022.

Hon. GREGORY MEEKS,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MEEKS: In recognition of the desire to expedite consideration of H. Res. 833, Expressing support for Moldova's democracy, independence, and territorial integrity and strengthening United States and Moldova relations, the Committee on Ways and Means agrees to waive formal consideration of the bill as to provisions that fall within the rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Committee on Ways and Means takes this action with the mutual understanding that we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and the Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as the bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues within our jurisdiction. The Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation.

Finally, I would appreciate your response to this letter confirming this understanding, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letter on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H. Res. 833.

Sincerely,

RICHARD E. NEAL,
Chairman.

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

I rise today in support of H. Res. 833, which expresses support for Moldova's democracy, independence, and territorial integrity and calls for strengthening U.S. and Moldova relations.

Needless to say, this is an especially opportune time to consider this resolution; not only because this year marks the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between our two countries, but also given the ongoing Russian aggression against Ukraine and the challenge it poses to other countries in the region, including Moldova.

Moldova's humanitarian response to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and its generosity have been truly remarkable. For example, Moldova has accepted nearly 434,000 Ukrainian refugees. To put that into perspective, that is around 5 percent of Moldova's entire population.

Not only does this resolution commend Moldova's strong support for Ukraine, but also commits the U.S. to continue to assist Moldova in addressing the economic impacts of the crisis, its energy security, and advancing democratic reforms.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution to show that the U.S. Congress is committed to a long-term partnership with Moldova.

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank Representatives PRICE and PFLUGER for their work on this resolution.

Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine is making the whole of Europe less secure. U.S. support for our allies and partners must therefore extend to Ukraine's neighbors, like Moldova.

The ominous threat made by a Russian general last week that the Kremlin aimed to seize a land bridge from the Donbas to Odesa and then to Transnistria, the Russian-supported breakaway region in Moldova, shows why the U.S. must pay close attention to Moldova and its security.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution to demonstrate the U.S. Congress' strong support of our friends in Moldova.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, again, I thank my friend for his bipartisan leadership and his support for this important piece of legislation.

Again, combined with the Georgia Support Act, this resolution sends a clear message from this body, on a bipartisan basis, that we will not tolerate Russian aggression in Europe in 2022.

Combined with our solidarity in opposition to the tragedy unfolding in Ukraine, it is a powerful message, backed up with, of course, support by our government, and the bipartisan nature of this is just so critical.

The people of Moldova, and the people of Georgia, and the people of Ukraine, they are watching and they are listening, as we hope is Vladimir Putin and his cronies in Moscow.

I urge support for this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 833, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

TRANSATLANTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECURITY ACT

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3344) to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among United States agencies to encourage countries in Central and Eastern Europe to improve the security of their telecommunications networks, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3344

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 ''Transatlantic Telecommunications Security Act''.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS; STATEMENT OF POLICY.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) fifth and future generation's telecommunication networks in allied and partner countries based on common, secure, transparent, democratic standards have the potential to increase cultural, political, and economic exchanges leading to mutual job creation, closer citizen relations, and stronger democratic institutions;

(2) Russia's unprovoked, unjustified, and illegal invasion of Ukraine and the People's Republic of China's tacit support for Russian Federation's actions demonstrate the importance of secure telecommunication infrastructure in Central and Eastern European nations;

(3) the United States has national security and economic interests in assisting Central and Eastern European countries to improve the security of their telecommunication networks by reducing dependence on covered telecommunication equipment or services that are often offered with predatory economic inducements and replacing them with secure telecommunication equipment or services;

(4) China's Belt and Road Initiative and the 17+1 Initiative seek to undermine Central and Eastern Europe's infrastructure resilience and sovereignty through predatory inducements from state-linked providers of telecommunication equipment or services such as Huawei Technologies Company and ZTE Corporation;

(5) China's 2017 National Intelligence Law obligates Chinese businesses to fully cooperate with state intelligence work, and thereby compromises the integrity of any network that utilizes equipment from Chinese companies because providers could be forced to hand over sensitive data or shut down networks at the command of China;

(6) Russia's campaign to elect a Russian national, who is a former Huawei Technologies Company executive, to serve as the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is indicative of China and Russia's efforts to use international organizations to promote their interests and their malign influence;

(7) at global fora such as the ITU, the United States Government should actively support candidates that espouse democratic values, internet freedoms, and secure telecommunication networks;

(8) the United States International Development Finance Corporation's development priorities, as described in section 1412 of the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act of 2018, properly includes a focus on less developed countries;

(9) the United States should assemble a coalition of democratic and like-minded allies and partners to counter the rise of global malign actors such as China and Russia and build resilience in Central and Eastern Europe against malign influences; and

(10) in order to ensure robust military coordination and interoperability with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and transatlantic allies and partners, the United States should ensure that allies and

partners' telecommunication networks are secure and free from potential threats in accordance with the 2019 NATO London Declaration.

(b) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to strengthen the transatlantic alliance based on shared values in the face of rising malign influence from the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation, countries that seek to undermine democratic institutions and values;

(2) to encourage public and private sector investment in European telecommunication infrastructure projects to ensure secure telecommunication and to catalyze economic advancement through the highest standards of transparency, accessibility, and competition;

(3) to provide economically feasible alternatives to financing from providers of covered telecommunication equipment or services;

(4) to engage in diplomacy with European allies and partners to strengthen the United States and European private sector efforts to develop common telecommunication technology and industry standards, and in turn promote them globally;

(5) to support the Three Seas Initiative organized by 12 Central and Eastern European countries of the European Union to increase infrastructure resiliency and reduce reliance on malign actors, including in the telecommunication space;

(6) to enhance telecommunication security and freedom around the globe by engaging in elections at the ITU and promoting the candidacies of individuals that will promote democratic values, the rule of law, technological freedoms, and telecommunication security;

(7) to support the people of Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, and the Western Balkan countries in their desire for integration into Euro-Atlantic institutions and economies through enhanced cross-border telecommunication infrastructure connectivity; and

(8) to ensure that frontline NATO allies have telecommunication services that cannot be controlled by China or Russia, especially considering Russia's illegal and unjustifiable invasion of Ukraine.

SEC. 3. INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION SECURITY CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR.

(a) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall appoint, from among existing personnel of the Department of State, an International Telecommunication Union Security Campaign Director (in this section referred to as the ''Director'').

(b) DUTIES.—The Director shall—

(1) lead efforts to promote candidates for elections at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) who will support and defend democratic values, internet freedom, and telecommunication security;

(2) coordinate with other officials of the Department of State, the Department of Commerce, the Federal Communications Commission, and other Federal departments and agencies to ensure efforts described in paragraph (1) are carried out in an organized, nimble, efficient, and effective manner;

(3) work with stakeholders in the private sector to harmonize efforts and to galvanize focus on elections at the ITU;

(4) use diplomatic tools of the Department of State to bolster support for candidates for elections at the ITU who will support and defend democratic values, internet freedom, and telecommunication security;

(5) brief Congress regularly on the implementation of the duties described in paragraphs (1) through (4) and, if appropriate, on requests for additional legislative authority necessary to enhance telecommunication security and freedom around the globe as described in section 2(b)(6); and

(6) report to the Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs regularly on development, progress, or setbacks with respect to support to the people of Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, and the Western Balkan countries as described in section 2(b)(7).

(c) SUNSET.—This section shall terminate on October 31, 2022.

SEC. 4. PRIORITIZATION OF EFFORTS AND ASSISTANCE FOR TELECOMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the policy described in section 2(b), the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, the Director of the Trade and Development Agency, the head of the Federal Communications Commission, and the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall, as appropriate, prioritize and expedite the efforts of the Department of State and those departments and agencies in supporting the efforts of the European Commission and the governments of Central and Eastern European countries to improve the security of their telecommunication networks, including through providing diplomatic and political support to the European Commission and Central and Eastern European countries, as necessary—

(1) to ensure European telecommunication networks are built securely, consistent with democratic values and principles such as privacy, including through early-stage project support and late-stage project support for the construction or improvement of telecommunication and related infrastructure;

(2) to remove covered telecommunication equipment or services and replace such equipment or services with secure telecommunication equipment or services;

(3) to support the development of telecommunication networks that are inclusive, transparent, economically viable, financially, environmentally, and socially sustainable, compliant with international standards, laws, and regulations, and supplied by providers of secure telecommunication equipment or services; and

(4) to facilitate international coordination on cross-border telecommunication infrastructure construction and security standards to ensure cross-border telecommunications are secure.

(b) PROJECT SELECTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation, and the Director of the Trade and Development Agency shall jointly identify telecommunication infrastructure projects that would advance the United States national security and be appropriate for United States assistance under this section.

(2) PROJECT ELIGIBILITY.—A project is eligible for United States assistance under this section if—

(A) the project—

(i) improves telecommunication networks through either hard infrastructure, such as telecommunication lines, towers, antennas, or other equipment, or soft infrastructure, such as innovative software development or cloud services;

(ii) is inclusive, transparent, economically viable, financially, environmentally, and socially sustainable, compliant with international standards, laws, and regulations, and supplied with secure telecommunication equipment or services solely by providers of secure telecommunication equipment or services; and

(iii) does not use covered telecommunication equipment or services or removes covered telecommunication equipment or services and replaces such equipment or services with secure telecommunication equipment or services; and

(B) the project is located in a covered country.

(3) PREFERENCE.—In selecting among projects that are eligible under paragraph (2), the heads of the Federal departments and agencies specified in subsection (a) shall give preference to projects that—

(A) are located in Ukraine;

(B) can attract funding from the private sector, an international financial institution, the government of the country in which the project will be carried out, or the European Commission;

(C) have been designated as available for funding through the Three Seas Initiative Investment Fund;

(D) are to be carried out in the Three Seas Initiative member nations;

(E) are to be carried out in NATO member states that meet or are making progress toward meeting their commitments to upholding the rule of law and preserving democratic institutions in accordance with the preamble and Article 2 of the North Atlantic Treaty;

(F) are to be carried out in NATO member states that meet or are making demonstrable progress toward meeting their defense spending commitments in accordance with the 2014 NATO Wales Summit Declaration; or

(G) have the potential to advance United States economic interests.

(c) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—

(1) DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL SUPPORT.—The Secretary of State shall provide diplomatic and political support to the covered countries, as necessary, including by using the diplomatic and political influence and expertise of the Department of State to build the capacity of covered countries to resolve any impediments to the development of projects selected under subsection (b).

(2) INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SUPPORT.—The Secretary of State shall seek to encourage international financial institutions, including the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office of the Government of the United Kingdom, the Agency for International Cooperation of the Government of Germany, and the Development Agency of the Government of France to invest in telecommunication infrastructure resilience in Central and Eastern Europe.

(3) EARLY-STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.—The Director of the Trade and Development Agency shall provide early-stage project support with respect to projects selected under subsection (b), as necessary.

(4) LATE-STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.—The heads of the Federal departments and agencies specified in subsection (a) that provide late-stage project support shall do so, with respect to projects selected under subsection (b), as necessary.

(5) UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION SUPPORT.—The United States International Development Finance Corporation is authorized to provide support for projects under this section in covered countries that are countries with upper-middle-income economies or high-income economies (as those terms are defined by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (collectively referred to as the ''World Bank'')), notwithstanding the restriction contained in section

1412(c)(2) of the Better Utilization of Investments Leading to Development Act of 2018 (22 U.S.C. 9612(c)(2)).

SEC. 5. REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the progress made in providing assistance for projects under section 4 that includes—

(1) a description of the telecommunications infrastructure projects the United States has identified for such assistance; and

(2) for each such project—

(A) a description of the role of the United States in the project, including in early-stage project support and late-stage project support;

(B) the amount and form of debt financing, equity financing, and insurance provided by the United States Government, the Three Seas Initiative Investment Fund, and international financial institutions, including the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, and the International Monetary Fund, the Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office of the Government of the United Kingdom, the Agency for International Cooperation of the Government of Germany, and the Development Agency of the Government of France for the project;

(C) the contractual terms of the project that preclude the use of covered telecommunication equipment or services and steps taken to ensure providers of telecommunication equipment or services meet such contractual terms; and

(D) an update on the progress made on the project as of the date of the report.

(b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COVERED COUNTRY.—The term ''covered country'' includes—

(A) any member state of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization that—

(i) shares a border with the Russian Federation; and

(ii) according to World Bank official data for 2020, has a Gross Domestic Product per capita, adjusted for purchasing power parity, of less than $45,000; and

(B) any European country that—

(i) has not participated or aided in Russia's invasion of Ukraine; and

(ii) according to World Bank official data for 2020, has a Gross Domestic Product per capita, adjusted for purchasing power parity, of less than $34,000.

(2) COVERED TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES.—The term ''covered telecommunication equipment or services'' means any of the following:

(A) Telecommunication equipment or services produced or provided by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).

(B) Telecommunication equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation.

(3) EARLY-STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.—The term ''early-stage project support'' includes—

(A) feasibility studies;

(B) resource evaluations;

(C) project appraisal and costing;

(D) pilot projects;

(E) commercial support, such as trade missions, reverse trade missions, technical workshops, international buyer programs, and international partner searchers to link suppliers to projects;

(F) technical assistance and other guidance to improve the local regulatory environment and market frameworks to encourage transparent competition and enhance telecommunication security; and

(G) long-term telecommunication sector planning.

(4) LATE-STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.—The term ''late-stage project support'' includes debt financing, equity financing, insurance, and transaction advisory services.

(5) SECURE TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES.—The term ''secure telecommunication equipment or services'' means telecommunication equipment or services that are not, and do not contain, covered telecommunication equipment or services.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3344, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3344, as amended, the Transatlantic Telecommunications Security Act.

Let me start by thanking Representative MARCY KAPTUR of Ohio, the chairwoman of the Ukraine Caucus here in Congress. She has been an incredible leader and a very important voice for Ukraine, not just these past 2 months, but for decades as a Member of Congress. This bill is part and parcel of her many efforts to aid the people of Ukraine and Eastern Europe.

I emphasize a key point throughout my remarks today: Telecommunication security is a central pillar of national security.

If a hostile power has the ability to shut down a country's access to the internet, then both telecommunications and national security have, in fact, been breached.

If a strategic competitor can disable telecoms gear or cut an underseas cable to turn off a country's mobile network, then both telecommunications and national security have, in fact, been breached.

And if foreign rivals can snoop on a country's calls and steal classified information because they can access the network, then both telecommunications and national security have, in fact, been breached.

The lesson is clear: The United States and its allies cannot rely on telecoms gear produced and supplied by countries and companies close to the People's Republic of China government or the Putin regime in Moscow. This is especially true in Eastern Europe, as President Putin has decided to act on violent imperial hubris rather than respect the law of nations.

If the problem is PRC-affiliated technology and Russian aggression, then the Transatlantic Telecommunications Security Act is a key part in the solution to bolster our national security and that of our friends and allies.

First and foremost, the bill allows the Development Finance Corporation to fund telecom security projects to ensure that all network gear in Eastern Europe is safe. As Ukraine faces the immediate threat to its national security, projects in the region must and will receive priority assistance.

Second, this bill authorizes the State Department to create a new position of campaign coordinator at the Department to focus on upcoming elections in the U.N. body called the International Telecommunications Union. That election comprises of an American with significant experience with the ITU and a Russian who previously worked for the Chinese company, Huawei. What could go wrong with that?

This is an election the free world can ill afford to lose, and we must do everything in our power to ensure corrupt actors are kept from its power. This includes a whole-of-government response, such as the State Department working with Commerce and the FCC, as well as the Foreign Affairs Committee teaming up with our good friends on the Energy and Commerce Committee to make sure the ITU promotes free and secure telecom systems around the globe.

□ 1400

The TTSA is a critical bill that would deliver tangible security benefits for Ukraine and frontline NATO allies. We can, should, and must get this bill to the President's desk quickly.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to make that reality one step closer by voting for this legislation today.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this bipartisan bill, the Transatlantic Telecommunications Security Act. This legislation authorizes the U.S. Development Finance Corporation to provide financing for secure 5G and future generations telecommunications infrastructure development projects in select Central and Eastern European countries with upper-middle-income economies or high-income economies.

This authorization aims to push back against CCP efforts to dominate the 5G and future generations telecommunications networks of our strategic allies and partners in the region, many of whom are NATO allies.

Ensuring the security of the telecommunications network of our NATO allies and partners in Central and Eastern Europe is unquestionably in the U.S. national security interest.

Moreover, this bill targets the majority of countries in the Three Seas Initiative. Launched by 12 of our close friends in Central and Eastern Europe, the Three Seas Initiative seeks to expand cross-border energy, transportation, and digital infrastructure, as well as boost economic development in the region. Though it is a regional initiative, it has global implications that serve not only European but U.S. security and economic interests.

We in Congress have expressed great concern that CCP is exporting corruption, debt traps, and poor labor and environmental standards to Europe and across the world through its 17+1 and Belt and Road initiatives. The Three Seas Initiative seeks to address these concerns by providing positive alternatives to PRC investments in the region, including in its 5G and future telecom networks.

The last administration successfully convinced most of Central and Eastern Europe to opt not to use high-risk Chinese suppliers in their telecommunications networks. Supporting the Three Seas Initiative's efforts to expand secure digital infrastructure in Central and Eastern Europe will carry forward this major foreign policy success and ensures the transatlantic community remains united in its clear-eyed assessment of the threat the CCP poses to telecommunications security.

In addition, Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine must serve as a wake-up call to the dangers of allowing our adversaries to expand their influence in critical sectors of our economies. In particular, Europe's energy dependence on Russia has made it difficult to rally the continent around tougher sanctions and is funding the Kremlin's war machine to the tune of about $1 billion every day. This is not in Europe's or the United States' national security interests.

We cannot wait for a potential conflict over Taiwan to assist our closest allies and partners in Europe and beyond in cutting out the CCP's malign influence now that it has been used to gain leverage over our democratic allies. This bill would help ensure we learn from our collective past mistakes.

Lastly, this bill is important because it directs the Secretary of State to appoint a campaign director among existing personnel for the upcoming election at the International Telecommunications Union, the ITU, which sets global standards for technologies such as 5G.

Russia's campaign to elect a Russian national who is a former Huawei executive to serve as the secretary general of the ITU is indicative of Russia's and China's efforts to use international organizations to promote their interests and malign influence.

The United States should ensure that we are coordinated in driving support for the U.S. candidate, Doreen Bogdan-Martin, for the secretary general of the ITU, but the State Department should also engage on the important down-ballot races at the ITU.

There are four other posts of significance within the ITU's leadership structure, including the director of the ITU Development Sector, the ITU-D. The ITU-D plays a particularly vital role in supporting multilateral cooperation for fair and open internet governance through trustworthy deployment of digital technologies in the developing world.

The U.S. must be doing everything we can to ensure Russian and Chinese malign influence does not grow. This bill would help.

The Three Seas Initiative seeks to address threats posed by the CCP by providing positive alternatives to PRC investments in the region, including in its 5G and future telecoms networks.

We must support our allies in Central and Eastern Europe as they seek, through the Three Seas Initiative, to reduce their dependence on Moscow's and Beijing's economic overtures. Only together can we face the threats posed by the authoritarian regimes in China and Russia.

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, again, I thank my friend for his leadership and bipartisanship on this critical piece of legislation. I think it is timely. I think it is urgent. I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3344, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

COUNTERING MALIGN RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA ACT

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7311) to direct the Secretary of State to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7311

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 ''Countering Malign Russian Activities in Africa Act''.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that the United States—

(1) should regularly assess the scale and scope of the Russian Federation's influence and activities in Africa that undermine United States objectives and interests; and

(2) determine how—

(A) to address and counter such influence and activities effectively, including through appropriate United States foreign assistance programs; and

(B) to hold accountable the Russian Federation and African governments and their officials who are complicit in aiding such malign influence and activities.

SEC. 3. STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN; REPORT.

(a) STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall develop and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, including programs and other initiatives designed to—

(1) strengthen democratic institutions, improve government transparency and accountability, improve standards related to human rights, labor, anti-corruption initiatives, fiscal transparency, monitor natural resources and extractive industries, and other tenets of good governance; and

(2) monitor and report on Russian political influence and disinformation operations and the activities of Russian, Russia-connected, or Russian-funded private military contractors in Africa.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies as appropriate, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the strategy and implementation plan required by subsection (a) and related efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of the scope and nature of the Russian Federation's malign influence and activities and related diplomatic, economic, and security priorities and strategic objectives of such engagement in Africa, including influence and activities that involve Russian proxies, such as Russian oligarchs, Russian-funded private military contractors, and other individuals and entities directly or indirectly employed by or financially or politically associated with Russia and its officials, who are involved in or aid activities to, among other things—

(i) manipulate African governments and their policies, as well as the public opinions and voting preferences of African populations and diaspora groups, including those in the United States; and

(ii) invest in, engage, or otherwise control strategic sectors in Africa, such as mining

and other forms of natural resource extraction and exploitation, military basing and other security cooperation agreements, and information and communications technology.

(B) A detailed account of United States foreign assistance and other initiatives developed and implemented during the preceding 3 fiscal years to address Russia's malign influence and activities in Africa, including the objectives and details of planned programs and initiatives set out in the strategy required by subsection (a).

(C) An analysis of policy and programmatic limitations, gaps, and resource requirements to effectively counter Russia's malign influence and activities in Africa.

(D) An overview of other initiatives and assistance programs funded by other international donors and partner countries to counter Russia's malign influence and activities in Africa.

(E) An identification of African governments and government officials, Russian government officials, and other individuals and entities that have facilitated payments and other prohibited activities that benefit United States-sanctioned individuals and entities tied to Russia, including in violation of the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act (subtitle F of title XII of Public Law 114–328; 22 U.S.C. 2656 note), the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Public Law 115–44; 22 U.S.C. 9401 et seq.), Executive Order 14024 (86 Fed. Reg. 20249; relating to blocking property with respect to specified harmful foreign activities of the Government of the Russian Federation), and Executive Order 13848 (83 Fed. Reg. 46843; relating to imposing certain sanctions in the event of foreign interference in a United States election), and a detailed overview of United States efforts to hold such governments, officials, and other individuals and entities complicit in violating or facilitating the evasion of United States sanctions against Russia and its proxies accountable through sanctions or other restrictions.

(F) An identification of foreign companies and persons that have provided transportation, logistical, administrative, border crossing, or money transfer services to Russian mercenaries or armed forces operating on behalf of the Russian Government in Libya, and an analysis of whether such entities meet the criteria for imposition of sanctions under section 1(a) of Executive Order 13726 (81 Fed. Reg. 23559; relating to blocking property and suspending entry into the United States of persons contributing to the situation in Libya).

(3) FORM.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 4. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.

In this Act, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCEACHIN). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) each will control 20 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7311, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7311, the Countering Malign Russian Activities in Africa Act, as amended, introduced by Representative GREGORY MEEKS, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

As Putin pursues a violent, illegal, and unjustifiable war in the sovereign nation of Ukraine, we must remember that he is also destabilizing fragile states in Africa to feed his ruthless war machine.

As a matter of fact, the Russian Federation has conducted malign activities throughout Africa for several years now to raise funds and evade sanctions that would inevitably result from Putin's brutal war.

From troll farms that spread disinformation to unaccountable private military contractors, the Kremlin continues to destabilize parts of Africa in order to achieve its objectives regardless of consequences.

Those consequences are deadly and draining African governments of sorely needed resources. For example, Putin has used his network of oligarchs to deploy the Wagner Group mercenaries to countries like Mali and the Central African Republic, where allegations of human rights abuses such as mass executions, forced disappearances, torture, and other unspeakable acts are mounting every day by those groups.

That is why I call on my colleagues to support H.R. 7311, which would require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a strategy and plan outlining U.S. efforts to counter Russia's malign activities on the continent of Africa that undermine U.S. interests.

It would also require the State Department to identify and hold accountable Russian and African officials who facilitate Russia's malign activities, including those that exploit the continent's natural resources and manipulate democratic processes in order to evade sanctions.

I am pleased to see the administration is taking several steps toward this end in recent days, including through designating several Russian companies involved in illicit activities in Africa that were, in essence, designed to evade sanctions.

With H.R. 7311, I am confident the State Department, with the support of our other Federal agencies, will help Congress develop a clear picture of what Putin is, in fact, doing in Africa and how we can effectively push back to protect our interests and those of our partners throughout the African region.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7311 to require the State Department to develop a strategy to counter Russian malign influence in Africa.

As the world continues to watch Russia commit unspeakable atrocities and war crimes in Ukraine, the U.S. and our allies and partners must fully assess the threat posed by Russian activities around the world.

This bill requires the State Department to assess the threat of Russia's engagement in Africa and create a plan to counter the Russian Federation's growing influence on the continent. In particular, the bill requires a specific focus on extractive industries, security assistance, and strategic basing agreements.

In Sudan, Russia is pursuing an agreement to establish a military base on the Red Sea. Russian mercenaries are also active in the Central African Republic, Mali, and Libya. While they claim to support stabilization efforts, in reality, they are committing gross violations of human rights and exploiting natural resources.

Just last month, Russian mercenaries were implicated in a massacre of over 200 people in Mali. This was the worst attack in Mali in over 10 years. Further reports indicate that they attempted to blame the atrocities on French forces after French intelligence footage showed Russian mercenaries burying victims' bodies outside of a former French military base.

Putin's complicity in these atrocities and war crimes around the world, and disinformation campaigns to avoid accountability, cannot go unanswered. I strongly condemn these attacks and the destabilizing role of Russia across the continent and the world.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues, Chairman MEEKS and Ranking Member MCCAUL, as well as Chairwoman BASS and Ranking Member SMITH on the Subcommittee for Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights, for offering this important measure.

The assessment and strategy required by the bill is an important first step, but the U.S. must do more to counter Russian malign activity wherever it is present, and the atrocities and war crimes ongoing in Ukraine further underscore the urgency.

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend again for his leadership and bipartisanship on this bill. I think it is a very important bill because Russia is spreading its malign influence all over the world, and it is having a particular impact in the African continent, so we need to be prepared. We need to respond. This bill will help do that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I wish to speak in support of Chairman MEEKS' Countering Malign Russian Activities in Africa Act, of which I am an original cosponsor.

While so much of the world's attention is rightfully focused on Russia's atrocities in Ukraine, Vladimir Putin and his minions are also at work elsewhere around the world.

This is especially true in Africa, where we see the extensive presence of Russian Private Military Contractors, or PMCs, in particular the notorious Wagner Group, and extensive Russian entanglement in countries with mining and strategic mineral reserves.

In some cases, such as in the Central African Republic, we see mines guarded by Wagner Group mercenaries. Wagner Group PMCs are said to have also appeared recently in Sudan, where there had been earlier reports of Russia seeking a naval base.

We have also seen Wagner mercenaries implicated in atrocities in Mali, which seems to have taken a bizarre turn recently, with France accusing Russia of staging a false flag operation seeking to implicate the French.

Thus, the Chairman's bill is especially timely, and can serve as a template for other bills addressing Russian involvement around the world, including the Western Hemisphere, as came up during our markup.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7311, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

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CARIBBEAN BASIN SECURITY INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4133) to authorize appropriations for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, enhance the United States-Caribbean security partnership, prioritize disaster resilience, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4133

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 ''Caribbean Basin Security Initiative Authorization Act''.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CARIBBEAN BASIN SECURITY INITIATIVE.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—There is authorized to be appropriated $74,800,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026 to carry out the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative to achieve the purposes described in subsection (b).

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes described in this subsection are the following:

(1) To promote citizen safety, security, and the rule of law in the Caribbean through increased strategic engagement with the governments of beneficiary countries and with elements of local civil society, including the private sector, in such countries.

(2) To carry out the promotion of such safety, security, and the rule of law through efforts including the following:

(A) Capacity building for law enforcement and military units, including professionalization, anti-corruption and human rights training, vetting, and community-based policing.

(B) Maritime and aerial security cooperation, including assistance to strengthen Caribbean maritime and aerial interdiction operations capability and the provision of support systems and equipment, training, and maintenance.

(C) Border and port security cooperation, including support to strengthen capacity for screening and to intercept narcotics, weapons, bulk cash, and other contraband at airports and seaports.

(D) Support for justice sector reform and strengthening of the rule of law, including capacity building for prosecutors, judges, and other justice officials, and support to increase the efficacy of criminal courts.

(E) Cybersecurity and cybercrime cooperation, including capacity-building and support for cybersecurity systems.

(F) Countering transnational criminal organizations and local gang activity, including capacity-building, equipment, and support for operations targeting the finances and illegal activities of transnational criminal networks and local gangs such as their recruitment of at-risk youth, and the provision of assistance to populations vulnerable to being victims of extortion and crime by criminal networks.

(G) Strengthening special prosecutorial offices and providing technical assistance to combat corruption, money laundering, financial crimes, extortion, and human rights crimes, and conduct asset forfeitures and criminal analysis.

(H) Strengthening the ability of the security sector to respond to and become more resilient in the face of natural disasters, including by carrying out training exercises to ensure critical infrastructure and ports are able to come back online rapidly following disasters and providing preparedness training to police and first responders.

(I) Supporting training for civilian police and appropriate security services in criminal investigations, best practices for citizen security, and the protection of human rights.

(J) Improving community and law enforcement cooperation to improve effectiveness and professionalism of police and increase mutual trust.

(K) Increasing economic opportunities for at-risk youth and vulnerable populations, including workforce development training and remedial education programs for at-risk youth.

(L) Improving juvenile justice sectors through regulatory reforms, separating youth from traditional prison systems, and improving support and services in juvenile detention centers.

(3) To prioritize efforts to combat corruption and include anti-corruption components to programs, including by—

(A) strengthening national justice systems and attorneys general and supporting independent media and investigative reporting;

(B) supporting multilateral anti-corruption mechanisms; and

(C) encouraging cooperative agreements between the Department of State, other relevant Federal departments and agencies, and the attorneys general of relevant countries to fight corruption in the Caribbean.

(4) To promote the rule of law in the Caribbean and counter malign influence from authoritarian regimes, including China and Russia, by:

(A) Monitoring security assistance from authoritarian regimes and taking steps necessary to ensure that this assistance does not undermine or jeopardize U.S. security assistance.

(B) Evaluating and, as appropriate, restricting United States involvement in investment and infrastructure projects financed by authoritarian regimes that might obstruct or otherwise impact United States security assistance to beneficiary countries.

(C) Monitoring and restricting equipment and support from high risk vendors for telecommunications infrastructure in beneficiary countries.

(D) Countering disinformation by promoting transparency and accountability from beneficiary countries.

(E) Eliminating corruption linked to investment and infrastructure facilitated by authoritarian regimes through support for investment screening, competitive tendering and bidding processes, the implementation of investment law, and contractual transparency.

(5) To promote strategic engagement with the governments of beneficiary countries through effective branding and messaging of United States assistance and security cooperation, including by developing a public diplomacy strategy for educating citizens of beneficiary countries about United States assistance and security cooperation programs and benefits.

SEC. 3. STRATEGY TO IMPROVE DISASTER RESILIENCE.

(a) PRIORITIZATION.—During the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Inter-American Foundation, prioritize efforts to increase disaster response and resilience by carrying out programs in beneficiary countries for the following purposes:

(1) Encouraging coordination between beneficiary countries and relevant Federal departments and agencies to provide expertise and information sharing.

(2) Supporting sharing of best practices on disaster resilience including constructing resilient infrastructure and rebuilding after natural disasters.

(3) Improving rapid-response mechanisms and cross-government organizational preparedness for natural disasters.

(b) STRATEGY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and in consultation with the President and Chief Economic Officer of the Inter-American Foundation, submit to the appropriate congressional committees a strategy that incorporates specific, measurable benchmarks to achieve the purposes described in subsection (a) and to inform citizens of beneficiary countries about the extent and benefits of United States assistance to such countries. In developing such strategy, the Secretary of State shall also consult with nongovernmental organizations in beneficiary countries and in the United States.

(c) ANNUAL PROGRESS UPDATE.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Administrator, shall annually submit to the appropriate congressional committees a written description of the progress made as of the date of such submission in meeting the benchmarks included in the strategy submitted pursuant to subsection (b).

SEC. 4. MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an implementation plan that includes a timeline and stated objectives for actions to be taken with respect to the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative. The plan shall also include the following elements:

(1) A multi-year strategy with a timeline, overview of objectives, and anticipated outcomes for the region and for each beneficiary country, with respect to each program area described in section 2.

(2) Specific, measurable benchmarks to track the progress of the Initiative towards accomplishing the outcomes described pursuant to paragraph (1).

(3) A plan for the delineation of the roles to be carried out by the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of Justice, the Department of Defense, and any other Federal department or agency in carrying out the Initiative, to prevent overlap and unintended competition between activities and resources.

(4) A plan to coordinate and track all activities carried out under the Initiative between all relevant Federal departments and agencies, in accordance with the publication requirements described in section 4 of the Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act of 2016 (Public Law 114–191; 22 U.S.C. 2394c).

(5) The results achieved during the previous year—

(A) of monitoring and evaluation measures to track the progress of the Initiative in accomplishing the benchmarks included pursuant to paragraph (2); and

(B) of the implementation of the strategy and plans described in paragraphs (1), (3), and (4).

(6) A description of the process for co-locating Caribbean Basin Security Initiative projects funded by the United States Agency for International Development and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the Department of State, to ensure that crime prevention funding and enforcement funding are used in the same localities as necessary.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(2) BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES.—The term ''beneficiary countries'' means the beneficiary countries of the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4133.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4133, the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative Authorization Act of 2022.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Representative ESPAILLAT, for drafting this important measure.

CBSI has been essential in helping our partners in the Caribbean improve their capacity to combat transnational crime, violence, and regional instability while also enhancing our own security and strengthening our critical partnerships in the region.

By supporting a multiyear authorization, we can effectively assist our Caribbean partners in citizen safety, security, and the rule of law in the Caribbean Basin; reducing corruption and the malign influence of authoritarian regimes like Xi Jinping's China and Vladimir Putin's Russia; and strengthening the ability of countries in the region to prepare for and respond to natural disasters.

According to a status report from the State Department's U.S. Strategy for Engagement in the Caribbean released in July of 2019 is says: ''Rising crime and endemic corruption threaten governments' ability to provide security and good governance'' in many of the nations in the region.

With ongoing efforts to mitigate transnational organized crime in Central America and Mexico, the drug trade and in other illegal activities likely will move further into the Caribbean, particularly as the regional economic outlook deteriorates due to the continuing economic impacts of the COVID–19 pandemic.

Given the tragic impacts of the recent hurricane season in the Caribbean and trends pointing toward more frequent and intense natural disasters, this renewed support for CBSI can also help make it possible for our friends in the region to become more climate resilient by building robust rapid-response mechanisms and resilient infrastructure responses throughout the region.

The support from CBSI can help to avoid a climate of fear and uncertainty among citizens that leads to diminished economic growth.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, narcotics trafficking and illicit money from the Caribbean is fueling America's drug crisis and is destabilizing the Western Hemisphere. The same groups that traffic narcotics, weapons, and humans also spread misery throughout the region and into the U.S. homeland.

At the same time, malign actors like the Chinese Communist Party spread their web of influence in the region. This problem is especially troubling since the Caribbean is home to a large concentration of Taiwan's diplomatic allies.

As evidenced by Nicaragua's recent decision to sever long-standing ties with Taiwan, the CCP is employing a range of tools to advance its malign agenda in the Caribbean and throughout Latin America.

Congress must remain committed to working with our allies to address shared security threats, cooperating on regional challenges, and promoting democratic governance. That is why I am supporting the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative Authorization Act.

As the CCP exerts its malign influence and drugs flow into the United States, now is the time to work with our allies in the region to ensure our national security interests are protected.

This legislation will expand our Caribbean partners' ability to surveil illicit actors in the water and in the air, improve local law enforcement's ability to intercept narcotics trafficking, strengthen local criminal justice institutions, and support natural disaster response efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT), my good friend and author of this legislation.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia for this opportunity to speak about H.R. 4133, the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative.

For more than 10 years, Mr. Speaker, Congress has supported funding CBSI, appropriating during that time $831 million, and supporting 13 Caribbean nations.

H.R. 4133, the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative Authorization Act will authorize appropriations of $75 million each year from 2022 to 2026. It also requires the Department of State to develop a strategy to improve disaster resilience in the Caribbean—and to report progress made under the initiative.

We all know how the Caribbean stands in the pathway of hurricanes and other natural disasters. As such, they must really improve disaster resiliency in those island nations. CBSI supports our allies in the Caribbean by promoting citizen safety, citizen security, and adhering to the rule of law. It also reduces trafficking in narcotics. It will help us interdict narcotics in the Caribbean region, which is the third border of our country.

It also reduces corruption and the malign influence of foreign adversaries in the region. We all know how foreign adversaries are looking to ill-invest in that region and circumvent, in many cases, transparency measures. It strengthens the ability to respond, as I said earlier, Mr. Speaker, to natural disasters. It is so important.

These island nations are in jeopardy. They are in serious trouble with hurricanes and rising sea levels and other natural disasters. You better than anybody, Mr. Speaker, know about this. This Caribbean Basin Security Initiative would also provide funding for that.

By empowering our neighbors in the Caribbean, we will in turn bolster the national security of the United States. Our allies in the Caribbean are facing many, many challenges brought about by the COVID–19 pandemic, strained global supply chains, and increased energy costs. That seems to be a common problem in island nations: increased energy costs. As such, they are really up for grabs by some of our adversaries who often take advantage in a crisis. We must do more to really help out our neighbors, our allies in that region.

We must continue funding for CBSI. It is critical to help Caribbean nations strengthen their economies, and in turn, strengthen our very own.

It is especially important that we continue our engagement in the Caribbean as our foreign adversaries attempt to spread their influence throughout the region. A safe and prosperous Caribbean region is in the United States' national security interests.

As we prepare to host the ninth Summit of the Americas in California in June, I urge my colleagues to support CBSI and reaffirm our commitment to enhancing U.S.-Caribbean relations.

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, the U.S. and our partners must seriously confront the growing threat posed by the CCP in the Caribbean and beyond.

As the situation at our border gets worse, deadly drugs like fentanyl are surging across our southern border from illicit actors in Latin America. We must address the issue immediately. We cannot ignore the Caribbean, America's third border.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. SIRES, Mr. GREEN, and Mr. CONNOLLY for leading this measure. I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for his leadership and bipartisanship on this important bill. I really can't add to the eloquence of our friend and colleague from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT).

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important and critical piece of legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4133.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

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

S. 4089. An ACT to restore entitlement to educational assistance under Veterans Rapid Retaining Program in cases of a closure of an educational institution or a disapproval of a program of education, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 74. Concurrent Resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 68–541, as amended by the appropriate provisions of Public Law 102–246, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, and in consultation with the Republican Leader, announces the appointment of the following individuals to serve as members of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board for a five year term:

J. Richard Fredericks of California.

Kevin Young of New York.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 105–292, as amended by Public Law 106–55, Public Law 107–228, and Public Law 112–75, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, upon the recommendation of the Majority Leader, re-appoints the following individual to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom:

Reverand Frederick A. Davie of New York.

STOP IRANIAN DRONES ACT

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6089) to clarify that section 107 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act applies sanctions with respect to unmanned combat aerial vehicles following a 2019 change by the United Nations providing additional clarity to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6089

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 ''Stop Iranian Drones Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) A July 15, 2013, United Nations General Assembly Report on the continuing operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and its further development (document A/68/140) states in paragraph 45, ''The Group noted the discussion of the 2006 Group that category IV already covered armed unmanned aerial vehicles and of the 2009 Group on a proposal to include a new category for such vehicles. The Group reviewed proposals for providing greater clarity to category IV.''.

(2) Section 107 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9406), enacted August 2, 2017, requires the President to impose sanctions on any person that the President determines ''knowingly engages in any activity that materially contributes to the supply, sale, or transfer directly or indirectly to or from Iran, or for the use in or benefit of Iran, of any battle tanks, armored combat vehicles, large caliber artillery systems, combat aircraft, attack helicopters, warships, missiles or missile systems, as defined for the purpose of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, or related materiel, including spare parts''.

(3) In 2019, the United Nations formally changed the heading of category IV of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms to ''combat aircraft and unmanned combat aerial vehicles''.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the United States to prevent Iran and Iranian-aligned terrorist and militia groups from acquiring unmanned aerial vehicles, including commercially available component parts, that can be used in attacks against United States persons and partner nations.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENT TO COUNTERING AMERICA'S ADVERSARIES THROUGH SANCTIONS ACT RELATING TO SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO IRAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 107 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (22 U.S.C. 9406) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking ''**ENFORCEMENT OF ARMS EMBARGOS**'' and inserting ''**SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO MAJOR CONVENTIONAL ARMS**''; and

(2) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting ''or unmanned combat aerial vehicles'' after ''combat aircraft''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act is amended by striking the item relating to section 107 and inserting the following:

''Sec. 107. Sanctions with respect to major conventional arms.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and apply with respect to any person that knowingly engages in any activity that materially contributes to the supply, sale, or transfer directly or indirectly to or from Iran, or for the use in or benefit of Iran, of any unmanned combat aerial vehicles, as defined for the purpose of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, before, on, or after such date of enactment.

SEC. 5. 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 Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6089.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6089, the Stop Iranian Drones Act, which was introduced by Ranking Member MCCAUL and Chairman MEEKS, along with Congressmen DEUTCH and WILSON, chair and ranking member of the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism Subcommittee.

As we have seen in recent months, Iran and Iranian-aligned terrorists and militia groups have been growing increasingly aggressive with their drone attacks throughout the Middle East—targeting U.S. troops, commercial vessels, partner countries, and more.

Not long ago, an Iranian-sponsored militia in Yemen utilized drones to cause death and destruction in the UAE, hundreds of miles away. Similarly, Saudi Arabia has faced repeated drone attacks on its civilian areas and its critical infrastructure.

This bill clarifies that existing conventional weapons sanctions against Iran include unmanned combat aerial vehicles and brings U.S. code up to date with the United Nation's categories of major conventional arms.

By doing this, this bill will allow the United States to better respond to the threat posed by Iran and its proxies' aggressive UAV tactics with respect to the United States and its partners.

This is not a new sanction, but rather a clarification of current law. It will in no way interfere with the ongoing nuclear talks. We have confirmed this with the State Department.

The Biden administration is taking this threat seriously. They have sanctioned the top Iranian military official for his role in the July attack on a commercial shipping vessel in the Gulf of Oman, in addition to blacklisting a network of individuals and companies behind Iran's UAV program.

□ 1430

But we can do more, and we need our allies to do more as well. The clarification included in this legislation will help show the international community that Iranian UAV proliferation will not be tolerated by this government or this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask for full support of this House in passing this legislation so we can move it one step closer to the President's desk, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2022.

Hon. GREGORY MEEKS,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MEEKS: This letter is to advise you that the Committee on the Judiciary has now had an opportunity to review the provisions in H.R. 6089, the ''Stop Iranian Drones Act,'' that fall within our Rule X jurisdiction. I appreciate your consulting with us on those provisions. The Judiciary Committee has no objection to your including them in the bill for consideration on the House floor, and to expedite that consideration is willing to forgo action on H.R. 6089, with the understanding that we do not thereby waive any future jurisdictional claim over those provisions or their subject matters.

In the event a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation is convened, the Judiciary Committee reserves the right to request an appropriate number of conferees to address any concerns with these or similar provisions that may arise in conference.

Please place this letter into the Congressional Record during consideration of the measure on the House floor. Thank you for the cooperative spirit in which you have worked regarding this matter and others between our committees.

Sincerely,

JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, April 21, 2022.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 6089, Stop Iranian Drones Act. I appreciate your willingness to work cooperatively on this legislation.

I acknowledge that provisions of the bill fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary under House Rule X, and that your Committee will forgo action on H.R. 6089 to expedite floor consideration. I further acknowledge that the inaction of your Committee with respect to the bill does not waive any future jurisdictional claim over the matters contained in the bill that fall within your jurisdiction. I also acknowledge that your Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this or similar legislation moves forward, and will support the appointment of Committee on the Judiciary conferees during any House-Senate conference convened on this legislation.

Lastly, I will ensure that our exchange of letters is included in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation regarding the legislation. I look forward to continuing to work with you as the measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

GREGORY W. MEEKS,
Chairman.

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

Iran and its proxies continue to threaten U.S. troops and our partners throughout the Middle East with drones. Iran-backed militia groups attacked U.S. troops in Iraq and Syria with UAVs throughout 2021. Houthi attacks on Saudi Arabia doubled over the first 9 months of 2021 compared to 2020, which included frequent UAV assaults.

Where do the Houthis get most of their dangerous UAV technology? Iran.

And Iran continues to use UAVs to threaten Israel, including in its deadly attack on an Israeli-owned tanker last summer. This is exactly why I am opposed to striking another bad nuclear deal with Iran that would line the regime's pockets with cash. We need to be constraining Iran's resources, not filling its coffers. The more money Iran has, the more it will spend on threats to the U.S. and our partners. Period.

This situation is intolerable. The people of the Middle East, including Americans living there, cannot live in freedom, stability, or prosperity under assault by Iran's drones. We have to limit Iran's ability to build and supply drones.

This crucial legislation will take the necessary steps to help reduce the threats of Iranian drones. It clarifies that our existing sanctions on Iran's conventional weapons program include the supply, sale, or transfer to or from Iran of combat UAVs. And it codifies that it is U.S. policy to prevent Iran and its proxies from acquiring UAVs that can be used in attacks against the U.S. and our partners.

With this legislation, Congress is telling the world that the U.S. will use every tool to cut off Iran's UAV supplies and that we will punish those who continue to supply Iran with UAVs and parts despite their destructive impact.

Iran has long demonstrated its commitment to destabilizing the Middle East with its malign activities, but we are committed to countering Iran's attacks and keeping our partners safe. We will continue to adapt to this UAV threat. That includes robust sanctions enforcement against Iran's UAV program and proliferation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) who serves on the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6089, the Stop Iranian Drones Act, and to speak favorably about all of the important legislation the House is moving today to address Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine.

The Stop Iranian Drones Act codifies crucial language that ensures we can impose sanctions on Iranian drones under current laws. Sanctions are a very powerful tool, as we have seen in the last 2 months as we have imposed powerful sanctions on Russia since its invasion, but I think we need to go further, and my bill, H.R. 6930, the Asset Seizure for Ukrainian Reconstruction Act, gives us the tools to do just that.

Let me say a few words about it.

In the last few weeks, we have seen across the United States, Europe, and the world the seizure of yachts, villas, and banks accounts belonging to Russian oligarchs who have supported the cruel regime of Vladimir Putin. Recently, with the help of the FBI, a $90-

million yacht was seized in Europe. Ninety million dollars is actually pretty cheap for a Russian oligarch's yacht. Some of these boats run up to $600 million. Up to $300 billion of Russian Central Bank assets have been seized or frozen by the United States and our allies.

All these actions raise a very important question. Think about the destruction in Ukraine, the thousands of people who have been killed, the atrocities, and the bodies of men and women left in the streets as Russian soldiers and occupiers are expelled by the brave Ukrainian defenders.

Can we imagine if there is, for example, a cease-fire that puts the immediate violence to rest—we hope that happens—but can we imagine at that moment giving all of this wealth, all of Russia's wealth, the yachts, the bank accounts, the villas, and the planes back to Putin and his cronies as Ukraine lies in ruin and as the Ukrainians bury their dead?

I think the answer is no. We cannot imagine doing that. We will not do that. I don't believe that the Biden administration intends to do that. But the law here is very complicated. These assets are not actually seized. They are merely frozen and blocked.

So this legislation—which I urge all of my colleagues to support today, a bipartisan bill—asks the administration to come up with a mechanism that would enable us to take this wealth and to sell it, to dispose of it, and to use the proceeds to help the people and Government of Ukraine rebuild their country.

Yes, it is complicated. If we apply our American legal constructs to these men and women who have served Putin loyally all these years, it looks like they are the owners of these assets. One of them owns the Chelsea football team in Great Britain. Some own property in the United States. But, in fact, Mr. Speaker, if you understand how Russia works, then you understand that the true owner of all of these assets is one man. It is Putin. These are pooled assets. He can use them whenever he wants.

So I believe it is fitting that we should pass legislation encouraging the administration to use the wealth that has supported this cruel regime to help to rebuild the country that the Putin regime is destroying.

It is the right thing to do, and it is the practical thing to do because this reconstruction effort will, in fact, cost up to hundreds of billions of dollars. We should not be saddled with the full cost of that. Let's use Russia's money to rebuild Ukraine.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I think this is an important piece of legislation in trying to contain the malign activities of the Iranian Government especially in a critical region, critical to us and critical to the world.

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers.

In closing, Iran is a state sponsor of terrorism that oppresses its own people and poses a grave threat to the U.S. and our allies in the Middle East, and the Iranian regime is using drones to expand that threat. Just last month retiring CENTCOM Commander General McKenzie told Congress that he was very concerned about the remarkable growth in number and efficiency of Iran's UAV program and long-range drones. We have a responsibility to our men and women in uniform to do everything we can to counter Iran's dangerous UAVs.

I am pleased we are taking this step today to clarify our sanctions laws and make it clear that they cover Iran's drones.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that we can continue the long history of bipartisan cooperation to respond to Iran's threats, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6089, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

GLOBAL MALNUTRITION PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT OF 2021

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4693) to advance targeted and evidence-based interventions for the prevention and treatment of global malnutrition and to improve the coordination of such programs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4693

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 ''Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act of 2021''.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF EFFORTS TO PREVENT AND TREAT MALNUTRITION GLOBALLY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, is authorized and encouraged to support efforts to prevent and treat malnutrition globally, including by—

(1) targeting resources and nutrition interventions to support the most vulnerable populations susceptible to severe malnutrition, including children under the age of 5 and pregnant and lactating women;

(2) increasing coverage, particularly in priority countries, of nutrition interventions that include coordinated deployment of prenatal nutrient supplements, breastfeeding support, vitamin A supplementation, specialized nutritious food products for the treatment of acute malnutrition, and other evidence-based interventions, as appropriate;

(3) increasing the use of context and country-appropriate fortification of staples and condiments with essential nutrients;

(4) advancing evidence-based programs and interventions carried out using data-driven approaches, best practices, and targeted to country-specific contexts and needs;

(5) supporting partner governments to develop policies to prevent and treat malnutrition;

(6) leveraging investments to strengthen health systems, including to support community health workers to advance improved nutrition outcomes;

(7) improve diets through safe, affordable, nutritious foods in the food system; and

(8) ensuring rigorous monitoring and evaluation of such efforts.

(b) EXTERNAL COORDINATION EFFORTS RELATED TO NUTRITION PROGRAMS.—The Administrator, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, should coordinate, as appropriate, with bilateral and multilateral donors, governments of partner countries, United Nations agencies, civil society organizations, nongovernmental organizations, including faith-based organizations, and the private sector to prevent and treat malnutrition globally, including by supporting efforts to—

(1) build the capacity of local and community-based organizations and governments of partner countries to ensure sustainability of nutrition interventions;

(2) expand research and innovation to identify and increase effective and evidence-based nutrition interventions based on country-specific contexts;

(3) improve coordination and structure of supply chains for nutrition interventions;

(4) expand domestic resource mobilization and domestic financing for nutrition interventions; and

(5) seek to leverage additional resources and encourage investment into innovative and multi-stakeholder finance partnerships to advance burden sharing in nutrition-related assistance.

(c) INTERAGENCY EFFORTS.—In carrying out subsections (a) and (b), the Administrator, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, consistent with the Global Nutrition Coordination Plan, shall seek to leverage additional resources to prevent and treat malnutrition globally, including by—

(1) increasing cooperation among relevant Federal departments and agencies represented in the Global Nutrition Coordination Plan to better leverage grants, technical assistance, debt, equity, loan guaranties, and public-private partnerships; and

(2) utilizing the Administrator's role as a member of the Board of Directors of the United States International Development Finance Corporation to consider opportunities within the Corporation's development impact framework that support improved nutrition outcomes.

SEC. 3. SELECTION OF PRIORITY COUNTRIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in coordination with the Nutrition Leadership Council, shall select foreign countries as priority countries for purposes of targeting programs to prevent and treat malnutrition globally.

(b) CRITERIA.—The selection of priority countries under subsection (a) shall be based on the following:

(1) The prevalence of severe malnutrition among children under the age of 5 and pregnant and lactating women.

(2) The presence of high-need, underserved, marginalized, vulnerable, or impoverished communities.

(3) The enabling environment for improved nutrition, including presence of national nutrition plans and demonstration of strong political commitment.

(4) Any other criteria that the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

(c) UPDATES.—The Administrator shall update the selection of priority countries under subsection (a) not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Administrator should continue to undertake nutrition interventions in countries not selected as priority countries, particularly in contexts in which opportunities are identified to advance multisectoral development programming and integrate efforts to prevent and treat global malnutrition with other priority areas and program objectives.

SEC. 4. NUTRITION LEADERSHIP COUNCIL.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator is authorized to establish in the United States Agency for International Development the Nutrition Leadership Council (in this section referred to as the ''Council''), which shall coordinate Agency efforts to prevent and treat malnutrition globally.

(b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Council shall include—

(1) advancing United States Agency for International Development efforts to prevent and treat malnutrition globally;

(2) ensuring nutrition interventions, particularly in priority countries, are carried out in close coordination with other relevant United States Government strategies and policies and provisions of law, including—

(A) the Global Food Security Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9301 et seq.);

(B) the Senator Paul Simon Water for the World Act of 2014 (22 U.S.C. 2151 note);

(C) the Global Child Thrive Act of 2020 (subtitle I of title XII of division A of Public Law 116–283); and

(D) the Global Fragility Act of 2019 (22 U.S.C. 9801 et seq.); and

(3) ensuring nutrition interventions are coordinated with nutrition programs carried out by other relevant Federal departments and agencies.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Council shall include representatives of the following bureaus and independent offices of the United States Agency for International Development:

(1) The Bureau for Global Health.

(2) The Bureau for Resilience and Food Security.

(3) The Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance.

(4) Any other relevant bureau or independent office that the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 260 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall develop and submit to the appropriate congressional committees an implementation plan for programs to prevent and treat malnutrition globally described in section 2.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The implementation plan required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A description of specific and measurable goals, objectives, and performance metrics with respect to such programs, including clear benchmarks and intended timelines for achieving such goals and objectives.

(2) A description of monitoring and evaluation plans with respect to such programs, as appropriate.

(3) In priority countries, a description of efforts to ensure that nutrition is adequately addressed in the Country Development Cooperation Strategy to the extent practicable and identify opportunities to expand efforts to prevent and treat malnutrition, including through leveraging existing health and development programs and other ongoing activities.

(c) CONSULTATION.—The implementation plan required by subsection (a) shall be developed in consultation with, as appropriate and to the extent possible, representatives of nongovernmental organizations, including faith-based organizations, civil society organizations, multilateral organizations and donors, relevant private, academic, and philanthropic entities, and the appropriate congressional committees.

SEC. 6. REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that describes progress made towards preventing and treating malnutrition globally.

(b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A summary of progress made towards achieving the specific and measurable goals, objectives, and performance metrics towards ending global malnutrition.

(2) In priority countries—

(A) a detailed summary of nutrition programs and activities in the previous fiscal year, including a breakdown of the countries to which nutrition resources have been allocated and an estimated number of people reached through nutrition interventions; and

(B) an description of the coordination of nutrition programs with other health and development programs and priorities.

(3) A summary of efforts to expand research and innovation to development and scale up new tools to prevent and treat malnutrition globally.

(4) An assessment of the collaboration and coordination of nutrition efforts of the United States Agency for International Development with United Nations agencies, the World Bank, other donor governments, host country governments, civil society, and the private sector, as appropriate.

(5) A description of other donor country and host country financial commitments and efforts to prevent and treat malnutrition.

(6) An identification of constraints on implementation of programs and activities and lessons learned from programs and activities from the previous fiscal years.

(c) INCLUSION IN OTHER REPORTS.—The Administrator may include the report required by subsection (a) as a component of other congressionally mandated reports provided to appropriate congressional committees, as appropriate.

SEC. 7. COMPLIANCE WITH THE FOREIGN AID TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2016.

Section 2(3) of the Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 2394c note) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(E) the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act of 2021.''.

SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ''Administrator'' means the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(3) NUTRITION LEADERSHIP COUNCIL.—The term ''Nutrition Leadership Council'' means Nutrition Leadership Council established by section 4.

(4) PRIORITY COUNTRY.—The term ''priority country'' means a foreign country selected under section 3 for purposes of targeting programs to prevent and treat malnutrition globally.

SEC. 9. SUNSET.

The requirements of this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4693.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4693, the Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act of 2021.

In the wake of COVID–19, we have seen malnutrition rates climb and food insecurity become an ever-greater challenge. Jarringly, it is predicted that disruptions to global food and health systems will double global malnutrition rates—double—with women and children bearing the brunt of those effects. It is estimated that in 2022 the devastating global effects of COVID–19 could add an additional 17 million severely malnourished children worldwide. We cannot stand by while millions of children's lives are on the line with COVID, climate change, and conflict worsening the global situation. That is why the Foreign Affairs Committee took action with H.R. 4693 which will direct USAID to implement solutions to prevent and treat this global malnutrition.

This bill establishes a nutrition leadership council to identify populations most at risk to severe malnutrition and to prioritize prevention and treatment programs. Preventing and treating malnutrition is relatively inexpensive to implement and has high returns. With every $1 we spend, we improve health and increase cognitive

and physical development yielding the equivalent of a $35 return.

By coordinating activities throughout the U.S. Government with our partner countries with the Untied Nations' specialized agencies, civil society, private-sector actors and more, we can sustain nutrition interventions that save lives.

This bill also requires USAID to provide Congress an implementation plan and annual reports concerning its programs for treating and preventing malnutrition.

Mr. Speaker, we must do more to support those in dire need, and we must answer their call for help. H.R. 4693 is this Chamber's opportunity to do just that: to prevent the lives of those suffering from malnutrition all around the world. This measure builds on the work and jurisdiction of USAID and will bolster efforts to respond to and prevent malnutrition everywhere.

While the United States has led the world in responding to COVID–19 and its effects around the world, we must also ensure we don't lose ground in longstanding investments such as food security. By supporting this legislation we can take a meaningful step in doing both.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this measure so we can move it one step closer to the President's desk, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, as we speak, millions of women and children are on the brink of starvation around the world. An estimated 3.1 million children perish every year due to malnutrition. In fact, almost half of the deaths among children under the age of 5 are linked to malnutrition, mainly in low- and middle-income countries. In the 21st century this tragedy should be prevented.

This bipartisan bill will support efforts to scale up targeted and effective nutrition programs in countries most at risk for severe malnutrition. That will help us have a real impact on people's lives around the world.

Fallout from the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the administration's chaotic and deadly withdrawal from Afghanistan have compounded global humanitarian crises. Coupled with the COVID–19 pandemic, now more than ever we must do everything we can to advance lifesaving nutrition programs, and that starts with a strong and effective USAID who has the tools it needs to ensure no child dies from malnutrition.

Every parent wants to be able to put food on the table, nourish their families, and provide for themselves. Support for low-cost, effective nutrition interventions mean an investment in the health, development, and productivity of the next generation of children, and I urge my colleagues to support this important measure.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, in addition to the crises in Ukraine, Afghanistan, and Ethiopia, the COVID–19 pandemic has erased years of progress towards ending extreme poverty. It has pushed more people into severe food insecurity and malnutrition and has destabilized fragile states. This legislation will help us reclaim lost ground in the battle against hunger and malnutrition.

USAID plays a pivotal role in helping nations across the globe combat hunger and poverty. The agency, alongside our NGO and private-sector partners, has helped secure nutrition stability for expectant mothers and young children along with countless others in need, but more must be done to truly end starvation.

I want to thank members of the advocacy community, especially Bread for the World and RESULTS, for their continued support of this legislative effort.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful we can continue the long history of bipartisan cooperation to help those in need around the world, and I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1445

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

The United States has a long tradition, on a bipartisan basis, of dealing with the issue of food insecurity and malnutrition. Herbert Hoover led some of the early efforts by the United States Government after World War I to feed a starving Europe. He even provided food assistance to the Bolshevik regime in Russia because we understood that malnutrition didn't respect political ideology or labels.

Through the Food for Peace program in the early Kennedy and Johnson years, there was cooperation between the late Senator Bob Dole and the late Senator George McGovern to make sure that both domestic and international food security were staples of U.S. policy and bipartisan support.

This is an important piece of legislation. No child in 2022 should ever be malnourished, and certainly, no child should ever die from malnourishment.

This is an important statement by this Congress about our values as human beings and as a society and reaffirms a longstanding commitment by the American people to not let this kind of tragedy happen anywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4693, Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act of 2021, which will establish programs and direct the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to carry out activities to prevent and treat malnutrition globally.

This bill would advance targeted and evidence-based interventions for the prevention and treatment of global malnutrition and to improve the coordination of such programs.

Under this bill, USAID must leverage resources to address malnutrition through the Global Nutrition Coordination Plan and its role on the board of directors of the International Development of Finance Corporation.

The Global Nutrition Coordination plan is an interagency effort to strengthen the impact of U.S. investments in nutrition.

USAID must also select countries based on specific malnutrition-related indicators for the purpose of targeting malnutrition prevention and treatment programs.

The plan will prioritize high-need, underserved, marginalized or impoverished communities.

However, countries must display strong political commitment and have existing nutrition strategies already in place, which ensures that the plan to combat malnutrition in a select country will be effective and impactful.

Additionally, USAID may:

establish the Nutrition Leadership Council to coordinate activities to prevent and treat malnutrition;

target resources and nutrition interventions to the populations most susceptible to severe malnutrition, and otherwise support efforts to prevent and treat malnutrition globally;

coordinate activities among partner countries, United Nations agencies, civil society, private sector actors, and others to, for example, build capacity in partner countries to sustain nutrition interventions.

USAID would also be required to provide Congress with an implementation plan and annual reports concerning the programs for treating and preventing malnutrition.

As a senior Member of the House of Representatives and the founding chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, I believe this bill is vital for preventing and treating malnutrition around the world.

We must ensure continued focus on multisectoral nutrition programs, while monitoring these interventions to ensure effective use of American taxpayer dollars.

I commend the USAID maternal and child nutrition programs that seek to improve health outcomes by implementing nutrition-specific interventions, and those that address the immediate, health-related determinants of undernutrition.

It is no secret that poverty amplifies the risk of malnutrition.

People who are poor are more likely to be affected by different forms of malnutrition.

Furthermore, malnutrition increases health care costs, reduces productivity, and slows economic growth, which can perpetuate a cycle of poverty and ill-health.

Malnutrition can have several negative and deadly effects such as decreased cognitive development in newborns, greater vulnerability to disease and other issues.

Optimizing nutrition early in life, especially from the 1,000 days from conception to a child's second birthday ensures the best possible start in life, with long-term benefits.

According to UNICEF, nearly half of all deaths in children under 5 are attributable to undernutrition.

Every year, the world loses hundreds of thousands of young children and babies to hunger-related causes.

Women, infants, children, and adolescents are at particular risk of malnutrition.

I would be remiss if I stood here today without addressing the global impact of COVID–19 on malnutrition.

The significant and life-altering shocks created by the pandemic and efforts to mitigate the transmission of COVID–19 have resulted in the disruption of food systems.

This has also upended health and nutrition services which has devastated livelihoods, as well as threatened food security.

These necessary containment measures have unfortunately caused more vulnerable children to face malnourishment.

By the end of this year nearly 14 million more children are likely to be severely malnourished because of the pandemic's impacts.

This means that 58.9 million young children—or almost the whole population of South Africa—will likely face life-threatening malnutrition if the global community doesn't act.

The pandemic revealed the already existing brutal food insecurity struggles in many nations while triggering economic recessions and jeopardizing access to food.

The combined impacts of environmental factors, COVID–19 and political conflicts place malnutrition as an overwhelming concern in the global community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 4693 because with this bill we are committing ourselves to improving the health of women and children in impoverished areas, helping prevent illness, and improving economic conditions in poorer countries.

Every parent deserves the opportunity to put nutritional food on the table to take care of their families.

By supporting these effective nutrition interventions, we unlock the ability to begin investing in the well-being, growth, and productivity of our generations to come.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4693.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 812) to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 812

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

SECTION 1. PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations, charged with coordinating health efforts within the United Nations system. The World Health Assembly (WHA) is the decision-making body of the WHO, which convenes annually in May to set the policies and priorities of the organization. Statehood is not a requirement for attendance at the WHA, and numerous observers, including non-members and non-governmental organizations, attended the most recent virtual WHA in May 2020.

(2) Taiwan began seeking to participate in the WHO as an observer in 1997. In 2009, with strong support from successive United States Administrations, Congress, and like-minded WHO Member States, and during a period of improved Cross-Strait relations, Taiwan received an invitation to attend the WHA as an observer under the name ''Chinese Taipei''. Taiwan received the same invitation each year until 2016, when following the election of President Tsai-Ing Wen of the Democratic Progressive Party, Taiwan's engagement in the international community began facing increased resistance from the People's Republic of China (PRC). Taiwan's invitation to the 2016 WHA was received late and included new language conditioning Taiwan's participation on the PRC's ''one China principle''. The WHO did not invite Taiwan to attend the WHA as an observer in 2017, 2018, 2019, or 2020.

(3) Taiwan remains a model contributor to world health, having provided financial and technical assistance to respond to numerous global health challenges. Taiwan has invested over $6,000,000,000 in international medical and humanitarian aid efforts impacting over 80 countries since 1996. In 2014, Taiwan responded to the Ebola crisis by donating $1,000,000 and providing 100,000 sets of personal protective equipment. Through the Global Cooperation and Training Framework, the United States and Taiwan have jointly conducted training programs for experts to combat MERS, Dengue Fever, and Zika. In 2020, after successfully containing the spread of the novel coronavirus within its borders while upholding democratic principles, Taiwan generously donated millions of pieces of personal protective equipment and COVID–19 tests to countries in need. These diseases know no borders, and Taiwan's needless exclusion from global health cooperation increases the dangers presented by global pandemics.

(4) Taiwan's international engagement has faced increased resistance from the PRC. Taiwan was not invited to the 2016 Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), despite participating as a guest at the organization's prior summit in 2013. Taiwan's requests to participate in the General Assembly of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) have also been rejected. In May 2017, PRC delegates disrupted a meeting of the Kimberley Process on conflict diamonds held in Perth, Australia, until delegates from Taiwan were asked to leave. Since 2016, the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe, the Republic of Panama, the Dominican Republic, Burkina Faso, the Republic of El Salvador, the Solomon Islands, and the Republic of Kiribati have terminated longstanding diplomatic relationships with Taiwan and granted diplomatic recognition to the PRC.

(5) Congress has established a policy of support for Taiwan's participation in international bodies that address shared transnational challenges, particularly in the WHO. Congress passed H.R. 1794 in the 106th Congress, H.R. 428 in the 107th Congress, and S. 2092 in the 108th Congress to direct the Secretary of State to establish a strategy for, and to report annually to Congress on, efforts to obtain observer status for Taiwan at the WHA. Congress also passed H.R. 1151 in the 113th Congress, directing the Secretary to report on a strategy to gain observer status for Taiwan at the ICAO Assembly, and H.R. 1853 in the 114th Congress, directing the Secretary to report on a strategy to gain observer status for Taiwan at the INTERPOL Assembly. However, since 2016, Taiwan has not received an invitation to attend any of these events as an observer.

(b) AUGMENTATION OF REPORT CONCERNING THE PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 1 of the Act entitled, ''To address the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization'' (Public Law 108–235; 22 U.S.C. 290 note) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) An account of the changes and improvements the Secretary of State has made to the United States plan to endorse and obtain observer status for Taiwan at the World Health Assembly, following any annual meetings of the World Health Assembly at which Taiwan did not obtain observer status.''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall take effect and apply beginning with the first report required under subsection (c) of section 1 of the Act entitled, ''To address the participation of Taiwan in the World Health Organization'' (Public Law 108–235; 22 U.S.C. 290 note) that is submitted after the date of the enactment of this Act:

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 812.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 812, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, and for other purposes.

S. 812 will help support Taiwan's effort to gain observer status at the World Health Assembly, the decision-making body of the World Health Organization.

Since the end of 2019, the unprecedented COVID–19 pandemic has reminded the global community of the importance of international cooperation and collaboration on global health.

Taiwan has been a leader on global health. While the People's Republic of China was actively censoring public discussion of and silencing doctors about the effects and outbreak of the virus in China itself, Taiwan was saving lives globally with its early detection and dissemination of information about the virus.

Despite its proximity to the original outbreak in China, Taiwan employed a strategy of social distancing, border controls, mask mandates, quarantine,

and contact tracing so that it succeeded in suppressing widespread transmission. Incredibly, with a population of 23.5 million, Taiwan experienced roughly 37,000 confirmed COVID–19 cases and fewer than 900 deaths. That is a tremendous feat compared to everybody else.

Taiwan was not only able to use its knowledge to effectively respond to the COVID–19 pandemic within its own borders, but it shared its expertise and medical supplies when the world badly needed it most. Taiwan donated millions of masks and PPE to many countries around the world, including here in the United States.

These actions symbolize Taiwan's leadership and contributions to global health security and demonstrate why it ought to be part of the global conversation on public health. Unfortunately, China has tried to limit and constrain Taiwan's meaningful participation in all international organizations, including pressuring the WHO to strip Taiwan of its observer status in the WHA in 2017. As the co-chair of the Taiwan Caucus, I can tell you that makes no sense.

This bipartisan measure would support efforts that enable Taiwan to share its public health expertise and experience with the world at times when we need it badly.

Led by Senator MENENDEZ, this legislation has already passed the Senate. The House Foreign Affairs Committee was proud to pass out of committee a near-identical bipartisan measure led by Representative YOUNG KIM of California.

Passage of this bill today, ahead of the World Health Assembly meeting next month, would not only be timely; it would also demonstrate the strong bipartisan, bicameral commitment the U.S. Congress has to our democratic friend Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to adopt this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I rise in support of S. 812, directing the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization.

This bill has passed the House in each of the last three Congresses, so I am glad the two Chambers have finally come together to send this bill to the President's desk before the World Health Assembly next month.

I thank Representative YOUNG KIM for introducing the House version of this bill early last year and former Representative Ted Yoho for his work on this issue in previous Congresses.

Taiwan is a model contributor to global health, and Taiwan's exclusion from the WHO isn't just unfair; it is dangerous.

The world is still paying the price of the Chinese Communist Party's cover-up of the original COVID–19 outbreak in Wuhan. Taiwan's exclusion from the World Health Organization made the situation even worse by depriving the world of Taiwan's early warning.

Unfortunately, Xi Jinping and the CCP are continuing to jeopardize global health by marginalizing Taiwan. The CCP is hijacking the WHO to advance its own political agenda. Taiwan has been totally excluded from participating in the WHO's annual World Health Assembly since 2016.

Despite the CCP's interference, Taiwan is a model democracy that makes the world a better place. The people of Taiwan deserve to participate in the World Health Organization, so I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative MEUSER for yielding, and I thank Representative CONNOLLY, Chairman MEEKS, and Ranking Member MCCAUL for their leadership on this very important issue.

I rise in strong support of this bipartisan, bicameral effort to help restore Taiwan's observer status at the World Health Organization and World Health Assembly.

I am proud to have introduced the House version of this bill, which has nearly 130 bipartisan cosponsors.

Time and time again, Taiwan has proven to be a trusted ally of the United States and to be a world leader in global health security.

From 2009 until 2017, Taiwan had observer status in the WHO and WHA, but it was revoked due to pressure from the Chinese Government. This bill would direct the Secretary of State to implement a strategy to restore Taiwan's observer status.

I am hopeful that today we can send a united message to the people of Taiwan that we value their input and that giving them a seat at the table benefits all of us.

Support for Taiwan is more important than ever. We all know today that as Russia invades Ukraine, China is eyeing Taiwan. A threat to freedom anywhere is a threat to freedom everywhere.

That is why I urge my colleagues to support this effort and give the people of Taiwan a voice in vital information sharing in the World Health Organization and World Health Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to lead this effort and will continue to be an unwavering voice for global human rights and freedom.

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

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, diseases and pandemics know no borders. Taiwan is a critical player in global health, and it is a global transportation hub. In blocking Taiwan from the WHO, the CCP is placing the world at risk to soothe their own insecurities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Why is this bill important at this time, Mr. Speaker? It is important because an authoritarian, delusional autocrat in Moscow is wreaking havoc and inflicting death on the ground and from the skies on an innocent people seeking freedom in Ukraine.

It is important that other autocrats and authoritarian regimes understand that they will pay a heavy price for such behavior, that we will not resolve disputes that way in the 21st century, and that the consequences will be severe.

Isolating Taiwan is part of a policy to intimidate, threaten, and assault democracy on the island of Taiwan. We can't be a party to that.

Taiwan has a voice. Taiwan has expertise. It can contribute in a pandemic, and it should not be silenced because of somebody's political agenda. That is what this bill is about. That is why this Congress should speak with one voice and support this important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge its passage, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I support S. 812, which came to us from the Senate, and which calls for the Administration to develop a strategy for Taiwan to regain observer status at the World Health Organization.

As we know, Taiwan stands as a beacon of democracy in Asia—and indeed, an example for much of the world—and offers a stark contrast to the totalitarian model of Xi Jinping across the Taiwan Strait in Mainland China.

As a result, the People's Republic of China has doubled down on its longstanding efforts to delegitimize Taiwan and keep it from participating in international organizations.

As we rediscovered in 2020, however, a deadly virus doesn't play politics, and crosses borders without regard to diplomatic niceties.

To kowtow to Communist China and exclude Taiwan from having even an observer status at the World Health Organization is to play politics with global health.

It is especially galling when one recalls that pernicious misrepresentations were made by the PRC to the World Health Organization at the onset of the COVID–19 pandemic, and the warnings sounded by Taiwan as to the true nature and origins of the pandemic were ignored by the WHO.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to note that I, along with my colleague from New Jersey, JEFF VAN DREW, also introduced legislation last year, H.R. 1775, to provide for a vehicle for victims of State misrepresentations to the World Health Organization to seek redress using US courts.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 812, and for this Administration to devise and implement the strategy this timely legislation calls for to allow our democratic partner Taiwan to accede to the World Health Organization as an observer.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 812, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization (WHO), and for other purposes.

This bill directs the Department of State to include additional information in its annual reports concerning Taiwan's participation at the WHO's World Health Assembly (WHA) as an observer.

The report shall describe changes and improvements to the State Department's plan to support Taiwan's observer status at the WHA, following any meetings at which Taiwan did not participate under such status.

The measure also directs the Secretary of State to establish a strategy for obtaining observer status at the WHA, the decision-making body of the WHO.

Taiwan is excluded from most global organizations such as the WHO, the U.N. health agency, because of the objections of China, which considers the island one of its provinces and not a separate country.

Taiwan cannot be excluded from the global health body because as we have seen, infectious viruses like the COVID–19 pandemic, have the ability to transcend all borders.

Taiwan has contributed more than $6 billion in international medical and humanitarian aid efforts to over 80 countries since 1996 and donated millions of personal protective and testing equipment during the COVID–19 crises.

After successfully suppressing the spread of COVID within its borders, Taiwan also generously donated millions of pieces of personal protective equipment and testing reagents to countries in need.

Taiwan is an important partner to the United States, and we must assist their effort to participate at the W.H.O.

Taiwan's absence from the World Health Assembly over the last several years may negatively impact us all, since public health is safeguarded when everyone is engaged.

In the wake of the COVID–19 pandemic it is now more important than ever for all nations to come together and share information regarding public health.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting for S. 812 because the U.S. should support Taiwan's involvement with the international community on all matters regarding public health.

These efforts will benefit global public health, and potentially save many lives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 812.

The question was taken.

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

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

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

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

RECESS

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

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CROW) at 3 o'clock and 44 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 7314;
H.R. 7372;
H.R. 496;
H.R. 6930;
H.R. 923;
H. Res. 833;
H.R. 3344;
H.R. 7311;
H.R. 4133;
H.R. 6089;
H.R. 4693; and
S. 812.

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.

ACCESSING XI'S INTERFERENCE AND SUBVERSION 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. 7314) to require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on the People's Republic of China's support to the Russian Federation with respect to its unprovoked invasion of and full-scale war against Ukraine, 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 Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 394, nays 3, not voting 32, as follows:

[Roll No. 127]

YEAS—394

Adams
Aderholt
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
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
Cloud
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
García (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
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 (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
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.
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Sánchez
Scalise
Scanlon
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
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—3

Gohmert
Greene (GA)
Massie

NOT VOTING—32

Aguilar
Bishop (GA)
Bustos
Carbajal
Cline
Clyde
Dean
Demings
Garbarino
Good (VA)
Guest
Hayes
Hill
Himes
Hollingsworth
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Kim (CA)
Maloney, Sean
Miller (IL)
Murphy (FL)
Rush
Salazar
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Spanberger
Speier
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tlaib
Trone
Westerman

□ 1622

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:

Mrs. KIM of California. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 127.

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 127, H.R. 7314.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Walorski)
Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Tonko (Pallone)
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

PROTECTING SEMICONDUCTOR SUPPLY CHAIN MATERIALS FROM AUTHORITARIANS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DEGETTE). 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. 7372) to amend the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 to require the President to establish a semiconductor supply chain working group in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and submit reports to Congress on potential future disruptions to the supply chain 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 Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 414, nays 9, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 128]

YEAS—414

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)
Bishop (NC)
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
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
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
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
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
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
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—9

Biggs
Boebert
Cloud
Greene (GA)
Harris
Massie
Norman
Perry
Roy

NOT VOTING—6

Blumenauer
Gonzalez, Vicente
Hayes
LaHood
Miller (IL)
Rutherford

□ 1633

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

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)

Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Tonko (Pallone)
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

UKRAINE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SUPPORT 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. 496) to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded by Russia, 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 Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 421, nays 4, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 129]

YEAS—421

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
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
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
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
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
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
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—4

Casten
Garcia (TX)
Greene (GA)
Massie

NOT VOTING—4

Davis, Danny K.
Gonzalez, Vicente
Jacobs (NY)
Miller (IL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1643

Ms. GARCIA of Texas changed her vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

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.

The title was amended so as to read: ''A bill to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded or otherwise supported by or acting on behalf of Russia.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Tonko (Pallone)
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

ASSET SEIZURE FOR UKRAINE RECONSTRUCTION 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. 6930) to authorize the confiscation of assets subject to United States jurisdiction of certain foreign 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 gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PHILLIPS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 417, nays 8, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 130]

YEAS—417

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon

Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Lamborn
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
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
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—8

Bush
Cawthorn
Greene (GA)
Massie
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Roy
Tlaib

NOT VOTING—4

Kinzinger
Miller (IL)
Sewell
Sherman

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1652

Mr. CAWTHORN changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

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

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Tonko (Pallone)
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

GEORGIA SUPPORT 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. 923) to support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Georgia, 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 Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 406, nays 20, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 131]

YEAS—406

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.
Brady
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
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
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)

Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
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
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—20

Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brooks
Bush
Cawthorn
Cloud
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gosar
Greene (GA)
Hice (GA)
Lesko
Massie
Moore (AL)
Norman
Perry
Rosendale
Roy
Steube

NOT VOTING—3

Eshoo
Gonzalez, Vicente
Miller (IL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1701

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.

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Tonko (Pallone)
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR MOLDOVA'S DEMOCRACY, INDEPENDENCE, AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND STRENGTHENING UNITED STATES AND MOLDOVA RELATIONS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 833) expressing support for Moldova's democracy, independence, and territorial integrity and strengthening United States and Moldova relations, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 409, nays 17, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 132]

YEAS—409

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.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
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)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
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
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
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
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
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
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—17

Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Cawthorn
Cloud
Clyde
Gosar
Greene (GA)
Harris

Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Massie
Nehls
Norman
Perry
Roy
Steube

NOT VOTING—3

Gonzalez, Vicente
Miller (IL)
Wilson (SC)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1708

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title of the resolution was amended so as to read: ''A resolution reaffirming support for strong United States and Moldova relations, Moldova's democracy, and its sovereignty and territorial integrity.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Tonko (Pallone)
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

TRANSATLANTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS SECURITY 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. 3344) to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among United States agencies to encourage countries in Central and Eastern Europe to improve the security of their telecommunications networks, 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 Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 366, nays 60, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 133]

YEAS—366

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Bustos
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
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hartzler
Hayes
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)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
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
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Obernolte
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
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—60

Allen
Banks
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bowman
Brooks
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Cammack
Cawthorn
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
DesJarlais
Estes
Fleischmann
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gosar
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Herrell
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Jordan
LaMalfa
Lesko
Loudermilk
Mace
Mann
Massie
McClintock
Moore (AL)
Nehls
Norman
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Perry
Posey
Rosendale
Roy
Scalise
Sessions
Steube
Tiffany
Tlaib
Van Drew
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wittman

NOT VOTING—3

Buck
Johnson (TX)
Miller (IL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1719

Mr. MANN, Ms. HERRELL, Messrs. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida and WEBER of Texas changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

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

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Tonko (Pallone)
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

COUNTERING MALIGN RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA 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. 7311) to direct the Secretary of State to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation

plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, 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 Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 415, nays 9, not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 134]

YEAS—415

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)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
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
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
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
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
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
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—9

Biggs
Boebert
Cammack
Gohmert
Gosar
Greene (GA)
Lesko
Massie
Roy

NOT VOTING—5

Brady
Buck
Frankel, Lois
LaMalfa
Miller (IL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1726

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

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

CARIBBEAN BASIN SECURITY INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION 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. 4133) to authorize appropriations for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, enhance the United States-Caribbean security partnership, prioritize disaster resilience, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 340, nays 86, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 135]

YEAS—340

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allred
Armstrong
Auchincloss
Axne
Bacon
Baird
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Bustos
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
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Feenstra
Fischbach
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hartzler
Hayes
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman

Huizenga
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger
Fernandez
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
O'Halleran
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sanchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth

NAYS—86

Allen
Amodei
Arrington
Babin
Balderson
Banks
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bowman
Brooks
Buck
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Cammack
Cawthorn
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Comer
DesJarlais
Donalds
Fallon
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
García (IL)
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Herrell
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Jackson
Johnson (LA)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kustoff
Lamborn
Latta
Lesko
Mace
Mann
Massie
McClain
McClintock
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Norman
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Pressley
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Schweikert
Sessions
Steube
Taylor
Tiffany
Tlaib
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Weber (TX)
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—3

Ferguson
Miller (IL)
Webster (FL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1736

Ms. HERRELL, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Messrs. MURPHY of North Carolina, KUSTOFF, KELLY of Mississippi, and LAMBORN changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

STOP IRANIAN DRONES 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. 6089) to clarify that section 107 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act applies sanctions with respect to unmanned combat aerial vehicles following a 2019 change by the United Nations providing additional clarity to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, 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 Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) 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 424, nays 2, not voting 3, as follows:

[Roll No. 136]

YEAS—424

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
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
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
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
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)

Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—2

Greene (GA)
Massie

NOT VOTING—3

Gonzalez, Vicente
Miller (IL)
Sherman

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1744

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

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

GLOBAL MALNUTRITION PREVENTION AND TREATMENT ACT OF 2021

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. 4693) to advance targeted and evidence-based interventions for the prevention and treatment of global malnutrition and to improve the coordination of such programs, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 384, nays 44, not voting 1, as follows:

[Roll No. 137]

YEAS—384

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
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.
Brady
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budd
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Fischbach
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Hollingsworth
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
Jones
Joyce (OH)
Kahele
Kaptur
Katko
Keating
Keller
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lofgren
Long
Loudermilk
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luria
Lynch
Mace
Malinowski
Malliotakis
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
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
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Stewart
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NAYS—44

Allen
Babin
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brooks
Buck
Cawthorn
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Donalds
Ferguson
Fitzgerald
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gosar
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Harris
Hern
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Lamborn
Lesko
Massie
McClintock
Moore (AL)
Nehls
Norman
Perry
Rosendale
Roy
Sessions
Steube
Tiffany
Van Drew
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)

NOT VOTING—1

Miller (IL)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1752

Mr. LAMBORN changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)

DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

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. 812) to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 425, nays 0, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 138]

YEAS—425

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Boebert
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brooks
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cheney
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crist
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Delgado
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gibbs
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
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Hollingsworth
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Huffman
Huizenga
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Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
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Johnson (GA)
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Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Johnson (TX)
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Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kahele
Kaptur
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Keating
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Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Kind
Kinzinger
Kirkpatrick
Krishnamoorthi
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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
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McKinley
McNerney
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
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norcross
Norman
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Quigley
Raskin
Reed
Reschenthaler
Rice (NY)
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roy
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
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
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Walorski
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yarmuth
Zeldin

NOT VOTING—4

Budd
Carson
McHenry
Miller (IL)

□ 1800

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

Bass (Beyer)
Beatty (Carter (LA))
Brown (OH) (Jeffries)
Brownley (Correa)
Calvert (Garcia (CA))
Carey (Balderson)
Castro (TX) (Correa)
Craig (Pallone)
Crist (Wasserman Schultz)
DeSaulnier (Beyer)
Evans (Beyer)
Garcia (TX) (Correa)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawson (FL) (Wasserman Schultz)
Levin (MI) (Beyer)
Lowenthal (Beyer)
Morelle (Jeffries)
Ocasio-Cortez (Escobar)
O'Halleran (Stanton)
Payne (Pallone)
Perlmutter (Neguse)
Pfluger (Mann)
Reschenthaler (Meuser)
Ross (Beyer)
Scott, David (Jeffries)
Sires (Pallone)
Soto (Wasserman Schultz)
Strickland (Jeffries)
Suozzi (Beyer)
Taylor (Van Duyne)
Thompson (PA) (Joyce (PA))
Trahan (Beyer)
Waters (Takano)

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF FORMER CONGRESSMAN J. ROY ROWLAND, JR.

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

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, as dean of the Georgia delegation, I regret to inform the House that our former colleague, the Honorable James Roy Rowland, Jr., passed away. He was a beloved husband, father, and friend. I had the honor of working with him and serving with him in the Georgia State legislature as well as here in this House of Representatives.

He was courageous in his convictions and a steadfast advocate for better healthcare for all Americans, especially our military veterans.

He served in the House from 1983 through 1995. During that time, he was a member of several committees including the Veterans' Affairs, Armed Services, Public Works and Transportation, and Government Operations, as well as the Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Control and the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families.

We were both Distinguished Eagle Scouts, and I had the pleasure of presenting him with that award in 2014. In attendance were many current and former congressional colleagues, both Democrats and Republicans. It was a testament to the warmth and care he embodied as well as his bipartisanship.

I noted at the time that the trail that Eagle Scouts walk never ends. Such was the life of J. Roy Rowland who became an Eagle Scout in 1942. He went on to serve the U.S. Army and was a veteran of World War II. He was a physician, an author, a philanthropist, and a public servant who made our community and our world a better place to live in so many ways.

He led a distinguished and honorable life, and he will be greatly missed. Our

thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Luella, his children, and his entire family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House observe a moment of silence in remembrance of the late Honorable James Roy Rowland, Jr.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

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

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Holocaust Remembrance Day in memory of the 6 million Jews who were systematically hunted down, rounded up, and murdered in cold blood by the Nazi regime and their evil collaborators.

Millions of other innocent civilians were also targeted by the Nazis, including people with disabilities, members of the LGBTQ community, Roma, Sinti, Slavs, and any other person deemed to be inferior by Adolph Hitler and his coconspirators. And yet, Mr. Speaker, the anti-Semitism that fueled the Nazi's genocidal campaign sadly is still alive and well today.

According to the Anti-Defamation League, there were 2,717 anti-Semitic incidents in the United States last year, averaging more than seven incidents per day. That is the highest number ever recorded by the ADL since it began tracking anti-Semitic incidents in 1979. More than 75 years after the Holocaust, that is plainly unacceptable.

On this day, Yom HaShoah, we must recommit ourselves to rooting out anti-Semitism wherever we find it. We must never forget the atrocities of the Holocaust.

RECOGNIZING CONNOR DANIEL

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Connor Daniel, the new World Champion in English Sporting Clay Shooting.

A student at Savannah Christian School, Connor attended the 2022 World English Sporting Clay Championship in San Antonio, Texas, with 1,000 other competitors. The event, held at the National Shooting Complex, pitted some of the top shooters in each classification against one another in the spirit of competition.

Connor is a fierce competitor and participates on the Savannah Christian Sporting Clays team that competes in the GISA Scholastic Clay League as well. Throughout the competition he was shooting right on target and managed to bring home the Sub Junior World Championship.

It is always a great day when a championship is brought home to the First District of Georgia, be it a State championship or a world championship. I am so honored to represent a district with young people who exemplify what it means to work hard, compete, and win championships.

I congratulate Connor. His hard work and dedication to his craft have paid off, and I can't wait to see what he does in the future.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

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

Mrs. LAWRENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Holocaust Remembrance Day. Today, we honor and remember the 6 million Jews and countless others who were murdered during the Holocaust, as well as the families who were torn apart.

As a founder and cochair of the Congressional Caucus on Black-Jewish Relations, I am committed to ensuring that our country never forgets this history and that we educate younger generations about this atrocity.

Today and every day, we must speak truth to power. ''Never again'' is more than a slogan. It is an unwavering commitment to combating anti-Semitism and hate wherever they exist.

TERRORIST WATCH LIST

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

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, last week Customs and Border Protection released their monthly report detailing how bad President Biden's border crisis has become.

The numbers are quite startling. In March alone, CBP confirmed 221,303 migrant encounters at our southern border. This number is up a whopping 33 percent from February and an incredible 542 percent since 2020.

Making matters worse, the numbers show that 42 people on the terrorist watch list tried to enter our country illegally since President Biden took office. Thankfully, due to the hard work and diligence of law enforcement officers on the southern border, they were arrested.

Although this begs the question: If we found 42 people on the terrorist watch list since January of 2021, how many more are in our country today out of the more than 200,000 illegal immigrants whom we know evaded law enforcement?

Unfortunately, we will probably never know until it is too late. Thanks to President Biden's open border policies, Americans must come to terms with the fact that until Republicans regain control of Congress and the White House, potential terrorists continuing to file through our borders is just a way of life.

MADELEINE ALBRIGHT, A LEADER AND TRAILBLAZER

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

Ms. DEAN. Mr. Speaker, our Nation has lost a lifelong leader and trailblazer—Madeleine Albright—a woman I had the chance to know and to learn from, and a woman with whom I shared a first name. Madeleine Albright was a woman of clarity, grace, intellect, and humor—a leader throughout the globe.

She was an example to many women, like me, becoming our Nation's first female Secretary of State and, at the time, the highest ranking woman ever in our government. Years ago, in admiration, I adopted one of Albright's subtle, yet powerful, diplomatic tools—wearing a brooch each day to signify something about my work or my heart.

As a child, Secretary Albright and her family fled war-torn Eastern Europe. Deeply inspired by her new country, she dedicated her life's work to lifting up democracies at home and around the world and strengthening NATO with the goal of preventing wars in Europe like the one that had forced her family from their home. Her passion for peace inspires my own, especially as I watch the devastating atrocities in Ukraine.

Dedicated to democracies around the globe, she often recalled her father's own worries that Americans took their own democracy for granted. Madeleine Albright knew that democracies are fragile, yet resilient, and that it matters what world we leave our grandchildren.

May her memory be a blessing and her legacy be a guide.

□ 1815

HONORING ROBERT J. WRIGHT

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

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I recognize tonight my good friend, Mr. Robert J. Wright. He is a local legend and cohost of the ''Robert and Erin Show'' on KEEL Radio in Shreveport, Louisiana.

After 50 years on the air and an illustrious career, Robert has decided to retire. He will be sorely missed in our area. It is truly difficult to imagine our region without his voice on the airways. He is a consummate professional broadcaster, always informative, entertaining, and genuinely tuned in to the people and issues of Louisiana.

Fifty years in any career field is an extraordinary accomplishment, but 50 years of consistently compelling radio is an achievement that few others can ever boast.

I congratulate Robert on his retirement and on a half century of devotion to his craft. We all hope he will finally be able to get some sleep in the mornings. He has earned it. God bless.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT VOICES OF FREEDOM CHOIR

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

Mrs. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the Voices of Freedom choir at the University of Connecticut on their 50th anniversary.

Voices of Freedom is a unique ensemble of approximately 80 or more students that provides personal elevation and enlightenment of the gospel and spiritual music of the Black experience church.

Gospel music promotes a spirit of hope. Music has healing power, and the existence of this choir on this campus at this time is more important now than ever.

I also extend heartfelt congratulations to the Voices of Freedom not only on celebrating 50 years of ministering through music at the University of Connecticut, but a special congratulations to their director, Reverend Lisa Clayton, who is celebrating 27 years leading the choir. Reverend Lisa Clayton's steadfast leadership has been key to the success and longevity of the Voices of Freedom Gospel Choir.

I thank them for all they do to elevate the importance of stories through song.

HONORING GERDA WEISSMANN KLEIN

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

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, today, on Holocaust Remembrance Day, I honor the life of Gerda Weissmann Klein, who passed away on April 3.

Gerda was born in Poland in May 1925 and was only a teenager when her homeland was invaded by the Nazis. In 1942, she was sent to the Gross-Rosen camp system.

In 1945, Gerda was taken on a 3-month death march through Czechoslovakia. Luckily, the failed ignition of an incendiary device saved Gerda and 120 other women, who were liberated soon after.

After the war, Gerda immigrated to western New York, my home, to raise her family, and she traveled the country sharing her story. Gerda's first book, ''All But My Life,'' told her story and was adapted into an Oscar-winning documentary called ''One Survivor Remembers.''

Gerda has received numerous honors and awards, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Gerda also spoke before the United Nations General Assembly on the first International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Gerda is survived by 3 children, 8 grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren. May her memory be a blessing to us all.

CONGRESS SHOULD FUND GLOBAL VACCINATIONS

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

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to pass a bill recognizing that viruses don't respect borders and that the United States has a moral imperative to lead the world in vaccine diplomacy.

The only way to reach our goal of a 70 percent vaccination rate worldwide is to fund global vaccination efforts. We have the best vaccines in the world, and plenty of them, but we lack the political will to use them. Without this funding, people around the world will die, and future variants and surges will be more likely here at home.

I implore my colleagues to fund global COVID vaccinations and treatments. A supplemental relief bill that does not fund global vaccinations is not a bill that prevents and prepares for COVID surges. It would be a humanitarian setback and a threat to the American recovery.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MADELEINE ALBRIGHT

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, today, former Secretary Madeleine Albright was funeralized at the National Cathedral.

I rise today to pay tribute to a great American and a woman who exuded confidence and knowledge of worldwide diplomacy. She was appointed by President Clinton and became a champion for women's rights around the world.

I remember meeting her on the border of Bangladesh, meeting with young girls who had just been trafficked and returned to their native land. How empathetic she was to these young girls who had been traumatized and were Bangladesh citizens.

I understand, as well, that she cared about ensuring that human rights was heard around the world. She was a fighter against anti-Semitism because of the history of her own life and family, fleeing Europe during that time.

As we stand against the ideals of hatred and anti-Semitism, we stand in honor of former Secretary Madeleine Albright.

May she rest in peace, and may her legacy be one of worldwide diplomacy, the rights of women, peace, and solutions to hatred. We never hope to have hatred in this land and in this world. May she rest in peace and rest in power.

CONGRATULATING SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER

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

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my most sincere congratulations to Scottie Scheffler for his decisive victory at this year's Masters Tournament.

For 88 years, the world's greatest golfers have traveled to Georgia to play the world's greatest golf course, the Augusta National. Every April, sports fans across the world get a glimpse into the beauty and majesty that Georgia's 12th District has to offer.

This year, after shooting 69 in the first round and 67 in the second, Mr. Scheffler held on to a 3-stroke lead heading into the championship on Sunday.

As he made that walk to the 18th green, there was no doubt Scottie would walk away with that iconic green jacket, something every golfer dreams about.

Thanks to his strong play, he also had the luxury of being able to 4-putt his way to victory, something else that every golfer dreams about. But Scottie shouldn't worry. In the words of past winner Seve Ballesteros, when they asked how in the world did he 4-putt 16, he said: ''I miss. I miss. I miss. I make.''

INFLATION, IMMIGRATION, AND INCOMPETENCE

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

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, according to The Washington Post, Washington Democrats have diagnosed their messaging as the source of their current political problems. My colleagues and I are here tonight to offer a second opinion.

Mr. Speaker, the Washington Democrats certainly do have a problem, but it is not caused by their messaging; it is being caused by their policies. That is clear for everybody to see.

You see, the phrase ''messaging problem'' is a phrase that is familiar to us on Capitol Hill. It presumes that the American people would support your agenda; they just haven't heard it yet, or they don't quite understand it. But that is certainly not the problem for these Washington Democrats.

It is not their policies, and it is not that their policies are too sophisticated for the rest of us to understand, nor is it that the American people

don't know what is good for them. It is exactly the opposite.

The American people know what is best for them and their families, and they can see very plainly the results of Washington Democrats' one-party rule. They do not like it.

The plain result of the Washington Democrat agenda can be summed up in what I have been calling back home the three i's. You might narrow it down to, currently: inflation, immigration, and incompetence.

We can talk about the crippling inflation, the sky-high illegal immigration, and the unprecedented incompetence of the Democrats in charge in the White House, too.

Let's talk about inflation. When President Biden and Washington Democrats assumed control of the Federal Government, inflation was at 1.4 percent. Now, here we are 1 year and trillions of dollars in government spending later, and inflation has reached 8.5 percent. It is at a 41-year high, and it is still climbing.

For Americans doing the math at their kitchen table, let's put that in real terms. That means these price increases will cost you two paychecks this year and probably two more next year.

Rather than accepting responsibility, what are they doing? President Biden and Washington Democrats have told us all that it is Russia's fault, and they advise that we should buy an electric car.

Let's talk about illegal immigration. With regard to that, the policies of President Biden and these Democrats have resulted in record levels of illegal immigration, record levels of illicit drugs flowing into our country, and a humanitarian catastrophe at the southern border.

Today, the Biden administration is actually planning to lift the public health restrictions of title 42 that were really the last remaining tool in the toolbox to control illegal immigration. Believe it or not—get this—this is happening at the very time that they are suing in Federal court to keep Americans masked up.

According to the Biden administration, if you are an illegal immigrant, COVID restrictions are over. But if you are an American citizen, hey, you better buckle up because these COVID restrictions are going to be around for a while.

Incompetence, I don't think we need to elaborate too much. Everyone can see this with their own eyes. It wasn't so long ago that Washington Democrats tried to cast themselves as the party of competence. Remember that, in the election cycle?

But many congressional Democrats still can't be bothered to show up here at work. Many haven't voted in person in a long, long time. Some phone into committee hearings from bed, literally.

The story at President Biden's agencies isn't much better. Another tax season has come and gone, yet Biden's Treasury Department is still working on getting last year's tax refunds out to the American people.

Remember the fatal troop withdrawal, the debacle from Afghanistan. No one at Biden's Defense Department has been fired or held accountable for the chaos that left 13 American soldiers dead.

The President himself continues to confuse basic policies from the White House podium on a near-daily basis.

The American people deserve competence in government. But they have received, by far, with this administration, the most incompetent government of our lifetimes.

Mr. Speaker, again, there is a reason that politicians like to blame their problems on messaging. It implies that if only the American people heard our message, they would support it. In this case, it is the American people who are hearing very clearly the Democrat message, and they reject it.

I thank my colleagues for joining me on the floor this evening, where we will be talking about the broad array, the panoply, of crises created by this administration.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I don't like to consider myself an overly partisan Congressman, so I will lead off my speech by quoting two Democrats kind of as a background for the rest of this speech.

In Politico—so you know it is true—an unnamed Democrat quotes Barack Obama as saying don't underestimate Joe's ability to blank things up. Former Obama Defense Secretary Robert Gates says that Joe Biden has been wrong on nearly every major foreign policy and national security issue over the last four decades. I want my Democrat friends to think about that.

Now, I am not an expert on foreign policy, but it seems the goal in the Ukrainian-Russian war should be to end hostilities. On the internet, you can find numbers from 2,000 to 20,000 civilians that have died so far. Of course, it appears as though tens of thousands of military personnel have passed away as well. Every day, the number of Ukrainian and military deaths continues to go up.

I will point out that Ukraine has the second-lowest birth rate of the 100 largest countries in the world, and Russia also has a low birth rate. When I happened to be in San Diego about a year ago, in that sector at that time—just that sector and that time—the second most common nationality to enter the United States was Russian. In other words, both Russia and Ukraine should be desperate to hold onto the young people that they have.

□ 1830

We have helped Ukraine, and fortunately Ukraine has staved off this inexcusable aggression. Every day that there are good reports from Ukraine, we should be glad for the successes that Ukraine has had.

However, obviously, a goal should be to end this war, and we should be working towards the end of the war to save the lives and to save the economic devastation that we will leave behind in Ukraine.

President Biden and Defense Secretary Austin should stop and think whether their statements are more or less likely to bring Russia to the negotiating table. I encourage my Democrat friends to give a little bit of guidance to this administration as to how to end this war.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend. Some wise counsel there. I wish they would heed it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield next to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. BURCHETT).

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, folks on the left have accused us good Republicans of complaining about inflation. They say we have no plan for lowering the cost of food, clothes, or gasoline.

Of course, the Democrats have controlled Congress for the last 15 months, Mr. Speaker, as you well know. During that time, they have successfully rammed through trillions in unnecessary Federal spending.

Let's look at where that has gotten us. Prices for goods and services Americans rely on rose by 8.5 percent in March 2022 compared to March 2021. That is unacceptable for working Americans, especially for east Tennesseeans.

That is not even the worst of it all. Even after all this spending raised costs for American families, the Democrats still don't think it was enough. They still think the multitrillion-dollar high tax Build Back Better Act—which we have called build back broke, you can call it whatever you want—is a good idea. That bill will be catastrophic for price stability.

Right now our country is dealing with the consequences of reckless government spending. All we seem to be doing is saddling more debt on the shoulders of future generations. We used to say we are piling it on our kids. Now it is our grandchildren and great-grandchildren, which some of the folks in this body, I am sure, have multiples of those. And that is not right.

So to the critics on the left who complain that Republicans don't have a plan to address inflation, I ask you this: What is wrong with a plan to spend fewer taxpayer dollars and to be smarter about the money we do spend? This kind of fiscal responsibility is a legitimate solution to fixing the unstable prices that are worrying families in east Tennessee and across the country. Republicans should not be afraid to say that fiscal responsibility is our plan.

My folks instilled in me a lot of values, and one of those is, ''Don't spend it if you don't have it,'' and ''Just because you have it doesn't mean you have got to spend it, dadgummit.''

Mr. Speaker, I thank Vice Chairman JOHNSON, as always, for his lackluster leadership.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I told my friend that I would be faithful to him because he has been faithful to participate in all the Special Order hours if I kept the trains running on time.

I yield now to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER), who I slighted earlier. I would invite him to talk more about all these crises we are facing.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Western Caucus, we were hosted by Congressmen AUGUST PFLUGER and JODEY ARRINGTON recently in west Texas. We went there to explore, as they say it, food, fiber, and fuel.

I am going to talk a little bit about the fuel part of that trip and how west Texas is poised to really contribute to America's energy dominance. Just like northeastern Pennsylvania, west Texas' energy is world class. We toured oil and gas drilling sites on the Permian Basin and heard from producers about some of the cutting-edge solutions they are implementing to reduce carbon emissions and get American energy to market more cleanly and efficiently.

From Midland, Texas, to Montrose, Pennsylvania, and much of the land in between, America is blessed with an abundance of natural resources. American energy—oil and natural gas—is right beneath our feet, ready to power our Nation and the world.

Instead of embracing this fact, President Biden has thrust our Nation into an energy crisis by tying the hands of America's energy producers. This administration has made it very clear where it stands on the future of American energy.

Make no mistake: American oil and natural gas is the key to lowering prices at the pump, stopping inflation, and building a stronger workforce. It all starts with harnessing American energy, from west Texas to northeast Pennsylvania, but that is only possible if this administration gets out of the way and allows American producers to take the lead.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for bringing that up. Coming from an energy State like Louisiana, just like Pennsylvania, we know how important this is to us. Under the Trump administration, we had achieved energy dominance. We could get back to that if they would just simply do the opposite of what they are doing.

Mr. Speaker, I yield next to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, inflation is an invisible tax that Americans pay every day. Everywhere you look, inflation is wreaking havoc. At the gas station, gas is up 48 percent; at the grocery store, beef is up 20 percent; chicken, up 15 percent; butter, up 14 percent; fruits and vegetables, up 7 percent; coffee, up 12 percent.

At home, electricity is up 11 percent; furniture is up 15 percent; and even the rent is up 5 percent.

What about a vacation? You still won't be able to escape inflation, as hotels are up 29 percent and airplane flights are up 23 percent.

Recent graduates entering the workforce will be forced to pay record-high rent and other expenses as they enter adulthood. New mothers and fathers will pay 10 percent higher prices for baby food. Many Americans who saved their entire lives to retire comfortably are now faced with the brutal realization that they may not have saved enough.

Even the Nashville airport, which is renovating and expanding, was hit hard by inflation when the price of a new satellite concourse jumped from $92 million just last March to over $134 million today.

As you can see, inflation affects every aspect of our lives. It is costing the average American family an extra $433 per month, and it is expected to cost each household over $5,000 extra just this year alone.

Inflation isn't something you can easily turn off, but President Biden and congressional Democrats proved that their reckless, progressive policies can certainly turn it on. Since President Biden took office and Democrats gained control of both Chambers of Congress, inflation has increased every single month.

They borrowed from future generations and spent trillions of hard-earned taxpayer dollars on wasteful government programs and assured us that it wouldn't cause inflation, even though we all knew it would. That is why it is so disingenuous that the President, his administration and Democratic allies in Congress, and the mainstream media are blaming inflation on the invasion of Ukraine. To use one of the President's favorite words, that is pure malarkey.

Meanwhile, as my constituents feel more pain each day from the growing inflation disaster, the President and his administration hardly even mention it, much less offer solutions except to propose spending trillions of dollars more that we don't have, which will, of course, only make things worse. Just look at President Biden's budget proposal, where inflation is not mentioned even one time. Instead, it calls for spending a whopping $75 trillion over the next decade.

There is no denying that the massive deficit spending got us into this harmful mess, and doing more of the same certainly won't get us out of it. I and my fellow conservatives have pushed back as hard as we can against the reckless approach to governing that our Democratic friends have taken, but we have been outnumbered and outvoted.

Even though we are outgunned for now, I will nevertheless continue to work hard with my fellow Republicans to do all we can to fight back on every wasteful spending bill the Democrats bring until our commonsense conservative reinforcements are elected in the fall and arrive in January.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) has articulated so well what is on the hearts and minds of so many of our constituents. Inflation is a very real problem for the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I yield next to the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA).

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JOHNSON) for helping us get these important messages out.

It has been about 2 months since Russia invaded our ally, Ukraine. Russia has spent nearly a year amassing hundreds of thousands of troops and military weaponry along Ukraine's borders, with the backing of their northern neighbor, Belarus. Most people were doubtful that Ukraine would be able to successfully fight off these attacks for more than a few days.

Amazingly, being surrounded the way they are, outnumbered and outgunned, they have been able to heroically hold off their Russian invaders. President Putin has justified his attack as a peacekeeping mission or a liberating one. In reality, it is really a thinly veiled attempt to frighten NATO against further expansion and, of course, muscle Ukraine's neighbors into submission.

Both NATO and the United States have a longstanding tradition of standing with sovereign nations who face adversarial oppression, and that is exactly what we are seeing in Eastern Europe as Putin attempts to forcefully reunite the Soviet Union.

After 2 months of fighting and billions of dollars in aid sent to Ukraine, I have heard concerns of many people wondering why are we focusing so much money and attention on a conflict thousands of miles away?

We have our own problems domestically, of course, which are self-inflicted, with rising inflation, the border crisis, crime, and food and energy shortages.

Ultimately, this is a matter of freedom and self-sovereignty versus concession. We could actually extinguish another Cold War from happening before it has a chance to grow, if we had taken action sooner. We could still take positive action now.

The world all knew this conflict was coming. It has been brewing for a year before the invasion actually occurred. We shouldn't have waited for blood to be shed before acting.

If President Biden hadn't shut down domestic energy production on his first day in office, the U.S. would have been more economically empowered to enact harsh financial sanctions at Russia's first minor incursion.

We could have been producing enough oil to export LNG overseas to our allies instead of watching Poland being cut off from natural gas. Wow, is that a surprise or not? We can't dare have anybody speak up; otherwise, they will get their gas cut off. Why in the world are we claiming Nord Stream pipeline,

et cetera? The U.S. should be the one intervening, helping with energy independence for us and our European allies.

So what is the focus of the Biden administration? Yeah, we are starting up on Ukraine more, but what we are really looking at is that our military isn't as ready as it should be. Instead of military readiness, President Biden wants to put the focus on turning us into a green Army, a green military, because we are chasing around .04 percent of the atmosphere of carbon dioxide. That is the priority, not military readiness. Chasing carbon dioxide instead of helping our allies chase invaders out of their countries. That is not military readiness.

The Stinger missiles we are sending, we need to be producing more of them. The Javelin missiles, same thing. We are still caught up probably in chip shortage problems. We need to be focused on military readiness for us and being able to be a good neighbor, as is sort of our obligation when we helped Ukraine become nuclear free back during the Clinton era.

Let's not let down our ally. Let's focus on what is going to help the American people work, not chasing CO_2, but instead strengthening our military and looking out for our neighbors and our allies, such as Ukraine. Taiwan is going to need our help, as well as the rest of our NATO obligations, as NATO membership seeks to increase, which will be a good thing for all of us.

We can't let this tyrant Putin keep getting away with this stuff. We must be strong and not quiver every time he decides to make another move.

I appreciate this opportunity for all of us here to stand with Ukraine, stand with our allies around the world, and not just think that CO_2 is going to be the biggest problem we face. Indeed, it is aggression by dictators that is the greatest threat.

□ 1845

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for that reminder about the importance of peace through strength; that weakness invites aggression and that is the only thing holding terrorists and tyrants at bay so many times in so many places over these 245 years of our existence. Certainly, after World War II it was the perception of a strong America. And if we project weakness like we are, we are all in danger.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BAIRD), who knows about the theater of war.

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Louisiana for this opportunity to speak about title 42.

Mr. Speaker, in the last 14 months, this administration and its open-door policies have created the worst border crisis we have seen in decades, leaving our southern border very vulnerable to the dangerous cartels and our communities are vulnerable to the lethal drugs that they bring in.

Every day, 2,000 migrants evade capture and illegally enter our country. That is over 300,000 illegal immigrants evading capture in the last 6 months alone. Unfortunately, our Border Patrol warns us that this is only the known gotaways, and that the real number is likely much higher.

By the President's own admission, rolling back title 42 would cause a mass migration event and would certainly overwhelm our already overworked and undersupported Border Patrol. Not only are Americans still held to a higher COVID protocol standard than the migrants at our southern border, but title 42 remains one of the only tools our overrun agents can use to get this swelling crisis under control.

Ending title 42 won't help President Biden fulfill his State of the Union promise to secure the southern border, it will only make this crisis that the administration has created more unsustainable.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend so much for that and for his service to our country.

Having defended our Nation you know that if we don't have a border, we not only don't have safety and security, but we also don't even have sovereignty. We don't even have a country. We have to have a border, and this administration has given us none.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arkansas, (Mr. HILL).

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for yielding. And unlike my friend from Knox County, Tennessee, I have the utmost respect for his ability to manage a Special Order with great aplomb, style, and skill.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the time to talk tonight about something that I have reflected on now for the 7 years that I have served in the House. Over those 7 years, I have been to our southwest border 7 times, and I am in preparation right now to go back next week.

So I rise tonight to bring attention to what is a growing crisis at our southwest border and share the fear and the frustration that are experienced there by those communities, their law enforcement officers, their schools, their churches, and to reflect on the Biden administration's just continued neglect there.

Mr. Speaker, this is shocking to us because the first order of good governance by the executive is to protect the homeland, secure it, protect the people. Public safety is such a critical element in each of our communities so it makes no sense to any of us, whether we served for a brief period of time or for decades here, that our executive would leave our borders so open, so vulnerable.

Over the last 6 months, we have had over a million migrant encounters at our southern border, with over 221,000 last month alone. That is a high for the Biden administration; 221,000 encounters. As my friend who just spoke suggested, that doesn't count the ones we don't catch, the so-called getaways.

Mr. Speaker, this overwhelming number of migrants swarming our southwest border, though, should come as no surprise based on the actions of the administration. So shocked, yes, because the executive has abandoned its primary mission. But surprise, no. And let me explain why, Mr. Speaker.

In the earliest days of his Presidency, President Biden repealed the Trump-era policies that discouraged illegal immigrants from flooding our borders and kept our communities safe. And this was after a lot of trial and error. I think Mr. Trump went through possibly three Secretaries of Homeland Security and had a lot of frustration at this very tough challenge.

But in President Biden's decision to do away with those Trump policies that were ultimately working so effectively, he replaced them with nothing. Now here again, I have to express shock—perhaps not surprise, as this is a crisis-oriented administration—but certainly shock because no successful manager ends a working policy and replaces it with nothing.

If you buy a business and you want to change the HR policy, you don't just say: Hey, starting tomorrow, there is no HR policy. I will let you know what it is in a few months. It is nuts.

President Biden's efforts to suspend and terminate the border wall construction are costing taxpayers between $1.8 and $2 billion because we are still paying those contractors to build the wall that is not being built due to contract penalties. Of course, the State of Texas has stepped in, and perhaps they are going to take on some of that and build it themselves using Texas' taxpayer dollars for a national/international border.

Now, as my friend said a few minutes ago, the administration is moving forward to end what is called title 42. Title 42 has proven to be an effective effort at contributing to border security. And while the Biden administration continues to use it less and less—in fact, last month, Mr. Speaker, 50 percent of all the migrant encounters were processed for expulsion under title 42. So it is a critical element of both public health and public safety at the border.

President Biden proposes to have that policy end here in just a few weeks, in the middle of May. Yet, he has proposed no policy to replace it. Again, we can expect a surge at our border. In fact, the Customs and Border Patrol, the executive branch agency responsible for guarding our border, securing our border, expects that to surge to 18,000 migrant encounters per day.

Now, whoa, let's do the math because that sounds unbelievable, but you are talking 18,000. That is a half a million people per month. We are running right now annualized—I just reported it to you—at about 2 million encounters. And this is a half million per month; six million people.

Really? We really think that is border security? We think that is an appropriate policy for this great Nation?

It is insane. We will see the impact of this crisis throughout our communities. And as many of my colleagues have said, every State is a border State now as a result of this irresponsible approach.

Mr. Speaker, the truth is the Biden administration has made it clear they have no plan, apparently, to secure our border. They certainly had a year and a half to demonstrate that they have one, and it is the American people that are suffering.

So in summary, what are the ramifications?

Millions coming into our country illegally without proper documentation and without the right public health concerns.

Every State now is a border State. As reported a few minutes ago, there were 42 people caught by CBP that are on the terrorist watch list.

Now, let me say, I was at the Chula Vista Station years ago. And it was common practice that people would come in, they would throw their legal documents away—a passport, an ID of some kind—put them in the trash, sew them in their clothing, not disclosed, and say they are from whatever country they said they were from. And that basically creates a new identity for them in our system.

Mr. Speaker, so if 42 people have been caught, how many have come in that are on that terrorist watch list that have a mal-intent on our country? Ramifications; record human trafficking. And the cartels—our great friends in Mexico, virtually a cartel-driven border—making $5,000, $6,000 on Venmo, or in a promise to pay for each person trafficked, they are at millions, hundreds of millions—$400 million a month, some estimate—of making cash off this effort.

Crime along the border is rampant, fentanyl and drugs on our streets. We lost 100,000 people last year to an opioid overdose. The fastest rising cause of death for young people across this country, 25 to 50 years old; 100,000 dead, double what we lost in the Vietnam war, and fentanyl is pouring across that border.

In fact, we have interdicted—again, what we have caught—we have interdicted enough fentanyl, this vitally poisonous drug, to kill 7.4 billion people, and this is spiraling costs to our counties and our border States.

Mr. Speaker, there is no plan. There is no policy. There are national security ramifications with an open border. It is irresponsible. It is incompetent. And I call on Secretary Mayorkas to resign his job as a failure. This administration has failed the American people and the border.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Louisiana for his leadership.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend. And I will tell him that he is not going to resign.

The gentleman from Arkansas may not know this, but just a few hours ago in the Homeland Security Committee, one of our Republican colleagues from Mississippi, Congressman GUEST, asked the Secretary under oath, he said: Are you testifying, as you sit here today, that the southwest border is secure?

''Yes, I am.''

The Secretary of Homeland Security actually said under oath that that border is secure. So we must just be imagining all of this. It is really unbelievable, as we said.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE).

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Louisiana for holding this Special Order and for his leadership, for having these discussions at such an important time.

Mr. Speaker, right now, millions of refugees have been displaced from their homes. Children are being forced to go without food, clothing, and shelter, and thousands of civilians are being murdered in the streets.

These are the effects of the Russian Federation's war against the free and sovereign people of Ukraine. The human cost of this war is devastating. We need to bring an end to the hostilities. The United States must stand ready to support the people of Ukraine with the tools and the weapons necessary to fight against and defeat the Russian Army.

There is another component to our mission that cannot be overstated. As our NATO allies continue to support President Zelenskyy in Ukraine, they will face economic retaliation from Russia.

Just this morning, Russia announced that it would halt the sale of natural gas to Poland and Bulgaria. While this decision will create difficulties for the people living and working in these NATO countries, it also provides the United States an opportunity to stand with our allies and show Putin that his cheap and dirty gas is not needed to power this war.

President Ronald Reagan once said, ''We know only too well that war comes not when the forces of freedom are strong, but when they are weak. It is then that tyrants are tempted.''

Unfortunately, President Biden's energy policies have so far not shown the strength that this moment requires. It is time to approve the permits needed to bring more American energy, like coal, oil, natural gas, and Marcellus shale to the market. We need to supply our neighbors and our allies with affordable American energy. It is time to promote American energy dominance and show Russia that its energy reserves do not give Putin a blank check to attack his neighbors.

America can provide the energy that our friends and allies need. It is time to come to the aid of Poland and Bulgaria, and it is time to produce and supply American energy.

Again, I thank Mr. JOHNSON for his leadership.

□ 1900

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman is exactly right. It is time to shift back to American energy dominance, which we had under the previous administration.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield next to another doctor, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BABIN).

Mr. BABIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and neighbor from Louisiana. I represent the 36th District in East Texas. I thank the gentleman for having this.

Mr. Speaker, President Biden and his followers here in Congress seem to believe that their policies cannot cause inflation, or cause shortages of food, or even shortages of baby formula now.

Instead of accepting their well-deserved blame and providing a sensible path forward for the American people, they deflect; they blame President Trump, who has been out of office for more than 15 months now; or they blame Russia or Ukraine, even though gas and grocery prices were skyrocketing well before that conflict even began.

As polling shows, the majority of Americans are well aware of the President's mishandling of our economy. And while I believe that in November in those elections, they will show President Biden exactly what the American people are thinking about his policies, I don't believe that he will actually change course.

As long as he occupies the Oval Office, it is his duty to serve the American people, and I call on President Biden to immediately get with the program, Mr. President.

President Biden, please worry less about who is in charge of Twitter, or whether schoolchildren are wearing masks, and stop trying to force socialist woke policies on to a public that does not want them. Uphold your oath of office, the rule of law, and do your job.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, we have been calling on this President to do his job since he entered that office, and he hasn't done it. I appreciate the gentleman's leadership on all these issues.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield next to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE), another good friend.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, it is no secret that Biden's self-inflicted border crisis continues to spiral out of control, and it is only getting worse.

President Biden's reckless immigration agenda may be easy for the left to dismiss, because it is what they want, but the heartbreaking and illegal consequences of his failed policies are impossible to ignore.

Last week, at just 22 years old, Texas Army National Guard Specialist Bishop Evans made the ultimate sacrifice while trying to save two illegals from drowning. And you know, those two illegals turned out to be alleged drug smugglers. This young man served his country and his State honorably

while fighting on the front lines of President Biden's border crisis.

To my knowledge, the President still hasn't said one word about this young soldier's tragic death. The President's silence is deafening and disappointing.

Keep in mind, it only took the President a matter of hours to accuse Border Patrol agents on horseback of misconduct when dealing with a rush of Haitian illegals just a few months ago.

Simply put, the President's lack of interest and empathy reveals the sinister, but undeniable, fact that the chaos at our southern border is intentional. Since stepping foot into the White House, Joe Biden has eagerly destroyed our border security, putting Border Patrol agents at risk and threatening every community across the country with an invasion of illegal aliens.

From illegally defying a Federal court order to reinstate the remain in Mexico policy, to fighting to terminate title 42 next month, the Biden administration has egregiously worked to undermine President Trump's successful solutions that protected our southern border.

Biden's border crisis also represents a significant economic burden on the American people.

According to a recent study written by the Federation for American Immigration Reform, or FAIR, the number of illegal aliens living in the United States increased by one million in President Biden's first year in office, bringing the estimated total of illegal aliens in the country to 15.5 million.

Additionally, FAIR's fiscal analysis finds that the millions of illegal aliens currently residing in our great Nation are imposing a net fiscal burden of at least $143 billion, an increase of almost $10 billion since Joe Biden took office.

Keep in mind, this comes at a time when American taxpayers are footing the bill for Democrats' senseless spending and battling the consequences of 40-year high inflation.

The bottom line is that President Biden's radical open-border agenda is illegal, intentional, and disastrous for our economy. It is no wonder over 60 percent of Americans disapprove of Biden's handling of immigration. Americans simply know the truth: President Biden puts illegal aliens first and Americans last, and the Biden administration is actively working to cover up that truth.

Today, we learned that Biden's Department of Homeland Security is creating a Disinformation Governance Board which will be led by political hack Nina Jankowicz. This is nothing more than a blatant attempt to install a ministry of truth in order to push Biden's propaganda, lies, and radical agenda while concealing and censoring the truth about what is really happening at the southern border.

Mr. Speaker, this is seriously dangerous and wholly unconstitutional, which is why I am demanding that Congress immediately investigate President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas' Disinformation Governance Board.

We need answers now, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. JOHNSON of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for his clear voice and clarion call for competence and common sense.

Mr. Speaker, what my colleagues have articulated tonight is our view, the American people's view on the debacle that is the unified government by the Democrats of the Congress and the White House.

We have crippling inflation. We have sky high, illegal immigration. We have unprecedented incompetence at every level. It has yielded us, as you heard tonight, an energy crisis, a crime crisis, a foreign policy crisis, and an agenda that seems almost intentional in its design to put the American people last instead of first.

This is the opposite of what was pursued under the previous administration, the opposite of the strides, the incredible achievements that we had accomplished in the first 2 years of the Trump administration with Republicans in charge of this House and the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I think the American people have had enough of this wildly progressive America last agenda. I think that they are going to let their voices be heard in this upcoming election. And it is our prayer that we can survive between now and November, and in January when we take control again.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to my colleagues for participating and joining me on the floor this evening, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President and to address their remarks to the Chair.

THE SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Well, Mr. Speaker, while we were on break for the last 2 weeks, I spent some time at the southern border in three sectors, the San Diego sector, the El Centro sector, and the Yuma sector. And I think it is important that we try to educate the Chair of what is going down there.

I will start off by just talking about raw numbers that were recently released. And so our listeners understand, when you talk about the border, there are two groups: There are people who want to find the Border Patrol and check in and get a future date for a hearing as they ask for asylum; and there are people who sneak across, which we refer to as gotaways.

For certain reasons that I will soon address, the number of gotaways recently went up dramatically. And the number of gotaways is always an estimate because we don't catch them, we don't interview them. They are people who got away into the interior of the United States.

But we believe right now, or the Border Patrol believes, that in March, there were 62,000 gotaways; people who were not interviewed; people who we don't know who they are, who snuck in the country.

We also believe in March there were 90,000 people let in the country by the Border Patrol, usually asking for an asylum claim.

When we combine these two numbers—and by the way, there are other people who are turned around, and that is why you sometimes hear people say there were 220,000 contacts in March, which is true, but not all of those people were let in the country.

We do believe 152,000 people were let in the country. At least in the last 3 years, and as far as I know, forever, that is the highest number of people who have been let in the United States in 1 month. By way of comparison, a year ago, in March, we were at 63,000. So we went up from 63,000 to 153,000.

And if you go before March 2021, March 2020, coincidentally, a different President, we were at 11,000. So we have gone from 11,000 in March of 2020, to 63,000, to 152,000. That is a crisis by any standard.

Now, you might say, why are there so many more gotaways? Because when so many people are turning themselves in at the border—and by the way, there are about 10,000 unaccompanied minors who were let in this March as well, and it takes the Border Patrol a longer period of time to process the minors.

When there are so many people that have to be processed, the Border Patrol spends all their time doing paperwork and not guarding the border. There was a time when the Border Patrol reported to work and they guarded the border. Now, we were told in the sectors that I was at that 70 percent of the Border Patrol, when they show up at work, start doing paperwork. By the time their shift is over, 90 percent of the Border Patrol is doing paperwork, which is one of the reasons why so many more people are sneaking across the border.

By the way, if you wanted to take illegal drugs into the country, how would do you it? Would you turn yourself into the Border Patrol or would you try to sneak across? Which is why, right now, we believe, there are many more illegal drugs, including fentanyl, coming into the country now than there were in the past.

There are less drugs being confiscated, way less drugs being confiscated, and for the same reason. If the Border Patrol is not guarding the border, more people sneak across with the drugs and less people are caught.

So, in any event, that by itself is enough that should just alarm the people of this body, as well as the American public is saying, what is going on,

from 11,000 2 years ago to 63,000 a year ago, to 153,000 today.

We also want to talk, like I did, about the number of drugs. When I got this job, which seems just like yesterday, but it was 7 years ago, there were about 47,000 Americans who died every year of illegal drugs, and that was a big number.

All of us politicians were supposed to say something and have a plan because what are we going to do? 47,000 Americans dying every year of illegal drugs. And we passed more money, and we passed things out for treatment.

And 7 years later, we have gone from 47,000—by way of comparison, 57,000 Americans died in the Vietnam war—we are now at 110,000, 110,000 people. For people my age, that is twice as many as the number of people, combat troops, that died Vietnam in a 12-year period. That was 57,000; protests in the street. We have got to stop this. 57,000 Americans have died.

Now, every year, 110,000 Americans are dying of illegal drug overdoses. What should we be doing?

We could use more technology, so when people do come in and try to sneak in drugs, where the Border Patrol is monitoring things, they are more likely to catch the drugs.

I personally love the dogs. The dogs do a tremendous job at the border when people try to sneak across the San Diego sector and put fentanyl or drugs in a truck or a car, those are things that should be unquestionably in the budget. And if we would do that sort of thing, maybe it would put a little bit of brakes on the illegal drugs.

Another thing we learned down at the border is the increasing variety of countries that are coming here. You have to ask yourselves why that is.

Two Monday nights ago, I was at the border and we saw two groups of people in a relatively short period of time come into Yuma; groups of 70 or 80 people. Where are they from?

I think the average American thinks Cuba, Guatemala. No, from Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Cuba, Bangladesh, India, Uzbekistan. Okay, from all around the globe.

Now, you might say why are people coming here from all around the globe? Well, first of all, why would anybody not like to be an American?

But secondly, because the Mexican drug cartels, I am told, and have been told by every Border Patrol agent in every sector over the last year and a half, the Mexican drug cartels are right now making more money smuggling people across the border than drugs across the border.

□ 1915

That is because, depending upon where you are coming from, $8,000, $9,000, $15,000—I am told, from Asia, $20,000—to get somebody in here. When you are making that kind of money, it is not surprising that they would be educating the whole world that now is the time to come into the United States.

They have pointed out to me that these are not necessarily poor, desperate people, by the standards of their home countries. In fact, some of them appear to the Border Patrol to be relatively well-off. They do not look poorly fed. The Border Patrol estimates 90 to 95 percent of them have a cell phone. There was a time in the not-too-distant past that that meant you were well-off.

I am not good at judging clothes, but we are told that the shoes or the purses or whatever, the Border Patrol can tell, are a sign that these are not necessarily poor people. They are just people who realize they are better off in the United States than in their home country.

There are a lot of Cubans coming across. A lot of these Cubans, even though they are saying they want asylum from Cuba, they have thrown away their identification from Chile or Colombia or wherever. They had fled Cuba to Chile, and now the word is out: Now is the time to come to the United States.

They aren't fleeing oppression in Chile. They are just coming to the United States because it is better off. Why wouldn't they?

But we have to realize that if we are going to continue with the current policy, an unlimited number of people would come here. Look around the globe. China, Indonesia, Brazil, large countries, almost everybody would be better off in America, which is why tens of thousands, hundreds of thousands from some of these countries, are going to continue to flow here unless we begin to put the brakes on the current policies.

One other thing of interest we found. When these got-aways sneak across the southern border in Arizona, they will pay young people, kids, over $1,000 to come up and get them at the border and drive them to Phoenix, which is kind of interesting, isn't it?

Another thing for people back home to remember, if they think the current hodgepodge system is humanitarian, is the day we were in the San Diego sector, where you have a wall that goes, I am guessing, maybe a hundred yards into the Pacific Ocean, they found two people on the American side had drowned trying to get around there.

I guess the ocean is a lot more difficult to get around than people think. They look out a hundred yards, and they figure that they can swim out there, that they can get around. They can't get around, or they get in a boat that is not as seaworthy as they think it is. So, many people drown in the ocean trying to come here.

The Mexican Government tells us that more people wind up washing up on the Mexican shore than on the American shore because their boats sink before they even get around to the American side.

Of course, it is not just in the ocean that you see people die coming here. In the Arizona sector, it is not unusual to have people dehydrate to death in the summer sun. Americans, good-natured as we are, sometimes put out gallons of water in the desert, hoping that people who are dehydrating to death find the gallons of water. But frequently, they don't.

As you get further down the border, in the past, when I have been on the Rio Grande border, it is, again, not unusual to have people drown in the Rio Grande. It looks like a shallow river, and they don't realize the undertow and that sort of thing, and they wind up dying.

Women who try to come across, particularly women who try to be with groups that are got-aways and sneak across, the sheriff of one of the counties—and this is another number I find hard to believe, but it is the sheriff. He tells me, one of the sheriffs in Arizona, that he believes 80 percent of the women who are part of these groups that try to be got-aways and sneak across without checking at the Border Patrol, 80 percent are raped. Isn't that kind of a horrible thing?

But the word is out around the world: Now is the time to come across. And that is what happens.

In any event, I encourage the American public and encourage people of all parties here, and especially the Biden administration, to get them going a little, to realize, right now, it is 150,000 people a month. If they change the policy in June like they are talking, the Border Patrol believes that you are going to be working your way up to, like, 400,000, 500,000 a month, which, again, I find hard to believe, but you have to figure the Border Patrol are the experts on this sort of thing.

It shouldn't be that difficult to find a good system, and no other country would stand for this. I made the point about a year ago, and it may be tardy now, but I do think to allow unlimited people to come here makes the American Government and the current administration look weak.

I think as far as what happened to Ukraine and what may happen someday in Taiwan, when they look at the United States and say we have a President who is allowing 150,000 people a month to come here and doing nothing about it, I just think it screams America is no longer the leader in the world.

In any event, I hope steps are taken. Hire more Border Patrol, hire more dogs, complete the wall, which would be a big step in the right direction as well, and go back to the policy of allowing people to be held on the Mexican side of the border prior to coming across here because people are not going to pay the Mexican drug cartels $10,000 or $15,000 to sit on the Mexican side of the border and hope that the hearing goes their way.

Again, to emphasize the number, 2 years ago, 11,000 a month; now, 152,000 a month. People shrug their shoulders and say: What could we do? Well, we could adopt the policies we had when we were at 11,000 a month. That would be a good start. In any event, this is

what we learned on the border 2 weeks ago.

Earlier today, we addressed the Ukraine situation, and I am continually disappointed in the media in this country for not addressing the Ukrainian famine of 90 years ago. I don't know how you can report on this war between Ukraine and Russia and not talk about, depending on who is doing the counting, the 5 to 10 million Ukrainians who were starved to death by the Communist governments in 1932.

Even, at the time, the American press was shameless. We were in a situation in which a reporter for The New York Times, Walter Duranty, hid this great starvation from the American public and the Western world.

As a result, without the West being able to weigh in or the world being able to weigh in, about 5 to 15 million people, I am guessing more like 5 or 6 million, starved to death.

When we talk about why the Ukrainians are fighting so hard, how can you talk about that without talking about the history between the then-Communist Government of Russia and also the communists, quite frankly, who ran Ukraine at the time and the civilians who wound up starving to death?

You read first-person accounts of all the people dying. You realize how, 90 years later, that must still be something that everybody learns about in that country.

Like I said, one of the great disappointments is the mainstream media has not talked about it. Why don't they talk about it?

Is it because they didn't talk about it in 1932 because their reporters were so left of left, they apparently didn't want to embarrass the Soviet Union with what was going on? Is it because our reporters today are so left of left and so in love with leftwing governments that they don't want to embarrass them by pointing out the mass murder that they were responsible for 90 years ago?

In any event, I encourage all Americans to Google the Ukrainian famine and read some first-person accounts of what was going on down there. I encourage any members of the media who sometimes, I think, spend time on nonissues to educate the American public a little bit on what was going on between Russia and Ukraine 90 years ago this year.

Now, the final issue which we have to talk about, and I think is the most important issue of America under normal circumstances when our country is not being overrun at the southern border and when we are not facing world war in Ukraine, and that is the continuous policy, encouraged more by the Biden administration in their Build Back Better bill, another thing he is doing, to have a means-tested welfare program that discourages work and encourages the breakdown of the family.

Understand the qualifications, and there are over 80 means-tested programs, some of them more well-known. One is food stamps; TANF, which is a cash grant; public housing; earned income tax credit; Pell grants. All of these programs are based on whether or not you are considered to be in poverty.

If you have a married couple in which both are working or one has a somewhat middle-class job, you will not be considered in poverty, and you are not eligible for these programs. But if you have a single parent who is not working or working a little bit, the government considers you in poverty.

Once you are in poverty, food stamps, TANF, public housing, which is a big one—I think they underestimate the draw that public housing has, and I can talk about that in a second. The earned income tax credit can easily be a check of $6,000, $7,000, or $8,000 coming in every tax season. Pell grants, the opportunity for almost free college, something else that the average person doesn't get, but if you adopt that lifestyle, you get it.

It is not surprising that we have had, going back 70 years, such a shift in the way we raise children in this country, a shift from almost uniformly a mom and dad at home to a much higher percentage all the time without a dad.

I realize there are a few people out there who don't want a dad at home. I will mention one more time Black Lives Matter. On their website, when they were riding high about a year and a half ago, they were against the traditional nuclear family. Of course, the Marxists, Karl Marx himself, did not like the traditional family.

People sometimes think this has been a coincidence in which we have had a breakdown of the traditional family. In part, we have to remember that there are people who outright don't like the family.

In any event, I encourage this body, before they pass any more significant legislation, and I encourage the Republicans, if they ever get back in the majority again, to look at these programs and see, in a country in which we try to treat everybody equally, why we have these programs that, in essence, take money from the traditional family and send it to the nonnuclear family.

I have been approached by women a few times in my district wondering why their children have to take out big student loans and go 30 or 40 grand in debt, or maybe they had a sister without a husband in the house, and they get free college. I really can't understand why we are so prejudiced against the nuclear family.

But that is what we are in America today, and there is a lot of talk about equity or equality. We should talk about the degree to which we discriminate against nuclear families in this society and see what we can do about trying to put people more on an equitable basis.

That would be a good thing for the Republican Party to work on if they ever do get the majority back, and I hope they do. I think they will.

In any event, I would also hope our conservative think tanks, our conservative groups, do more to publicize the prejudice that is going on in this society against the nuclear family.

Mr. Speaker, I believe some fine Congressmen behind me are anxious to speak. I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1930

CRISIS AT OUR SOUTHERN BORDER CONTINUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PERRY) for 30 minutes.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am joined here this evening by some of the other members of the Freedom Caucus to talk about what everybody is talking about or one of the things everybody is talking about, which is the unmitigated disaster, the calamity, the crisis at the United States southern border.

Today, Secretary Mayorkas was here on the Hill, and I think the term he used was that the border was effectively managed. Effectively managed, Mr. Speaker. I think maybe we are asking the wrong question because effectively managed seems very different in the minds of many Americans than apparently it does to the good Secretary.

It seems to me that just looking at the numbers—and I think we oftentimes talk too much in numbers—the toll is in real human lives, but we do need to talk about the numbers a little bit just to emphasize the scale.

Effectively managed. For us, for Americans, we think we should have a sovereign country that has a border where the United States of America determines who gets to walk across the border and what the process is. Of course, that is obliterated right now. That is totally gone.

I think when the Secretary says that it is being effectively managed, I think that is in terms of the new left's version of the border of America, which is to allow it to be as open as possible, to be violated as many times as possible, and to make as efficient as possible those violations on a daily basis.

In other words, let's move across as many people as we can, legally or illegally, without regard to the safety of the country, without regard to the health of the country, without regard to the financial circumstances of the country. All of that stuff is out, quite honestly, without regard to the sentiment of the American people whom we all serve—our bosses.

In his mind, apparently, it is effectively being managed. Every time we allocate more money, the charge is it is to more effectively manage or secure our border. Ladies and gentlemen and Mr. Speaker, what that means under President Biden and Secretary Mayorkas and the left's reign across

America right now is that they are efficiently—and becoming more efficient at it—moving illegal aliens into our country, into our neighborhoods.

Maybe you say, Well, look, these are just people that are looking for a better life. Many of them are, that is true. We don't hate anybody. Every one of us wants to help. What comes with that? What comes with the wide open border?

Mr. Speaker, what comes with it is a record number of fentanyl overdoses, the leading cause of death for young people between the ages of 18 and 42 in America today. That is what comes across the border. MS–13 and the criminal element.

It is said that we need a humane policy. This is a humane policy? Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether you know this or not, but, unfortunately, a young National Guardsman died while trying to help people that were trying to cross the river, they seemed like they were struggling so he jumped in to help them. He lost his life.

I don't know if it is true, but it is reported that after those people came across or got across they were arrested for drug trafficking. When they found the young servicemember's body, it was with another person who happened to be an illegal alien that was trying to cross. Of course, it is not reported, but I think there are literally hundreds and hundreds of dead illegal aliens that have tried to cross the border in the last 14 months. How humane is that?

Human trafficking. We have passed numerous bills in this House of Representatives, Mr. Speaker, even since you have been here, about human trafficking. Yet, the taxpayers of our country are forced to finance the largest human trafficking operation the world has ever known. These are the same people paying the taxes.

Mr. Speaker, I went to the grocery store before I came here, I bought, I think, seven items: a loaf of bread, cheese, normal things—two little bags. It was $50. These are the same people that are paying $50 for the groceries for two little bags that have got to pay for all of this.

I have a regular-size car, it has about 292,000 miles on it, and it was $75 to fill it up. We are telling them, under penalty of law, unless you pay for this you will go to jail, and you will lose your house if you don't pay your taxes.

Mr. Speaker, this is unconscionable. We are currently at 8,000 per day. There are 8,000 illegal crossings per day. We are here to talk about title 42, which is only going to at least double that—and that is according to this Department of Homeland Security. Double that.

There is already a crisis at 8,000 per day. I come from a town of about 2,000 people. Every day, four times that many people come across the border illegally and reside in the United States and take away and steal our opportunities. They steal the American opportunity for education, for safe streets, for a starting job—your first job out of high school. All of that is stolen.

Mr. Speaker, I would contend that Secretary Mayorkas should be arrested for violating the law because indeed he is violating the law. He is not enforcing the law. He swore an oath. It is in the law. People say we need new laws. Mr. Speaker, even members of your party are saying we need new legislation to combat this.

What is any legislation going to matter if the administration refuses to faithfully execute the laws of this land? It is listed right in the Constitution, Mr. Speaker. It is right in there. It is right in there. Faithfully execute the laws of the land. Yet, we have a President and we have a Secretary that refuse to do it.

Mr. Speaker, I am joined here by my great colleagues. I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD).

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate Mr. PERRY's leadership on this issue.

Secretary Mayorkas' testimony today in a hearing was that the border is secure. You have to ask yourself: What would an unsecure border look like as defined by this administration, by this President, and by this Democrat majority?

I wish the Democrats were with us across the aisle tonight to try to defend the indefensible. I wish the Democrats were here tonight to tell the American people why they are intentionally, willfully, and purposefully facilitating this border invasion.

Many of us thought the President would open the border, would rescind the policies that were making the border secure under the Trump Presidency, but most of us probably underestimated how effective he would be in facilitating the invasion at the border, to your point, some 7,000 to 8,000 a day now that we encounter, that we apprehend before we bus or fly them into the interior of the country.

Never in the history of the country has our own President done more to intentionally harm the United States than what this President has done in his first 16 months. If we secured the border now—if today we secured the border, we have done irreparable, untold harm to the country that will only be shown in the next days, weeks, months, and years ahead.

We have got 2,000 criminal aliens a day evading apprehension. Think about this. This administration's policies are welcoming these illegal aliens into the country, giving them their free phones, free transportation, free education, social services, and healthcare, and releasing them into the interior of the country wherever they want to go without even a day to appear in court.

Why are the 2,000 a day avoiding apprehension? Those are the ones with the criminal backgrounds, the terrorist ties, trafficking drugs, trafficking humans, children, and what have you, who don't want to be captured, don't want to be apprehended.

This administration admits that 42 on the terrorist watch list have been caught in the last year coming into the country out of the 2 million plus who they apprehended. What about the 700,000 in the first 15 months that they didn't apprehend? How many of those have terrorist ties? We have no idea. The country will find out, sadly, in the days, the weeks, and the months ahead.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the good gentleman. I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. HICE).

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I, likewise, am deeply grateful for your leadership in putting this together.

Mr. Speaker, this is a call for our entire country to come together. This should not be something that is wrapped up in partisan politics. We are talking about securing our border. Securing our border. Right now, we have a discharge petition to save title 42, unfortunately Democrats are refusing to support that discharge.

I am calling on them tonight to come on, to sign on to the discharge and let's save title 42. This is in defense of our country and in defense of our national security.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. HICE, could you tell us how many have signed? How many Democrats have signed the discharge? The discharge brings the bill to the floor. How many have signed?

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, there are zero, to my knowledge.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, there are Democrats out there talking about the border crisis and saying we have to fix it, yet they won't sign it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am calling on them tonight—we are calling on them tonight to sign it. This is a national security issue. What is the problem here? It makes no sense to me. We have no Democrats that have signed on to this discharge petition.

As you mentioned, we are now watching—and Mr. GOOD from Virginia as well—we are watching now the numbers soar to the point of more than doubling the maximum that we have had in the years past. In year 2000 we had 220,000 apprehensions, and now it is going to soar over 500,000. We are sitting back here in the people's House doing nothing about it. We are responsible as the governing body of this country to defend our borders.

Right now, because of the surge that is taking place, Mr. Speaker, we are having Customs and Border Protection agents who are now being moved to process these illegal individuals. There are ICE agents who are being moved to process these individuals coming across our border.

The U.S. Marshals are leaving the various places around this country where they are serving to go to our southern border to try to help with this crisis that has no business even being a crisis. Now, we have all these agents who are not even doing their job because they are processing illegal individuals coming across into this country.

Now, we hear that DHS is calling on other Federal Government agencies to

provide doctors. I don't know about you, but I don't know of many agencies in the Federal Government who have doctors. Where are they going to come from? Perhaps the Department of Defense. Certainly, there are some doctors in the VA.

Let's say those doctors go to the southern border, then what happens to our veterans who now are lacking doctors to serve them? None of this makes any sense, and it leaves our entire country in a very vulnerable position.

Mr. Speaker, I would just say that border security is an enormous component to national security, and if we do not have secure borders, we do not have a secure Nation. I am calling on our Democrats today to sign on to the discharge petition. Let's save title 42. For crying out loud, let's defend our borders and get over the partisan politics and do the right thing and defend our borders.

□ 1945

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

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for leading us on this topic, once again, because this is such an important topic to get out to the American people. Just listening to the gentleman from Georgia speak about this being a national security crisis, that is exactly what this is. We are not a secure nation without secure borders.

I live in Colorado, and my State is a border State right now with all of the illegal aliens. We are up to 2.5 million who have been apprehended at the southern border, not including the 700,000 gotaways that went past CBP and were not apprehended, probably because they did not want to come into contact with CBP.

Who knows what kind of history they have?

Just like Congressman GOOD spoke on, we don't know who is coming across our southern border. It is estimated that if this pace keeps up under Biden's tenure, we will have 8 to 10 million illegal aliens in our country by the time he leaves office.

This is absolutely absurd.

And now what?

I serve on the Budget Committee; and everyone is wanting more money right now, more money from the American taxpayer. We can't say where the money went in Afghanistan. We can't talk about the $86 billion in weaponry and equipment that was left behind. The southern border has millions of dollars being spent each and every day on a border wall that is not being built.

Secretary Mayorkas was here today testifying in front of this body, and he says that there are millions of dollars being spent on this wall that is not being built, and they want more money—not to secure the southern border though, but to process and release more quickly.

This is not what we need to be spending the American taxpayer dollars on. Customs and Border Patrol agents are not travel agents. Secretary Mayorkas needs to be held accountable for what is going on.

I just want to say one thing, he did mention that it is Congress' responsibility to fix what is happening at the southern border. Well, we want to do that. We want to be a part of the solution. We want to secure our border, stop the human trafficking, and stop the flow of fentanyl that is coming into our country killing record amounts of Americans. We want this to end. We want our Nation secure.

That is why we have the title 42 discharge petition, to force a vote on the House floor under Speaker PELOSI's House of Representatives where she won't voluntarily bring that up. We want to be a part of the solution.

I am proud to be serving with Members here speaking about this and informing the American citizens back home, and I thank the chairman for doing this tonight.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Colorado for her remarks.

Mrs. BOEBERT talked about the wall that is not being built; unfulfilled contracts, Mr. Speaker, costing, as Secretary Mayorkas told us today, $72 million, $72 million to not build the border wall, to not honor the contracts that the United States has made with the contractors, $72 million. Yet they are asking for more money.

Mrs. BOEBERT also knows that even though we have contracted for more beds to deal with the influx, we actually leave them empty while we pay NGOs—nongovernmental organizations—to put these people up in hotels. And I will remind you, Mr. Speaker, that the folks whom I serve—my bosses—can barely afford their groceries or their gas, but they are forced to pay for this. We will talk about national security because border security is national security.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the good gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD).

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, this issue is so important, and I thank the chairman for putting this together because this is the message that we need to continue to speak about.

Being from south Texas, our district sees every week the effects of this and has for years. I have met the young women who have been abused. I have been to the ranchers who have found rape trees on their properties. We have seen now throughout the Nation of the effects of the drugs that are pouring into our community. Under the Trump administration we had actually seen a decrease in drug overdoses in our country for the first time in a long time. Now we know that fentanyl is the number one killer of young people in our country.

All this is because this administration has chosen, instead of partnering with communities to protect our border, to be the last mile delivery system for the cartels. And so whatever dollars we send them, they repurpose. Instead of using them for securing our border and to doing the things we sent them to do, they have retasked the individuals, as has been mentioned, but they turn them into the last mile delivery system for the cartels. So we are aiding and abetting cartels to profit hundreds of millions of dollars constantly and continually.

What this does is not only destabilizing for our country, we know of community members, of course, all of us, whose families have been affected by the drug epidemic in our country; we know of crime going up in cities; we know of communities burdened with hospitals and schools having to figure out how to deal with this administration who will not work with them or let them know when midnight drops are being made in their community and the like.

I talked to a farmer today—not only do farmers deal with the migrant traffic through their crops and such—about the cartel. Basically the cartel controls everything. They have the operational control on the southern side of the border, so everything illicit and not comes across. So in the ag industry, for example, a lot of cows will start in Mexico and come to a feedyard in the United States before they make it to market. Well, to cross into the United States they are having to pay cartels a couple thousand dollars to make it through their property, and that is what we would consider the legal trade, the proper trade; not to mention the illicit drugs and the human trafficking that is going on. We continue to allow this to happen because of the Biden administration.

Now, if you think of this, if we were to ask the cartels to design a border policy for the United States, it would look very much like the border policy we have now because, frankly, they don't want open borders. What they want is just a shred—an illusion—of security so that they can continue to profit off of getting people and getting drugs into the United States of America.

So we have got to stop this as a country. We cannot continue to aid and abet cartels to do their illegal and illicit activity. We cannot continue to allow a narco-state to develop on our southern border and is now working its way into our country. This is ridiculous.

When I am trying to explain this to people back home, people back home in Texas ask me: What does the Biden administration not get?

What do they not get?

How bad does it have to get before they understand it?

We saw it today with Secretary Mayorkas saying that we are effectively managing the border.

I have to explain to Texans that this administration simply has different goals than you do. We think border security; they think what can we do to aid and abet cartels.

This is tragic. It has to stop. We have a title 42 discharge resolution with 211 Republicans on it. We need seven Democrats. There has been a lot of lip service as we get close to election time about supporting title 42. Put your name on the line. We only need seven of you to stand up.

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I had a constituent say to me a couple weeks ago: Nothing this Democratic Party is doing makes sense unless they hate the country.

Carry these policies to its logical conclusion. As Congresswoman BOEBERT said, they are on track for 10 million illegal border crossings in this President's first and only term, I hope.

Ten million, apparently, is not a problem. We cannot get one Democrat. We cannot get one Democrat.

Where are the Democrats?

Mr. Speaker, do you want to know why they are going to lose the majority?

It is because of what Congressman CLOUD just said.

Carry these policies to its logical conclusion. Ten million is not scary to them.

What if it was 100 million?

What if it was 1 billion?

We have got 7 billion people in the world who don't live in the United States.

How many of them would come here if they could?

We have put out the sign, the Democratic majority and the administration, come. If you want to come in the country, come now. The border is open. We are welcoming as fast as we can, as much harm as we can do before the election in November, before 2 years from now in 2024 when the Presidential election changes. Carry it to its conclusion.

Is there any number that would concern the Democrat majority?

Is there any number where we could get Democrats to sign on to this?

Nothing they are doing makes sense unless they hate the country.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, national security is community security. We are here to talk about the border in general, but certainly title 42, 8,000 a day right now but soon to be double that, maybe more than double that, 8,000 a day. So national security is community security.

I was watching a report on the television of a lady in New York—I think it was New York—she got stabbed in the neck and the face over 50 times—over 50 times—murdered. And in the press conference the press asked for the person—the perpetrator—whom they had caught his immigration status. And law enforcement said: We are not going to get into that. We are not going to get into that.

There is a Texas guardsman, a young man who would be alive right now. There is a lady who was stabbed in the neck and the face 50 some times who would be alive right now because this administration, the left, the Democratic Party, unfortunately, apparently doesn't care about border security, community security, title 42, preserving the American Dream, and safeguarding the American people.

Mr. Speaker, we are going to lose a great Member of Congress here at the end of this session. I often affectionately refer to him as the closer because everybody is gone from Washington, D.C., but Louie is still standing there telling the country what is happening.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the good gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, the general from Pennsylvania, for yielding.

This is so serious. While Homeland Security was having a hearing with Secretary Mayorkas, we were having a hearing in our Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security Subcommittee, and we were hearing from victims of human and sex trafficking and hearing about victims of human and sex trafficking.

Mr. Speaker, how callous does a person have to be to not be moved by young adults saying: My childhood was one of being constantly raped, constantly beaten, and constantly forced to do terrible things, that was my childhood because I had been sold into trafficking, human and sex trafficking.

Now, one said that she had used the same visa that others had used before—the very same visa. We are not checking visas very carefully. Homeland security, that is their job.

But another came across our southern border, and, of course, our Chairman NADLER really grilled in and focused on and had him say that the number one problem he had was homophobia of people in the U.S. But as I pointed out: You are being raped constantly over and over, it doesn't sound like homophobia is your big problem.

It is not having a Department of Homeland Security that is keeping the homeland secure.

This can't continue. For heaven's sake, we are losing this country, and as we are losing it, it is absolutely immoral to turn a blind eye to these children that are being sex trafficked because we won't secure our border, and we won't have an administration that will keep the oaths they made to defend, protect, serve this country, and serve the Constitution.

It is a sort of fiduciary duty they have to this country, to the people in this country; and by the relationship with our neighbors, to other countries around us like Mexico for heaven's sake. It is outrageous what is going on, and people's lives are being destroyed. As the country is being destroyed, lives are being destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for claiming this time tonight. It is a huge problem. If we don't get this fixed, we have no moral right to exist; and if America doesn't exist, then there is no freedom in the world.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Louie, for his comments.

We have 2 minutes remaining by my clock here; is that right, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Pennsylvania has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues from the House Freedom Caucus. They are always the toughest and most courageous people in Congress who are willing to do the uncomfortable things. They are fighting to take action, not just rhetoric, but to take action.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) to close us out.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, so many times we are accused of being callous and heartless toward the people who are coming across our border. But I attended a naturalization ceremony in my district, and it was one of the most beautiful things I have ever experienced. I saw 41 true new Americans. They held in their hand the American flag. Tears streamed down their faces. They invested their heart, their soul, their resources, and their minds because they know they have what it takes to do this the right way and make this a more perfect Union.

I saw the conviction that that flag right there, to them, is the one universal symbol for liberty and justice for all.

There is a right way to do this, and we have to keep America free and secure so people can come and live the American Dream.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding to me tonight.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded again to refrain from engaging in personalities toward the President.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow morning for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 8 o'clock p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC–3819. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's 60th Annual Report for fiscal year 2021, pursuant to 46 U.S.C. 46106(a); Public Law 109-304, Sec. 4; (120 Stat. 1489); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC–3820. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting

the Agency's direct final rule — Delegation of New Source Performance Standards and National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for the States of Arizona and California [EPA-R09-OAR-2021-0962; FRL-9400-02-R9] received March 30, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–3821. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Butoxypolypropylene glycol, et al.; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2018-0156; FRL-9574-01-OCSPP] received March 30, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–3822. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule; correction — Air Plan Approval; West Virginia; 2020 Amendments to West Virginia's Ambient Air Quality Standards; Correction [EPA-R03-OAR-2020-0487; FRL-8931-03-R3] received March 30, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–3823. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Delaware; Philadelphia Area Base Year Inventory for the 2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2021-0854; FRL-9381-02-R3] received March 30, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–3824. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; California; Correcting Amendments [EPA-R09- OAR-2022-0221; FRL-9598-02-R9] received March 30, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–3825. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Advisory Committee; Bone, Reproductive and Urologic Drugs Advisory Committee; Change of Name and Function; Technical Amendment [Docket No. FDA-2019-N-4203] received March 30, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–3826. A letter from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule; notification of administrative stay — Milk and Cream; Petition for an Administrative Stay of Action: Definitions and Standards of Identity for Yogurt, Lowfat Yogurt, and Nonfat Yogurt [Docket No. FDA-2000-P-0126 (formerly Docket No. 2000P-0658)] (RIN: 0910-AI40) received March 30, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

EC–3827. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism that was declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1627); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–3828. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's FY 2021 No FEAR Act Report, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 2301 note; Public Law 107-174, 203(a) (as amended by Public Law 109-435, Sec. 604(f)); (120 Stat. 3242); to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

EC–3829. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Annual Operating Plan for Colorado River System Reservoirs for 2022; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

EC–3830. A letter from the Chief, Division of Regulations, Jurisdiction, and Special Park Uses, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — St. Croix National Scenic Riverway, Bicycling [NPS-SACM-32920; PPMWMWROW2/PMP00UP05.YP0000] (RIN: 1024-AE64) received April 20, 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–3831. A letter from the Secretary, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Inflation Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties [Docket No. 22-02] (RIN: 3072-AC89) received March 30, 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–3832. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Criteria: Special Class Airworthiness Criteria for the Amazon Logistics, Inc. MK27-2 Unmanned Aircraft [Docket No. FAA-2020-1086] received March 18, 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.

EC–3833. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Austro Engine GmbH Engines [Docket No. FAA-2022-0013; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-01371-E; Amendment 39-21920; AD 2022-03-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 18, 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.

EC–3834. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting Airworthiness Directives; Umlaut Engineering GmbH (Previously P3 Engineering GmbH) HAFEX (Halon-Free) Hand-Held Fire Extinguishers [Docket No. FAA-2021-0843; Project Identifier MCAI-2020-00256-Q; Amendment 39-21891; AD 2022-01-03] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received March 18, 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.

EC–3835. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting Amendment of Class D and Class E Airspace; Janesville, WI [Docket No. FAA-2021-0980; Airspace Docket No. 21-AGL-32] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 30, 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.

EC–3836. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment Class E Airspace; Hugo, OK [Docket No. FAA-2021-0977; Airspace Docket No. 21-ASW-20] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received March 30, 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.

EC–3837. A letter from the Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the CY 2021 annual report on activities under the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative and the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2431k(a); Public Law 87-195, Sec. 813(a) (as added by Public Law 105-214, Sec. 1); (112 Stat. 893); ; jointly to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Agriculture.

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. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 5796. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a competition to award certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117–302). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. RASKIN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1065. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (S. 3522) to provide enhanced authority for the President to enter into agreements with the Government of Ukraine to lend or lease defense articles to that Government to protect civilian populations in Ukraine from Russian military invasion, and for other purposes (Rept. 117–303). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 7594. A bill to improve access for diverse-owned asset management firms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Financial Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, Armed Services, and House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BERGMAN (for himself, Mr. BUDD, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. CAWTHORN, and Mr. POSEY):

H.R. 7595. A bill to establish the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement Office within the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KAPTUR (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 7596. A bill to provide for the use of seized Russian assets to provide support to citizens of Ukraine who have been made refugees as a result of the illegal invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 7597. A bill to protect firefighters from exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl

substances; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself, Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. CURTIS, and Mr. O'HALLERAN):

H.R. 7598. A bill to amend the Pallone-Thune Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence Act to provide liability protection for the sharing of information regarding suspected unlawful robocalls by or with the registered consortium that conducts private-led efforts to trace back the origin of suspected unlawful robocalls, and for the receipt of such information by such registered consortium, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 7599. A bill to prohibit the issuance of a passport with any gender designation other than ''male'' and ''female'', and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mrs. LESKO (for herself, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. CAWTHORN, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. HICE of Georgia, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois):

H.R. 7600. A bill to prohibit the Transportation Security Administration from using the ''X'' gender designation in the TSA PreCheck advanced security program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security.

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 7601. A bill to require notice of certain subpoenas and warrants issued to a third party pursuant to an investigation of the Department of Justice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 7602. A bill to prevent organizational conflicts of interest in Federal acquisition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mrs. MCBATH (for herself, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS):

H.R. 7603. A bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a publicly available database of bid solicitations for infant formula under the special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. MULLIN:

H.R. 7604. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for enhanced penalties for partial birth abortions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 7605. A bill to amend chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, to ensure Presidential records are preserved, duly created when non-official electronic messaging accounts are used, and made available to the public and the next administration in a timely fashion to advance national security and accountability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Ms. SPANBERGER (for herself and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS):

H.R. 7606. A bill to establish the Office of the Special Investigator for Competition Matters within the Department of Agriculture; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mrs. STEEL:

H.R. 7607. A bill to direct institutions of higher education to improve transparency with respect to the use of personality traits in admissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SUOZZI:

H.R. 7608. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to States to develop, improve, or maintain a State registry of advance directives; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. TIFFANY:

H.R. 7609. A bill to prohibit the appeal of the decision issued by the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida determining that the mask mandate is unlawful, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WESTERMAN (for himself, Ms. BROWNLEY, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. PALAZZO):

H.R. 7610. A bill to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to improve provisions relating to dyslexia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. COHEN, Ms. CHENEY, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. WALTZ, and Ms. SLOTKIN):

H.R. 7611. A bill to provide enhanced authority for the President to enter into agreements with the Government of Ukraine to lend or lease defense articles to that Government to protect civilian populations in Ukraine from Russian military invasion, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. TRONE, Mr. WESTERMAN, and Mr. BACON):

H. Res. 1066. A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 2022 as ''Second Chance Month''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. HARTZLER:

H. Res. 1067. A resolution honoring the lives of fallen Missouri police officers and expressing condolences to their families; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LOWENTHAL (for himself, Mr. CORREA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mrs. KIM of California, and Mrs. STEEL):

H. Res. 1068. A resolution recognizing the 47th anniversary of Black April and the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. GRIJALVA:

H.R. 7580.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 7594.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constition of the United States

By Mr. BERGMAN:

H.R. 7595.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article One, Section Eight of the United States Constitution

By Ms. KAPTUR:

H.R. 7596.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, clause 3 provides Congress with the power to ''regulate commerce with foreign nations''

By Mr. KILDEE:

H.R. 7597.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 7598.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3: Congress shall have the power . . . ''to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian tribes.''

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 7599.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mrs. LESKO:

H.R. 7600.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Mr. LIEU:

H.R. 7601.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section VIII

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 7602.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. MCBATH:

H.R. 7603.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Interstate Commerce Clause

By Mr. MULLIN:

H.R. 7604.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The Constitutional authority on which this bill is based is Congress's power under the Commerce Clause in Article I, Section 8, of the Constitution and under the Constitution's grant of powers to Congress under the Equal Protection, Due Process, and Enforcement Clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment.

By Mr. QUIGLEY:

H.R. 7605.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause XVIII

By Ms. SPANBERGER:

H.R. 7606.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mrs. STEEL:

H.R. 7607.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. SUOZZI:

H.R. 7608.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. TIFFANY:

H.R. 7609.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8 of the constitution,

Article 1, Section 9 of the constitution.

By Mr. WESTERMAN:

H.R. 7610.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 7611.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 426: Ms. TENNEY, Mr. KELLER, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. BUCK, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. ROSE, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. LONG, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mrs. SPARTZ, Mr. FALLON, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Ms. HERRELL.

H.R. 537: Mr. SOTO.

H.R. 889: Mr. BUCK.

H.R. 909: Ms. SEWELL.

H.R. 962: Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. MORELLE.

H.R. 1011: Ms. MACE.

H.R. 1275: Mr. OBERNOLTE.

H.R. 1745: Mr. CAWTHORN.

H.R. 1956: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2252: Mr. MEIJER.

H.R. 2274: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 2294: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 2295: Mr. DELGADO and Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 2565: Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. MAST.

H.R. 3121: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 3294: Mr. Cárdenas.

H.R. 3344: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 3353: Mrs. WALORSKI.

H.R. 3890: Mr. POCAN.

H.R. 3962: Mr. MANN and Mr. DONALDS.

H.R. 3990: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.

H.R. 4131: Ms. STANSBURY.

H.R. 4148: Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 4151: Mr. DELGADO.

H.R. 4315: Ms. OMAR.

H.R. 4472: Mrs. KIM of California.

H.R. 4568: Mr. ZELDIN.

H.R. 4607: Mr. SMUCKER.

H.R. 4944: Ms. MANNING and Mrs. AXNE.

H.R. 5089: Mrs. HARTZLER.

H.R. 5232: Mr. AMODEI, Mr. CALVERT, and Mr. SWALWELL.

H.R. 5526: Mr. VALADAO.

H.R. 5598: Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 5611: Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 5638: Mr. MOONEY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CLOUD, Mr. PALMER, Mr. LOUDERMILK, and Mr. MOORE of Alabama.

H.R. 5685: Mrs. HAYES.

H.R. 6026: Ms. LOFGREN and Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 6089: Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. PERRY, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, Mr. SOTO, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Mr. BACON.

H.R. 6109: Mr. KUSTOFF.

H.R. 6145: Mr. ROY.

H.R. 6161: Mr. CROW and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 6192: Mr. RYAN.

H.R. 6250: Mr. Cárdenas.

H.R. 6352: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 6577: Mr. YARMUTH.

H.R. 6605: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 6668: Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania and Mrs. WAGNER.

H.R. 6678: Mr. KAHELE.

H.R. 6825: Mr. GIMENEZ, Mr. BOWMAN, and Ms. STRICKLAND.

H.R. 6876: Ms. KAPTUR.

H.R. 7061: Ms. LOFGREN.

H.R. 7073: Mr. HUDSON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Miss González-Colón, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, and Ms. UNDERWOOD.

H.R. 7089: Ms. DELBENE and Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 7116: Mr. TONKO.

H.R. 7185: Mr. BEYER, Mr. JONES, Ms. ADAMS, Ms. TITUS, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 7194: Mr. CLINE.

H.R. 7213: Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, and Mrs. HARSHBARGER.

H.R. 7232: Ms. MANNING.

H.R. 7242: Miss González-Colón.

H.R. 7249: Ms. CHU.

H.R. 7256: Mr. POSEY.

H.R. 7359: Mr. HARRIS.

H.R. 7363: Mr. WENSTRUP.

H.R. 7382: Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. BROWN of Maryland.

H.R. 7458: Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Miss RICE of New York, Mr. MORELLE, and Mr. MOORE of Utah.

H.R. 7465: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 7482: Ms. KUSTER, Ms. NORTON, Ms. DEAN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI, and Ms. BUSH.

H.R. 7542: Mr. MCGOVERN.

H.R. 7550: Mr. SOTO.

H.J. Res. 9: Mr. GARCÍA of California.

H.J. Res. 72: Mr. CARL, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. LUETKEMEYER.

H.J. Res. 81: Ms. TENNEY.

H. Con. Res. 34: Mr. KELLER and Mr. ARRINGTON.

H. Res. 119: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.

H. Res. 159: Ms. HERRELL.

H. Res. 891: Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.

H. Res. 1015: Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 168 WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022 *No. 69*

Senate

The Senate met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JACKY ROSEN, a Senator from the State of Nevada.

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Eternal God, author of liberty, on this Holocaust Remembrance Day, inspire us to cultivate the eternal vigilance that pays the price for freedom.

Lord, use our lawmakers to ensure that the challenge ''never again'' is transformed from mere words into creative actions. Remind us of the words of Elie Wiesel, who said:

To forget the victims means to kill them a second time.

O, God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.

And, Lord, we thank You for the life and impact of former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

We pray in Your great Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, April 27, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JACKY ROSEN, a Senator from the State of Nevada, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. ROSEN thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Sherilyn Peace Garnett, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from South Dakota.

(The remarks of Mr. THUNE pertaining to the introduction of S. 4094 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The majority leader is recognized.

REMEMBERING MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, earlier today, leaders past and present from around the world joined together to celebrate the life of Madeleine Albright. While Secretary Albright may have been small in stature, she was a titan in American history; she was one of a kind and first of a kind; a mentor; a natural leader as well as a mother and grandmother. Her brilliance and sharp wit made her a formidable presence on the world stage, and her story inspired women and girls all across the globe.

Today was a wonderful celebration of her life. My thoughts are with Secretary Albright's family as our Nation remembers her life and her great legacy.

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION

Now, Madam President, on the FTC, as we have done all along this year, Democrats are continuing to focus on lowering prices for the American people. Yesterday, I met with Speaker PELOSI to discuss how both Chambers can work together to address the terrible burden of rising gas prices.

It is one of the most vexing issues for the American people. The disturbances from the pandemic and the war in Ukraine have caused gas prices to spike, and working Americans are hurting. But do you know who is not hurting? The largest oil and gas companies, which reported over $205 billion in profits in 2021 even while Americans pay more at the pump. Solving this issue is a top priority for Democrats—a top priority. Unfortunately, the other side seems content with bemoaning rising costs day after day, without expressing any interest in actually offering solutions to the problem.

Senate Democrats are actually working to solve the problem, and we will

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

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continue talks with our House colleagues on legislation that can bring gas prices down. There are several options we can take.

Now, there is a growing consensus that the Federal Government—especially the FTC—should investigate possible price gouging and price manipulation, market manipulation, that might be happening among the largest oil and gas companies in the country. This is one step we are working on out of many.

Of course, any solution involving the FTC requires that the FTC have full membership to begin with, so we are also going to keep working to confirm Mr. Bedoya as the fifth FTC Commissioner to break the 2–2 deadlock that has lasted for over a year.

It is important to note that Republicans unanimously are not voting for Mr. Bedoya, and that has paralyzed the FTC, even though its leadership would love to go after the price gouging and market manipulation. We have a few Members absent because of health issues this week, but I want to be clear that health issues will not deter us from getting Mr. Bedoya and other important nominees, like Lisa Cook, confirmed.

I urge any Republican who is truly worried about rising gas prices to drop their senseless objection to getting Mr. Bedoya confirmed. It seems it is only covering up for the oil companies and preventing a really sharp, piercing investigation of market manipulation and price gouging. There is something deeply wrong about seeing the largest oil companies, while raking record profits, asking Americans to pay more at the pump. That is why we need an FTC with full membership, so it can look under the hood of America's energy sector and drill down into why Big Oil is pumping out record profits as consumers struggle.

Again, I repeat to my Republican colleagues: If you care about lowering gas prices and care about looking at what the large companies—oligopolies—are doing, join us in voting Mr. Bedoya on the FTC. A vote against him is a vote for Big Oil and against the American driver and consumer.

STUDENT LOAN DEBT

Madam President, now on student debt, for over a year, one of my top priorities as majority leader has been urging President Biden to cancel $50,000 in student debt for each student loan borrower. Right now, as discussions continue within the administration about the future of student debt, I again call on the President to take action, which he can do on his own, and hit the financial reset button for millions and millions of Americans.

President Biden has done the right thing by continuing the moratorium on student loan payments. His actions have saved millions from financial ruin during the COVID crisis. But borrowers don't just need their debts paused; they need them erased. These extensions have been crucial, but borrowers can't indefinitely plan out their financial futures 3 months at a time with the fear hanging over them that payments would resume down the line.

With the flick of a pen, President Biden could provide millions upon millions of student loan borrowers a new lease on life. He can do it without congressional action, because we know so many of our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are opposed to it. He can do it without congressional action.

It is the right thing to do for our country. For generations, higher education has been a ladder up into getting into the middle class, especially for Black, Latino, and Asian Americans. Unfortunately, student debt has become not a ladder up but an anchor down, weighing Americans down. It makes it harder for borrowers to start a family, to buy a home or a car or live with financial independence.

For borrowers of color, the anxieties are magnified, often tenfold. Take this for example: The White median borrower would only owe an average of 6 percent of their student loans 20 years after starting college. Meanwhile, the median Black borrower would still owe a staggering 95 percent of their student loan debt in that same time span. Imagine being closer to retirement than to college and realizing you have only made a dent in your student loans. Millions of borrowers of color—millions more borrowers in general—live with this reality.

Once again, borrowers don't need their debts paused; they need them erased. This isn't just the right thing to do for our economy; it is the right thing to do for racial equity. I will keep urging the President to take this important step.

I will say to my colleagues, I think the President is moving in the right direction. My talks with him and the staff have been very fruitful over the last little while, and I am hopeful that he will do the right thing. We are getting closer. We are getting closer.

UKRAINE AND COVID

Madam President, on Ukraine and COVID funding, in the immediate future, there are two different issues that demand swift and bipartisan action from the U.S. Senate: passing another Ukraine supplemental package and approving another round of COVID funding.

In the coming days, the President is expected to send to Congress his request for action on Ukraine. We are going to make passing Ukraine funding a priority in the Senate, and I expect both sides to work together. As we have seen over the last 2 months, American support has gone a long way in helping the Ukrainian people resist and even push back against Putin's savage and immoral war, but the fight is far from over.

The Ukrainian people are fighting for survival in a contest that is very much about democracy versus tyranny. There should be no question—no question whatsoever—about which side America stands on. We have a moral obligation—a moral obligation—to give the Ukrainian people the tools they need for as long as they need them. For this reason, I expect both sides to work in the same bipartisan way we did a few months ago to get the Ukrainian supplemental done.

We also need bipartisan cooperation as soon as we can to pass another round of COVID health funding. I urge my Republican colleagues to work with us to pass COVID funding ASAP. It is very risky for the health of the American people for Republicans to play political games at a time when we need more health funding.

Let's be clear. This is an exceedingly time-sensitive priority. According to the White House, countries like Japan and Vietnam and the Philippines are already ahead of the United States in placing orders for treatment, for medications, for vaccines. The United States is largely unable to follow suit simply because Senate Republicans have blocked any new round of funding required to make these purchases.

The longer Senate Republicans hold out on supporting new COVID funding, the greater the risk of other nations buying out all of the available supplies of vaccines and tests and lifesaving therapeutics. If they run out, it will take manufacturers months to make new doses.

So, again, to my Republican colleagues, work with us to pass COVID funding ASAP. Our country can't afford delays or political games that stand in the way.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

REMEMBERING MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I, along with others, had the opportunity to say goodbye to Madeleine Albright this morning—a truly remarkable life: first woman Secretary of State, a remarkable diplomat, and a friend. We had an opportunity to bond over an issue I am about to discuss: the people of Burma and the plight that they have had to endure over the years. Regretfully, as her life came to an end, things did not go in the right direction in Burma—at least not yet. I know she would not have given up hope; nor have I.

BURMA

Madam President, with regard to the current situation in Burma, Aung San Suu Kyi was handed yet another outrageous, sham sentence by the military junta in Burma.

For the past year, the leader of Burma's democracy movement and thousands of her fellow citizens have been detained while the Tatmadaw, which is the army, drags their country violently backward.

The generals responsible for last year's coup have met a groundswell of popular protests with brutality. As Burma's diverse ethnic minorities have found historic unity in the cause of democracy, the junta has stoked violence and division.

The Tatmadaw is holding countless citizens of Burma in prolonged detention, along with foreign nationals like the Australian economist Sean Turnell. Its political prisoners reportedly include dozens—dozens—of children under the age of 15. And its baseless prosecution of Daw Suu Kyi illustrates how long the road ahead is for Burma's democracy advocates.

The military's latest ruling against my friend is just one in an absurd list that could carry a total sentence of up to 190 years.

With every passing day, the junta's ruling generals are showing the world exactly what they are afraid of. They fear the people of Burma—their unity, their resolve, and their devotion to a democratic future. I have been proud to stand with Burma's democracy movement throughout my career. I have been paying close attention to their plight this past year. And I am looking forward to hearing soon from the Biden administration about their efforts to help. What sanctions will the administration apply to ratchet up the pressure? What additional support will they try to provide to the true representatives of the people of Burma? What will they do to ensure that restoration of democracy in Burma is a top priority for the upcoming ASEAN Summit?

The leaders and supporters of this brutal coup must be held accountable.

VIOLENT CRIME

Madam President, on another matter, last week in my hometown of Louisville, I sat down with law enforcement officials and local leaders to discuss our skyrocketing rate of violent crime.

The participants came from a wide variety of backgrounds, but everybody agreed murders, shootings, robberies, carjackings, and overdoses are simply out of control. Louisville recorded 188 homicides in 2021, an alltime record. Twenty-four of the victims were children.

Just recently an anti-gun, anti-police activist made national headlines when he tried to assassinate a Jewish Democratic Louisville mayoral candidate.

Jefferson County saw more than 500 drug overdose deaths last year, hundreds more than in years before the pandemic. These problems are literally overwhelming the city's coroners.

One expert I met with said that violent crime has stolen more years of potential life from Louisville than the pandemic. Carjackings are up over 200 percent in the last 2 years. We now average more than one carjacking every 48 hours. Folks on the ground say they are also seeing nonfatal shootings and gang activity increasing.

This crime spree is coming from the tiny minority of Louisville residents. One half of 1 percent of the population manages to commit an outright majority of all the city's violent crime. That is possible in large part because many are let out back on the street within days of their arrests.

Of course, this isn't just a Louisville problem. We have seen violent crime soar nationwide since the far left's national anti-police and anti-law enforcement campaign that began back in 2020. Cities everywhere are under siege. Here in Washington, in broad daylight just yesterday, there was literally an armed robbery right outside the headquarters of the FBI.

Polls show 69 percent of Louisville residents oppose—oppose—the ''defund the police'' movement and 66 percent want more police in their neighborhoods. But many Democrats are still unwilling to openly call for law and order in our streets. As a result, police officials say their officers feel under siege. They are worried politicians will not have their back.

Another huge factor is President Biden's failure to secure our borders. I was told at last week's roundtable that every bit of deadly heroin and fentanyl in our city streets now comes across our southern border. As long as this administration neglects to enforce our laws, every State becomes a border State.

We need to secure the border and stop narcotics flooding our neighborhoods. We need officials at all levels to back the blue, crack down on crime, and re-establish law and order.

But the Biden administration gives us just the opposite. They nominated and confirmed a Supreme Court Justice who argued that COVID justified early release for every single prisoner in Washington, DC. Just yesterday, the President issued a giant catalog of pardons and commutations, cutting sentences after sentence after sentence, particularly for convicted drug criminals. They never miss an opportunity to send the wrong signal. And until Federal, State, and local Democrats get with the program, innocent people in Louisville and across the country will continue to suffer.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID HAUCK

Madam President, now one final matter, the institution of the U.S. Congress relies on a whole army of diligent and dedicated people who work tirelessly behind the scenes.

Today, it is my pleasure to turn the spotlight on one such public servant who is retiring after a sterling career. David Hauck's time on Capitol Hill started here on the Senate side more than 30 years ago. He served as an elevator operator while he finished graduate school.

Dave thrived and impressed everybody. Before long, he was named the founding director of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services. This is a small team whose work often goes unheralded, but goes right to the heart of our duties to the American people.

The OCAS ensures the Capitol Complex is an accessible, welcoming place for everyone, including Americans with different abilities or disabilities.

Obviously, there is a physical component to this. Dave has worked with the architects to honor our historic buildings, while at the same time making them accessible—ramps, elevators, wheelchair options, the new lift here on the Senate floor.

Dave has tackled everything from big infrastructure questions to the smallest details. Before any big event like a joint address or inauguration or just on a normal workday, you could run into Dave walking rounds across the entire campus searching for obstacles that less keen eyes might have missed.

But physical accessibility is just one part of what Dave and his team do. The OCAS also provides crucial services to supply American Sign Language interpreters for our meetings. They translate letters into Braille. They will consult with offices to ensure an intern or staffer has the tools they need.

It is a vital team. And for decades, their quarterback has been famous for his cheerfulness and humor, his dedication, and the thousand ways he has gone above and beyond the call of duty. Dave has spent decades in the business of unlocking opportunities—the opportunity to visit here, to meet with your Senator or your Congressman, take a job here. His excellence and dedication have unlocked door after door after door.

Dave, the Senate congratulates you on your well-earned retirement. Thank you for your devoted work to keep our government by the people and for the people.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Ohio.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent—I appreciate Senator COTTON joining me on the floor and his work with Senator MCCONNELL on this.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate consider the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 660, 661, 663, 739, 740, 741, 742, 804, 805, and 859; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc without intervening action or debate; the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Reserving the right to object, I want to say a few words about this matter.

Two months ago, I sent a letter to the Attorney General demanding answers why the Department of Justice was hanging out to dry four deputy U.S. marshals who had bravely defended the Portland courthouse against leftwing street militias in the summer of 2020. Those marshals are now facing civil litigation, but the Department is refusing to defend them in court, putting them at risk of bankruptcy, and perhaps most alarming of all, it won't even tell them why.

Now, the Department still hasn't provided definitive answers; and after I raised this alarm, they took another step and put the marshals on limited duty, telling them that after 20 months of active unrestricted duty they are now under investigation for the events in Portland. That is despite the fact that they received an award for their actions in Portland, received outstanding and excellent performance evaluations for 2020, and were, again, deployed to some of the most dangerous and high-risk missions that our law enforcement officers can undertake.

Call me crazy, but I have to say this seems like a case of potential retaliation. But it does, in a way, give the marshals the information we were seeking to help them understand their status. I also understand that at least one marshal has filed a complaint for retaliation against Vanita Gupta, the Assistant Attorney General.

The facts will come out one way or another. My message to the Department of Justice today is this: You will be held accountable for your actions against these law enforcement officers if they are inappropriate or even unlawful. If not this year, it will happen next year because I also want to add that yesterday, I and several of my colleagues, including the Judiciary Committee's ranking member Senator GRASSLEY and the former Judiciary Committee chairman, Senator GRAHAM, sent a letter to the Department about this investigation. We intend to get to the bottom of it, and we are committed to an oversight investigation in the 118th Congress if one doesn't occur in this Congress.

I have also spoken to our Republican colleagues on the House Judiciary Committee who have today issued a request to the Department of Justice to preserve documents in this matter.

Now that I am confident the Department will receive the oversight that it deserves in this matter, I will no longer object to these nominees. Therefore, given these developments in this matter, I will withdraw my objection to the confirmation of today's nominees.

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

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the following nominations en bloc: Ryan K. Buchanan, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia for the term of four years; Jason M. Frierson, of Nevada, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nevada for the term of four years; Mark A. Totten, of Michigan, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Michigan for the term of four years; Marisa T. Darden, of Ohio, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio for the term of four years; Delia L. Smith, of the Virgin Islands, to be United States Attorney for the District of the Virgin Islands for the term of four years; Eddie M. Frizell, of Minnesota, to be United States Marshal for the District of Minnesota for the term of four years; LaDon A. Reynolds, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Illinois for the term of four years; Trina A. Higgins, of Utah, to be United States Attorney for the District of Utah for the term of four years; Jane E. Young, of New Hampshire, to be United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire for the term of four years; and Vanessa Roberts Avery, of Connecticut, to be United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut for the term of four years?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Ohio.

NOMINATION OF MARISA T. DARDEN

Mr. BROWN. I thank Senator COTTON for working together on this. These nominations are very important to our States. I heard Senator MCCONNELL earlier talking about crime on the streets, and getting these people in place is really important. It has been 473 days since the 6 million people in the Northern District of Ohio last had a permanent U.S. attorney.

The pandemic is causing an alarming rise in violent crime, especially gun crimes. The Northern District is no exception. The U.S. Attorney's Office has experienced its highest caseload in 30 years by filing a record 846 indictments in 2021. Even before the pandemic, the district had a staggering caseload. Last year, there were 170 homicides in the city I live in, the city of Cleveland—another 30-year record—not to mention the surge in carjackings. Filling this important law enforcement position to keep our community safe is essential.

I hear from police officers in desperate need of help. They need more resources, whether it is bulletproof vests to support local law enforcement, operations training to engage with those they serve, or getting U.S. marshals and U.S. attorneys on the job. Today, with Senator COTTON, we are able to do that.

We have an extremely qualified nominee ready and eager to serve. Marisa Darden is a seasoned prosecutor with extensive experience as the lead attorney in both criminal and civil cases. No one has any objections to her. Nobody has any doubt about her accomplishments and capacity to excel in this job. She was assistant U.S. attorney in the Northern District and was recognized for her work on several complex legal cases. She received the National High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Award for Outstanding Opioid Investigative Effort. She received the Award for Outstanding Investigative Effort—a different one—in 2019. She has significant management experience and a record of strong leadership.

Federal Judge Benita Pearson said:

> You can be assured Ms. Darden will fiercely enforce the law while treating all—attorneys, staff, the accused, and the community—with respect and appropriate sensitivity.

Former Acting U.S. Attorney Justin Herdman, a Republican—the last confirmed U.S. attorney in the Northern District—described her as an attorney ''of outstanding ability and unquestioned integrity.''

First Assistant Federal Public Defender Jacqueline Johnson wrote her first recommendation for a U.S. attorney in 38 years of practice—imagine that. She said that she ''possesses the intellect, vision, temperament, and judgment needed to lead [this] office.''

DEA Special Agent in Charge Keith Martin echoed those comments, saying that ''she is one of the best he has encountered.''

It is because of these qualifications that Senator PORTMAN has joined me in supporting Ms. Darden's nomination.

Her confirmation would be historic, making her the first African-American woman to serve as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Ohio.

Today, we come together to get qualified and talented law enforcement professionals on the job. I thank Senator COTTON for his cooperation on this, and I thank the Presiding Officer, Senator BALDWIN, for her work.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to complete my remarks before the scheduled vote at 3:30.

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

ULYSSES S. GRANT

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, 200 years ago today, one of our Nation's greatest heroes was born. Ulysses S. Grant rose from humble beginnings to stand next to Lincoln and Washington as one of America's indispensable men. This great defender of America won our bloodiest war, crushed the darkest forces of disunion, bandaged our deepest national wounds, and bridged the greatest political divides. He was an unshakable pillar of strength upon which this Nation's future rested time and again.

Virtually no one foresaw Grant's rise to greatness before the Civil War. Although he had graduated from West Point and distinguished himself as a soldier in the Mexican-American War, he had later stumbled from one failure to another in business.

In 1861, Grant was a man bent by humiliation and ridicule but unbroken.

After the Confederates attacked Fort Sumter, Grant rose from his knees as destiny called, he redonned his uniform, and he marched into the history books.

For the first 3 years of the Civil War, Grant fought on the western front, winning several of the Union's early victories while commanders in the East dithered. After Grant's first great victory, his Confederate counterpart sued for peace and asked what terms he would give them. Grant firmly responded that he would accept ''no terms except an unconditional and immediate surrender.'' This earned him the nickname ''Unconditional Surrender'' Grant and resulted in the largest capture of enemy troops in the history of the Western Hemisphere up to that time.

Grant waged a relentless form of warfare. He knew that, in his words, ''the art of war is simple enough. Find out where your enemy is. Get at him as soon as you can. Strike him as hard as you can and as often as you can, and keep moving on.''

Grant's warrior spirit famously moved President Lincoln to declare ''I can't spare this man—he fights.'' When Grant's enemies spread the rumor that he was an alcoholic and should be dismissed, Lincoln wryly responded that if he could find out what brand of whiskey Grant drank, he would send a barrel of it to all the other commanders.

Grant's famous determination and grit were on full display during the brutal Battle of Shiloh, one of the bloodiest episodes of the Civil War. In the first day of fighting, Grant's army was mauled by Confederate forces under the command of Albert Sidney Johnston, the Confederacy's most competent general at the time.

William Tecumseh Sherman approached Grant that rainy night beneath a great oak tree and he said, ''Well, Grant, we have had the devil's own day, haven't we?''

Grant replied, between puffs of his ubiquitous cigar, ''Yes. Lick em tomorrow though.'' He made good on this promise, threw back the Confederate forces, and won the carnage-filled battle.

Sidney Johnston was killed in the fighting, and Confederate President Jefferson Davis later wrote that ''it was the turning point of our fate.''

This story remains so legendary in the Army today that it was commonplace for young officers in the Iraq war to conclude a hard day by borrowing from Grant: ''Lick em tomorrow.''

Grant continued his brilliant streak of victories, and on July 4, 1863—the 87th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence—he seized the fortress city of Vicksburg on the Mississippi, splitting the Confederacy in two and securing the Union's control of that mighty river. This was perhaps the greatest strategic victory of the war, and combined with the victory at Gettysburg the previous day, Grant's seizure of Vicksburg put the Union on the path to victory.

Soon after Grant's decisive victory in the Battle of Chattanooga a few months later and capture of the supposedly impregnable heights of Missionary Ridge, Lincoln promoted him to the rank of lieutenant general—a position that no one had held since George Washington. A few days later, Lincoln also named him commander of Union forces.

In his new command, Grant quickly turned eastward and confronted Robert E. Lee, a skilled tactician who had run circles around the Army of the Potomac for 2 years. Lee had spooked Union commanders for so long with his audacious battle plans but not Grant. He said:

> I am heartily tired of hearing about what Lee is going to do. Some of you always seem to think he is suddenly going to turn a double somersault and land in our rear and on both our flanks at the same time. Go back to your command, and try to think what we are going to do ourselves, instead of what Lee is going to do.

What Grant did was pursue Lee's army ruthlessly. As he marched into the Confederacy, he told a reporter:

> If you see the President, tell him from me that whatever happens, there will be no turning back.''

In the weeks and months that followed, Grant attacked Lee's army again and again. Whether he won or not, Grant continued to advance deeper into the Confederacy. Grant's army fought in the burning forests of the wilderness and in the muddy trenches of Petersburg, experiencing extraordinary hardship but never allowing Lee to regroup or reinvigorate his shrinking army. Less than a year after Grant began his overland campaign, the Union forces finally took the rebel capital of Richmond and broke the back of Confederate resistance.

But U.S. Grant wasn't a great leader simply because he won the war; he was also great because he never lost sight of the first goal of the war: to reunite our shattered Republic and restore what Lincoln had called the ''bonds of affection'' and the ''mystic chords of memory'' between Americans, North and South.

Instead of humiliating Lee at Appomattox Court House, Grant offered him generous and honorable terms. Uncompromising in war, Grant was magnanimous in peace. He allowed Confederate officers to keep their sidearms and horses, did not demand Lee's sword, and promised not to prosecute rebels who laid down their arms. As Lee departed the courthouse, Grant and his staff took off their hats in respect—a small act for the victors but an extraordinary gesture to the defeated Confederates.

Grant remained in the Army after Appomattox and continued to be a force for reconciliation and union as we stitched the stars back on Old Glory. He didn't allow vengeance or anger to overcome prudence and wisdom. He even defended his former antagonist Robert E. Lee when President Andrew Johnson tried to renege on the terms of Grant's surrender agreement. When Johnson asked Grant ''When can these men be tried?'' Grant replied ''Never, not unless they break their parole.'' He went so far as to tell his staff that ''I will not stay in the Army if they break the pledges that I made.'' To Grant, his word was more important than any office. Thanks to his principled stand, Johnson backed down, and our Nation avoided cycles of fruitless recrimination. At the same time, Grant also opposed Johnson's attempts to weaken Reconstruction and leave newly freed slaves exposed to inhumane treatment by vengeful former masters. Grant wanted neither excessive punishment nor excessive lenience; he wanted justice.

Never a politician, Grant nevertheless acquiesced to popular demand and Republican entreaties to run for President in 1868 on the simple platform ''Let us have peace.'' Although his administration was imperfect, he fought to make good on his promise. He continued his work to bring the South back into the Union, restoring the rights of citizenship to over 150,000 former rebels and bringing Robert E. Lee to the White House as a symbol of reconciliation.

Grant was also one of the greatest civil rights Presidents in our Nation's history, protecting freed slaves with laws and, when necessary, with force. When the first Ku Klux Klan terrorized the South, Grant ordered and empowered the Department of Justice and the Army to destroy it, and it was destroyed.

Grant also healed the wounds that the Civil War had inflicted on our relationship with other nations. He settled a spiraling diplomatic crisis with Great Britain, provoked by Britain's decision to allow Confederate warships to be built in its ports, which went on to sink over 150 Union ships. After years of negotiation, the United States and Great Britain signed the Treaty of Washington, in which Great Britain formally apologized for its support of the Confederacy. The treaty further established an independent commission to assess damages inflicted on American commerce, which in turn ordered the British to pay our country over $15 million in damages. Grant also worked to settle other outstanding concerns in the treaty, paving the path to strong relations with Great Britain in the future.

After his Presidency, Grant sadly was conned in business ventures and fell deeply into debt. But even as he lay dying of cancer, he resolved to provide for his family. A week before his death, he completed his memoirs, a monumental literary achievement that continues to rank among the greatest ever written by any statesman. He also saved his family from debt, demonstrating one last time his indomitable will.

Grant's funeral procession was the largest public demonstration in American history up to that point, with an

estimated 1½ million Americans in attendance.

Frederick Douglass described Grant as ''a man too broad for prejudice, too humane to despise the humblest, too great to be small at any point.'' Douglass saw in Grant ''a protector'' to freed Blacks, ''a friend'' to Indians, ''a brother'' to vanquished foes, and ''a savior'' for our imperiled Nation.

Yet progressive historians, a partisan press, and political enemies tarnished his record from the beginning. They have maligned him as a drunk and a butcher and a bumbling western rube who was ill-suited to politics and probably corrupt at that. This is an ahistorical slander against a great American.

As a deeply honest man and a Washington outsider, Grant perhaps wasn't always astute in spotting the unscrupulous swindlers and grifters attracted to our capital then as now. As President, he trusted some who didn't deserve that trust. His critics have exaggerated this guilelessness as a mortal sin, using dishonesty of others to besmirch the record of a good and great man. But Douglas was right; Grant was ''a savior'' of this Republic, and his few failings pale in comparison to his extraordinary achievements. And Grant's countrymen agreed, electing him twice by historic landslides.

I have four photos hanging on the wall of my Senate office, photos of great statesmen who saved the West in our hour of crisis: Abraham Lincoln, Winston Churchill, Ronald Reagan, and U.S. Grant. Throughout his life, U.S. Grant embodied a profound patriotism and selflessness that our Nation should remember with awe and reverence. On this bicentenary of his birth, we should restore him to the pantheon of American heroes, first among Americans.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT KRISTEN TRINDLE

Madam President, America's retreat from Afghanistan was a dark chapter for our country. We all remember the terrible scenes of desperate people clinging to the undersides of planes, of Taliban thugs beating innocent people, and most tragically of all, the 13 flag-draped remains of brave American service men and women killed by an ISIS suicide bomb. We will never forget those tragic events. They are grim reminders about the wages of weakness in Washington.

But for every act of cowardice in Washington, for every act of evil by our enemies, there was an act of even greater bravery by our troops. As they always do, America's heroes redeem even the most forlorn missions through extraordinary action. I would like to recognize one of our Nation's heroes today.

Navy LT Kristen Trindle is a member of my team in the Senate, where she does excellent work as my deputy national security adviser, after starting 6 years ago as my intern.

I know that Lieutenant Trindle would be too humble to sit beside me today if she had any idea about what I am going to say. But last year she took a leave of absence from her Senate duties to deploy with the Navy Reserves. That deployment took her to Kabul, the eye of the storm.

Lieutenant Trindle served as aide-de-camp to the general in charge of evacuation. Their mission: to save as many Americans and Afghan allies as possible from the advancing Taliban. Lieutenant Trindle immediately proved her worth. For weeks, she was everywhere at once, creating on-the-fly methods to screen evacuees, coordinating evacuation efforts with counterparts from four countries—even helping orphans in the chaos of the Kabul airport.

Those actions alone would have been worthy of commendation, but Lieutenant Trindle went above and beyond the call of duty. She volunteered to leave the relative safety of headquarters to lead a clandestine extraction team charged with finding and recovering Americans and Afghan allies. These dangerous rescue missions often required Lieutenant Trindle to go outside the wire to rescue highly vulnerable evacuees. She executed these missions in the dead of night, despite confirmed threats, within sight of the enemy.

Armed Taliban fighters were regularly within 100 yards of her position, beating and whipping civilians and menacing Americans. Lieutenant Trindle was unfazed by this danger. She carried on with her mission.

Lieutenant Trindle and her team rescued an astounding 961 Americans and Afghan allies. That group included young kids, pregnant women, injured civilians, as well as high-ranking generals, helicopter pilots, translators—even an Afghan Supreme Court justice. Suffice it to say, many of these evacuees would be in jail, or worse, if Lieutenant Trindle and her team hadn't been there.

At this time, my staff in Washington and Arkansas were working around the clock to evacuate American citizens. Two of those Americans, a married couple, had visited Afghanistan for a wedding right before being trapped behind enemy lines. They made a harrowing journey through Taliban checkpoints to reach Kabul, where they got stuck for days, unable to get to the airport.

They called my office's evacuation hotline for help, and we guided them as far as we could—to the chaos of the airport gate—while we updated the coordination cell just beyond the barricade. Suddenly, Lieutenant Trindle appeared. You can find the cell phone videos of that nighttime rescue online. The Americans were screaming for help. The Taliban fighters were savagely attacking civilians nearby. Then, over the roar and din of the crowd came the calm, resolute voice of Lieutenant Trindle, saying, ''She's with me.'' That couple is now home in America, in safety. Lieutenant Trindle was with them.

The Nation has awarded Lieutenant Trindle the Bronze Star for her actions during the evacuation. I had the great honor of presenting that medal to her earlier today.

As the official account of Lieutenant Trindle's actions note, she ''achieved 100% mission success in the face of unparalleled chaos.'' I would add that Lieutenant Trindle met ''unparalleled chaos'' with unparalleled courage. She deserves every bit this high honor, and she deserves her country's sincere gratitude.

Thank you very much, Kristen.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Ohio.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I thank both her and Senator COTTON for their service to our country.

ULYSSES S. GRANT

Madam President, I know the vote is imminent, but I wanted to also echo his words on Ulysses S. Grant.

History was not always kind to Grant, as a general and as a President. With the publication of Ron Chernow's book on Grant, many of us and many historians and many citizens changed their views on Grant as a very important general and a very important President, who did mostly the right things on race after the Civil War. And if he could have served another term or two, our country would look very different, in terms of race and in terms of the structure, in terms of the Black codes and Jim Crow and structural racism that we have seen in this country.

I just wanted to call to the Senate's attention, Senator BLUNT and I have a resolution—it may be hotlined later today, I believe—in commendation, thanking President Grant, honoring the life and legacy of U.S. Grant and the commemoration of his 200th birthday. So I also wanted to add those comments.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk (Alaina Skalski) 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.

CONFIRMATIONS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, we have just gotten some very good news, and that is that the Senate has confirmed the U.S. attorneys and U.S. marshals who had been blocked for quite a long time. It is a good thing that our Republican colleagues finally stopped their indefensible obstruction of qualified U.S. attorneys and marshals. These nominees are vital to keeping our communities safe and secure, and they should never have been held up for leverage in partisan games.

The nominees are vital to keeping our communities safe and secure. After months of waiting, communities in Georgia and Ohio and Nevada and Minnesota and New Hampshire and other States are finally getting the security

they need with confirmed U.S. attorneys. So I am very glad that this has finally, finally happened. It took too long, but now it is done.

I yield the floor.

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 executive 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. 800, Sherilyn Peace Garnett, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

Charles E. Schumer, Cory A. Booker, Tammy Baldwin, Patrick J. Leahy, Patty Murray, Tina Smith, Sheldon Whitehouse, John W. Hickenlooper, Gary C. Peters, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jeanne Shaheen, Jon Tester, Richard J. Durbin, Catherine Cortez Masto, Mazie K. Hirono, Amy Klobuchar, Maria Cantwell.

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 Sherilyn Peace Garnett, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 64, nays 34, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 138 Ex.]

YEAS—64

Baldwin	Hassan	Romney
Bennet	Heinrich	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rounds
Booker	Hirono	Sanders
Brown	Kaine	Schatz
Burr	Kelly	Schumer
Cantwell	King	Shaheen
Capito	Klobuchar	Sinema
Cardin	Leahy	Smith
Carper	Luján	Stabenow
Casey	Manchin	Tester
Collins	Markey	Tillis
Coons	McConnell	Toomey
Cornyn	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Ernst	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Padilla	Wicker
Gillibrand	Peters	Young
Graham	Portman	
Grassley	Reed	

NAYS—34

Barrasso	Daines	Lee
Blackburn	Fischer	Lummis
Blunt	Hagerty	Marshall
Boozman	Hawley	Moran
Braun	Hoeven	Paul
Cassidy	Hyde-Smith	Risch
Cotton	Inhofe	Rubio
Cramer	Johnson	Sasse
Crapo	Kennedy	
Cruz	Lankford	
Scott (FL)	Shelby	Thune
Scott (SC)	Sullivan	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—2

Murphy	Wyden

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). On this vote, the yeas are 64, the nays 34.

The motion is agreed to.

The Senator from Wyoming.

ENERGY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to talk about the need for more American energy.

Since his first day in office, Joe Biden has been on a war—an all-out war—against American energy.

In his very first week in office, he stopped all new leases of oil and gas on public lands. That was completely illegal for the President to do that. A few months later, a Federal court told the President that what he had done was illegal.

The law states that the American people may explore for energy on Federal lands, and the law calls for ways that it can be done. So here we are now, 15 months into the Biden administration, and, finally, Joe Biden has grudgingly agreed to follow the law. He is going to sell a bare minimum of leases to obey the court order.

So how much is a bare minimum? Well, for the entire State of Utah—my neighboring State—they are only offering one single parcel to the entire State. And at the same time, Joe Biden is raising the cost of American energy production to the point that he is raising Federal royalty rates on the energy produced on that Federal land by 50 percent.

When we produce less American energy, the American people end up paying more for the energy they use. This is Joe Biden's economy in a nutshell, the economy that has given us the highest cost inflation in 40 years.

In the last hundred years, no President has ever raised these royalty fees for producing American energy until Joe Biden. It just shows that when it comes to energy, Joe Biden is further to the left of any previous American President.

So who is going to pay for these higher fees on Joe Biden's attack on American energy? People understand it. They know that they are going to be the ones who are going to have to pay for it, and often it is the people who can least afford it in our home States and across the country.

These higher costs for American energy—thanks to Joe Biden—are going to be paid for by working families, people who are already struggling to keep up and falling further behind in Joe Biden's economy. Producing less, raising costs—it is the perfect recipe for more inflation.

As I was coming down to the floor, I walked by a TV screen. The bottom screen shot said: ''Joe Biden's approval rating hits an alltime low.'' It seems to be happening all the time, week after week, month after month, continuing to fall in the polls because the American people are distressed and in pain over what this President and what the Democrats in the House and the Senate are doing to the people of this great country. Doing the bare minimum, this President may satisfy the courts, but it is not enough to satisfy or save struggling families.

To stop this inflation nightmare, we need a long-term commitment to producing more American energy. Energy companies aren't going to invest if they think—and Joe Biden tells them and threatens them—that he wants to shut them down tomorrow. That is exactly, though, what he continues to talk about doing.

So just last week, after the President gave a speech and said: Well, we need to at least do these leases, his climate czar, Gina McCarthy—I guess she must really be the one who is running the show down there in the White House. This is after the President of the United States made a speech about what he says we are going to do, you know. ''Pay no attention,'' she says, ''to the President.'' She said he is ''absolutely committed to not moving forward with additional drilling on public lands.'' Who is calling the shots? She said: ''We had no choice but to follow the court ruling.''

Then they asked the Press Secretary. She said last week: ''We are going to continue to fight this court [ruling]''—continue to fight—''that is forcing our hand.''

They are going to continue to fight the American people all the way to the ballot box in November, where the American people say, we have had enough of this stuff.

Then there is Joe Biden's climate czar, John Kerry, former Member of this body, former Secretary of State. Here is just a couple of things that he has had to say recently. He said, ''We have to put the [natural gas] industry on notice.'' He said, ''You've got [no more than] six years, eight years, no more than 10 years,'' he said. He said, ''by 2030 in the United States, we will not have coal plants.'' He says, ''We will have to be phasing out coal plants five times faster'' than we are doing now.

These are people who are not committed to affordable energy. These are people who are not committed to the fight against inflation. These are people who are not committed to the American people and the American families who go to work every day, try to put food on the table, try to get their kids to school. Oh, no.

And what does John Kerry, then—who does he have to praise? Well, he praised the energy policy of the State of California. Which State has the highest energy cost in America? California. That is the Biden administration telling the American people, we want you to be like California. We want you to pay even more than you are paying now.

Joe Biden and the environmental extremist who the President obeys are

doing everything they can to undermine investment in American energy. It is time for this White House to stop this war on American energy.

The White House cannot get by—this country cannot get by when the White House does the bare minimum. This White House should be doing everything that we can to produce more American energy, bring down the costs for American families.

Joe Biden needs to open up public lands for energy production. The Federal lands are the property of the American people. We have the resources. We have it in our country. We have it in the ground right now. This is a solution to the inflation crisis that is hitting families all across the country.

There is no excuse for this administration to continue to block the American people from developing the resources that we have in order to bring down the costs, improve their lives.

Joe Biden needs to approve the 4,600 drilling permit applications he currently has sitting on his desk. He needs to speed up the process for pipeline permits, not crush them. And he needs to stop attacking American energy workers. These workers, these are the people who keep the lights on in this country. These people are those who keep the economy running. These hard workers deserve our support. They deserve our gratitude. They don't deserve the way they are being treated by this administration and this President. These are the people who can help us get out of this crisis that Joe Biden has created.

The American people are fed up with Joe Biden making excuses and dragging his feet. It is what I saw while walking here to the Senate floor on the television screen today: ''Joe Biden's approval rating hits an alltime low.''

The American people want and demand real solutions. What they deserve is more American energy. And unless this administration wakes up and delivers that, those alltime low approval ratings of this President are going to get even worse.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Florida.

FEDERAL RESERVE

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, the Senate is considering several of President Biden's picks to sit on the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve. I have already voted against two of these nominees. I believe they all should be voted down by the Senate.

Under its current leadership, the Fed has lost the trust of the American people and failed to uphold its role as an independent body.

I have been clear about my disapproval of the Fed's policies, especially its massive and its still-growing balance sheet. Both now and throughout recent history, the Federal Reserve has been behind the curve and far too late in taking action to keep America's economy stable.

Its policies to sustain and grow such a massive disproportionate growing balance sheet are a perfect example of its failure to properly manage the economic needs of our Nation.

For years, I have asked—I have urged—Chair Powell and members of the Federal Open Market Committee to reduce the Fed's unprecedented balance sheet. Nothing has changed. Month after month, we have watched the Fed continue to purchase billions in treasuries and mortgage-backed securities. There is still no plan to wind down and right size the Fed's balance sheet, which today, sits at nearly 40 percent of GDP.

Before the pandemic in 2019, the Fed's balance sheet assets totaled just under $4 trillion. Today, it is more than double to nearly $9 trillion dollars. That is more than 10 times the assets the Fed held in 2007, when the balance sheet was under $1 trillion.

The Federal Reserve's massive balance sheet is becoming a massive problem. When the Fed buys up treasuries and mortgage-backed securities and holds them like this, it is distorting the credit markets and allocation of capital, ultimately hurting our poorest families and Americans on fixed incomes.

And look at how the Fed's policies have made homeownership unattainable for young people. These policies have helped drive up home prices, putting the purchase of a home further out of reach for young families across our Nation.

Now, I will admit that the COVID–19 pandemic presented our Nation with historic challenges, but the Federal Reserve's overreaction and then refusal to react to changing economic circumstances over the last year is unacceptable. The Fed's mismanagement and their management failures have been especially disastrous during the Biden administration. Instead of fighting for the interests of American families, he has chosen to appease the administration hellbent on reckless, inflation-fueling spending.

It is clear to me that the raging inflation crisis we are seeing across America is the fault of Joe Biden and Joe Biden alone. But the Fed's weak appeasement has helped grease the wheels in advancing Biden's reckless spending agenda.

This isn't just my opinion. The Fed knows this is true. Just weeks ago, the San Francisco Fed wrote that the spending packages Biden pushed to allegedly counteract the effects of the pandemic actually fueled inflation.

I have written letters, held meetings, and had phone calls with Chair Powell and members of the Federal Open Market Committee to express my concerns and demand action to shrink the balance sheet. Again, Chair Powell and the Federal Reserve have chosen to do nothing.

Not one member of the Board of Governors has been able to explain to me why the balance sheet is so big and what size it should be. At every turn, when the Fed could have been fighting for American families by mitigating the long-term risks of its massive balance sheet and telling the truth about the terrible consequences of reckless government spending, it, instead, chose to appease Joe Biden, Wall Street, and the Democrats running Washington, all at the expense of American families. How does Biden reward the Fed for playing nice with him? By turning Chair Powell into his inflation scapegoat.

Earlier today, in the Senate Commerce Committee, after I asked the administration when inflation would come back down, Secretary Raimondo deflected and blamed Chair Powell and the Fed.

But here is my question: If the Biden administration really believes the Fed bears responsibility for inflation, why are they renominating these officials? Why aren't they putting people in who actually can solve the problem? It makes no sense, but that is the endless blame game the Biden administration likes to play.

Americans are sick of weak policy in Washington. It is time for the Federal Reserve to start fighting for real Americans, not Washington politicians. It is clear that the Fed needs new independent and courageous leadership to truly address our Nation's economic problems. Weakness in Fed leadership has produced unsustainable monetary policy that threatens the long-term economic health of our country. It is the very thing I have been warning about for months.

It is clear that the current leadership of the Fed just doesn't care. They don't deserve to hold these seats. They have lost the trust of the American people, and they should be replaced with individuals who will actually stand up for American families and protect the American economy.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

TITLE X

Ms. WARREN. Mr. President, for more than 50 years, the Title X Family Planning Program has provided birth control, cancer screenings, HIV tests, and other essential healthcare services to millions of Americans.

Now, this program primarily serves patients who already face many barriers to accessing healthcare. Six in ten women who rely on the program for contraception say that a title X provider is the only healthcare provider they see all year. Yet Republican politicians, like Senator RUBIO, are now using this crucial program, which has historically enjoyed bipartisan support, for political theater.

This vote is only one part of a broad and sustained assault by Republican politicians on Americans' healthcare, including patients' rights to make decisions about their own bodies. Through repeated efforts to limit birth

control access, to defund Planned Parenthood, and to restrict abortions, Republicans are chipping away at Americans' health, at Americans' safety, and at Americans' economic independence.

In 2018, the Title X Program served nearly 4 million people annually, but in 2019, the Trump administration issued a radical gag rule that decimated the title X provider network, causing more than 1,000 healthcare centers to leave the program and severely restricting access to basic primary and preventive healthcare services. The COVID–19 pandemic only made access to these services even more difficult, disproportionately harming low-income communities and people of color.

By 2020, with the combined effects of the Trump administration's awful policy and the COVID–19 pandemic, the program was only able to serve 1.5 million people—less than half the number of people it had served in 2018. In Massachusetts, by January 2021, only one title X grantee remained, and six States had no title X providers at all even though the need had grown.

Now, fortunately, last October, the Biden-Harris administration reversed Trump's radical assault on the Title X Program. That was an important victory which prioritized patients' needs, patients' health equity, and access to a broad range of services provided by title X providers.

Now, however, Senator RUBIO is once again trying to turn back the clock on healthcare and reproductive rights in what is just the latest attempt to deny people access to critical healthcare. If enacted, Senator RUBIO's resolution would harm millions of Americans, people who rely on title X providers like Planned Parenthood, local health departments, and community health centers for family planning and sexual health services.

Healthcare is a basic human right. Everyone deserves access to affordable family planning and sexual health services, from birth control to STI treatments, to pregnancy tests, no matter their ZIP Code, no matter their income. People of color, people living in rural areas, people living in medically underserved areas, and people with low incomes already face immense disparities in healthcare access and in health outcomes. If we return to this radical Trump-era policy and cut back on basic healthcare services, the effects will disproportionately harm communities of color, uninsured people, and low-income people, exacerbating existing health disparities.

This vote couldn't come at a worse time. The United States is facing surging rates of sexually transmitted infections. On top of that, Americans are facing rampant attacks on abortion and reproductive rights all across this country. Abortion has been virtually inaccessible to millions of Texans for several months now.

Even though the majority of Americans—the majority of Americans—agree that Roe v. Wade should remain the law of the land, the Supreme Court is poised to overturn the decision in just 2 months. Meanwhile, Republican-controlled State legislatures, emboldened by our extremist Supreme Court, have passed over 500 anti-abortion bills this year alone. Just this month, three more States enacted clearly unconstitutional attacks on abortion, counting on an extremist Supreme Court to back them up later on.

That is why now is the time to strengthen and expand access to critical birth control and other essential healthcare services that the Title X Program provides. That means not just defending title X but increasing funding for the program so that HHS can rebuild the title X provider network and adequately fund the providers, many of whom have already been approved for grants but who haven't received a single dollar because there simply isn't enough funding to meet the need.

Let's be clear. This is not just about healthcare; it is yet another rightwing attempt to deny people—especially people of color, especially LGBTQ+ people, especially low-income people—the right to control their own futures. This is about economic justice. People who can't access basic reproductive and healthcare services cannot fully participate in our economy, and they have fewer economic opportunities going forward. An unplanned pregnancy can derail an education or the early steps of a career.

So, today, I am fighting to defend title X—a program founded in 1970 with bipartisan support. I am fighting to defend it from radical, rightwing attacks. Republican politicians may think that they will win by dividing Americans, but when it comes to the fight for reproductive rights, we will fight to ensure that every person gets the care they need.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

REMEMBERING ORRIN G. HATCH

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of an extraordinary man, a giant among Senators, and a dear friend: Senator Orrin Hatch. He was a man of vision and unparalleled legislative accomplishment.

As the longest serving Senator in Utah's history, his unwavering dedication to our State and country during four decades of public service will be remembered for generations to come. Few individuals have left such an indelible mark on the U.S. Senate. He did this through his legislation. He did it through the relationships he had with other Senators. He did it through bipartisanship. He did it through his relationship with Presidents of both parties.

Like his good friend Ted Kennedy, he was the lion of the Senate. Now, I know that there have been a number of Senators who take responsibility for accomplishing many things, but I don't think there has ever been a legislator who has gotten more done legislatively than Orrin Hatch. Our judiciary, the fundamentals of our economy, even our national character are more elevated and more secure thanks to his leadership, thanks to his undaunted capacity to plow ahead. Sponsoring and cosponsoring more legislation than any other Member at the time of his retirement, he used his time in this Chamber to work tirelessly to help people who sometimes were overlooked. He reached across the aisle to forge strong bipartisan relationships that allowed him to pass landmark legislation.

Orrin Hatch and Ted Kennedy were once signing a bill together, celebrating the same bill, and President Reagan turned to Orrin Hatch and said, ''How is it that you and Ted Kennedy are celebrating the same piece of legislation?'' Orrin turned back and looked at him and said, ''Well, it's very simple, Mr. President. It's very clear that one thing is obvious: One of us didn't read it.''

His sense of humor was well known in this Chamber and throughout our State. His friends often remarked that Orrin could have been a standup comic if he wanted to, but he had too many important things to do to take that job seriously.

He put friendship above politics. He called me in 1994. I was then running for a Senate seat against Ted Kennedy. It was kind of a tall task for a guy from Massachusetts to go up against Ted Kennedy, but I figured someone needed to do it and wanted to see if I couldn't get Ted Kennedy on the right track. But, at that time, Orrin Hatch and I hardly knew each other. We were just distant acquaintances. But he was a close friend of Ted Kennedy's, and he called me and said, ''Mitt, you know I am a Republican too. I am responsible for helping get a lot of Republicans elected, but I am not going to come campaign for you,'' and he said, ''because Ted Kennedy is just that good of a friend.'' Orrin put friendship above politics.

Now, in addition to his legislative accomplishments, Orrin Hatch played a pivotal role in several landmark confirmations while serving as one of the longest chairs of the Senate Judiciary Committee. His positive impact on the State of Utah and the Nation's Federal judiciary cannot be overstated.

When I was asked to run the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, I met with Orrin Hatch and said, ''I am going to need your help.'' He made it very clear that the success of the Olympics, coming, as they were going to do, to our State, would be a high priority for him and that he would do whatever was necessary to support our effort.

Then came the crisis of 9/11 in 2001. I knew that I couldn't invite the people of the world to come to Salt Lake City unless I was 100 percent confident that everything that could be done would be done to keep them safe. Without the

help of the Federal Government, there could be no secure provision for the Games and no certainty that we could be protected.

The morning after the attacks of 9/11, I happened to be in Washington, and I called Senator Hatch on the phone. He at the time was in his Senate office. I asked if we could get together at some point to talk about how we could move forward and provide the security funding that might be necessary to protect our Games. Without hesitation, he said, ''Come over to the office right now.''

I did so. When we got there, we sat down, and he said, ''What do you think you need?'' And I described the need for fencing and personnel to evaluate the security threats that might exist, a military air capacity to secure the skies over Salt Lake City during the Games.

He said: Well, what is the biggest challenge you will face?

I said: Well, Senator John McCain of Arizona has not been a fan of providing support for Olympic Games. He thinks that money has been misused in the past.

He said: Well, it wouldn't be misused now, given what has happened with 9/11. Let's go see John McCain right now.

He picked up the phone and called Senator McCain. Senator McCain said he would be happy to see me and his friend Orrin Hatch. We went over to Senator McCain's office and sat down. Orrin Hatch proceeded to describe how important it was that we host the games and that Senator Hatch get the support that he needed. And, in fact, Senator McCain made it very clear he would not stand in the way of doing anything we needed to secure the games in Salt Lake City.

I owe Orrin Hatch a great deal of credit for helping us to be able to host games in Salt Lake City successfully and to do so without security incident.

I think everyone knows that Orrin Hatch was a man of tremendous faith. He was an advocate to protect religious freedom, and legislation that he authored in this regard still stands in protecting the rights of people of faith in our country today. He dedicated his life to a commitment to Jesus Christ and to the principles of Christianity. He did so in my own faith by accepting callings in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving as both a missionary as a young man and later as a bishop of a congregation.

Orrin Hatch enjoyed life and appreciated all that it had to offer. You may know that he was a composer and has a number of songs and musical performances to his credit. He wrote poetry. He wrote jokes. When I was running for President, he sent me a whole page of jokes he wanted me to use. I must admit, I looked at them one by one. I didn't think they were that funny, but I read them to the people on the bus and they listened to them one by one and the more they listened, the funnier they got. By the time I was finished with the page, they were howling with laughter.

The man had an extraordinary capacity with music, with humor, with legislation, with friendships—really one of a kind.

He also was pretty good at self-deprecating jokes. He told me to lighten up a little bit and be a little more free with my language, so I decided to let ''heck'' and ''dang'' drop into my words from time to time.

His affinity for buffets and bacon were not to be forgotten as well. In his words, we should choose ''to live every day like [it was] Bacon Lovers Day.'' And I hope we will savor life as he did.

Orrin Hatch believed that the people you love and the friends you have are the real currency in life. I believe that deeply. He had a lot of friends, not just in this room but friends throughout these buildings, friends throughout our State.

I remember walking through the Capitol with Orrin Hatch and from time to time someone would come up to him and want to ask him a question or ask for help on some issue of theirs. And instead of doing what most of us do—which is putting our head down and rushing on and pointing out that we have important things to get to—he would stop and bend his very tall physique down to listen to what the person had to say and listen attentively and say he would do what he could to help. I have seen that time and time again with Orrin Hatch.

He always had time for the people he served, and he believed he served all the people of the United States of America. Not surprisingly, he had and still has a lot of friends.

Of course, when you think of people he loves, first on that list would be his wife Elaine and their family. They together raised 6 children and 23 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren. He and Elaine were married for more than six decades. She has been by him every step of his career and his political involvement in our country.

Ann and I send our deepest condolences to Elaine and the entire Hatch family. God be with you until we meet again, Orrin. I hope you feel I haven't let you down taking your place in this great Chamber.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HASSAN). The Senator from Oklahoma.

NATIONAL DEBT

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, about 6 years ago, I came to this floor and presented an idea: How do we get on top of our debt and deficit? Are we going to get on top of our debt and deficit?

Interestingly enough, for each of us and our own families, we can all tell a story about a season in our life that we really hit hard times. I have had several where the money was really tight and our family was very attentive to what we were spending—very—those moments when we would literally make sure that every time we went to the grocery store, we only spent this much because we knew we had an electric bill coming in; we knew we had our rent coming due.

My family has most definitely been there. My wife and I, when we were first married, we had a rule that we couldn't ever spend more than $25 without the other person knowing it because our fear was when we were first married that one of us would spend $30 and the other would spend $35 that day and we would blow up our bank account because we were living that close to the edge and just getting by while I was at school and we were just getting started. A lot of families have been that way.

You can tell how serious a family is about dealing with their debt by how seriously they take their expenses. There are some individuals that have massive debt that still keep running up their credit card. They keep buying more and more product. They still use their credit card and go get additional electronics and get extra stuff on it and max out this card and then I will max out another one, not with essentials, just with fun—not paying attention to the fact that someday that comes due.

When I started presenting the idea of the ''Federal Fumbles,'' my whole concept was simple: Where is it the Federal Government is dropping the ball; that we are not paying attention to the areas we need to be able to pay attention to in our spending? It is a well-known fact that we have trillions in debt. In fact, as a nation, we have now crossed $30 trillion in total debt—$30 trillion. It is interesting that the conversation doesn't seem to be serious. We don't seem to be in a dialogue about how we are going to actually bring our debt down. We are still spending on other things and still saying, not we are limited in what we can do; we seem to be adding more to the mix. It is not necessarily on essential things; it just seems to be on things.

The ''Federal Fumbles'' book that I released this week, put on our website, just details several different items. One is, where are we in our debt and how did we get here? But I also try to walk through some of our trust funds on this because I think it is important.

Where are we on Medicare trust funds? By the way, we are 4 years away from insolvency on Medicare—4 years. Where are we on Social Security? We are 12 years away from insolvency in Social Security—12. Where are we on the highway trust fund? We are well past insolvency on the highway trust fund, and we have been accelerating our borrowing to try to cover more and more. In fact, that was done even recently.

I laid out a set of ideas of how do you actually solve some of these things and how are we going to address it. But I also laid out some of my frustrations that said, at some point, this body is going to be serious about dealing with debt and deficit, but apparently we are not yet.

So I laid out some areas and just got a chance to be to be able to talk through some of those in the book. And I encourage folks to be able to look at it and, quite frankly, everyone is welcome to disagree with me on it.

For instance, we spent $2 billion—billion with a ''b.'' We spent $2 billion this last year not building the border wall. The contracts had already been let out. The steel was already purchased. The steel, in fact, is lying on the ground in the desert still today. Everyone was already hired, and there were literally individuals on the ground ready to do installation because the contract was there because career professionals at the Department of Homeland Security had made recommendations on certain areas of our southern border that desperately needed fencing. Those career professionals had worked with private contractors and had put a contract in place to be able to put fencing in those areas. And they were underway until the Biden administration stepped in on day 1 and stopped it all, though the contracts had already been let out. We spent $2 billion not building border fencing—$2 billion.

Now, I ask the simple question: What would it hurt to go ahead and finish those contracts out that career professionals had signed off on and that career security individuals from the Department of Homeland Security had said was desperately needed in those areas? What would it have hurt to finish those contracts out? Instead, we sent messaging that we are not going to build a fence and spend $2 billion not doing that.

What did we do instead? Well, we started doing robot dogs along the border instead. I wish I was kidding. These robot dogs would instead be hired to be able to help our border folks and Border Patrol and CBP to be able to help identify and carry things. So instead of border fencing, it is robot dogs that are now being contracted to be able to put in there.

What else did we actually deal with? Well, of the trillions of dollars of debt that we have, recently, we put $2.6 million into China to help pay for some of their health programs. Now, follow the irony of this. We actually borrow a trillion dollars from China to pay our bills. So we borrowed money from China to be able to then send money to China to help pay their medical expenses.

Does anyone else think this is a bad idea; that if we were serious about dealing with debt and deficit, we would start going line by line through all of this and to be able to identify that maybe this is not a good idea; that if we have $30 trillion in debt, maybe we need to find some areas to cut back on. We could cut back on that or maybe we could cut back on the grant that was given out to write about Russian screenwriters. We actually paid someone to do research on Russian screenwriters to be able to release this project out so people could study Russian directors and screenwriters.

Again, I am fine if anybody wants to be able to do that, but my concern is if we are going to do this, this should probably be a private project that we release out, not have a Federal Government project when we are dealing with $30 trillion in debt.

But what else did we do with our additional money while we have extra spending and time on this? How about lobster pot removal? We spent half a million dollars in a special earmark to do lobster pot removal.

Now, initially, this is actually listed in the bill as derelict lobster pots. Derelict lobster pots. That sounds really ominous, doesn't it? But my understanding is it is lobster traps that are just out there that someone abandoned at some point.

I would tell you, for those of us in Oklahoma, if you told me there is a lobster trap and there may be a lobster in it and you could keep the trap and the lobster if you wanted to go get it, we would go get it. But, instead, we are paying half a million dollars in Federal dollars to go pick up derelict lobster pots.

Now, again, I would say to you, in Oklahoma, when we have a derelict well in Oklahoma, an oil and gas well, our oil and gas companies all pool money together and put a little bit in to be able to go clean that site up. And, year by year, we are cleaning up abandoned well sites, because our companies actually kicked the money in to go clean up their own messes that are out there.

I don't understand how the State didn't do this or a city didn't do this or the industry didn't take it on. Now, I do have some frustration because there was some money set aside for parks as well. I am a big fan of parks. My kids go to the park. We are glad to be able to go to the park. I went to the park a lot. But there was a project for 2.3 million in Federal money to be able to renovate a pool, a swimming pool, in Rhode Island.

Now, I am not opposed to swimming pools, and I am not opposed to Rhode Island having swimming pools; I am just trying to figure out with Federal dollars, why the Federal government is paying to fix a swimming pool in Rhode Island. Shouldn't this be the State of Rhode Island—if it is a State park, shouldn't it be the State or the community or the city to be able to take this on? Cities in my State, if they have problems with their pool, the city pays to be able to fix the pool or the community pays to be able to do that, rather than the Federal taxpayers pay to do that. We have the same issue, actually, with a ski jump, that there was a State park, that it needed a renovation for a ski jump, and so instead of the State actually paying for their State park, people in my State are paying for our State park, and we are paying to fix the ski jump in this State park as well.

Why are we paying for both? Why don't the people of Oklahoma pay for our State parks and the people in other States pay for their State parks? Again, I have nothing in opposition to ski jumping, other than it seems like a particularly terrible thing for me to do, but if somebody wants to be able to do it and they want to pay for that, that is fine. Just, why should Oklahoma taxpayers do that?

As we were digging through the different pieces that were actually done, I would tell you it was painful the moment when we ran across the monkey opera. We spent Federal tax dollars on something called a ''monkey opera.''

Now, I am not sure why we spent Federal tax dollars on a monkey opera. I am not sure what a monkey opera sounds like. But I would tell you, I think I have listened to a monkey opera on people's at-hold music before when I have called certain companies, that I think the hold music they have was actually monkey opera. But I have to ask the hard question: Is this national defense? Is this educating our children? Is this healthcare?

With $30 trillion in debt, at some point, we as a Nation have to stop and say, ''OK, let's do what is essential and not what's not.''

Two weeks ago, a staff member called me and said she was in line at the grocery store, and the woman in front of her with her kids pulled out all the stuff in her basket and put it on the scanner area and said to the lady that was going to be the cashier, ''Hey, tell me when it gets to $150 because I can't spend anymore. That is all I have.''

And so the cashier kept ringing things up. She held things back that she thought were the nonessentials at the end because she knew, this is all I have, and though I would like to get more, I can't. It sent me two messages. One is, every family knows how to do this. Why we can't as a Federal government look at it and say, with $30 trillion, maybe the monkey opera is not one of our essentials, I don't know.

But the second thing it reminded me of is, every family is dealing with the real effects of inflation right now. It is very real for them. They are saying to the cashier at the grocery store, ''Tell me when it gets to this dollar amount, because that is all I have.''

When we continue to spend more and more and more as a Federal government, it drives inflation higher and higher. I am very aware there are a lot of folks in this room who are just trying to help. But we are causing real problems with inflation, with overspending as a nation. That has got to pull back, and we have got to get serious about what we are spending on, because this kind of stuff drives the American people crazy, when they are saying to the cashier, ''I could only do $150. Please tell me when it gets there, because everything else I can't do today.'' And we borrowed more money from China so we could do this.

We put out the Federal fumble book every year for one reason: I want to remind everybody in this body that debt

is still a problem. This is still an issue, wasteful spending, whether it is in the billions or whether it is in the thousands, is wasteful spending. And at the end of the day, we need to understand, the American people are counting on us to make hard decisions, and there are lots and lots of hard decisions. But currently as a body, we are not even discussing $30 trillion in debt. So I bring it to us again: We have $30 trillion in debt. Let's start working on this.

I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF SHERILYN PEACE GARNETT

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, today the Senate will vote on the nomination of Judge Sherilyn Peace Garnett to serve as a U.S. district court judge for the Central District of California.

Judge Garnett is an experienced jurist and a long-time public servant who will make an outstanding addition to the bench. During her 13 years as an assistant U.S. Attorney, she prosecuted hundreds of matters, including criminal street gang offenses, child exploitation, and threats made against government officials. In recognition of her accomplishments as a prosecutor, Judge Garnett received a number of awards from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the U.S. Postal Service.

Since 2014, Judge Garnett has served as a Los Angeles Superior Court judge, presiding over misdemeanor and felony proceedings. In 2016, she also served as an appellate State court judge, presiding over criminal, civil, and family law cases.

The American Bar Association has unanimously rated Judge Garnett as ''well qualified'' to be a district court judge. She also has the strong support of her home State Senators, Mrs. FEINSTEIN and Mr. PADILLA.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Judge Garnett's nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

CLOTURE MOTION WITHDRAWN

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the cloture motion with respect to the Gordon nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I yield back all time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time is yielded back.

VOTE ON GARNETT NOMINATION

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

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILIBRAND), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The result was announced—yeas 62, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 139 Ex.]

YEAS—62

Baldwin	Hassan	Reed
Bennet	Heinrich	Romney
Blumenthal	Hickenlooper	Rosen
Booker	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Kaine	Sanders
Burr	Kelly	Schatz
Cantwell	King	Schumer
Capito	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Luján	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Collins	Markey	Tester
Coons	McConnell	Tillis
Cornyn	Menendez	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Merkley	Warner
Duckworth	Murkowski	Warnock
Durbin	Murray	Warren
Ernst	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Padilla	Wicker
Graham	Peters	Young
Grassley	Portman	

NAYS—33

Barrasso	Hagerty	Moran
Blackburn	Hawley	Paul
Blunt	Hoeven	Risch
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Braun	Inhofe	Sasse
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cramer	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lankford	Shelby
Cruz	Lee	Sullivan
Daines	Lummis	Thune
Fischer	Marshall	Tuberville

NOT VOTING—5

Cotton	Murphy	Wyden
Gillibrand	Toomey	

The nomination was confirmed.

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

The Senator from Washington.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

The Senator from Florida.

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''—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, for too long, Americans' taxpayer dollars have been used as a backdoor way to help promote abortion as a family planning service. President Trump put a stop to this. Back in 2019, he barred the Federal Government from providing these funds, the funds through the title X Family Planning Program, from going to entities that refer or provide abortions, organizations such as the big business that is known as Planned Parenthood.

Now, understand, it didn't reduce title X funding. It didn't cut one penny of it. Instead, it directed it to organizations that do not perform and do not promote the taking of innocent life.

Last year, unfortunately, the Biden administration, as was to be expected, pulled the plug on this vital protection, and now we see taxpayer money flowing once again to these abortion providers and to their referrers. This has to stop, and that is why I have worked with Representative TONY GONZALES in the House to introduce the Congressional Review Act of title X to ensure that not one more taxpayer dollar is used to fund the abortion industry.

By reversing this administration's ruling, abortion clinics will once again be excluded from receiving this taxpayer money, and it would put more money toward improving and saving lives instead of ending them.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I want to be really clear about what this vote is actually about. This vote is about birth control. This is about lifesaving pelvic and breast exams to detect cancer early, and it is about STI testing and treatments. That is the basic reproductive healthcare that title X providers deliver to communities—especially to women with the tightest budgets.

Republicans are here tonight fighting to undermine healthcare. It is really that simple. And we are here fighting to protect it.

I fought long and hard against President Trump's disastrous gag rule. It was a rule that cut title X provider networks in half. It forced entire States, including my home State of Washington, out of the Title X Program. It forced doctors and nurses to withhold information from their patients on all the options they have, including abortion, and ultimately resulted in patients traveling farther, paying more, or going without care. In short, it made it harder for women to

get birth control and other critical reproductive healthcare, and that, to me, is unacceptable.

That is why I was really relieved when, after years of fighting back against Republicans' extreme agenda, President Biden acted quickly to reverse that dangerous gag rule, and we could finally start rebuilding the title X network and providing patients with critical reproductive healthcare.

And I know that patients and providers in my State were relieved too. I heard from them firsthand earlier this month about what this means for our communities. It means that patients in Washington State and across the country can get the birth control they need to plan a family on their own terms, breast and pelvic exams to detect cancer early, STI testing and treatment, and more.

But as has been so often the case, most Republicans were not listening because, tonight, they are leading a resolution to bring back the gag rule and deny women across the country access to services made possible by title X. We are talking about basic lifesaving healthcare like cancer screenings. We are talking about STI screenings, which, by the way, are especially important as cases, which are already underreported due to decreased screenings, have been spiking now.

We are talking about birth control that so many patients depend on to stay healthy, to treat health conditions, to plan their families, and control their own reproductive health.

Talking about these issues, it is just unthinkable to me that anyone would not support this program. What are Republicans here talking about? They are talking about once again taking this healthcare away from millions of patients, and tonight they are forcing a vote on it. And some extreme Republicans, by the way, are even talking about how they think Griswold v. Connecticut—that is the U.S. Supreme Court case that first struck down a ban on birth control—might have been wrongly decided. This is chilling.

The message Republicans are sending tonight with this vote—loud and clear—is that they won't just stop at banning abortion with cruel laws like the ones we have seen in Texas and Oklahoma and across the border from Washington State in Idaho; they are determined to restrict access to all kinds of reproductive healthcare, from abortion to birth control, to STI testing and treatment.

Well, we should not stand for this. We can't just let Republicans rip away healthcare again from women and families. Patients, providers, and families across my State and across the country have spoken out loud and clear on this, and I am going to make sure that they are heard here in Washington, DC.

I will work hard to make sure we protect title X from these attacks, and I am going to make sure everyone who supports this resolution owns what this vote means and whom they are voting against: women who want birth control—and that is, by the way, two-thirds of women in this country; patients who are seeking STI screenings; patients who need a cancer screening; people who are just looking for affordable healthcare and information from providers that they trust because—you know what—women are not going to forget this, which party is fighting to protect birth control and which party is doing everything they can to rip your birth control away.

I urge every single one of my colleagues to join with me in voting against this resolution.

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 355, S.J. Res 41.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to 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''.

VOTE ON MOTION

Mr. RUBIO. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

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

[Rollcall Vote No. 140 Leg.]

YEAS—49

Barrasso	Grassley	Risch
Blackburn	Hagerty	Romney
Blunt	Hawley	Rounds
Boozman	Hoeven	Rubio
Braun	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Burr	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Capito	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Shelby
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tillis
Crapo	Manchin	Toomey
Cruz	Marshall	Tuberville
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Ernst	Moran	Young
Fischer	Paul	
Graham	Portman	

NAYS—49

Baldwin	Durbin	Markey
Bennet	Feinstein	Menendez
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Merkley
Booker	Hassan	Murkowski
Brown	Heinrich	Murray
Cantwell	Hickenlooper	Ossoff
Cardin	Hirono	Padilla
Carper	Kaine	Peters
Casey	Kelly	Reed
Collins	King	Rosen
Coons	Klobuchar	Sanders
Cortez Masto	Leahy	Schatz
Duckworth	Luján	Schumer
Shaheen	Tester	Warren
Sinema	Van Hollen	Whitehouse
Smith	Warner	
Stabenow	Warnock	

NOT VOTING—2

Murphy	Wyden

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO BRENDAN CANAVAN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, Louisville, KY, makes its mark on American life as the host of the Kentucky Derby, the producer of the iconic Louisville Slugger baseball bat, and a place to sample America's signature spirit, bourbon. Many Americans may not know that my hometown leaves its fingerprints on their lives in another way: as the home of the world's largest automated package handling facility, the UPS Worldport.

This massive warehouse—at 5.2 million square feet, it is larger than the Mall of America—sorts millions of packages every day, speedily shipping them to consumers across the globe. It serves as the keystone of the vast UPS supply chain, linking consumers to businesses all over the country. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the retirement of one of the key figures in the Worldport's development, UPS Airlines president Brendan Canavan.

To many, the UPS Worldport might seem like something out of a science fiction movie. Standing in the facility, you would be struck by the sheer scale of thousands of packages whirring about on a complicated system of conveyor belts, scanners, and lifts. This enormous warehouse sorts the average package in just 13 minutes. Human hands only touch packages twice. It is an amazing feat of modern technology and supply chain efficiency.

It would take an extraordinarily visionary business leader to have planned and executed such a facility. Its scale and complexity are almost too vast to fathom. But Brendan Canavan moved to Louisville in 2004 and did just that. In only a few years, he helped turn Louisville into a global supply chain hub and brought new levels of speed to the process.

Brendan knows so much about UPS's operations because he has performed many of them himself. While in college in his hometown of Philadelphia, he worked as a UPS loader and driver. He later stepped into management roles around the country, coming into leadership positions just as computer technology began to take a greater role in the supply chain logistics industry.

As a rising star in the company, Brendan was tasked with the development of Louisville's Worldport facility in 2004. He came to our city and quickly got to work developing the warehouse, which now processes roughly 300 flights of UPS shipments every single day. For his outstanding work developing the Worldport, he was rewarded with greater and greater roles in UPS's leadership structure.

By 2014, Brendan had ascended to the presidency of UPS Airlines. In that role, he oversaw nearly 300 individual airplanes and thousands of pilots, operating all over the world at all hours of the day. As the coordinator of such a vast organization, he ensured his company maintained its technological prowess, allowing UPS to keep up with the ever-changing demands of its global consumers.

Two years ago, Brendan faced a challenge unlike any UPS had ever seen: the coronavirus pandemic. Across the world, airports shut down and supply chains became hopelessly gnarled. Still, Brendan wielded his decades of on-the-ground experience to hold UPS's systems together, continuing to perform vital services even in the face of seemingly insurmountable challenges.

Now, after what must have been some of the most difficult years of his career, Brendan is taking a step back to spend more time with his family and devote extra energy to volunteering. His desire to aid others has not diminished one bit, and he continues to make a mark on Louisville.

I want to thank Brendan for his decades of service to our country, his outstanding leadership at UPS, and his hard work to make Louisville a capital of global supply chain logistics. On behalf of the Senate, I share my congratulations with Brendan on his extraordinary career and wish him the best in his retirement.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, last week, I travelled overseas as part of a congressional delegation conducting meetings on Russian aggression, security, and food security, among other things. Our delegation was scheduled to return on Monday, April 25, but due to mechanical problems with our aircraft, we were delayed for a day.

As a result of that delay, I missed two votes. I take seriously my duties in service to the people of Pennsylvania, including voting on policies and nominations. Accordingly, I wish for the record to show that, had I not been absent due to mechanical difficulties with the plane, I would have voted yea on the following votes: yea on vote No. 135, on the motion to invoke cloture: Lael Brainerd to be Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; yea on vote No. 136, on confirmation: Lael Brainerd, to be Vice-Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID HAUCK

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Mr. David Hauck on his retirement and recognize his 35 years of dedicated service to the Congress and the American people.

A native of Minneapolis, MN, Dave began his Capitol Hill career while still a graduate student at American University, working part-time as an elevator operator in the Senate. After completing his degree, he spent 5 years working on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee where he served as hearing coordinator and systems administrator.

Following his time on the Foreign Relations Committee, Dave became the assistant director of the Congressional Special Services Office. In 2008, Congress established the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services and made Dave its founding director. For over 29 years, Dave has worked to ensure that individuals with disabilities, including Members, staff, and visitors to the Capitol, have the best possible access to facilities and events throughout the Capitol Complex. In addition to helping Congress create and staff the Office of Accessibility Services, Dave also worked with Congress throughout the construction of the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center—CVC—to make the CVC accessible to all visitors.

Dave and his team have handled the day-to-day accessibility needs of Congress and played an important role in every major event Congress has seen over the last three decades. Dave has been a staunch advocate for the accessibility community throughout countless joint sessions of Congress, the lying in state or lying in honor of many beloved Americans, and the inaugurations of seven Presidents. When I chaired the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies for both President Trump and President Biden's inaugurations, my staff and I saw firsthand how invaluable Dave's expertise on accessibility issues was to planning a seamless inauguration.

Today, it is my pleasure to thank Dave for his many years of service and to congratulate him on his retirement. I wish him the best in his next chapter, as I am sure so many here do.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING ORLEY WAITE

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I celebrate the life of a remarkable American, Orley Waite, who passed away in February, just 2 months shy of his 100th birthday.

I came to learn of Orley's extraordinary life and legacy from his granddaughter, who serves on my staff. Orley was part of our country's Greatest Generation, who helped secure Americans' and our allies' freedoms in World War II and then returned home to help build our country into the strongest in the world. Orley was born in Bunkerville, NV, but later made his home of 66 years in Huntington Park, CA. After attending Virgin Valley High School, where he excelled in track and field, football, and basketball, in 1941, he served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to the Eastern States. He then joined the Army during World War II and served in Germany. His service included fighting in the Battle of the Bulge and helping liberate Dachau Concentration Camp.

Orley returned from his World War II service and made a life and career in one of the most important ways possible: creating a family and shaping young minds to be ready for future success. He attended Utah Agricultural College, Utah State, where he met and married Mary Loughney on July 15, 1947. They moved to California, where Orley received his master's degree in education at the University of Southern California. He then dedicated more than 30 years to working for Los Angeles Unified School District. Throughout his career in education, he had many assignments, including math and science teacher, coach, and head counselor at Gage Junior High, Carmelita Junior High, Jordan High School, Fremont High School, and Fairfax High School. He influenced and encouraged many on their early educational paths and helped create opportunities as they learned and grew.

He also contributed significantly of his time and talents to his community. As a lifelong member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Orley held many leadership positions in the church, including bishopric counselor, bishop, stake presidency counselor, ward mission leader, seminary teacher, and high council member. He was also a member of the local Water Board for more than 50 years and served on the parks and recreation committee for the City of Huntington Park.

Orley was a husband, father, teacher, missionary, church, and community leader and so much more to the many who knew him, loved him, and benefited from his remarkable life. As I honor Orley Waite, I extend my deep condolences to his friends and family, including his children and their spouses: Orley ''Bill'' Jr. and Carol; Wallace and Donna; Carole; Joseph and Gail; Robert and Melinda; Martha and Curtis Hadlock; Jesse and Victoria; his 22 grandchildren; and 37 great-grandchildren. The current turmoil and atrocities our world is witnessing in Ukraine reinforce just how precious freedom is and how much World War II Veterans and American servicemembers before and since have given to secure the foundations we hold dear. Orley Waite left a lasting legacy for all Americans with his service to our Nation and his decades of advancing educational opportunities for so many. God bless him and his lovely family.•

TRIBUTE TO BRUCE REICHERT

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, along with my colleagues Senator JIM RISCH, Representative MIKE SIMPSON and Representative RUSS FULCHER, I congratulate Bruce Reichert who retired after being the host, one of the main writers, and executive producer of Idaho Public Television's Outdoor Idaho for more than 35 years.

Devoting 35 years to any occupation is certainly a remarkable commitment, but particularly so when your job takes you to Idaho's rugged and hard-to-reach places. From exploring Idaho's mountain ranges and headwaters to examining what it is like to live and work in Idaho's ''Spud Country'' and seeking out some of our State's most storied barns, Bruce has given Idahoans a view of what lies beyond the roads, trails, and ridges. For example, he was executive producer and host of the award-winning ''Canyonlands Calling,'' showcasing the magnificence and beauty of the Owyhee Canyonlands, where collaborative efforts to manage these lands were achieved with private and Federal agencies. As Bruce has said, ''It's a state you can easily get lost in, both literally and figuratively. I know I speak for all who work on Outdoor Idaho—it's an honor to share our state with fellow Idahoans. Idaho is truly the keeper of special places. Esto Perpetua. May she live forever.''

The other shows Bruce has produced include ''Idaho Geology: A Convergence of Wonders,'' ''State of Change,'' ''50 Years of Wilderness,'' ''Salmon Reckoning,'' ''Sawtooths on My Mind,'' ''Pend Oreille Country,'' ''Land of the Lost River Range,'' ''Idaho Headwaters,'' and ''Beyond the White Clouds.'' He has earned a number of recognitions for his work. This includes multiple Emmys, Edward R. Murrow, and Press Club awards.

Bruce, thank you, for your excellent work all these years to tell Idaho's stories and shed light on the people, canyons, mountains, aquifers, prairies, lakes, fish, and wildlife that make Idaho such a magical place. You obviously realized long ago how truly special our great State is and have devoted your career to enabling others to get a sense of this spectacular treasure. Congratulations on your remarkable career.•

TRIBUTE TO HEIDI MATTHEWS-CANTIN AND JOHN CANTIN

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Heidi Matthews-Cantin and John Cantin of Manchester as April's Granite Staters of the Month. Heidi and John comanage Missy's Closet, a resale boutique that is holding its fourth annual ''Say Yes to the Prom Dress'' event this month. This initiative allows young women who otherwise would not be able to afford a prom dress the opportunity to pick one out for free.

John lost his daughter, Melissa ''Missy'' Charbonneau, to a domestic violence incident in 2009, and Missy's Closet was started in her memory. The resale boutique runs on donations and volunteers and aims to serve survivors of domestic violence and those struggling with mental illness or substance misuse.

The mission of ''Say Yes to the Prom Dress'' is to make sure that every young woman, no matter her economic circumstance, has the opportunity to feel special and confident in her gown on prom night. Missy's Closet offers a wide range of colors and sizes that young women can choose from. This year, the boutique started off prom dress season with more than 1,000 donated gowns, many of them new.

In addition, each young woman is assisted by a ''fashion ambassador,'' a volunteer who is trained to give clients words of encouragement and help them feel confident in their dresses. Free makeup and jewelry is also available to complete their looks.

Heidi and John's work with Missy's Closet's ''Say Yes to the Prom Dress'' campaign is not just about the dress; it is about providing young women a way to feel confident on their special night. Furthermore, it is not only the young women who walk away happy; the volunteers at Missy's Closet take immense pride in their work and recognize the importance of making a positive change in their community. As Heidi herself says, kindness has a trickledown effect, and all you need to do is help one person a day

John and Heidi embody the New Hampshire spirit of generosity and kindness by working to ensure that everyone—regardless of financial circumstance—has the opportunity to thrive.•

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUNSHINE MINE FIRE

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, 50 years ago, on May 2, 1972, 91 miners lost their lives when a fire broke out in the Sunshine Mine. Along with my colleague, Senator MIKE CRAPO, I rise today to honor those men and commemorate the worst mining disaster our State has ever seen.

The Silver Valley mining heritage dates back to the 1860s. Whole generations of Silver Valley residents have worked in mines, with sons following their fathers and uncles into the mining tradition. As its name indicates, this area in North Idaho's Shoshone County is especially abundant in silver. Throughout its history, this region has produced over 1.2 billion ounces of silver, making it one of the richest silver-producing areas in the world.

Mining has always been a dangerous job. While safety conditions in the mines have improved over the decades, the hazards of mining can be reduced, but never completely eliminated.

Just before noon on May 2, 1972, a fire broke out on the air intake side of the Sunshine Mine as 173 miners worked underground. As the fire burned, the intake of air led carbon monoxide to fill the No. 10 mineshaft. Eighty men were safely evacuated from that shaft before the death of the No. 10 shaft hoistman. After that, only two more men were rescued.

The cause of the fire is still unknown, and in its wake, the Sunshine Mine shut down for 7 months before production resumed. It ceased operation in 2001, having produced over 360 million ounces of silver.

The 91 men who died during this horrific incident left behind 77 widows and 200 children, many of whom still reside in Kellogg and the surrounding area. The Sunshine Miners Memorial, which stands near where the mine was located, lists the name of each of the men killed along with a poem by former Governor Phil Batt commemorating the incident. Ken Lonn, a former Sunshine miner, sculpted the monument.

The Sunshine Mine fire looms large in the region's memory, and every year on May 2, the people of the Silver Valley gather at this memorial to remember the tragedy. This year, Idaho Governor Brad Little has declared May 2 as Miners Memorial Day.

We commemorate the tragic and untimely loss of these 91 men and the disaster's decades-long impact on the Silver Valley community. We commend the memorial committee for their efforts to preserve their legacy through maintenance of the memorial and by organizing the Miners Memorial Day ceremony. We hope all Idahoans will remember the events from May 2, 1972, and the men who went underground that morning but did not return.•

TRIBUTE TO MARY CECILE BARRETO

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I honor Mary Cecile Barreto on the celebration of her 100th birthday.

Mary Cecile Barreto was born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada on April 19, 1922. Seeking new opportunities, she and her parents moved to Miami, FL, in 1925. She attended Gesu Catholic School, joined several school clubs, was crowned Miss Gesu, and met Roger Barreto, her high school sweetheart whom she married after graduation.

Cecile worked as a secretary at the Pan American Airlines Seaplane Terminal in Miami before giving birth to seven sons and four daughters. Her children were raised with both her Canadian roots, as well as her husband's Hispanic upbringing. French and Spanish were regularly spoken throughout their home.

Cecile made time for each of her children and made them feel special. She is a kind listener who is always there for them, no matter how busy their days are. Under her guidance, her children grew up to become a Miami Beach Police chief, real estate agents, Super Bowl host committee chairs, and a Miami-Dade Rescue deputy chief.

In her free time, Cecile participates in the Miami Herald's write-in competitions, answering numerous topics and writing jingles. She has won many prizes for her answers to the competitions and even donated a trip to Washington, DC, to her sister for her honeymoon.

During the holidays, it is not uncommon for 40 or more people to gather in her home to celebrate. Cecile invited not only family and friends, but also those who may not have a place to be or anyone to spend time with.

Cecile has lived a full life and has made countless differences for her community over the past 100 years. My wife Jeanette and I offer our best wishes to Cecile and hope the coming year will bring her much happiness and good health. May God bless her and her family during this time of celebration.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 270. An act to amend the Act entitled ''Act to provide for the establishment of the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in the State of Kansas, and for other purposes'' to provide for inclusion of additional related sites in the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 497. An act to establish the American Fisheries Advisory Committee to assist in the awarding of fisheries research and development grants, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 441. An act to provide for the conveyance of certain property to the Tanana Tribal Council located in Tanana, Alaska, the conveyance of certain property to the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium located in Sitka, Alaska, and the conveyance of certain property to the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium located in Anchorage, Alaska, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2793. An act to reauthorize the Highlands Conservation Act, to authorize States to use funds from that Act for administrative purposes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3525. An act to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4877. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman to create a centralized website for compliance guides, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5973. An act to reauthorize the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6023. An act to require the United States Postal Service to continue selling the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp until all remaining stamps are sold, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6201. An act to extend the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work to honor enslaved and free Black persons who served in the American Revolution, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6441. An act to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business center program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6445. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require an annual report on entrepreneurial development programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6450. An act to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6454. An act to clarify the primary functions and duties of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6651. An act to establish an Alaska Salmon Research Task Force.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 4877. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman to create a centralized website for compliance guides, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 5973. An act to reauthorize the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act of 1990, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 6201. An act to extend the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work to honor enslaved and free Black persons who served in the American Revolution, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 6441. An act to amend the Small Business Act to improve the women's business center program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 6445. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require an annual report on entrepreneurial development programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 6450. An act to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize the SCORE program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 6454. An act to clarify the primary functions and duties of the Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

MEASURES DISCHARGED PETITION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, hereby direct that the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions be discharged from further consideration 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'' and, further, that the joint resolution be immediately placed upon the Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

Mitch McConnell, Marco Rubio, Tom Cotton, James E. Risch, John Barrasso, Mike Lee, Thom Tillis, Joni K. Ernst, Roger Marshall, Tommy Tuberville, John Thune, James M. Inhofe, Cynthia M. Lummis, Deb Fischer, John Cornyn, Kevin Cramer, Dan Sullivan, John Boozman, Steve Daines, Mike Braun, Cynthia Hyde-Smith, Bill Hagerty, Ron Johnson, James Lankford, John Hoeven, Tim Scott, Josh Hawley, Ted Cruz, Mike Rounds, Mike Crapo.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following joint resolution was discharged from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, by petition, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 802(c), and placed on the calendar:

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''.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 4088. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from lessening the stringency of, and to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from ceasing or lessening implementation of, the COVID–19 border health provisions through the end of the COVID–19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 1508. An act to require a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2793. An act to reauthorize the Highlands Conservation Act, to authorize States to use funds from that Act for administrative purposes, and for other purposes.

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–3741. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Annual Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3742. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits'' (29 CFR Part 4044) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3743. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Milk and Cream; Petition for an Administrative Stay of Action: Definitions and Standards of Identity for Yogurt, Lowfat Yogurt, and Nonfat Yogurt'' (RIN0910–AI40) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 30, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3744. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Advisory Committee; Bone, Reproductive and Urologic Drugs Advisory

Committee; Change of Name and Function; Technical Amendments'' (Docket No. FDA–2019–N–4203) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3745. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Medical Devices; Technical Amendments'' (Docket No. FDA–2021–N–0246) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3746. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Amendments to Class Prohibited Transaction Exemptions To Remove Credit Ratings Pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act'' (RIN1210–ZA18) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 1, 2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3747. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the implementation of the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 for fiscal year 2021; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3748. A communication from the Board Members of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Congressional Justification of Budget Estimates Report for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3749. A communication from the Inspector General of the Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Congressional Budget Justification for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 533. A bill to require a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–95).

S. 629. A bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to submit to the Comptroller General of the United States a report on rules that are revoked, suspended, replaced, amended, or otherwise made ineffective (Rept. No. 117–96).

S. 1324. A bill to establish a Civilian Cyber Security Reserve as a pilot project to address the cyber security needs for the United States with respect to national security, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–97).

S. 1941. A bill to direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to standardize the use of core-based statistical area designations across Federal programs, to allow between 120 and 180 days for public comment on any proposed change to such designations, and to report on the scientific basis and estimated impact to Federal programs for any proposed change to such designations, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–98).

S. 2322. A bill to require a pilot program on the participation of non-asset-based third-party logistics providers in the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (Rept. No. 117–99).

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 4426. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 117–100).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2372. A bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

Ravi Chaudhary, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

(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. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 4091. A bill to amend part A of title XI of the Social Security Act to provide grants to States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes to establish, expand, or maintain Drug Overdose Fatality Review Teams; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 4092. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to exempt certain employees engaged in outdoor recreational outfitting or guiding services from maximum hours requirements; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TUBERVILLE (for himself and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 4093. A bill to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to reauthorize the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area in the State of Alabama, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 4094. A bill to amend the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 to strike the Secretary's unilateral authority during a national emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 4095. A bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to require reporting of sourcing and due diligence activities of companies involving supply chains of products that are imported into the United States that are directly linked to products utilizing forced labor from Xinjiang, China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 4096. A bill to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to perform an initial health screening on all detainees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 4097. A bill to improve access for diverse-owned asset management firms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 4098. A bill to prohibit nationals of the Russian Federation and Belarus from working in Department of Energy National Laboratories; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BRAUN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 4099. A bill to prohibit securities investments that finance certain companies of the People's Republic of China and to expand the Non-Specially Designated Nationals Chinese Military-Industrial Complex Companies List of the Office of Foreign Assets Control, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 4100. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide coverage under the Medicaid program for services provided by doulas and midwives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. LUMMIS):

S. 4101. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide training and guidance relating to human rights abuses, including such abuses perpetrated against the Uyghur population by the Government of the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. LEE, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S.J. Res. 45. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives relating to ''Definition of 'Frame or Receiver' and Identification of Firearms''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. Res. 596. A resolution designating April 2022 as ''Preserving and Protecting Local News Month'' and recognizing the importance and significance of local news; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. DURBIN,

Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 597. A resolution recognizing the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities National Internship Program on the 30th anniversary of the program and celebrating its legacy of increasing diversity in the Federal Government and the private sector; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. Res. 598. A resolution congratulating the Glenville 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; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 599. A resolution honoring military children during the National Month of the Military Child; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. COTTON):

S. Con. Res. 36. A concurrent resolution honoring the life and legacy of Ulysses S. Grant in commemoration of his 200th Birthday; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 251

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 251, a bill to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

S. 313

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 313, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to expand online benefit redemption options under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 403

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects, and for other purposes.

S. 464

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 464, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 644

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 644, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore State authority to waive for certain facilities the 35-mile rule for designating critical access hospitals under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 872

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 872, a bill to restore, reaffirm, and reconcile environmental justice and civil rights, and for other purposes.

S. 1079

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1079, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the troops from the United States and the Philippines who defended Bataan and Corregidor, in recognition of their personal sacrifice and service during World War II.

S. 1873

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1873, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of multi-cancer early detection screening tests.

S. 2609

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2609, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure equitable payment for, and preserve Medicare beneficiary access to, diagnostic radiopharmaceuticals under the Medicare hospital outpatient prospective payment system.

S. 2653

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2653, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 2798

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2798, a bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to improve compensation for workers involved in uranium mining, and for other purposes.

S. 2907

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2907, a bill to establish the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3092

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3092, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to improve the provision of certain disaster assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 3361

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3361, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to modify the definition of franchise fee, and for other purposes.

S. 3677

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3677, a bill 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, and for other purposes.

S. 3726

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3726, a bill to address research on, and improve access to, supportive services for individuals with long COVID.

S. 3758

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3758, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study to assess the unintended impacts on the health and safety of people engaged in transactional sex, in connection with the enactment of the Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act of 2017 and the loss of interactive computer services that host information related to sexual exchange, to direct the Attorney General to submit a report on human trafficking investigations and prosecutions in connection with the same, and for other purposes.

S. 3850

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3850, a bill to increase the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Customs and Border Protection officers and support staff and to require reports that identify staffing, infrastructure, and equipment needed to enhance security at ports of entry.

S. 3856

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3856, a bill to prohibit the importation of uranium from the Russian Federation.

S. 3899

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from

Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3899, a bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to reauthorize and update the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3908

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) 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. 3960

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3960, a bill to establish the CCP Initiative program, and for other purposes.

S. 4047

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 4047, a bill to improve the removal of lead from drinking water in public housing.

S. 4050

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4050, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate a provision under the Medicare Advantage program that inadvertently penalizes Medicare Advantage plans for providing high quality care to Medicare beneficiaries.

S.J. RES. 40

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 40, a joint resolution formally apologizing for the nuclear legacy of the United States in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and affirming the importance of the free association between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Marshall Islands.

S.J. RES. 43

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 43, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of the Treasury and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services relating to ''Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Updating Payment Parameters, Section 1332 Waiver Implementing Regulations, and Improving Health Insurance Markets for 2022 and Beyond''.

S. RES. 559

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 4094. A bill to amend the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 to strike the Secretary's unilateral authority during a national emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, the Biden administration can't quite seem to decide on the status of the pandemic or the status of the economy.

On the one hand, we are being told that we no longer need pandemic-era border restrictions intended to help limit illegal immigration and prevent the spread of COVID. On the other hand, the administration is still fighting to require Americans to wear masks on public transit and airplanes and is urging Congress to pass additional COVID spending to fight the pandemic the administration seems to believe is over at the border.

It is a confusing message, to say the least. Americans know the pandemic can't simultaneously be over for migrants at the border but make it too dangerous for a South Dakotan to fly from Sioux Falls to Minneapolis without a mask.

The administration's messaging is similarly muddled on the economy and student loans. On the one hand, the President is proudly touting ''record'' job creation and ''record'' economic growth even though most of what he is taking credit for is the natural consequence of an economic recovery from the pandemic. On the other hand, the President recently announced that he is extending the moratorium on Federal student loan payments, interest, and collections for another 4 months, until August 31, because Americans are still suffering economically as a result of the pandemic.

Well, which is it? Is our economy thriving or are Americans economically distressed?

The student loan repayment moratorium and interest freeze included in the CARES Act at the beginning of the pandemic made sense. Our economy was starting to shut down, and Americans' jobs were in jeopardy, but it made sense as a temporary measure for a genuine emergency. We are no longer having double-digit unemployment as we did during some of the worst moments of the pandemic. In fact, our current unemployment rate is a low 3.6 percent. For college graduates, the unemployment rate is a staggeringly low 2 percent.

To paraphrase the Wall Street Journal's editorial board on the subject, if student loan borrowers aren't ready to return to making payments now, they will never be.

Even the Washington Post editorialized against the President's latest extension, noting:

> What was a needed emergency measure at the start of the pandemic is no longer justified. It is hard to make an argument that college graduates are struggling right now. The unemployment rate for Americans with a bachelor's degree or higher is a mere 2 percent. There is a near-record number of job openings.

That was from the Washington Post.

It is true that Americans are facing economic challenges as a result of the inflation that President Biden and Democrats helped to create with their ill-considered American Rescue Plan Act, but, if anything, President Biden's latest student loan pause could help prolong our inflation problems, and, importantly, it will have the biggest benefits for those who are most able to deal with price hikes from inflation. This clearly regressive policy benefits high-debt, high-income borrowers significantly more than low-debt, low-income borrowers.

Again, to quote the Washington Post once more:

> Rising prices of gas, rent, food and cars are a hardship, but forgiving interest on student loans for four more months offers the biggest benefits to people who have earned degrees in medicine and law. These people go on to have lucrative careers. Meanwhile, the 64 percent of Americans who do not have a college degree don't benefit at all from Biden's pause on loan repayments.

That was again from the Washington Post.

And subsidizing all of those doctors and lawyers ends up being pretty expensive. The student loan repayment moratorium has already cost the Federal Government more than $100 billion. By the time the President's latest extension of the moratorium is up, it will have cost the Federal Government billions more.

After a huge increase in our national debt, thanks to the pandemic and reckless Democratic spending, the government does not need to be forgoing billions of dollars by providing student loan relief to Americans with some of the highest earning potential, which is why, this morning, I introduced legislation—the Stop Reckless Student Loan Actions Act—to end the current deferment on student loan repayments and limit a President's authority to pause student loan repayments in the future.

My legislation, which I introduced with my colleague Senator RICHARD BURR and Senators BRAUN, CASSIDY, and MARSHALL, would continue to allow a President to temporarily suspend student loan payments during a future national emergency, but it would limit those suspensions to a period of 90 days and subject them to congressional disapproval.

It would also ensure that relief is targeted to those who need it most by preventing Presidents from suspending

payments for higher income individuals; and, importantly, it would prevent a President or a Secretary of Education from using a national emergency to cancel student loan debt, which leads me to, perhaps, my biggest concern in all of this.

Deferring student loan payments is a bad policy that is costing the Federal Government money it doesn't have, but it pales in comparison to the ultimate goal for many Democrats—and that is canceling student loan debt entirely.

Days ago, the President's Press Secretary, in referring to the payment deferment, said:

> Between now and August 31, it's either going to be extended again or we're going to make a decision . . . about canceling student debt.

That was from the President's Press Secretary.

Her statement made it alarmingly clear that the President isn't just temporarily deferring loan payments but is seriously considering canceling—canceling—a significant portion of Federal student loan debt.

She doubled down on that idea on Monday, noting:

> What I would tell you is that not a single person in this country has paid a dime on Federal student loans since the President took office.

My gosh, canceling student loan debt is a bad idea for so many reasons.

In the first place, it is money the Federal Government simply doesn't have. Democrats often speak as if the Federal Government were able to draw from an unlimited pot of money, but, of course, we know that is not true. Government funds aren't anywhere close to being unlimited, and government coffers aren't filled from a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. They are filled by taxpayer dollars, and sooner or later, it will be taxpayers who foot the bill for any loan forgiveness program, including the many taxpayers who opted not to attend college or who chose a debt-free way of doing so.

I can scarcely think of anything more unfair than forcing Americans who incurred no college debt to shoulder the bill for those who did, especially when a substantial portion of that debt is incurred by those with the greatest earning potential.

Canceling student debt would also be grossly unfair to the Americans who worked hard for years to pay off their loans. An American who has just finished paying off his or her higher education debt would get nothing—nothing—from such a cancellation while a recent graduate who had made just a month or two of payments could see his or her debt disappear entirely.

And canceling student debt would do nothing to address the real problem, which is the out-of-control cost of higher education. In fact, it would likely make that problem worse, not to mention the fact that student loan cancellation would take an already bad inflation situation and, almost undoubtedly, make it much worse. We think 8.5-percent inflation is bad, and it is, but canceling student loan debt this fall could take inflation to new and even more painful heights.

Now, I strongly support finding ways to drive down the cost of higher education and educate students about the dangers of excessive debt. I also support measures to help students pay off their student loans without putting taxpayers on the hook for hundreds of billions of dollars or more. I would note the measure that I got included in the CARES Act and extended later that year to allow employers to make tax-free payments on their employees' student loans; but unnecessarily deferring student loan payments—or worse, the canceling of a significant portion of student loan debt entirely—is a terrible idea for many reasons.

I hope that colleagues from both sides of the aisle will join the student loan bill that I introduced earlier today to end these endless and unnecessary loan deferment extensions.

I hope at least some of my Democratic colleagues will recognize the unwisdom of canceling student loan debt, its blatant unfairness to individuals who have already paid off their student loans or who never went to college and the negative effect it would have on our inflation-ridden economy.

Mr. THUNE. 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. 4094

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 ''Stop Reckless Student Loan Actions Act of 2022''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 (20 U.S.C. 1098aa et seq.) was intended to provide relief opportunities for members of the armed services.

(2) The authority provided under the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 has been abused by the Executive Branch during the COVID-19 national emergency regarding the payment of Federal student loans.

(3) The unilateral payment pause on Federal student loans has cost $100,000,000,000.

(4) The individuals benefitting the most from the payment pause continued by the Executive Branch are doctors, who receive 11 times the benefit of bachelor's degree recipients and 14 times the benefit of associate's degree recipients.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS ACT OF 2003.

Section 5(2) of the Higher Education Relief Opportunities for Students Act of 2003 (20 U.S.C. 1098ee) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting ''(or the spouse or dependent of the parent, as that term is used in section 480 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv))'' after ''an individual'';

(2) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''and'' after the semicolon;

(3) in subparagraph (B), by striking the semicolon and inserting a period; and

(4) by striking subparagraphs (C) and (D).

SEC. 4. HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF OPPORTUNITIES FOR CIVILIANS IN THE CASE OF A NATIONAL EMERGENCY AND LIMITATIONS ON COVERED LOANS.

(a) TEMPORARY AUTHORITY FOR HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitation provided in subsection (c), during the 90 day period after a declaration of a national emergency under section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), the Secretary of Education may suspend or defer Federal student loan payments or the accrual of interest for loans made, insured or guaranteed under part B, D, or E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq.; 1087a et seq.; 1087aa et seq.) or loans under the Health Education Assistance Loan Program.

(2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of Education may not use the temporary authority provided under paragraph (1) in consecutive 90 day periods.

(b) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION RELIEF FROM THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION.— In the case of a national emergency declared by the President under section 201 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1621), the Secretary of Education shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives, not later than 60 days after the date of such declaration, a report that includes any recommendations on relief necessary for recipients of student financial assistance under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070 et seq.).

(c) LIMITS ON EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND OR DEFER FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS OR INTEREST.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President or the Secretary of Education may not suspend or defer Federal student loan payments on covered loans or the accrual of interest on covered loans of borrowers with annual household incomes over 400 percent of the poverty line (as determined under the poverty guidelines updated periodically in the Federal Register by the Department of Health and Human Services under the authority of section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act (42 U.S.C. 9902(2))).

(2) APPLICATION OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT.—In any case where the President or the Secretary of Education suspends or defers Federal student loan payments on covered loans or the accrual of interest on covered loans through any type of executive or regulatory action, the suspension or deferral shall be—

(A) deemed to be a major rule for purposes of chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Congressional Review Act''); and

(B) subject to congressional disapproval in accordance with such chapter.

(d) LIMITS ON EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY TO CANCEL STUDENT LOANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, the President or the Secretary of Education may not cancel the outstanding balances, or a portion of the balances, on covered loans due to the COVID-19 national emergency or any other national emergency.

(2) APPLICATION OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW ACT.—In any case where the President or the Secretary of Education cancels the outstanding balances, or portion of the balances, on covered loans through any type of executive or regulatory action, the cancellation shall be—

(A) deemed to be a major rule for purposes of chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code

(commonly known as the ''Congressional Review Act''); and

(B) subject to congressional disapproval in accordance with such chapter.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) REGARDING SUSPENSIONS OR DEFERMENTS OF FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN PAYMENTS ONGOING AT THE TIME OF ENACTMENT.—Not later than the effective date of this Act, any suspension or deferment of Federal student loan payments on covered loans due to the COVID-19 national emergency shall terminate. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a subsequent suspension or deferment of Federal student loan payments on covered loans for the COVID-19 national emergency shall be prohibited.

(2) REGARDING CANCELLATION OF STUDENT LOANS PRIOR TO EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any cancellation of the outstanding balance, or portion of a balance, on a covered loan made by the President or Secretary of Education through any type of executive or regulatory action in the 30 days before the effective date of this Act shall be—

(A) deemed to be a major rule for purposes of chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Congressional Review Act''); and

(B) subject to congressional disapproval in accordance with such chapter.

(f) DEFINITION OF COVERED LOAN.—In this subsection, the term ''covered loan'' means a loan made, insured, or guaranteed under part B, D, or E of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1071 et seq.; 1087a et seq.; 1087aa et seq.) or a loan under the Health Education Assistance Loan Program.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall take effect on the date that is 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 4097. A bill to improve access for diverse-owned asset management firms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Too Narrow to Succeed Act with my colleagues Senators BOOKER, MURRAY, and MENENDEZ. Enacting this bill would increase opportunities for women- and minority-owned asset management firms to direct investments and strengthen our Nation's retirement security.

Women- and minority-owned firms are significantly underrepresented in asset management, managing just over 1 percent of the sector's assets under management. This severe underrepresentation also extends to employment within the industry. This is not due to a lack of diverse talent; women- and minority-owned asset management firms have consistently performed just as well as or better than other firms in terms of returns on investment. In fact, women- and minority-owned firms are overrepresented among top-performing firms.

Having a diverse portfolio is a key part of having healthy finances because diversifying investments mitigates risk and improves long-term returns. Far too often, however, those making investment decisions at our Nation's financial firms are not diverse. If asset managers have too narrow a perspective, the/place the financial success of their clients at risk. This commonsense legislation supports asset managers' fiduciary responsibility to deliver returns to investors, and it will help ensure a safe financial future for workers and their families.

I hope my colleagues will support this bill.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 596—DESIGNATING APRIL 2022 AS ''PRESERVING AND PROTECTING LOCAL NEWS MONTH'' AND RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF LOCAL NEWS

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 596

Whereas the United States was founded on the principle of freedom of the press enshrined in the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which declares that ''Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press . . .'';

Whereas an informed citizenry depends on accurate and unbiased news reporting to inform the judgment of the people;

Whereas a robust, diverse, and sustainable local news presence leads to civic engagement and the buttressing of democratic norms and practices;

Whereas local news serves as a necessary resource during the COVID-19 pandemic to provide communities with public health information and to inform communities about available services and support from Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments;

Whereas published guidance from the Department of Homeland Security deemed journalists as essential critical infrastructure workers during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas the absence of local news outlets and investigative reporting allows local government corruption and corporate malfeasance to go unchecked;

Whereas local journalists help combat disinformation by using their community knowledge and connections to debunk fraudulent or misleading content;

Whereas local cable franchises routinely provide for public educational and government access channels on their systems, and those channels—

(1) offer vital local civic programming that informs communities;

(2) provide news and information not often available on other local broadcast channels or cable;

(3) supplement local journalism; and

(4) at times, are the only source for local news;

Whereas the people of the United States trust local news sources by a 2-to-1 margin;

Whereas, according to recent research—

(1) the United States has lost more than 2,100 local print outlets since 2004;

(2) more than 200 counties in the United States have no newspaper at all, creating a news shortage for the 3,200,000 residents of those counties;

(3) of the remaining counties in the United States, more than ½, or 1,528, have only 1 newspaper to cover populations ranging from under 1,000 to more than 1,000,000 residents;

(4) more than ½ of all United States newspapers have changed owners in the past decade, and, in 2018, only 25 companies owned ⅔ of all daily newspapers;

(5) of the surviving 6,700 newspapers in the United States, at least 1,000 qualify as ''ghost newspapers'', or newspapers with reporting and photography staffs that are so significantly reduced that they can no longer provide much of the breaking news or public service journalism that once informed readers about vital issues in their communities; and

(6) rural counties are among the counties most deeply impacted by the loss of local reporting, as more than 500 of the 2,100 newspapers that have closed or merged since 2004 are in rural counties;

Whereas, while overall employment in newspaper, television, radio, and digital newsrooms dropped by roughly 26 percent, or 30,000 jobs, between 2008 and 2020, the plunge in newspaper newsrooms alone was much worse at 57 percent, or 40,000 jobs, in that same time period;

Whereas the number of news employees in the radio broadcasting industry dropped by 22 percent between 2004 and 2020;

Whereas beat reporting, meaning the day-to-day coverage of a particular field that allows a journalist to develop expertise and cultivate sources, has ceased to be a viable career for would-be journalists due to the decimation of newsroom budgets;

Whereas requests submitted under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as ''Freedom of Information Act requests''), by local newspapers to local, State, and Federal agencies fell by nearly 50 percent between 2005 and 2010, demonstrating a significant drop in the extent to which local reporters request government records;

Whereas newspapers alone lost more than $35,000,000,000 in advertising revenue between 2004 and 2018;

Whereas, in the second quarter of 2020, advertising revenue fell by a median of 24 percent for local television companies;

Whereas the revenue of all-news radio stations dropped by 24 percent in 2020;

Whereas there remains a significant gender disparity in newsroom employment, with women comprising approximately ⅓ of staff who are 30 years of age or older;

Whereas women who are local television news anchors and reporters, especially women of color, are often subject to harassment and stalking;

Whereas, across the United States, there are more than 200 newspapers published by and for Black readers, and, in recent years, many of those newspapers have seen—

(1) significant losses in advertising revenue as small businesses in their communities were forced to close; and

(2) circulation declines due to the closures of businesses in their communities;

Whereas the number of Black journalists working at daily newspapers dropped by 40 percent between 1997 and 2014, more than for any other demographic group;

Whereas the number of print media sources published by and for American Indian readers has shrunk dramatically in recent years, from 700 media outlets in 1998 to only 200 in 2018;

Whereas Tribally-owned news outlets are often dependent on Tribal governments for funding, but most of those outlets lack the policy structure necessary to fully protect journalistic independence;

Whereas a 2018 survey by the Native American Journalists Association found that 83 percent of respondents believed that Native

press coverage of Tribal government affairs was sometimes, frequently, or always censored;

Whereas there are more than 550 Latino news media outlets in the United States, which rely primarily on a declining advertising revenue base;

Whereas the lack of local news impacts communities that speak languages other than English, which are often excluded from national media coverage;

Whereas more than 100 local newsrooms have closed during the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas 8 percent of surveyed local radio stations reported the COVID-19 pandemic ended their local news programs entirely;

Whereas 30 percent of local television news stations reported budget cuts and staff reductions because of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas PEN America proposed ''a major reimagining of the local news space'' in its 2019 call-to-action report, ''Losing the News: The Decimation of Local Journalism and the Search for Solutions'', and called on society and the Federal Government to urgently address the alarming demise of local journalism; and

Whereas, half a century ago, Congress perceived that the commercial television industry would not independently provide the educational and public interest broadcasting that was appropriate and necessary for the country, and, informed by an independent report prepared by the Carnegie Commission on Educational Television, created the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, which has since ensured that radio and television include public interest educational and reporting programs using annually appropriated funds: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2022 as ''Preserving and Protecting Local News Month'';

(2) affirms that local news serves an essential function in the democracy of the United States;

(3) recognizes local news as a public good; and

(4) acknowledges the valuable contributions of local journalism towards the maintenance of healthy and vibrant communities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 597—RECOGNIZING THE HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES NATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROGRAM AND CELEBRATING ITS LEGACY OF INCREASING DIVERSITY IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 597

Whereas 2022 marks the 30th anniversary of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities National Internship Program (referred to in this preamble as ''HNIP'');

Whereas the HNIP began with 24 interns in the summer of 1992 and has grown to a year-round internship program for Hispanic and underrepresented students, placing over 500 interns every year in multiple Federal agencies;

Whereas, in 2020, the Hispanic population accounted for 62,100,000, or 18.7 percent, of the total United States population;

Whereas, according to the Annual Report to the President on Hispanic Employment in the Federal Government for Fiscal Year 2018 by the Office of Personnel Management, only 9.1 percent of Federal employees were Hispanic and only 3.3 percent were in Senior Executive Service positions;

Whereas the HNIP has been cited in the Hispanic Nine Point Plan by the Office of Personnel Management as a resource to increase the recruitment of Hispanic interns in the Federal Government; and

Whereas the HNIP has produced over 14,000 alumni who are now in the Federal Government, State or local government, and private industry: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities National Internship Program (referred to in this resolving clause as ''HNIP'') for 30 years of providing internship opportunities to Hispanic and underrepresented students attending Hispanic-serving institutions and other institutions of higher education;

(2) congratulates all HNIP alumni who continue to make a difference in the communities of the United States; and

(3) encourages the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities to continue to support and inspire future Hispanic and underrepresented leaders.

SENATE RESOLUTION 598—CONGRATULATING THE GLENVILLE 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

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 598

Whereas, on March 25, 2022, the Glenville State University Lady Pioneers women's basketball team (referred to in this preamble as the ''Glenville State Lady Pioneers'') won the National Collegiate Athletic Association (referred to in this preamble as the ''NCAA'') Division II Women's Basketball Championship at the Birmingham CrossPlex in Birmingham, Alabama, which was the first national championship in the history of Glenville State University in any sport and the first NCAA basketball title for a West Virginia school;

Whereas the Glenville State Lady Pioneers finished their historic season with a record of 35 wins and 1 loss by securing an 85 to 72 victory over the Western Washington University Vikings in the national championship;

Whereas the Glenville State Lady Pioneers and their team motto ''heart over height'' have become symbols of pride and success to Glenville State University and the State of West Virginia;

Whereas the Glenville State Lady Pioneers defeated their opponents by an average of 25.6 points per game throughout the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Tournament, becoming just the second team to shutout every opponent in tournament history and breaking the record for points scored in a single NCAA Division II tournament by scoring 525 total points, besting the previous record of 504 points set by California University of Pennsylvania in 2004;

Whereas the Glenville State Lady Pioneers overcame a 2-point deficit at halftime to outscore the Western Washington University Vikings by 15 points in the second half, scoring 30 points off of 25 turnovers and taking 23 more shots than the Vikings;

Whereas Re'Shawna Stone scored 25 points in 29 minutes and collected 5 steals to lead the team to victory over the Western Washington University Vikings and was recognized as the Most Valuable Player for the 2021–2022 NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Tournament;

Whereas Re'Shawna Stone was named to the First Team of the 2021–22 Division II Conference Commissioners Association Women's Basketball All-Americans and as the Player of the Year for the Mountain East Conference and Atlantic Region, averaging 16.5 points and 4.3 rebounds per game while leading the team in both assists and steals;

Whereas Zakiyah Winfield played a pivotal role in the championship game by scoring 23 points, including a buzzer beater in the third quarter of the game, and collecting 7 rebounds, after averaging 19.5 points and 7.3 rebounds in the tournament;

Whereas Kim Stephens, Head Coach of the Glenville State Lady Pioneers, was named the 2022 Women's Basketball Coaches Association NCAA Division II National Coach of the Year and received the Pat Summitt Trophy, which was named after the former University of Tennessee coach and is awarded annually to each of the 6 membership divisions of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association;

Whereas Coach Stephens, a native of Parkersburg, West Virginia, graduate of Parkersburg South High School and Glenville State University, and former player and Assistant Coach for the Glenville State Lady Pioneers, has led the team to the NCAA Division II Tournament in all 6 years as Head Coach, finishing the 2021–2022 season with a career record of 158 wins and 21 losses;

Whereas, in the history of the Glenville State Lady Pioneers, the team has reached the NCAA Division II Tournament 6 consecutive times and the Elite Eight 3 times;

Whereas, on their way to winning the first national championship for the Glenville State Lady Pioneers, the team was one of the most dominant college sports teams in the United States, boasting the top scoring offense in the United States by averaging 96 points per game and 13.5 points more than any other team in Division II during the 2021–2022 season; and

Whereas the Glenville State Lady Pioneers should be praised for the historic season of both athletic and academic accomplishments: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the Glenville State University Lady Pioneers women's basketball team for winning the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Women's Basketball Championship;

(2) recognizes the athletic program at Glenville State University for its achievement in both sports and academics; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) Glenville State University for appropriate display;

(B) the President of Glenville State University; and

(C) the Head Coach of the Glenville State University Lady Pioneers women's basketball team.

SENATE RESOLUTION 599—HONORING MILITARY CHILDREN DURING THE NATIONAL MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. TESTER, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 599

Whereas almost 2,600,000 individuals demonstrate courage and commitment to freedom by serving in the reserves or active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States;

Whereas 35.9 percent of active duty members of the Armed Forces have children;

Whereas approximately 2,000,000 military children have experienced a parental deployment since September 11, 2001;

Whereas no one feels the effect of deployments more than the children of deployed members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas approximately 2,300,000 children under the age of 18 live with a veteran who is disabled;

Whereas more than 25,000 military children have experienced the death of a military parent since September 11, 2001;

Whereas the daily struggles and personal sacrifices of children of members of the Armed Forces are too often unnoticed;

Whereas countless children live with a parent who is a member of the Armed Forces and who bears a visible or invisible wound of war;

Whereas the children of members of the Armed Forces are a source of pride and honor to the people of the United States, and it is fitting that the United States recognize the contributions and celebrate the spirit of such children;

Whereas the National Month of the Military Child, observed in April of each year, recognizes military children for their sacrifices and contributes to demonstrating the unconditional support of the United States for members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas, in addition to programs of the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to support military families and military children, various programs and campaigns have been established in the private and nonprofit sectors to honor, support, and thank military children by fostering awareness and appreciation for the sacrifices and the challenges that these children face; and

Whereas a month-long salute to military children encourages support for the organizations and campaigns established to provide direct support for military children and families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) joins the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in honoring the children of members of the Armed Forces and recognizes that such children share in the burden of protecting the United States; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to join the military community in observing the National Month of the Military Child with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor, support, and thank military children.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 36—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ULYSSES S. GRANT IN COMMEMORATION OF HIS 200TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. COTTON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 36

Whereas, on July 1, 1843, Ulysses S. Grant graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, and, on July 31, 1854, Grant resigned from the Army at the grade of Captain;

Whereas, following President Abraham Lincoln's April 15, 1861, proclamation calling for 75,000 volunteers to suppress Confederate forces, Ulysses S. Grant rejoined the Army and helped recruit and train volunteer soldiers for the Union;

Whereas, over the course of the American Civil War, Ulysses S. Grant commanded a cumulative total of over 620,000 Union soldiers and achieved major victories, including Fort Henry (February 1862), Fort Donelson (February 1862), Shiloh (April 1862), the Vicksburg Campaign (November 1862–July 1863), Chattanooga (November 1863), the Wilderness Campaign (May 1864–June 1864), the Petersburg Campaign (June 1864–April 1865), and the Appomattox Campaign (April 1865);

Whereas, on February 29, 1864, Congress reestablished the grade of ''Lieutenant-General of the United States Army'' and authorized the President to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, an officer who was ''most distinguished for courage, skill, and ability'' (38th Congress, Session I, Chap. 14, Sec. 1), and that same day, President Abraham Lincoln nominated Ulysses S. Grant to be Lieutenant-General;

Whereas, on March 10, 1864, President Abraham Lincoln formally appointed Ulysses S. Grant to the grade of Lieutenant-General of the Army, a position previously held by only George Washington and Winfield Scott, although Scott's promotion was a brevet appointment;

Whereas, on July 25, 1866, Congress established the grade of ''General of the Army of the United States'' (39th Congress, Session I, Chap. 232), and Ulysses S. Grant was appointed, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to General of the Army of the United States for his role in commanding the Union armies during the Civil War;

Whereas, on March 4, 1869, Ulysses S. Grant was sworn in as the 18th President of the United States; and

Whereas, throughout his two terms as President, Ulysses S. Grant secured the ratification of the 15th amendment to the Constitution, the creation of the Department of Justice, and the passage and implementation of the Civil Rights Act of 1875: Now, therefore, be it

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

(1) honors Ulysses S. Grant for his efforts and leadership in defending the union of the United States of America;

(2) recognizes that the military victories achieved under the command of Ulysses S. Grant were integral to the preservation of the United States of America; and

(3) affirms that Ulysses S. Grant is among the most influential military commanders in the history of the United States of America.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have seven requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 9:30 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 Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a classified briefing.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 2:30 p.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 Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGING THREATS AND CAPABILITIES

The Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

The Subcommittee on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 3 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

The Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, April 27, 2022; at 4:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVOR TAX RELIEF ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be discharged from further consideration of S. 895, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 895) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exemption from gross income for mandatory restitution or civil damages as recompense for trafficking in persons.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a

third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (S. 895) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 895

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 ''Human Trafficking Survivor Tax Relief Act''.

SEC. 2. EXEMPTING FROM FEDERAL INCOME TAXATION RESTITUTION AND CIVIL DAMAGES AWARDED UNDER SECTIONS 1593 AND 1595 OF TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by section 9501(b)(4) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117–2), is amended by inserting before section 140 the following new section:

''SEC. 139J. CERTAIN AMOUNT RECEIVED AS RESTITUTION OR CIVIL DAMAGES AS RECOMPENSE FOR TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

''(a) EXCLUSION FROM GROSS INCOME.—Gross income shall not include any civil damages, restitution, or other monetary award (including compensatory or statutory damages and restitution imposed in a criminal matter) awarded—

''(1) pursuant to an order of restitution under section 1593 of title 18, United States Code, or

''(2) in an action under section 1595 of title 18, United States Code.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part III of subchapter B of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting before the item relating to section 140 the following new item:

''Sec. 139J. Certain amount received as restitution or civil damages as recompense for trafficking in persons.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ULYSSES S. GRANT IN COMMEMORATION OF HIS 200TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Con. Res. 36.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 36) honoring the life and legacy of Ulysses S. Grant in commemoration of his 200th Birthday.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the concurrent resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 36) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The concurrent resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I am just going to say a word about this resolution.

Ulysses Grant was an amazing human being. I became acquainted with him when I read the biography of Ulysses Grant written by Mr. Chernow, a Brooklyn resident, who was very eager for us to pass this. One of his crusades in life was to undo the smears against Ulysses Grant, often perpetrated by southern historians after we won the Civil War for the Union. And I commend to everybody Mr. Chernow's book. It is an amazing book.

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate proceed to S. Res. 588.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 588) designating April 2022 as ''Financial Literacy Month''.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and 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.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 588) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of April 7, 2022, under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

RECOGNIZING THE HISPANIC ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES NATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 597, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 597) recognizing the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities National Internship Program on the 30th anniversary of the program and celebrating its legacy of increasing diversity in the Federal Government and the private sector.

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. 597) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

CONGRATULATING THE GLENVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 598, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 598) congratulating the Glenville 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.

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. 598) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

HONORING MILITARY CHILDREN DURING THE NATIONAL MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 599, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 599) honoring military children during the National Month of the Military Child.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further 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. 599) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under ''Submitted Resolutions.'')

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 4088

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4088) to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from lessening the stringency of, and to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from ceasing or lessening implementation of, the COVID–19 border health provisions through the end of the COVID–19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KELLY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I return to the floor tonight with a happy announcement on the jobs and competition bill: We have reached an agreement with Republicans that clears the path to entering into a conference with the House.

Tomorrow, the Senate will hold two votes: one on cloture and one to approve our measure making the conference committee official.

Next Tuesday and Wednesday, we will then hold floor votes on 28 motions to instruct—8 from Democrats, 20 from Republicans.

Tonight's agreement is very good news for America, for good-paying jobs in America, for economic strength in America, for investments in the kinds of science and technology that will help us grow as a country and provide great futures for the next generation.

This bill represents the next major step forward towards finally sending a jobs and competition bill to the President's desk. Of course, I wish it would have happened much sooner; but, nevertheless, the time has come to move forward on this bill.

Let me add this: This will be the most votes on motions to instruct of any bill in decades—a sign of both the immense good will we have shown to our Republican colleagues and the fact that many Members on both sides of the aisle have a stake in seeing this bill finalized.

We have a lot of work left to do, but this agreement is a big step forward towards finally enacting the legislation to lower costs, bring manufacturing back to America, and strengthen our supply chains so we can keep our economy strong for decades.

I want to thank my colleagues from both sides of the aisle who worked in good faith to reach this point.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—H.R. 4521

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that if a compound motion to go forward to conference on Calendar No. 282, H.R. 4521, is agreed to and the Chair is authorized to appoint conferees, the following Senators be permitted to make a motion to instruct, the text of which is at the desk; that these be the only motions to instruct in order; further, that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, following consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate vote in relation to the motions in the order listed; and that the only debate with respect to these motions be 2 minutes equally divided prior to each vote, with 60 affirmative votes required for adoption of the Lankford motion: PAUL, BARRASSO, CRUZ, MENENDEZ, RISCH, KELLY, LEE, BLACKBURN, COTTON, MURKOWSKI, SULLIVAN, RUBIO, JOHNSON, SANDERS on warrants, SCOTT of Florida, HASSAN, ERNST, LANKFORD, SANDERS on NASA, CASSIDY on Mexico, BENNET, WARNOCK, DAINES, CASSIDY on college transparency, CAPITO, TOOMEY, SCOTT of South Carolina, LUJÁN.

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

AMERICA CREATING OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANUFACTURING, PRE-EMINENCE IN TECHNOLOGY, AND ECONOMIC STRENGTH ACT OF 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, it is my understanding that the Senate has received a message from the House of Representatives to accompany H.R. 4521.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate a message from the House.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the House disagreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4521) entitled ''An Act to provide for a coordinated Federal research Initiative to ensure continued United States leadership in engineering Biology.'', and ask a conference with the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move that the Senate insist on its amendment to H.R. 4521, agree to the request of the House for conference, and authorize the Chair to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is pending.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 motion to insist on the Senate amendment to H.R. 4521, a bill to provide for a coordinated Federal research initiative to ensure continued United States leadership in engineering biology, agree to the request from the House for a conference, and authorize the Chair to appoint conferees on behalf of the Senate.

Charles E. Schumer, Michael F. Bennet, Tammy Baldwin, Richard J. Durbin, Patty Murray, Margaret Wood Hassan, Gary C. Peters, Mazie K. Hirono, Tina Smith, Alex Padilla, Debbie Stabenow, Kirsten E. Gillibrand, Mark R. Warner, Tim Kaine, Tammy Duckworth, Brian Schatz, Jon Tester.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion filed today, April 27, be waived.

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

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 28, and that following the prayer and the 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 the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 4521; further, that the cloture motion ripen at 12 noon; finally, that if cloture is invoked, the vote on the compound motion to go to conference occur at 1:45 p.m.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 9:11 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate April 27, 2022:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RYAN K. BUCHANAN, OF GEORGIA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

JASON M. FRIERSON, OF NEVADA, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEVADA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

MARK A. TOTTEN, OF MICHIGAN, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

MARISA T. DARDEN, OF OHIO, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

DELIA L. SMITH, OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

EDDIE M. FRIZELL, OF MINNESOTA, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

LADON A. REYNOLDS, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

THE JUDICIARY

SHERILYN PEACE GARNETT, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TRINA A. HIGGINS, OF UTAH, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

JANE E. YOUNG, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

VANESSA ROBERTS AVERY, OF CONNECTICUT, TO BE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONNECTICUT FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF A NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3525, the ''Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Museum of Asian Pacific American History and Culture Act.''

This bill seeks to create the first national museum dedicated to preserving the history, culture, and accomplishments of Asian Pacific Americans (APA).

As the representative for the 18th District of Texas, which has a significant Asian population, this bill is of great personal importance to me.

Asian Americans are significant contributors of our nation's history as champions of social and racial justice. Yet, Asian Americans have also uniquely suffered in the United States, and those stories should also be told.

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 was the first and only major federal legislation to explicitly suspend immigration for a specific nationality. The basic exclusion law prohibited Chinese laborers—defined as ''both skilled and unskilled laborers and Chinese employed in mining''—from entering the country.

Subsequent amendments to the law prevented Chinese laborers who had left the United States from returning. The passage of the act represented the outcome of years of racial hostility and anti-immigrant agitation by white Americans, set the precedent for later restrictions against immigration of other nationalities, and started a new era in which the United States changed from a country that welcomed almost all immigrants to a gatekeeping one.

Another glaring example of their suffering are the internment camps of World War II.

Prior to the outbreak of World War II, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) had identified German, Italian, and Japanese aliens who were suspected of being potential enemy agents; and they were kept under surveillance. Following the attack at Pearl Harbor, government suspicion arose not only around aliens who came from enemy nations, but around all persons of Japanese descent, whether foreign born (issei) or American citizens (nisei). During congressional committee hearings, representatives of the Department of Justice raised logistical, constitutional, and ethical objections. Regardless, the task was turned over to the U.S. Army as a security matter.

The entire West Coast was deemed a military area and was divided into military zones. Executive Order 9066 authorized military commanders to exclude civilians from military areas. Although the language of the order did not specify any ethnic group, Lieutenant General John L. DeWitt of the Western Defense Command proceeded to announce curfews that included only Japanese Americans. Next, he encouraged voluntary evacuation by Japanese Americans from a limited number of areas; about seven percent of the total Japanese American population in these areas complied.

On March 29, 1942, under the authority of the executive order, DeWitt issued Public Proclamation No. 4, which began the forced evacuation and detention of Japanese-American West Coast residents on a 48-hour notice. Only a few days prior to the proclamation, on March 21, Congress had passed Public Law 503, which made violation of Executive Order 9066 a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in prison and a $5,000 fine.

Because of the perception of ''public danger,'' all Japanese Americans within varied distances from the Pacific coast were targeted. Unless they were able to dispose of or make arrangements for care of their property within a few days, their homes, farms, businesses, and most of their private belongings were lost forever.

From the end of March to August, approximately 112,000 persons were sent to ''assembly centers''—often racetracks or fairgrounds—where they waited and were tagged to indicate the location of a long-term ''relocation center'' that would be their home for the rest of the war. Nearly 70,000 of the evacuees were American citizens. There were no charges of disloyalty against any of these citizens, nor was there any vehicle by which they could appeal their loss of property and personal liberty.

''Relocation centers'' were situated many miles inland, often in remote and desolate locales. Sites included Tule Lake, California; Minidoka, Idaho; Manzanar, California; Topaz, Utah; Jerome, Arkansas; Heart Mountain, Wyoming; Poston, Arizona; Granada, Colorado; and Rohwer, Arkansas. (Incarceration rates were significantly lower in the territory of Hawaii, where Japanese Americans made up over one-third of the population and their labor was needed to sustain the economy. However, martial law had been declared in Hawaii immediately following the Pearl Harbor attack, and the Army issued hundreds of military orders, some applicable only to persons of Japanese ancestry.)

In the ''relocation centers'' (also called ''internment camps''), four or five families, with their sparse collections of clothing and possessions, shared tar-papered army-style barracks. Most lived in these conditions for nearly three years or more until the end of the war. Gradually some insulation was added to the barracks and lightweight partitions were added to make them a little more comfortable and somewhat private. Life took on some familiar routines of socializing and school. However, eating in common facilities, using shared restrooms, and having limited opportunities for work interrupted other social and cultural patterns. Persons who resisted were sent to a special camp at Tule Lake, California, where dissidents were housed.

In 1943 and 1944, the government assembled a combat unit of Japanese Americans for the European theater. It became the 442d Regimental Combat Team and gained fame as the most highly decorated of World War II. Their military record bespoke their patriotism.

As the war drew to a close, ''internment camps'' were slowly evacuated. While some persons of Japanese ancestry returned to their hometowns, others sought new surroundings. For example, the Japanese-American community of Tacoma, Washington, had been sent to three different centers; only 30 percent returned to Tacoma after the war. Japanese Americans from Fresno had gone to Manzanar; 80 percent returned to their hometown.

The internment of Japanese Americans during World War II sparked constitutional and political debate. During this period, three Japanese-American citizens challenged the constitutionality of the forced relocation and curfew orders through legal actions: Gordon Hirabayashi, Fred Korematsu, and Mitsuye Endo. Hirabayashi and Korematsu received negative judgments; but Mitsuye Endo, after a lengthy battle through lesser courts, was determined to be ''loyal'' and allowed to leave the Topaz, Utah, facility.

Justice Murphy of the Supreme Court expressed the following opinion in Ex parte Mitsuye Endo:

I join in the opinion of the Court, but I am of the view that detention in Relocation Centers of persons of Japanese ancestry regardless of loyalty is not only unauthorized by Congress or the Executive but is another example of the unconstitutional resort to racism inherent in the entire evacuation program. As stated more fully in my dissenting opinion in *Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu* v. *United States*, 323 U.S. 214, 65 S.Ct. 193, racial discrimination of this nature bears no reasonable relation to military necessity and is utterly foreign to the ideals and traditions of the American people.

In 1988, Congress passed, and President Reagan signed, Public Law 100–383—the Civil Liberties Act of 1988—that acknowledged the injustice of ''internment,'' apologized for it, and provided a $20,000 cash payment to each person who was incarcerated.

One of the most stunning ironies in this episode of denied civil liberties was articulated by an internee who, when told that Japanese Americans were put in those camps for their own protection, countered ''If we were put there for our protection, why were the guns at the guard towers pointed inward, instead of outward?''

Asian Americans and Asian immigrants also have suffered systematic exclusion from the political process and it has taken a series of reforms, including repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1943, and passage of amendments strengthening the Voting Rights Act

three decades later, to fully extend the franchise to Asian Americans. It was with this history in mind that the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was designed to make the right to vote a reality for all Americans.

Despite this track record of suffering familiar to all minority groups in America, we must not forget the positive history of Asian Americans.

Congresswoman MENG, the sponsor of this bill, put it best when she recalled how:

''Chinese Americans fought for the Union at the Battles of Antietam and Gettysburg during the American Civil War and Japanese Americans comprised the 442nd Regimental Combat Team during World War II, which became the most decorated unit in the history of the U.S. Military.''

''While Chinese and Japanese Americans have demonstrated valor and bravery, they have also faced institutionalized disenfranchisement that manifested in U.S. laws such as the Chinese Exclusion Act and Executive Order 9066 that ordered the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Yet, from the first wave of Southeast Asian refugees on our shores to the Filipino Americans who helped found the farmworker labor movement—AAPIs have left an indelible mark on our American story.''

''From these Halls of Congress to every American classroom, our AAPI heroes such as Grace Lee Boggs—a human rights activist for seven decades; Larry Itliong—the quintessential leader for labor rights and justice; Dalip Singh Saund—the first Asian American elected to Congress; and Patsy Mink—the first woman of color elected to Congress, and the original champion of Title IX protections in the Higher Education Act, have fought for human and civil rights and social justice with their every breath. Shamefully, these stories are starkly missing from the narrative of American history.''

Mr. Speaker, these stories must not continue to be unknown to so many Americans. This bill would put an end to that shameful practice, so I am proud to support it and urge my colleagues to as well.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE GABRIEL A. RODRIGUEZ AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 1928

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today it is our honor to recognize the contributions and service of the Gabriel A. Rodriguez American Legion Post No. 1928 as they celebrate their first annual dinner this April.

American Legion Post No. 1928 was chartered in 1986 and for the last 36 years has honored the American Legion's foundational pillars of programs and activities that support Americanism, National Security, Children & Youth, and Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation.

Just a few months after the Post was founded by Hispanic American veterans in Western New York, the Legion was renamed the Gabriel A. Rodriguez American Legion Post No. 1928, in honor of their fallen Vietnam War veteran, friend and brother affectionately known as Gabe.

As a member of the United States Army's 25th Infantry Division, Gabriel Rodriguez spent over a year in the Qui Nhon region of the Republic of Vietnam. But his service didn't stop there. Upon his return home he joined the New York National Guard where he would serve from 1971 to 1977.

Gabe suffered from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) as a result of his wartime experiences which led to his passing in 1981. To honor his legacy, the Gabriel A. Rodriguez Post serves as a place of comfort and community for all veterans including those experiencing PTSD today.

The Gabriel A. Rodriguez American Legion Post members' commitment to serving veterans and the community is impactful and unwavering. They helped lead the national push to award the Borinqueneers the Congressional Gold Medal, organized food distribution events during the pandemic, and regularly reach out to help fellow veterans receive the benefits and medals they've earned.

Madam Speaker, for the members of the Gabriel A. Rodriguez American Legion Post No. 1928, a commitment to service didn't end following their honorable discharge from duty. It continues today and our community and country are better thanks to their ongoing care and efforts.

CELEBRATING ODESSA'S 120TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 120th anniversary of the founding of Odessa, Washington. To outsiders, Odessa may seem like a small rural town in Eastern Washington, but to those of us who know it well, it is a town full of entrepreneurial spirit, love for America, and passionate people—past and present.

First settled in the 1880s by cattlemen, Odessa is nestled in the Channeled Scab lands of Eastern Washington, which is one of the seven wonders of the Evergreen State. Shortly after, the Great Northern Railroad was built, and railroad officials sought to attract immigrants to buy up land, grow wheat, and ship the crop by rail. This transformed the town from a painted sign to a booming economy.

Homesteader George Finney, seeing the potential for greatness, donated his land to establish Odessa in 1899. He was right. In just a few short years, more immigrants arrived, participating in the local economy and growing the town culturally and spiritually.

Today, Odessa is a vibrant community that more than 1,000 residents call home. The town's rich tradition of hard work and grit makes it a shining example of small town America and the hope of a better future. With approximately 80 percent of Odessa residents able to trace their ancestry to the Black Sea and Volga Germans, the town will celebrate their 51st annual Deutschesfest this September with authentic German food, live music, a city-block large biergarten, parades, and a street fair.

As the representative in Congress for this one-of-a-kind town, I am so inspired by Odessa's dedication to keeping its heritage alive through education. The residents are committed to ensuring their kids become the next generation of leaders and entrepreneurs, just like their ancestors. On this most special day, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Odessa's 120 years of remarkable history and celebrating their personification of the American spirit.

IN CELEBRATION OF HENRY THACKER ''HARRY'' BURLEIGH

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the contributions of Henry Thacker ''Harry'' Burleigh of the great state of New York. The newly christened Harry T. Burleigh Place in Gramercy Park celebrates a man who dedicated his life to enhancing lives through music singing, composing and social justice. This well-deserving recognition honors the indelible impact Mr. Burleigh, known widely as the Father of Spiritual Music, left on New York and communities around the world.

Born in 1866 and growing up in Erie, Pennsylvania as a young African-American baritone singer, Harry Burleigh traveled to New York City and applied to the National Conservatory of Music to study with well-known Director and composer, Antonin Dvorak. His exceptional talent was recognized, and a scholarship awarded to Mr. Burleigh in 1892 enabled him to gain experience editing recordings and developing his classical spirituals. One of these was ''Deep River'' a spiritual composition from 1917 which is recognized all over the world to this day.

Tragically, Mr. Burleigh's life was spent under the heinous abuses of Jim Crow, and the systemic discrimination of ''separate but equal'' endemic to it. Yet in the face of these challenges to his rights and liberties, Mr. Burleigh always led with his talents and tireless work ethic, earning him many glowing accomplishments throughout his life. In 1894, Mr. Burleigh auditioned at St. George's Episcopal Church at 4 Rutherford Place in Manhattan, which still stands proudly today within my district and holds concerts celebrating Burleigh's compositions annually. Church member J.P. Morgan insisted that St. George's hire Mr. Burleigh, and so became the church's Choral Director. He would continue to introduce and play his classical spiritual music there for 52 years. Concurrently he integrated Temple Emanu-El, now Congregation Emanu-El, for a quarter of a century. In 1895, Mr. Burleigh made it a point to personally test the strength of newly passed civil rights laws in New York by asking for service at 25 establishments.

From 1908 onward, he sang for King Edward VII in London, performed on Mayor La Guardia's weekly radio show Talk to the People, and composed over 200 pieces encompassing the classical spiritual music genre. The renowned Dvorak' Symphony No. 9 (From the New World) credits the incorporation' and soulfulness of Burleigh's spiritual works. Mr. Burleigh was also a distinguished chartered member of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) bestowed with great public honors. He received

the 1917 N.A.A.C.P. Spingarn Achievement Medal, and honorary Doctorate of Music from Howard University and Atlanta University in 1920. In addition, Mr. Burleigh mentored Paul Robeson, Marion Anderson, Roland Hayes and Enrico Caruso who would go on to make their own exciting contributions to our nation's musical story.

Mr. Burleigh's legacy of social justice lives on through The Harry T. Burleigh Society. Formed in 2017, the society continues Burleigh's important legacy of disrupting boundaries and challenging social norms to address issues of our time. The Center for Peace, Equity & Justice at Friends Seminary School in New York City, coordinated an education/postcard campaign that was sent to Community Board Six in Manhattan, further highlighting his importance in American social justice to our beloved city.

The co-naming on September 12, 2021 at the South East corner of 16th Street and Third Avenue, Harry T. Burleigh Place, stands now as a testament to his important work as a baritone soloist, choral director, music arranger, editor, mentor, and a New York Community leader.

Harry Burleigh contributed so much to New York and the world, adding his sonorous and unique brand of spiritual signing to our ever-growing chorus of American culture. I am pleased to add my own voice to that chorus today in recognition and remembrance of this great man.

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF THE PARTNERSHIP OF DOUGLAS COUNTY GOVERNMENTS (PDCG)

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th anniversary of The Partnership of Douglas County Governments (PDCG). The PDCG consists of nine local government entities working collaboratively for the greater good of Douglas County's 380,000 residents on impactful issues, projects, and programs.

During the last 20 years, through their collective allegiance to a single mission, the group has focused on creating better communities for their constituents. Since its inception, PDCG accomplishments have included: the Housing Partnership and the Youth Initiative; the Douglas County Mental Health Initiative; collaborative emergency management and public safety; transportation improvements; open space, parks, trails, and recreation initiatives; health and human services programs; as well as specific public health efforts, such as their 18-month COVID–19 Community Response.

In 2017, the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) nominated PDCG for both the Strategic Leadership & Governance Award and the Community Partnership Award. PDCG also works together to strengthen community bonds and protect its citizens. It is a privilege to have such an organization in Colorado's Fourth District.

The dedicated members of the Partnership of Douglas County Governments serve our community in countless ways every day. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize their hard work and determination.

HIGHLANDS CONSERVATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2793, the ''Highlands Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2022.'' The Highlands Conservation Act, a bipartisan land conservation program funded through the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), protects critical conservation areas in the Mid-Atlantic Highlands of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut. The Highlands is a nationally significant landscape that yields benefits and resources to more than 11 million Americans.

A boon to our agriculture and tourism economy, the bill authorizes the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the U.S. Forest Service to work together to help the Highland states, local governments, nonprofits and private forest and farm landowners to conserve the land and natural resources of the Highlands region, helping to lower costs for local farmers and preserve open spaces.

Since 2007, $70 million in funding has been awarded through the Highlands Conservation Act Grant Program to the four States, including $20 million to New York. The program has helped preserve nearly 11,000 acres in the Highlands region, including over 4,000 in the state of New York alone.

This bill will improve upon the already popular land conservation partnership projects made possible by the Highlands Conservation Act Grant Program. In consultation with conservation groups and the FWS, the Highlands Conservation Reauthorization Act:

Reauthorizes this important program through 2028 with $20 million in annual funding.

Authorizes set-aside funding for the FWS to administer the program in a manner consistent with appropriations and other administered FWS programs.

Includes a process in which states can petition for new areas to be included in the Highlands region, thus allowing for expansion of the eligible areas.

Provides states with more complete information of what areas are ecologically connected.

Allows the petition process to be administered on a rolling basis to eliminate possible bottlenecks.

Gives FWS approval authority in the petition process, to remain consistent with how the program is currently administered.

Allows the FWS to modernize the science of conservation resource values in the region.

Responsible conservation is important for maintaining this country's beautiful lands. Mr. Speaker, the Highlands Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2022 achieves such ends, so I am proud to support this significant piece of legislation and urge my colleagues to as well.

RECOGNIZING JEAN HAMIL, NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES AUXILIARY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jean Hamil for her position as National President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States Auxiliary. Jean Hamil has had a rewarding career in serving the Auxiliary in a plethora of capacities and her work has impacted veterans across the United States, including those veterans who are a part of our very own community in Buffalo.

Jean Hamil's father, George W. Nunnery, is a Korean War Veteran who served in the U.S. Navy from 1952 to 1973. Her father's service allowed her to become a Life Member of the East Seminole County Auxiliary 10139.

In addition to working as the Auxiliary, District and Department President, Jean Hamil has worked on the national level, serving as a National District Council Member and the National Director of the Membership Program. She is also a life Member of the VFW National Home for Children and a member of the Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary, which works to serve struggling families.

In addition to being National President of the VFW Auxiliary, Jean Hamil is employed by the Food Safety & Environmental Compliance for A. Duda & Sons, Incorporation as a Manager.

By combining her lifelong passion of supporting our veterans, with her hobby and love of quilting, Jean Hamil formed a small group called the ''Quilting Angels.'' The group creates quilts for veterans at the Orlando VA Healthcare Center, Quilts of Valor-Orange and Seminole counties, as well as for children who are located at the Safe House center and seniors in Seminole County.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the hard work of Jean Hamil. Her hard work and dedication to our veterans throughout her rich career is something to truly admire, and something to continue to be grateful for as she continues her service as the National President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States Auxiliary.

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY AND SCHWEITZER ENGINEERING LABORATORIES

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the historic partnership between Washington State University (WSU) and Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories (SEL).

On Monday, April 18, 2022, Washington State University announced a gift of $20 million from Dr. and Mrs. Ed Schweitzer and Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories. This is

the single-largest philanthropic donation ever made to WSU's Voiland College of Engineering and Architecture, and it will go towards building the brand new, state-of-the-art Schweitzer Engineering Hall at WSU's campus in Pullman, Wash.

Dr. Schweitzer is a WSU alumnus and former professor who has participated in years of research collaborations with the university. He is also the founder of Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, which is Washington's 5th Congressional District's largest private employer.

Since its founding, SEL has employed hundreds of Washington State Cougars, including nearly 450 currently working at the company. This historic contribution represents an exciting new chapter in a long-standing and successful partnership between WSU and SEL that will undoubtedly contribute to new learning opportunities for the next generation of leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs.

I am incredibly proud of the leadership at WSU and SEL, and I am grateful to call the Schweitzers my friends. Their generous contributions and unwavering commitment to the future leaders of our nation is vital to ushering in a new era of innovation that will take America to new heights.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this historic partnership and the tremendous impact it will have for students in Eastern Washington. I wish them nothing but success as they embark on this journey together.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate National Small Business Week, which is being held this year from May first to the seventh. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy and provide so many Americans with the means to live their own American Dream.

In my district, Pennsylvania's Eleventh, over half of all workers are employed by small businesses. At the age of seventeen, I became a small business owner and built the company over twenty-five years to employ hundreds in family-sustaining jobs.

I know firsthand how important it is to support a pro-small business environment, allowing them to thrive. I support policies that create opportunities for our country's small business owners to take risks with the knowledge that their success means success for the entire community.

America's free enterprise system and entrepreneurial spirit have allowed so many to start their own small business and live their American Dream.

As we recognize National Small Business Week, we congratulate and show gratitude to all those entrepreneurs across our district and country. In addition, we thank the employees of the Small Business Administration who have helped business owners in Pennsylvania's Eleventh District access vital aid throughout the COVID–19 pandemic. They have been a reliable resource to my staff, and we are thankful for their work.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MILLARD OAKLEY

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the late Millard Vaughn Oakley, one of the greatest Tennesseans I have ever known. He passed away on April 21 after an extraordinary ninety-one years of life. He was a faithful husband, a loving father and grandfather, an exemplary public servant, and a passionate believer in his small town and the surrounding region. His legacy will live on in our state's history for generations.

He was born May 11, 1930, in Overton County, where he resided his entire life. Mr. Oakley was the son of the late T.M. and Cordia Vaughn Oakley and was the youngest of seven children. He graduated from Livingston Academy in 1947, then attended Tennessee Technological University, and earned a law degree from the Cumberland School of Law in 1951. He then went on to practice law for about 18 years and embarked on a lifetime of public service.

Millard served one term to the Constitutional Convention, four terms as a State Representative, and four terms as Overton County Attorney. His law experience brought him here to Washington in 1971, where he served as General Counsel for the U.S. House Select Committee on Small Business for two years before moving back to the Volunteer State to serve as State insurance Commissioner from 1975 to 1979.

Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Oakley was a business leader who played a key role in the economic development of the Upper Cumberland region. He started in life as a shoeshine on the Livingston Square and checked out as a multi-millionaire, chasing the excitement of the next great business deal, opportunity, or challenge.

If you took a trip to Overton County, you wouldn't have to look far to find someone directly blessed by Mr. Oakley. That is certainly true for me.

A lifetime ago, he became friends with my grandfather, Guy Williams from Fentress County. I admired my grandfather a great deal and learned much from him. Grandpa Williams was the consummate entrepreneur. He had successes and failures, but the latter never slowed him down. It is likely the reason he and Mr. Oakley hit it off so well. When my grandfather passed away, I lost a great mentor.

Years later, I became acquainted with my grandfather's old friend, Millard Oakley. Instinctively, I was drawn to him, and he was kind enough to show me the courtesy of being interested in my life. Eventually, a friendship grew out of an acquaintance and later this friend became one of my most trusted mentors and advisers.

We come from opposing political parties. I am a Conservative Republican. He was a Southern Democrat, but that never impeded his willingness to encourage me or hear me out. Our debates and disagreements were always cordial. There was never a time when I did not glean something valuable from a conversation I had with him. He cared and believed in me, and that meant the world. Countless Tennesseans would say the same about this mighty man. There was not a person in the entire town who Mr. Oakley did not endeavor to know. Whether you were the gas station clerk, a sheriff's deputy, or a student—you mattered to Millard Oakley.

What I will always miss is his most sincere compassion. He gave life to the dreams of many. His generosity will live on through his numerous funds and scholarships to multiple schools and foundations. You'll find many buildings at Cumberland University and Tennessee Tech bearing the name Oakley for their strong support of higher education. In 2015, the Oakleys donated Hartsaw Cove Farm, equaling about 1,400 acres in size, along with the farm livestock and equipment, to Tennessee Tech. That gift was estimated to be worth more than $9 million.

As you venture down Interstate 40 in Cookeville and exit to State Route 111, you will find yourself on ''Millard Vaughn Oakley Parkway,'' the main thoroughfare into the town so dearly loved by this treasure of a Tennessean. Up that State Route, you will find an impressive public library giving children and adults access to thousands of books and a new, magnificent county building, each made possible by Mr. and Mrs. Oakley.

You will also see a modest office in a single-story office complex, which is also home to the local radio station bearing his name, where he worked most days he was in town. You will also see First National Bank—his bank and a major employer in the region. It was through his financial institutions that he helped several small business owners expand and thrive.

Today, I sit in the emptiness of loss. I grieve in the void left by a giant. There is no replacing Millard Oakley, only honoring him by being better, doing better, and leaving this world a little better. In memory of a great Tennessean, who did it better than anyone I have ever known, I pray that we will each take up the mantle and leave our communities a little better than we found them.

SCORE FOR SMALL BUSINESS ACT OF 2022

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6450 the SCORE for Small Business Act of 2022 which would:

reauthorize $13.5 million for the program for two years;

ensure the SBA prevents abuse and misuse of funds; and

expand counseling and training programs to provide online webinars, electronic mentoring platforms and online toolkits to better serve small businesses.

The SCORE program provides vital mentoring and education programs for business owners and entrepreneurs.

SCORE is dedicated to helping small business owners plan, launch, manage and grow their businesses. The programs volunteers also give continuous advice and support to the firms.

Almost 97 percent of businesses in the greater Houston area have fewer than 500

employees—the standard to be considered a small business—and these collectively employ 44 percent of the region's workforce, about 1.2 million people.

Houston adds more than 9,200 new startups annually. In 2021 startups attracted a record $753 million in venture capital funding, up from $702 million in 2019.

The creation of small businesses in Houston is likely to keep growing. Last year, real estate investment group Roofstock released a report ranking Houston among the Nation's top 10 metros for startup formation.

Houston also ranks number 5 among the nation's largest metro areas when it comes to the percentage of minority-owned startups.

Nearly 5,600 startups in the Houston area are minority-owned or about 30 percent of all companies less than two years old.

Together, these minority businesses employ more than 22,700 workers in the region.

But in a region where minorities make up 64 percent of the population, clear inequities in entrepreneurship remain in Houston that mirror the rest of the Nation.

There are currently close to 170,000 minority-owned startups in the U.S. employing more than 700,000 workers and generating close to $100 billion in annual revenue.

Nationally, Hispanics represent about 18 percent of the population but just 7 percent of startup owners. For Black Americans, those figures diminish to just 12 percent and 3 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, Non-Hispanic Whites make up 60 percent of the U.S. population but own nearly 80 percent of the nation's startups.

Mr. Speaker, the reauthorization of the SCORE program funding is essential to the thousands of minorities and women entrepreneurs in this country.

People who have been historically disadvantaged are the people who benefit most from programs like SCORE and we must ensure that they continue to receive assistance.

I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 6450 the SCORE for Small Business Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAROL DAWSON'S DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVICE TO VIRGINIA'S FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Carol Dawson for her service to this country and to Virginia's First Congressional District. Carol served in several positions in the Department of Energy during the Reagan administration, served across numerous Boards in Virginia, and most recently as a prominent member of the Lancaster County Republican Party Committee. Carol's dedication to service and to citizen-leadership is an inspiration to others and I am thankful for her tireless efforts for Virginia's First District.

Carol has worked tirelessly, not only as a federal employee, but also as a state and civil servant. Carol served on the board of directors of the National Conservative Campaign, as well as a member of the Virginia Racing Commission under former Virginia Governor McDonnell. When I was informed that Carol would be leaving Virginia's First District to move closer to her family in Florida, I was saddened that this district would be losing an outstanding citizen.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me today to recognize Carol Dawson and her dedication to the constituents of Virginia's First District. Carol has and continues to live a wonderful life, and I wish her the best of luck on her future journey in life.

CONGRATULATING JEANNINE TRUSWELL ON HER RETIREMENT AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF UNITED WAY OF WELD COUNTY

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication of Jeannine Truswell, who announced that she would be retiring after 36 years with the United Way of Weld County. Her fierce commitment and vision have improved the lives of countless members of the Weld County community.

Jeannine began her tenure as the President and CEO of the United Way of Weld County in 1986, after seven years as the Executive Director of the Weld County Partners Mentoring Youth program. When she took over the organization, its annual fundraising was a little over $500,000. Through her tireless work and determination, the United Way of Weld County now raises almost $5 million annually. In 2011, Jeannine launched Weld Project Connect, a yearly, one-day initiative hosted through the United Way that has served over 8600 people. This program brings awareness to problems in the local community, coordinates governmental agencies, and seeks to inspire Weld County citizens to help one another.

Over the years, Jeannine has guided countless service projects, genuinely connecting and engaging with volunteers as they participated in various events. With Jeannine at the helm of United Way, her focused mission of selfless service has brought positive community-wide solutions through projects and partnerships, including the Weld County Child Abuse Coalition and Founding 211 Colorado. Further, Jeannine has received recognition as A Women's Place Outstanding Women of Weld County and BizWest's Most Influential Business Leader and Woman of Distinction.

On behalf of the Fourth District of Colorado, I extend my congratulations to Jeannine for her honorable service to the people of Weld County.

HONORING THE MILITARY MEDICAL TEAM THAT SERVED AT THE ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER (ECMC)

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today we recognize the exceptional members of the Military Medical Team completing a mission at Erie County Medical Center (ECMC).

During their time in Buffalo, New York, this team of dedicated and talented physicians, nurses, respiratory technicians, and support members have extended great compassion, risked their own health, and provided life-saving care to our friends, family, and neighbors.

Western New York was one of several deployments made by this unit through a Department of Defense effort providing assistance to civilian hospitals in over 100 cities across the nation since the COVID–19 pandemic began.

Time and again, members of the United States military answer the call when our country and our people are in need.

Frontline healthcare workers here at ECMC and throughout the nation have made great sacrifices throughout the pandemic.

We are deeply grateful to these members of the United States Navy for the expertise and support they provided during this national health emergency.

Our community and country are healthier, safer and stronger thanks to their service.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CRAIG SALO

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Craig Salo for his service as the Marquette County Veterans Service Officer and the Head of Marquette County Department of Veteran Affairs. Through his tireless work and steadfast devotion to our Veterans and local communities, Craig has become an indispensable part of the State of Michigan and the United States of America.

Craig Salo was born in Republic, Michigan, and graduated from Northern Michigan University in Marquette. In December 1991, he was commissioned by the U.S. Army as a Distinguished Military Graduate and attended the Infantry Officer Basic Course in Fort Benning, Georgia. Following the end of his training, he served as a Rifle Platoon Leader and Company Executive Officer in the 4th Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment in Sandhofen, Germany. In addition to being deployed in both Afghanistan and Iraq, Craig went on to serve 22 years in the U.S. Army and retired as the U.S. Army Africa G2–X Division Chief in 2014.

Following his retirement from the military, Craig was hired as the first-ever Marquette County Veterans Service Officer and Head of the local Department of Veteran Affairs. Under his outstanding leadership, the Marquette County Department of Veteran Affairs has proudly served many of our Michigan Veterans, and his work has led to the establishment of many local Veteran programs including the creation of the Marquette County Phone App and a transportation network for retired servicemembers. His efforts have greatly benefited the local Veteran community and will certainly inspire future successors of the position.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Craig Salo for his years of service to our country and his diligent work for our Veterans and community. Michiganders can take great

pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated citizen. On behalf of my constituents, I wish him all the best in his new position and his future endeavors.

WOMEN'S BUSINESS CENTERS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2022

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6441, the Women's Business Centers Improvement Act, to amend the Small Business Act and improve the Women's Business Centers program.

The Women's Business Centers Improvement Act reauthorizes the WBC program for four years, increases the authorization level from $18 million annually to $31.5 million, and increases the cap on individual center grants for the first time since the program began.

The bill also establishes an accreditation program run by the Association of Small Business Development Centers to ensure all WBCs provide excellent service and counseling and will increase access to resources and opportunities for female entrepreneurs across the country.

WBCs help women succeed in business by providing training, mentoring, business development, and financing opportunities.

Compared to men, women comprise a smaller percentage of entrepreneurs and start fewer businesses in the United States. Currently, only 24.5 percent of startups in their first two years are owned by women, according to the American Survey of Entrepreneurs.

During the COVID–19 pandemic, the changing face of employment has seen a lot of people go into business for themselves. Women are part of the entrepreneurial trend in Houston. Nationally, Houston ranks fourth in the number of women-owned businesses.

In the metro area, more than half (252,000) of businesses are minority-owned and 40 percent (172,000) are women-owned.

Houston is a place where community members take pride in their homes and businesses, and when faced with challenges, like Hurricane Harvey in 2017, they come together in their determination to move forward.

Despite these strengths, disparities prevent minorities and women from fully participating in wealth-building through small business ownership.

These challenges are not unique to Houston: nationally, women and minorities face disproportional barriers to starting and sustaining businesses.

Women and minority business owners are not reaching the size of their male and nonminority peers.

The expansion of funding outlined in H.R. 6441 will be pivotal to the success of women-owned businesses as they continue to grow, giving women the resources to reach their full potential.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill because we must support the women entrepreneurs of our great Nation.

175TH ANNIVERSARY OF OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, this year marks the 175th anniversary of Otterbein University—a regionally accredited private liberal arts university located in Ohio's 12th Congressional District. Founded in 1847 by the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the university has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to preparing its students for success in their careers and in life. I rise today to commemorate this momentous occasion for Otterbein University and recognize a record of excellence in higher education.

Since its inception, Otterbein University has firmly established itself upon the principles of lifelong learning and opening doors of opportunity for its students. A pioneer in a time of societal inequality, Otterbein was one of the nation's first universities to enroll both women and people of color,

Today, Otterbein University has an enrollment of approximately 2,600 undergraduate students, and 400 graduate students working toward one of its several master's degree programs. Reaching near and far, Otterbein boasts a vast network of over 25,000 alumni scattered all across the world. Otterbein maintains a strong commitment to its core values of opportunity, diversity, equality, and lifelong learning. Reflected in its long list of honors and awards, Otterbein takes great pride in its dedication to community service. In 2015, Otterbein earned the distinguished Carnegie Community Service Classification—a leading national designation for institutional commitment to service.

The future of Otterbein University is bright as it continues to provide opportunities in higher education for generations to come. To this day, Otterbein embodies its core values which have guided the university since the beginning. I am proud to join Otterbein University's faculty, students and staff in celebrating this remarkable milestone. After 175 years in higher education, Otterbein has much to be proud of. Congratulations.

HONORING GREG LAIS, FOUNDER OF WILDERNESS INQUIRY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Greg Lais, upon his retirement after more than 40 years as the founder and executive director of the nonprofit Wilderness Inquiry. Greg is a visionary leader whose disability advocacy, commitment to equity and enthusiasm for nature has opened a gateway to the outdoors for Minnesotans and people across the country of all backgrounds and abilities.

Shortly after graduating from college in 1978, a lifelong passion for the outdoors led Greg Lais and his fellow graduate Paul Schurke to start organizing outdoor trips, What seemed like a somewhat ordinary idea became a trailblazing endeavor. Building on the success of a week-long trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness with a group of people with a variety of physical abilities, Greg and Paul began ''Wilderness Inquiry''—a transformative nonprofit dedicated to providing access to the outdoors through world-class wilderness experiences to anyone, regardless of abilities.

Under Greg's leadership over more than 40 years, the nonprofit has grown to offer a wide variety of trips and experiences, both across the nation and around the world, that welcome people from all walks of life and all abilities. Whether it's a first canoeing trip down a local river, camping in a national park, or exploring the farthest reaches of the world, Wilderness Inquiry empowers everyone to access adventures. Their amazing team of staff and outdoor leaders create trips that are fun, memorable and life-changing for students, families and business teams alike.

Greg knew early on that the strength of Wilderness Inquiry was its valued partnerships with many different organizations. Today, Wilderness Inquiry fulfills their mission to share the outdoors with everyone with the help of more than 100 different entities. Collaboration with U.S. Interior Department agencies like the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on its Canoemobile initiative is one of its most successful endeavors. The Canoemobile ''floating classroom'' experience works with urban cities and school districts, countless volunteers and other organizations to bring students from all backgrounds out on waterways around the country in beautiful, hand-crafted 24-foot Voyageur canoes to learn about science, history, geography and culture.

Based on his own outdoor experiences, Greg understands how powerful interaction with the natural world is to our health, happiness and desire to protect our natural resources. Through these shared adventures, presumptions are challenged, people grow, and community is strengthened. I can vouch for the fact that these adventures are fun and inspiring. But the best proof is in the smiling faces of the more than 40,000 people that Wilderness Inquiry serves each year.

Even as he approaches retirement, Greg continues to offer his expertise and energy to help nurture the next generation of outdoor leaders. This week, Greg's family, coworkers and many friends will join him to celebrate a remarkable career with Wilderness Inquiry.

Madam Speaker, please join me in rising to pay tribute to the leadership of Greg Lais as he retires from Wilderness Inquiry after more than 40 years, and in honor of his ongoing commitment to conservation, equitable access to the outdoors and vision to create positive change.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF URSULINE COLLEGE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on the 150th anniversary of the oldest women's college in Ohio, Ursuline College. Here is a bit of its outstanding history.

In 1850, four Ursuline Sisters and an English laywoman left their monastery in Boulogne-sur-Mer, France and traveled by ship to the United States, where they established the first Catholic schools in the newly formed Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio. They had been invited to Cleveland by the Most Reverend Louis Amadeus Rappe, the first bishop of the diocese and former chaplain to this group of Ursulines in Boulogne-sur-Mer.

Within a month of their arrival in Cleveland, the Ursulines opened an academy for 300 pupils. As their congregation grew, they opened more Catholic schools across Greater Cleveland.

In 1871, Mother Mary of the Annunciation Beaumont, the first superior of the Cleveland Ursulines, obtained a charter from the State of Ohio to establish Ohio's first Catholic college for women. The new college was located in the same building as the motherhouse on Cleveland's Euclid Avenue—focused on the liberal arts.

In its first 95 years, Ursuline College had five different locations in the City of Cleveland before opening its current campus in the Cleveland suburb of Pepper Pike, Ohio in 1966. There, it continues to emphasize the leadership role of women in a wide array of professions.

In 1975, the Diocese of Cleveland closed its Saint John College and asked Ursuline to absorb St. John's Division of Nursing. Ursuline's current Breen School of Nursing and Health Professions grew from this strong foundation to become a nationally recognized Center of Excellence, as designated by the National League for Nursing in 2021. Nursing is Ursuline's highest-enrolled field of study, and Ursuline nursing graduates today help staff Cleveland's top hospitals.

In 2000, Ursuline athletes began competing in inter-collegiate sports. The Ursuline Arrows are now a member program of the Great Midwest Athletic Conference at the NCAA Division II level.

Now, 150 years since its founding, Ursuline remains the only women-focused college in the State of Ohio, and one of the few in the U.S. founded and continuously led by women. True to its original vision, Ursuline continues to transform students for service, leadership, and professional excellence. Its thousands of alumnae, in turn, bring compassion and competence to their service to others in professional and community roles including nursing, business, law, teaching, historic preservation, social work, counseling, art therapy, and more.

Together, we look forward to celebrating the next 150 years of this remarkable institution.

107TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the solemn 107th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. The atrocities began on April 24, 1915 and lasted until 1923. It is our responsibility to recognize the massacre of 1.5 million Armenians 107 years ago.

The Armenian Genocide is an important reminder that crimes against humanity must not go without recognition and condemnation. By recognizing the Armenian Genocide, we pay tribute to the perseverance and determination of those who survived. We also honor the Americans of Armenian descent who have helped strengthen our country.

As a Member of the Armenia Caucus, I have consistently supported resolutions sponsored by my colleagues in the Caucus in recognition of the Armenian Genocide, which state that it is the policy of the United States to commemorate the Armenian Genocide through official recognition and remembrance and reject efforts to enlist, engage, or otherwise associate the United States Government with denial of the Armenian Genocide or any other genocide. We need to remember the past and correct ongoing tragedies in front of us.

As part of those remembrance efforts, I am also an original cosponsor of the Armenian Genocide Education Act, H.R. 7555, which would direct the Library of Congress to carry out Armenian Genocide education programs, including the dissemination of materials to state and local education leaders encouraging the adoption of Armenian Genocide curricula in secondary and post-secondary education.

I stand with my constituents of Armenian descent in commemorating the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. With that, Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in commemoration.

SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2022

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6445—the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act of 2022, which reauthorizes the Small Business Development Center Program through FY2025 and amends the Small Business Act to require an annual report on entrepreneurial development programs.

H.R. 6445 will authorize the appropriation of $175 million for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2025 for the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) program. The program awards grants to centers that counsel and train current and prospective small-business owners.

The Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act would help strengthen the SBDC network and allow the center to do more to build awareness of their programs and services.

More specifically, H.R. 6445 will prohibit entities other than institutions of higher education from receiving new grants under the program; allow centers to collect fees related to private partnerships or co-sponsorships; authorize centers to market their services directly to small businesses; and modify or establish provisions related to program funding, operations, data collection, and reporting.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Business Dynamics Statistics, about 97 percent of businesses in the greater Houston area are considered small businesses.

Companies that employ less than 500 people collectively employ 44 percent of Houston's workforce, or 1.2 million people.

Eighty-two percent of businesses operating in the Houston area have fewer than 20 employees. Together, these businesses employ just under 400,000 workers, or about 14 percent of the regional workforce.

According to a study done by Self Financial, a personal finance service, there are nearly 170,000 minority-owned startups in the U.S., employing over 700,000 people and generating close to $100 billion in annual revenue.

The study states that Houston ranks fifth in the Nation for minority entrepreneurship.

Nearly 35 percent of Houston-area small businesses employing 50 or fewer people are minority-owned.

And based on demographic trends, these numbers are likely to grow as the population continues to diversify on racial and ethnic lines.

As a senior Member of the House Committees on Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Budget, I have and continue to advocate and fight for funding for the self-employed, independent contractors, sole proprietors, and small businesses.

In the early stages of the pandemic, I introduced H.R. 6292, the COVID–19 Small Business Recovery Grants Act, to help struggling farmers, ranchers, and small businesses that suffered an economic loss due to the COVID–19 Pandemic.

Specifically, this legislation would have established a $1 billion fund to provide direct relief to eligible parties who were experiencing financial losses due to the coronavirus.

The bill supported the American people by preserving the economic viability of small businesses that have been devastated by the COVID–19 Pandemic.

Entrepreneurship is the backbone of American commerce, especially small businesses that are significant drivers of economic growth and job creation in the U.S.

Small businesses provide opportunities for entrepreneurs, jobs for neighbors and gathering places for communities. They're rooted in the landscape where they grow, and foster local economies, keeping money close to home.

Small Business Development Centers are an essential resource for small business owners, especially those who have been historically disadvantaged. SBDC's provide them with business advising, access to training, tools, and resources to help small businesses start, grow, expand, and succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6445 the Small Business Development Centers Improvement Act because we must support our country's small businesses to ensure that our economy is prosperous.

IN HONOR OF THE 2021–2022 AAAA STATE CHAMPIONS: THE SPENCER GREENWAVE BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Georgia High

School Association 2021–2022 AAAA Boys Basketball Georgia State Champions, the William Henry Spencer High School Greenwave of Columbus, Georgia.

On Wednesday, March 9, 2022, the Greenwave won the state championship game against Westover High School by a score of 62–42. This was the fifth game of the season against the Westover Patriots, and it was an exciting end to their series. This historic victory marked the first state title championship for William Henry Spencer High School.

Their victory in this season's AAAA state championship follows years of frustration, but their hard work and determination this year came bursting forth into an unbelievable season of teamwork and athletic excellence. The perseverance of the Greenwave, after a 28-game winning streak in the team's impressive 30-2 record, was clearly shown by this spectacular season.

This talented roster consisted of seniors, Kyrie Deas, Jamie Jackson, and Randall Dixon; juniors, Jonathan Holmes, Ryan Mobley, Jhalienne Drake, Antonio ''TJ'' Cochran, Tycen McDaniels, Wy'Darius Scott, and Vasean Moody; sophomores, Mor-Le'Draeyon ''Dray'' Duncan, Gary Gaithers, and Key'Shaun Sampton; and a freshman, Tony Montgomery.

I cannot put into words the tremendous pride that the citizens of Columbus, and indeed the entire Second Congressional District, have in being able to call this outstanding team of athletes their own. They have accomplished an incredible feat, one that could not have been possible without the tireless leadership and encouragement from their Co-Athletic Director and Head Varsity Coach, Quantavious Allen; Co-Athletic Director, Joseph Kegler; Assistant Coach, the late Douglas Cromartie; the Principal, Assistant Principal, teachers, and support staff as well as their families, classmates, and members of the community who believed in them and their ability to bring home a state championship title.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District in congratulating and honoring these hardworking young men who have persevered, sacrificed, and achieved the pinnacle of success in basketball—the Georgia AAAA State Championship title.

IN MEMORY OF PHILLIP PITTMAN

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a patriotic American, Mr. Phillip Pittman. Mr. Pittman lived in Versailles, Kentucky and passed away on April 6, 2022.

Mr. Pittman was born and raised in Jackson, Tennessee. He was drafted by the United States Army in 1966 and attended flight school as a warrant officer. Mr. Pittman flew the OH–6 on his first tour with the 7th squadron, 17th Cavalry ''Ruthless Raiders'' at Pleiku Air Base, Vietnam. He was commissioned to Lieutenant. On his second tour of duty, he flew RU–8Ds with the 1st Radio Research Company at Cam Rahn Bay Air Base, Vietnam. After a 26-year distinguished Army career, Mr. Pittman retired as a Lieutenant Colonel.

Following his active-duty service, Mr. Pittman had a 20-year career with L3 Communications, supporting SOFSA at Bluegrass Station in Lexington, KY. He also was a founding member of Honor Flight Kentucky in 2015. He served as the organization's president from 2019 to 2021 and was an ambassador since Honor Flight Kentucky's beginning. Honor Flight Kentucky has flown 1,000 WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans to their memorials in Washington, D.C. Along with co-founder George Campbell, Mr. Pittman believed strongly in providing a meaningful experience for each veteran who was able to participate. Through his work with Honor Flight Kentucky, Mr. Pittman created a lasting legacy of appreciation for our veterans.

It is my honor to recognize this amazing patriot, celebrate his life, and appreciate him for his service and sacrifice to our nation. Mr. Pittman exemplified the American spirit through his courageous service and his dedication to his fellow veterans. I am forever grateful for Americans like Phill Pittman.

RECOGNIZING FEDERAL AMMUNITION ON THEIR 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. EMMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an American institution in Minnesota's Sixth Congressional District, Federal Ammunition, on their centennial anniversary.

On this day in 1922, Charles Horn purchased the Federal Cartridge and Machine Company in Anoka, Minnesota. Since then, they have been manufacturing ammunition which has helped American troops fight for freedom in every major global conflict since World War II, and law enforcement officers protect our communities. Just recently this year, Federal sent one million rounds of ammunition to the Ukrainian people to support their fight for freedom.

Currently, Federal employs more than 1,500 people in Anoka. Since the company's founding however, Federal has employed thousands of Minnesotans and Americans across the country, producing billions of rounds of ammunition.

I want to congratulate the entire Federal Ammunition team, past and present, on their 100-year anniversary and thank them for their commitment to Minnesotan and American ideals.

IN MEMORIAM OF UMA SENGUPTA

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Uma SenGupta, a lifelong educator and the first Indian American woman elected as a Democratic District Leader in Queens. Uma passed away peacefully on March 9, 2022. She is known for her steadfast commitment to ensuring justice, access, and equity for Indian Americans in Queens.

In 1970 Uma moved to New York with her husband Suprabhat. Shortly after arriving, Uma founded the Rainbow Montessori School in Flushing and became its first educational director. During her 30+ years as an educator Uma became a fixture of the Indian community in Flushing which led her to make history in 2004 when she was elected as a Democratic District Leader in Queens. Uma used her role as a District Leader to encourage minorities, women, and other marginalized populations to become more directly involved in the political process. Because of her vital work in this area the number of women, minorities and immigrants involved in local politics has increased substantially which is a testament to the lasting impact of her efforts.

Madam Speaker, my constituents and I are grateful to Uma for everything she did for New York City throughout her long and storied career. May she rest well.

ONE STOP SHOP FOR SMALL BUSINESS COMPLIANCE ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4877 the One Stop Shop for Small Business Compliance Act of 2021 to require the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman to create a website compiling small entity compliance guides and contact information for individuals who can assist small businesses with each guide.

H.R. 4877 will compile information on federal regulations that govern small business operations onto one website, making it easier for firms to educate themselves on the small business compliance guidelines.

Currently, small business compliance guides are published on several different agency websites, making it difficult for small businesses that usually don't have the time or resources to navigate the web to fully comply with their responsibilities under new laws.

The centralized website would not only accumulate small business compliance guides, but it would also provide small business owners with details regarding the appropriate agency and staff members who owners should contact regarding regulatory assistance.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau's Business Dynamics Statistics, 82 percent of firms operating in Houston have fewer than 20 employees. Together, these businesses employ just under 400,000 workers, or about 14 percent of the regional workforce.

Houston also adds more than 9,200 new startups annually.

H.R. 4877, the One Stop Shop for Small Business Compliance Act, will make it easier for thousands of Houstonian entrepreneurs and people across the country to comply with the small business compliance guides.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL WALTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. WALTZ. Madam Speaker, I missed the passage vote on concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 7018—Suspending Normal Trade Relations with Russia and Belarus Act. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 124.

HONORING 50 YEARS OF FAMILY MEDICINE RESIDENCY SPOKANE

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 50th Anniversary of the Family Medicine Residency Spokane program.

Serving the Spokane community since 1972, this residency program is the oldest family residency program in Washington and graduated the first class of three family medicine physicians just two years after launching. Over the last 50 years, interest in the program has blossomed and residency classes have grown. In 2014, the program grew again with the help of the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education funding program.

The 365 graduates of this program have gone on to provide primary care services in their communities, taken on leadership roles in other residency programs, received prestigious national appointments to various associations, and some have even returned to the Family Medicine Residency Spokane program as faculty to help mentor incoming resident physicians.

During the COVID–19 pandemic, Family Medicine Residency Spokane played an integral role in the continuation of care delivery by serving as urgent care overflow. Their commitment to care helped ease the burden on urgent care facilities and emergency rooms across Spokane. They also provided telemedicine care to patients who were unable to visit in-person, administered immunizations to community members during one of the first vaccine clinics in Spokane, and stood ready to assist in our hospitals.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the many accomplishments of the Family Medicine Residency Spokane program. They are truly frontline heroes, and I wish them the best during this 50th year of service and beyond.

RECOGNITION OF BOBBIEJO LAZO

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Bobbiejo Lazo for receiving the Veterans of Foreign Distinguished Service Award. Bobbiejo has been the department of Virginia's State Service Officer for 7 years, and previously served as Post Junior Vice Commander. As State Service Officer, Bobbiejo has built a new organization to assist veterans from the ground through hiring and training personnel. Over the course of 7 years, Bobbiejo was able to lead her team in providing crucial high-quality support to veterans.

Bobbiejo served in the Army for 6 years and earned her Veteran of Foreign War eligibility bravely fighting in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Her bravery has earned her numerous other military accolades including the Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Bobbiejo Lazo. Words alone cannot express our gratitude for her service and excellent support of Veterans. May God bless Bobbiejo as she continues to serve her nation and our veterans. I look forward to seeing her continued excellence.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF UNION FIRE COMPANY NO. 2 IN BALLSTON SPA, NEW YORK

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Union Fire Company No. 2 in Ballston Spa, New York as they celebrate their ''Old Timers'' at their annual banquet. This fire company has shown great pride in their community and has served Ballston Spa's residents for over one hundred years.

In 1855, a group of firefighters known as the ''Star Fire Co.'' began serving the Ballston Spa community. On June 11, 1901, they officially became Union Fire Company No. 2 and have been proudly protecting their community ever since. Over the last century, the fire company has continuously grown and has now expanded to a two story and two bay facility that can house multiple apparatuses. In 2001, the company had the honor of celebrating one hundred years of faithful service to the Ballston Spa community and surrounding areas. The company also proudly boasts numerous trophies and awards won by their incredible team and the department's band. In 2019, the company responded to a record total of 419 emergency calls, exemplifying their unwavering dedication to the safety of the Ballston Spa community.

With the motto ''Ever Ready,'' the Union Fire Company prides itself on its exceptional community outreach. In addition to their annual banquets celebrating their past and current members, they also hold numerous community events. Ballston Spa's youth are a major focus for this company, demonstrated in their sponsorship of many local sports teams and their fire safety lessons for young students.

Union Fire Company No. 2 has shown tremendous dedication to protecting and serving the Ballston Spa community. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I am proud to honor and thank every current and past member of Union Fire Company No. 2.

BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK EXPANSION AND REDESIGNATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in support of S. 270, the Brown v. Board of Education National Historical Park Expansion and Redesignation Act.

S. 270 will redesignate the Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site in Topeka, Kansas as the Brown v. Board of Education National Historical Park.

Further, the bill will expand the Brown v. Board of Education designation by establishing additional sites in South Carolina, Virginia, Delaware, and the District of Columbia.

The Topeka, Kansas site has memorialized the stories of perseverance for equal access to education. However, when Brown v. Board of education was litigated at the U.S. Supreme Court, it consolidated four other school segregation cases and it is important that we recognize this through expanding the Brown v. Board National Historic Site to each of these four relevant locations.

These cases were Briggs v. Elliot in South Carolina, Davis v. County of Virginia, Gebhart v. Belton of Delaware, and Bolling v. Sharpe of the District of Columbia.

The Supreme Court's landmark decision in Brown v. Board of Education found that racial segregation in public education violated the 14th Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees all citizens equal protection of laws.

The effect of this decision was the end of segregation in public schools, effectively overturning the doctrine of ''separate but equal'' established by the Court in the 1896 decision of Plessy v. Ferguson.

Every child has a right to equitable education and learning opportunities without being limited by their race and other arbitrary or irrelevant factors.

It is incredible how Brown v. Board overturned what was a commonplace injustice. And in its place formed a new reality where every student can learn unhindered by the color of their skin or their ethnicity.

This case changed the course of civil rights in this country and set a powerful precedent for equality and human dignity around the world.

In memorializing this unprecedented decision, it is vital we consider the states and respective towns involved in this case. Each of the 5 cases contributes its own unique stories and backgrounds in the struggle for educational equity.

By establishing additional sites and affiliated areas in South Carolina, Virginia, Delaware, and the District of Columbia, we ensure that the 5 major cases and locations in Brown v. Board are commemorated in each of the locations that gave rise to this historic transformation.

I urge all members to join me in voting for S. 270, the Brown v. Board of Education National Historical Park Expansion and Redesignation Act.

IN HONOR OF THE BLUEGRASS AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the members of the Bluegrass Area Development District on their 50th anniversary.

The BGADD is a non-profit organization serving over 800,000 residents in the Kentucky counties of Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Estill, Fayette, Franklin, Garrard, Harrison, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Nicholas, Powell, Scott, and Woodford. For the past 50 years, The Bluegrass ADD has provided a regional voice for local governments on issues such as planning, economic development, environment, transportation, homeland security, public utilities, aging and independent living, and workforce development.

The concept of Area Development Districts (ADDs) originated in Kentucky in the early 1960's with the establishment of Area Development Councils. These Councils were organized in all counties and ultimately became the model for the Area Development authorization in landmark federal acts such as the Appalachian Regional Development Act led by Kentuckian John Whisman and the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1963. The fifteen Area Development Districts were formed during the period that followed, 1966 to 1971, serving all 120 Kentucky counties. The Bluegrass ADD (BGADD) was the last ADD to incorporate, filing their articles of incorporation on November 8, 1971.

It is my honor to recognize the members, the leaders, and the dedicated staff of the Bluegrass Area Development District. I congratulate them on their 50-year history, celebrate their many accomplishments, and look forward to many years of serving the citizens of central Kentucky.

CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, today we honor the tremendous legacy of Frederick Law Olmsted. April 26, 2022, marks the 200th anniversary of his birth, a day to celebrate and reflect on the great impact he had in my home community of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, New York and across the country.

When we visit and admire our national parks, we owe a great gratitude to Frederick Law Olmsted, as he was one of the first individuals to promote the idea of national parks in his 1865 Yosemite Report. He is remembered as the premier landscape architect in the United States during the 19th century and is considered to be the founder of landscape architecture in the United States.

His work and designs included a plethora of different types of landscapes. He worked to develop parks and parkways, college campuses, planned communities, estates, cemeteries, and recreation areas.

In our very own community, we see his impact reflected in the Buffalo Olmsted Park System; the first of its kind in this country which today is recognized on the National Register for Historic Places, and in his design of the State Reservation at Niagara, the first and oldest State Park in the United States which preserved public access to the mighty and splendid Niagara Falls.

It was not just the landscapes themselves that were impressive, but Olmsted's philosophy behind his work and designs which were visionary and have stood the test of time. He believed that landscape designs should promote community, advance democracy, provide recreational opportunities in urban environments, nurture and invigorate public health, and encourage the development of livable communities.

This philosophy was carried out well into the 20th century by Olmsted's associates, sons, and successor firms, leaving a tremendous legacy of historic landscapes that continues to benefit all Americans and visitors.

Madam Speaker, Olmsted's landscape designs are inclusive, enduring, and embrace the restorative value of parks which continue to play a valuable role in society today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ADRIANO BAZA PANGELINAN

HON. MICHAEL F. Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Adriano Baza Pangelinan. Adriano was a pioneer of contemporary art and esteemed ambassador of Guam whose love for our island and people has and continues to resonate in countless ways. We will fondly remember him as a talented visionary that has helped shape the history and revitalize the spirit of artistry for our community.

As a student at George Washington High School, Adriano launched a distinguished art career at an early age. In the late 1960s, Adriano's undeniable talent, understanding, and use of color compelled his art teacher to submit several of his works to various national and international student art shows. Garnering much attention and acclamation from throughout the world, 17-year-old Adriano was invited to the Chautauqua Institute Art Exhibit in New York State. Shortly thereafter, knowledge of his name and work began to spread. An article about him was published in the New York Times, he was invited to exhibit a one-man show at the San Francisco Museum of Modem Art, and he received numerous other exhibition invitations from places such as Japan and Texas.

Passionate about elevating his creative skills and work, Adriano earned his Master of Fine Arts degree in painting from Southern Illinois University in 1973. By then, he had captivated a worldwide audience and obtained international recognition. Yet instead of taking his wisdom and expertise abroad, he chose to return home to give back to the very people and island often at the center of his vivid watercolor pieces. Upon his arrival, he took on a role as a professor of art at the University of Guam up until his retirement in 1993. For two decades he served as a teacher and mentor—supporting generations of young artists along their personal paths of success. Today, the distinctive colors, perspective, and character embodied in Adriano's work can be found in many local public spaces including Guam's A. B. Won Pat International Airport, the Guam Legislature, King's Restaurant, Pacific Islands Club Resort, Guam Hilton Hotel, and numerous other hotels. With themes ranging from island customs and daily activities to architecture and homes, they persist as stunning reminders of the beauty that he saw, and we can similarly discover, in our lives, history, and culture.

Adriano Baza Pangelinan is an icon of ingenuity who continues to inspire emerging artists and appreciators alike. My family and I wish to extend our hearts and prayers for Adriano, his wife Shiela, children Adriano, Carlos, Marilyn, Sean, and Dano, and the rest of their family and friends, and I join the People of Guam in remembering and celebrating his life and legacy of remaining grounded in one's community and roots no matter where their success may take them. Though Adriano will be deeply missed, he will be welcomed at the Heavenly Gates by his dear mother Pilar, father Vicente, siblings Cristobal, Abelina, Enrique, and Jose, and daughter Filomena, and his love and memories will forever remain in the hearts of the People of Guam.

HONORING REBECCA REYNOLDS FOR BEING AWARDED THE GOLD AWARD BY GIRL SCOUTS OF MICHIGAN SHORE TO SHORE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Rebecca Reynolds for being awarded the Gold Award by the Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore. Through her devotion to her community, Rebecca successfully secured multiple grants to help provide funding for modernized technology and resources for her peers.

The Gold Award is a highly prestigious honor given out to only a small fraction of Girl Scouts each year. Since 1916, the Girl Scout's Gold Award has been the highest possible achievement of scouts, typically taking between 1–2 years of work to obtain. Rebecca Reynolds of Gaylord, Michigan, is one of the honorees that will be receiving the Gold Award through her efforts to create a Makerspace at the Otsego County Library. She achieved this goal by securing three grants to help modernize resources available to her peers and the public. As a result of Rebecca's work, two 3D printers, a CNC Machine, Sphero Robots, and many other materials are now available for public use. I commend her selfless work on behalf of her fellow Michiganders, which will surely inspire many to take up interests in STEM education.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Rebecca Reynolds for being awarded the Gold Award by the Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such dedicated citizens. On behalf of my constituents, I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

NATIONAL LIBERTY MEMORIAL PRESERVATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6201, the ''National Liberty Memorial Preservation Act.''

Four hundred years ago, ships set sail from the west coast of Africa and in the process, began one of humankind's most inhumane practices: human bondage and slavery. For two centuries, human beings—full of hopes and fears, dreams and concerns, ambition and anguish—were transported onto ships like chattel, and the lives of many forever changed.

The reverberations from this horrific series of acts—a transatlantic slave trade that touched the shores of a colony that came to be known as America, and later a democratic republic known as the United States of America—are not fully recognized and remain worthy of further exploration. Approximately 4,000,000 Africans and their descendants were enslaved from 1619 to 1865 in the American and thereafter in the United States.

The institution of slavery was constitutionally and statutorily sanctioned by the Government of the United States from 1789 through 1865. American slavery is our country's original sin and its existence at the birth of our nation is a permanent scar on our country's founding principles and documents, as well as on the venerated authors of those documents. It is a legacy that continued well into the last century.

The framework for the Constitution and our country to which we all take an oath describes African Americans as three-fifths of a person. The infamous Dred Scott decision of the United States Supreme Court, issued decades later, described slaves as private property, unworthy of citizenship.

And, a civil war that produced the largest death toll of American fighters in any conflict in our history could not prevent the indignities of Jim Crow, the fire hose gatherings, the beatings at lunch counters; and the systemic and institutional discrimination that would follow for a century after the end of the Civil

''The mythology built around the Civil War—that victory by the North eradicated slavery and all of its vestiges throughout our nation—has obscured our discussions of the impact of chattel slavery and made it difficult to have a national dialogue on how to fully account for its place in American history and public policy.

While it is nearly impossible to determine how the lives touched by slavery could have flourished in the absence of bondage, we have certain data that permits us to examine how a subset of Americans—African Americans—have been affected by the callousness of involuntary servitude.

By the end of the Civil War, roughly 179,000 black men (10 percent of the Union Army) served as soldiers in the U.S. Army and another 19,000 served in the Navy. Nearly 40,000 black soldiers died over the course of the war—30,000 of whom died of infection or disease. Black soldiers served in artillery and infantry units and performed all noncombat support functions that sustain an army, as well. Black carpenters, chaplains, cooks, guards, laborers, nurses, scouts, spies, steamboat pilots, surgeons, and teamsters also contributed to the war cause.

There were nearly 80 black commissioned officers. Black women, who could not formally join the Army, nonetheless served as nurses, spies, and scouts, the most famous being Harriet Tubman, who scouted for the 2d South Carolina Volunteers.

Because of prejudice against them, black units were not used in combat as extensively as they might have been. Nevertheless, the soldiers served with distinction in a number of battles. Black infantrymen fought gallantly at Milliken's Bend, LA; Port Hudson, LA; Petersburg, VA; and Nashville, TN. The July 1863 assault on Fort Wagner, SC, in which the 54th Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers lost two-thirds of their officers and half of their troops, was memorably dramatized in the film Glory. By war's end, 16 black soldiers had been awarded the Medal of Honor for their valor.

In addition to the perils of war faced by all Civil War soldiers, black soldiers faced additional problems stemming from racial prejudice. Racial discrimination was prevalent even in the North, and discriminatory practices permeated the U.S. military. Segregated units were formed with black enlisted men and typically commanded by white officers and black noncommissioned officers.

The 54th Massachusetts was commanded by Robert Shaw and the 1st South Carolina by Thomas Wentworth Higginson—both white. Black soldiers were initially paid $10 per month from which $3 was automatically deducted for clothing, resulting in a net pay of $7. In contrast, white soldiers received $13 per month from which no clothing allowance was drawn. In June 1864 Congress granted equal pay to the U.S. Colored Troops and made the action retroactive. Black soldiers received the same rations and supplies. In addition, they received comparable medical care.

The black troops, however, faced greater peril than white troops when captured by the Confederate Army. In 1863 the Confederate Congress threatened to severely punish officers of black troops and to enslave black soldiers. As a result, President Lincoln issued General Order 233, threatening reprisal on Confederate prisoners of war (POWs) for any mistreatment of black troops. Although the threat generally restrained the Confederates, black captives were typically treated more harshly than white captives.

In perhaps the most heinous known example of abuse, Confederate soldiers shot to death black Union soldiers captured at the Fort Pillow, TN, engagement of 1864. Confederate General Nathan B. Forrest witnessed the massacre and did nothing to stop it.

Madam Speaker, it is obvious that this chamber needs to pass this legislation to honor these soldiers' lives. Black people's labor and service must be amplified because it often goes intentionally overlooked, and this legislation is key in righting that historical wrong.

I am proud to support this legislation and urge my colleagues to as well.

HONORING SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR VINCENT DULESKY

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of our finest.

I would like to commemorate Special Operations Supervisor Vincent Dulesky, who passed away on April 1, 2022. Supervisor Dulesky was the head of public affairs at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Yuma Sector Headquarters.

Supervisor Dulesky was born on June 15, 1974 in St. Louis, Missouri. He was a great boxer and earned a college wrestling scholarship. He attended Arizona Western College and the University of Phoenix.

He proudly served this country in the United States Marine Corps. He also worked as a Border Patrol agent in Ajo, Arizona and as a supervisor in Blythe, California.

My office staff met with Supervisor Dulesky a number of times and found him to be very informative and professional. He was cheerful, friendly and down-to-earth, a real man of the people. But what struck them most about Supervisor Dulesky was his sense of duty—the feeling that his profession was more than a job—it was a vocation or calling.

But Supervisor Dulesky was not just a great athlete and superb law enforcement officer. He had a softer side. He bonded with his family through his fandom of the Kansas City Chiefs. He was a farmer, had pet chickens, and loved to cook. And he was constantly smiling and laughing—but always accompanied with an outstretched hand to help.

Especially in these times of crisis on a southern border, the competence and care that Supervisor Dulesky never ceased to exhibit every day will be sorely missed. But nothing can compare to what this loss means for his family.

I would like his loved ones, his beloved wife Barbie, and children, Chloe, 25, Jaden, 19, Delilah, 11, and Gigi, 10, to know that they are in my prayers. Even though I know that they do not need me to tell them this, they should be incredibly proud of their husband and father's service to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Speaker, due to an unforseen conflict, I missed Roll Call No. 126. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 126.

IN RECOGNITION OF CARTHAGE COLLEGE MEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE NCAA DIVISION III NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP ON APRIL 23, 2022

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Carthage College men's volleyball team. On April 23, the Carthage Firebirds won the NCAA Division III National Championship. The Firebirds played in a tough 16-team tournament to reach the top. They dominated their competition, beating Mount Union College, Dominican University, and Wentworth Institute of Technology all without losing a single set.

In the final, Carthage faced #1 ranked Springfield College and won, 3 sets to 1. The Firebirds succeeded in the regular season and the tournament. They earned a well-deserved championship—a remarkable accomplishment in its own right—but this is Carthage's second championship in as many years. The Firebirds defended their title and beat the top-ranked team in the country to do it. They played the championship at their home arena, where Carthage students and fans helped cheer the Firebirds to victory.

Congratulations to Coach JW Kieckhefer, the Firebirds team, and the entire Carthage College community on this achievement. Best of luck to the Firebirds' men's volleyball team on their future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAY ZAVALA

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2022

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jay Zavala, as he is named the 2022 Outstanding Citizen of the Year by the Falmouth Chamber of Commerce.

Jay moved to Falmouth, Massachusetts, in 2000, and has since established himself as a pillar of the community through his extensive involvement with the town over the past two decades. Jay, a veteran of the Vietnam War, writes, produces, and hosts the Town of Falmouth's Annual Veterans Appreciation Breakfast each year. With a knack for TV production, Jay also sits on the Falmouth Community Television Advisory Council and works as a FCTV production volunteer.

After being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2016, Jay joined the American Parkinson Disease Association Massachusetts Chapter, and was later elected Vice President of the chapter. In recognition of Jay's advocacy on behalf of individuals with Parkinson's disease and their caregivers, Jay was named the 2021 honoree for the third annual APDA MA-Cape Cod Optimism Walk.

Following a career in government contracting, corporate marketing and sales, and independent business consulting, Jay applied his professional expertise and commitment to community service to a series of productive pursuits. Jay served as President and CEO of the Falmouth Chamber of Commerce, Chair of the Continuing and Adult Education Advisory Committee of Upper Cape Regional Technical School, and Vice Chair of the Cape Cod Commission. Further, Jay has served on the board of directors for several local organizations, including Friends of Fairwinds Clubhouse, Falmouth Housing Trust, Open Cape Corporation, and the Falmouth Economic Development and Industrial Corporation. Through his civic engagement, Jay has devoted his life to supporting and bettering his community.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Jay Zavala and ask that my colleagues join me in commending him for his many years of dedication and service to the Cape Cod community and our country.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 28, 2022 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 3

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program; to be immediately followed by a closed session in SVC–217.

SD–G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation.

SD–106

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Defense.

SD–192

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Transportation.

SR–253

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Department of State authorization, focusing on strengthening U.S. diplomacy for the 21st century.

SD–419/VTC

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety

To hold hearings to examine connecting workers and communities, focusing on preparing and supporting the broadband workforce.

SD–430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To hold hearings to examine medical mistreatment of women in ICE detention.

SD–562

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights

To hold hearings to examine an ethical judiciary, focusing on transparency and accountability for 21st century courts.

SD–226

12 noon

Committee on Rules and Administration

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Dara Lindenbaum, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission.

S–219

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Internal Revenue Service.

SD–138

3:30 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the VA workforce, focusing on assessing ways to bolster recruitment and retention.

SR–418

MAY 4

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Health and Human Services.

SD–138

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Energy.

SD–192

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Homeland Security

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Homeland Security.

SD–106

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Forest Service.
SD–124

Committee on Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider the nominations of John N. Nkengasong, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large, Coordinator of United States Government Activities to Combat HIV/AIDS Globally, Marc B. Nathanson, of California, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway, MaryKay Loss Carlson, of Arkansas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Philippines, Philip S. Goldberg, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Korea, and Caroline Kennedy, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Commonwealth of Australia, all of the Department of State, amendments to the Treaty on Fisheries between the Governments of Certain Pacific Island States and the Government of the United States of America (Treaty Doc. 115–3), agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Croatia comprising the instrument as contemplated by Article 3(2) of the Agreement on Extradition between the United States of America and the European Union, signed June 25, 2003, as to the Application of the Treaty on Extradition signed on October 25, 1901 (the ''U.S.-Croatia Extradition Agreement''), and the Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Croatia comprising the Instrument as contemplated by Article 3(3) of the Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance between the United States of America and the European Union signed at Washington on June 25, 2003 (the ''U.S.-Croatia Mutual Legal Assistance Agreement''), both signed at Washington on December 10, 2019 (Treaty Doc. 116–2), amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the ''Montreal Protocol''), adopted at Kigali on October 15, 2016, by the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (the ''Kigali Amendment'') (Treaty Doc. 117–1), and other pending calendar business.
S–116

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine excessive swipe fees and barriers to competition in the credit and debit card systems.
SD–226

2 p.m.
Committee on Finance
Subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight
To hold hearings to examine laws and enforcement governing the political activities of tax exempt entities.
SD–215

Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology, and the Law
To hold hearings to examine platform transparency, focusing on understanding the impact of social media.
SD–226

2:15 p.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jane Hartley, of New York, to be Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Alan M. Leventhal, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Denmark, Constance J. Milstein, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Malta, and Bruce I. Turner, of Colorado, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as U.S. Representative to the Conference on Disarmament, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations.
SD–419/VTC

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection
To hold hearings to examine overdraft fees and their effects on working families.
SD–538

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine resources and authorities needed to protect and secure the homeland.
SD–342

Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine implementing the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act for Native communities, focusing on setting new foundations.
SD–628

3:30 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 and advance appropriations requests for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Veterans Affairs.
SD–124

MAY 5

10:15 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine securing and ensuring order on the southwest border.
SD–106

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2173–S2198

Measures Introduced: Eleven bills and six resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4091–4101, S.J. Res. 45, S. Res. 596–599, and S. Con. Res. 36.

Pages S2189–90

Measures Reported:

S. 533, to require a guidance clarity statement on certain agency guidance, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–95)

S. 629, to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to submit to the Comptroller General of the United States a report on rules that are revoked, suspended, replaced, amended, or otherwise made ineffective, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–96)

S. 1324, to establish a Civilian Cyber Security Reserve as a pilot project to address the cyber security needs for the United States with respect to national security, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–97)

S. 1941, to direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to standardize the use of core-based statistical area designations across Federal programs, to allow between 120 and 180 days for public comment on any proposed change to such designations, and to report on the scientific basis and estimated impact to Federal programs for any proposed change to such designations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–98)

S. 2322, to require a pilot program on the participation of non-asset-based third-party logistics providers in the Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 117–99)

H.R. 4426, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure that the needs of children are considered in homeland security planning. (S. Rept. No. 117–100)

S. 2372, to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to make supplemental funds available for management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S2189**

Measures Passed:

Human Trafficking Survivor Tax Relief Act: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of S. 895, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exemption from gross income for mandatory restitution or civil damages as recompense for trafficking in persons, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S2195–96**

Ulysses S. Grant 200th Birthday: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 36, honoring the life and legacy of Ulysses S. Grant in commemoration of his 200th Birthday. **Page S2196**

Financial Literacy Month: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 588, designating April 2022 as "Financial Literacy Month", and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S2196**

Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities National Internship Program 30th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 597, recognizing the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities National Internship Program on the 30th anniversary of the program and celebrating its legacy of increasing diversity in the Federal Government and the private sector. **Page S2196**

Glenville State University women's basketball team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 598, congratulating the Glenville 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. **Page S2196**

National Month of the Military Child: Senate agreed to S. Res. 599, honoring the military children during the National Month of the Military Child.

Pages S2196–97

Measures Considered:

Family Planning Services: By 49 yeas to 49 nays (Vote No. 140), Senate rejected the motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 41, 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". **Pages S2184–85**

House Messages:

America Competes Act—Agreement: Senate began consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 4521, to provide for a coordinated Federal research initiative to ensure continued United States leadership in engineering biology, taking action on the following motion proposed thereto: **Page S2197**

Pending:

Schumer motion to insist on the Senate amendment to the bill, agree to the request from the House for a conference, and authorize the Chair to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate. **Page S2197**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the Schumer motion to insist on the Senate amendment to the bill, agree to the request from the House for a conference, and authorize the Chair to appoint conferees on the part of the Senate, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, and pursuant to the unanimous-consent agreement of Wednesday, April 27, 2022, a vote on cloture will occur at 12 noon, on Thursday, April 28, 2022. **Page S2197**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that if a compound motion to go to conference on the bill is agreed to, and the Chair is authorized to appoint conferees, the following Senators be permitted to make a motion to instruct, the text of which is at the desk; that these be the only motions to instruct in order; provided further, that at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, following consultation with the Republican Leader, Senate vote on or in relation to the motions in the order listed, that the only debate with respect to these motions be 2 minutes equally divided prior to each vote, and with 60-affirmative votes required for adoption of the Lankford motion: Paul, Barrasso, Cruz, Menendez, Risch, Kelly, Lee, Blackburn, Cotton, Murkowski, Sullivan, Rubio, Johnson, Sanders, Scott (FL), Hassan, Ernst, Lankford, Sanders, Cassidy, Bennet, Warnock, Daines, Cassidy, Capito, Toomey, Scott (SC), and Luján. **Page S2197**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the House message to accompany the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, April 28, 2022; that the motion to invoke cloture ripen at 12 noon; and that if cloture is invoked, the vote on the compound motion to go to conference occur at 1:45 p.m. **Page S2197**

Gordon Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Julia Ruth Gordon, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, be withdrawn. **Page S2184**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 62 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. EX. 139), Sherilyn Peace Garnett, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Pages S2175–84**

Delia L. Smith, of the Virgin Islands, to be United States Attorney for the District of the Virgin Islands for the term of four years.

Ryan K. Buchanan, of Georgia, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia for the term of four years.

Marisa T. Darden, of Ohio, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio for the term of four years.

Jason M. Frierson, of Nevada, to be United States Attorney for the District of Nevada for the term of four years.

Eddie M. Frizell, of Minnesota, to be United States Marshal for the District of Minnesota for the term of four years.

LaDon A. Reynolds, of Illinois, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Illinois for the term of four years.

Mark A. Totten, of Michigan, to be United States Attorney for the Western District of Michigan for the term of four years.

Vanessa Roberts Avery, of Connecticut, to be United States Attorney for the District of Connecticut for the term of four years.

Trina A. Higgins, of Utah, to be United States Attorney for the District of Utah for the term of four years.

Jane E. Young, of New Hampshire, to be United States Attorney for the District of New Hampshire for the term of four years. **Page S2198**

Messages from the House: **Page S2188**

Measures Referred: **Page S2188**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S2188, S2197**

Executive Communications: **Pages S2188–89**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S2189**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S2190–91**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2191–95**

Additional Statements: Pages S2186–88

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S2195

Record Votes: Three record votes were taken today. (Total—140) Pages S2179, S2184–85

Adjournment: Senate convened at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 9:11 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, April 28, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2197.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of State, after receiving testimony from Antony J. Blinken, Secretary of State.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities concluded a hearing to examine United States Special Operations Command's efforts to sustain the readiness of special operations forces and transform the force for future security challenges, after receiving testimony from Lieutenant General Jonathan P. Braga, USA, Commanding General, United States Army Special Operations Command, Lieutenant General James C. Slife, USAF, Commander, Air Force Special Operations Command, Rear Admiral Hugh W. Howard III, USN, Commander, Naval Special Warfare Command, and Major General James F. Glynn, USMC, Commander, United States Marine Forces Special Operations Command, all of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine military and civilian personnel programs in the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr., Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Virginia S. Penrod, Acting Assistant Secretary for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, David J. Smith, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Affairs, Elizabeth B. Foster, Executive Director of Force Resiliency, Lieutenant General Gary M. Brito, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G–1, United States Army, Vice Admiral John B. Nowell Jr., USN, Chief of Naval Personnel, United States Navy, Lieutenant General David A. Ottignon, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, United States Marine Corps, Gwendolyn R. DeFilippi, Acting Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services, United States Air Force, and Patricia Mulcahy, Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Personnel, United States Space Force, all of the Department of Defense.

DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST AND FUTURE YEARS DEFENSE PROGRAM

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine the Department of Energy's atomic energy defense activities and Department of Defense nuclear weapons programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2023 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Jill M. Hruby, Administrator, Admiral James F. Caldwell Jr., USN, Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors, and Marvin L. Adams, Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, all of the National Nuclear Security Administration, and William White, Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, all of the Department of Energy; and General Anthony J. Cotton, USAF, Commander, Air Force Global Strike Command, and Vice Admiral Johnny R. Wolfe, Jr., USN, Director, Navy Strategic Systems Programs, both of the Department of Defense.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Ravi Chaudhary, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Department of Defense.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUDGET

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Commerce, after receiving testimony from Gina M. Raimondo, Secretary of Commerce.

CHINA'S NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee received a closed briefing on recent developments in China's nuclear capabilities from Mallory A. Stewart, Assistant Secretary for Verification and Compliance, and Jung H. Pak, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multilateral Affairs and Global China Issues, both of the Department of State; and official briefers from the Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Nancy G. Abudu, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, who was introduced by Senator Durbin, Julianna Michelle Childs, of South Carolina, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, who was introduced by Senator Graham and Representative Clyburn, Nusrat Jahan Choudhury, and Natasha C. Merle, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, who were introduced by Senators Schumer and Gillibrand, and Ana Isabel de Alba, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California, who was introduced by Senator Padilla, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

SBA OVERSIGHT

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Small Business Administration, including S. 4008, to provide COVID relief for restaurants, gyms, minor league sports teams, border businesses, live venue service providers, exclave businesses, and providers of transportation services, S. 1587, to allow nonprofit child care providers to participate in the loan programs of the Small Business Administration, and H.R. 5376, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of S. Con. Res. 14, after receiving testimony from Isabella Casillas Guzman, Administrator, Small Business Administration.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Shereef M. Elnahal, of New Jersey, to be Under Secretary for Health, and Raymond M. Jefferson, of Hawaii, to be Under Secretary for Benefits, both of the Department of Veterans Affairs, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 7594–7611; and 3 resolutions, H. Res. 1066–1068, were introduced. **Pages H4574–75**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H4576**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5796, to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a competition to award certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–302); and

H. Res. 1065, providing for consideration of the bill (S. 3522) to provide enhanced authority for the President to enter into agreements with the Government of Ukraine to lend or lease defense articles to that Government to protect civilian populations in Ukraine from Russian military invasion, and for other purposes; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–303). **Page H4574**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Watson Coleman to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H4513**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:46 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H4518**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Patents for Humanity Act: H.R. 5796, to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a competition to award certificates that can be redeemed to accelerate certain matters at the Patent and Trademark Office; **Pages H4520–21**

Courthouse Ethics and Transparency Act: S. 3059, to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to provide for a periodic transaction reporting requirement for Federal judicial officers and the online publication of financial disclosure reports of Federal judicial officers; **Pages H4521–23**

Calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan: H. Res. 336, amended, calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to provide evidence or to release United States citizen Paul Whelan; **Pages H4523–25**

Assessing Xi's Interference and Subversion Act: H.R. 7314, amended, to require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress a report on the People's Republic of China's support to the Russian Federation with respect to its unprovoked invasion of and full-scale war against Ukraine, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 394 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 127; **Pages H4525–27, H4552–53**

Protecting Semiconductor Supply Chain Materials from Authoritarians Act: H.R. 7372, to

amend the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 to require the President to establish a semiconductor supply chain working group in response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and submit reports to Congress on potential future disruptions to the supply chain, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 414 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 128; **Pages H4527–29, H4553–54**

Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act: H.R. 496, amended, to oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded by Russia, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 421 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 129; **Pages H4529–30, H4554**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To oppose violations of religious freedom in Ukraine by Russia and armed groups commanded or otherwise supported by or acting on behalf of Russia.'';

Page H4554

Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act: H.R. 6930, amended, to authorize the confiscation of assets subject to United States jurisdiction of certain foreign persons, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 417 yeas to 8 nays, Roll No. 130;

Pages H4530–32, H4554–55

Georgia Support Act: H.R. 923, amended, to support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Georgia, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 406 yeas to 20 nays, Roll No. 131;

Pages H4532–36, H4555–56

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To support the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Georgia, and for other purposes.''; **Page H4556**

Expressing support for Moldova's democracy, independence, and territorial integrity and strengthening United States and Moldova relations: H. Res. 833, amended, expressing support for Moldova's democracy, independence, and territorial integrity and strengthening United States and Moldova relations, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 409 yeas to 17 nays, Roll No. 132; **Pages H4536, H4556–57**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''Reaffirming support for strong United States and Moldova relations, Moldova's democracy, and its sovereignty and territorial integrity.''; **Page H4557**

Transatlantic Telecommunications Security Act: H.R. 3344, amended, to prioritize the efforts of and enhance coordination among United States agencies to encourage countries in Central and Eastern Europe to improve the security of their telecommunications networks, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 366 yeas to 60 nays, Roll No. 133; **Pages H4538–41, H4557**

Countering Malign Russian Activities in Africa Act: H.R. 7311, amended, to direct the Secretary of State to develop and submit to Congress a strategy and implementation plan outlining United States efforts to counter the malign influence and activities of the Russian Federation and its proxies in Africa, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 134; **Pages H4541–43, H4557–58**

Caribbean Basin Security Initiative Authorization Act: H.R. 4133, to authorize appropriations for the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative, enhance the United States-Caribbean security partnership, prioritize disaster resilience, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 340 yeas to 86 nays, Roll No. 135;

Pages H4543–45, H4558–59

Stop Iranian Drones Act: H.R. 6089, amended, to clarify that section 107 of the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act applies sanctions with respect to unmanned combat aerial vehicles following a 2019 change by the United Nations providing additional clarity to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 424 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 136;

Pages H4545–47, H4559–60

Global Malnutrition Prevention and Treatment Act: H.R. 4693, to advance targeted and evidence-based interventions for the prevention and treatment of global malnutrition and to improve the coordination of such programs, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 384 yeas to 44 nays, Roll No. 137; and

Pages H4547–50, H4560–61

Directing the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization: S. 812, to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 425 yeas with none voting ''nay'', Roll No. 138.

Pages H4550–52, H4561

Recess: The House recessed at 2:58 p.m. and reconvened at 3:44 p.m. **Page H4552**

Discharge Petition: Representative Mast presented to the Clerk a motion to discharge the Committee on Rules from the consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 1039) entitled, a resolution providing for the consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 72) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention relating to ''Requirement for Persons To Wear Masks While on Conveyances and at Transportation Hubs'', which was referred to said committee April 6th, 2022 (Discharge Petition No. 14).

Senate Referral: S. 4089 was held at the desk.

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H4545.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Twelve yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4552–53, H4553, H4554, H4554–55, H4555–56, H4556–57, H4557, H4558, H4558–59, H4559–60, H4560, and H4561.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8 p.m.

Committee Meetings

AN EXAMINATION OF PRICE DISCREPANCIES, TRANSPARENCY, AND ALLEGED UNFAIR PRACTICES IN CATTLE MARKETS

Committee on Agriculture: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''An Examination of Price Discrepancies, Transparency, and Alleged Unfair Practices in Cattle Markets''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

APPROPRIATIONS—NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY AND U.S. CYBER COMMAND

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a budget hearing on the National Security Agency and U.S. Cyber Command. Testimony was heard from General Paul M. Nakasone, Director, Commander, National Security Agency, U.S. Cyber Command. This hearing was closed.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a budget hearing on the Department of Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from Alejandro Mayorkas, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

APPROPRIATIONS—LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a budget hearing on the Library of Congress. Testimony was heard from the following Library of Congress officials: Jason Broughton, Director, National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled; Judith Conklin, Chief Information Officer; Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress; Mary Mazanec, Director, Congressional Research Service; Shira Perlmutter, Register of Copyrights/Director, U.S. Copyright Office; and J. Mark Sweeney, Principal Deputy Librarian of Congress.

APPROPRIATIONS—GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a budget hearing on the Government Publishing Office. Testimony was heard from Hugh N. Halpern, Director, Government Publishing Office.

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the U.S. Forest Service. Testimony was heard from Randy Moore, Chief, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; and Andria Weeks, Acting Director for Strategic Planning, Budget, and Accountability, U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

APPROPRIATIONS—ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Legislative Branch held a budget hearing on the Architect of the Capitol. Testimony was heard from J. Brett Blanton, Architect of the Capitol.

MEETING VETERANS' FULL NEEDS: UPDATE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH, HOMELESSNESS, AND OTHER PROGRAMS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies held a hearing entitled ''Meeting Veterans' Full Needs: Update on Women's Health, Mental Health, Homelessness, and Other Programs''. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Veterans Affairs officials: David Carroll, Executive Director, Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention; Patricia Hayes, Chief Officer, Office of Women's Health; Benjamin Kligler, Executive Director, Office of Patient Centered Care and Cultural Transformation; and Erica Scavella, Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Clinical Services.

APPROPRIATIONS—U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation. Testimony was heard from Michael L. Connor, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, U.S. Department of the Army; David Palumbo, Deputy Commissioner of Operations, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior; Lieutenant General Scott A. Spellmon, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and Tanya Trujillo, Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Department of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Department of the Air Force Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Request''. Testimony was heard from Frank Kendall III, Secretary, U.S. Air Force; General Charles Q. Brown, Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Force; and General John W. Raymond, Chief of Space Operations, U.S. Space Force.

FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR FIXED-WING TACTICAL AND TRAINING AIRCRAFT PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Landforce held a hearing entitled ''Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Request of the Department of Defense for Fixed-Wing Tactical and Training Aircraft Programs''. Testimony was heard from Andrew P. Hunter, Senior Executive Service, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics; Lieutenant General David Nahom, U.S. Air Force, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs (HAF/A8); Frederick Stefany, Senior Executive Service, (Acting) Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition, and Senior Acquisition Executive, F–35 Program; Rear Admiral Andrew Loiselle, U.S. Navy, Director, Air Warfare Division (OPNAV/N98); Lieutenant General Mark Wise, U.S. Marine Corps, Deputy Commandant for Aviation; Lieutenant General Eric Fick, U.S. Air Force, Program Executive Officer, F–35 Joint Program Office; Major General James H. Adams, U.S. Marine Corps, Deputy Director, Requirements and Capability Development, J–8, Joint Staff; and Jon Ludwigson, Director, Contracting and National Security Acquisitions, Government Accountability Office.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FY 2023 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Department of Defense FY 2023 Budget''. Testimony was heard from Michael J. McCord, Under Secretary of Defense Comptroller/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense.

EXAMINING THE POLICIES AND PRIORITIES OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION AND THE OFFICE OF FEDERAL CONTRACT COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Civil Rights and Human Services held a hearing entitled ''Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs''. Testimony was heard from Jenny Yang, Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Department of Labor; and Charlotte Burrows, Chair, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 HHS BUDGET

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Health held a hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Year 2023 HHS Budget''. Testimony was heard from Xavier Becerra, Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

CONSUMERS FIRST: SEMI–ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Consumers First: Semi-Annual Report of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau''. Testimony was heard from Rohit Chopra, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

UNDERSTANDING THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE AREA AND HOW THE U.S. CAN PROMOTE ITS SUCCESS

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights held a hearing entitled ''Understanding the African Continental Free Trade Area and How the U.S. Can Promote its Success''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

A REVIEW OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''A Review of the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Request for the Department of Homeland Security''. Testimony was heard from Alejandro Mayorkas, Secretary, Department of Homeland Security.

OVERSIGHT OF FEDERAL EFFORTS TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security held a hearing entitled ''Oversight of Federal Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking''. Testimony was heard from Sheriff Mark J. Dannels, Cochise County, Arizona; and public witnesses.

BUILDING CONFIDENCE IN THE SUPREME COURT THROUGH ETHICS AND RECUSAL REFORMS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held a hearing entitled ''Building Confidence in the Supreme Court Through Ethics and Recusal Reforms''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States held a hearing on H.R. 437, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to exclude certain payments to Alaska Native elders for determining eligibility for certain programs, and for other purposes; H.R. 6063, to provide for the equitable settlement of certain Indian land disputes regarding land in Illinois, and for other purposes; H.R. 6181, the ''Samish Indian Nation Land Reaffirmation Act''; S. 314, the ''Klamath Tribe Judgment Fund Repeal Act''; S. 559, to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act, and for other purposes; and S. 789, the ''Repealing Existing Substandard Provisions Encouraging Conciliation with Tribes Act''. Testimony was heard from Tamara St. John, State Representative, 1st District, South Dakota; and public witnesses.

MCKINSEY AND COMPANY'S CONDUCT AND CONFLICTS AT THE HEART OF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''McKinsey and Company's Conduct and Conflicts at the Heart of the Opioid Epidemic''. Testimony was heard from Maura Healey, Attorney General, Massachusetts; Gillian Feiner, Senior Enforcement Counsel, Massachusetts Attorney General's Office; and public witnesses.

UKRAINE DEMOCRACY DEFENSE LEND–LEASE ACT OF 2022

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on S. 3522, the ''Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2022''. The Committee granted, by record vote of 9–4, a closed rule providing for consideration of S. 3522, the ''Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2022''. The rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides one motion to commit. The rule provides that House Resolution 1035 is hereby adopted. The rule provides that House Resolution 188, agreed to March 8, 2021, is amended by striking ''April 29, 2022'' each place it appears and inserting ''May 13, 2022''. Testimony was heard from Representative Phillips and Wilson of South Carolina.

SCIENCE AND ENERGY RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Energy held a hearing entitled ''Science and Energy Research Infrastructure Needs of the U.S. Department of Energy''. Testimony was heard from Geraldine Richmond, Under Secretary for Science and Innovation, Department of Energy.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S FY 2023 BUDGET

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled ''Small Business Administration's FY 2023 Budget''. Testimony was heard from Isabella Casillas Guzman, Administrator, U.S. Small Business Administration.

REVIEW OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUDGET REQUEST FOR THE COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled ''Review of Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Request for the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Programs''. Testimony was heard from Admiral Karl P. Schultz, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard; Master Chief Jason M. Vanderhaden, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard, U.S. Coast Guard; Daniel B. Maffei, Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission; and Lucinda Lessley, Acting Administrator, Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

EXAMINING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION IN SURFACE TRANSPORTATION CONSTRUCTION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Highways and Transit held a hearing entitled ''Examining Workforce Development and Job Creation in Surface Transportation Construction''. Testimony was heard from Shoshana Lew, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Transportation; Tunya Smith, Director of the Office of Civil Rights, North Carolina Department of Transportation; and public witnesses.

AT WHAT COST?—ENSURING QUALITY REPRESENTATION IN THE VETERAN BENEFIT CLAIMS PROCESS

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs; and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a joint hearing entitled ''At What Cost?—Ensuring Quality Representation in the Veteran Benefit Claims Process''. Testimony was heard from Richard

Hipolit, Deputy General Counsel for Veterans Programs, Office of General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

INVESTMENTS

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine investments today for a more competitive tomorrow, focusing on building on a strong foundation, after receiving testimony from Josh Bivens, Economic Policy Institute, Michelle Holder, Washington Center for Equitable Growth, and Sudip Parikh, American Association for the Advancement of Science, all of Washington, D.C.; and Tyler Goodspeed, Stanford University Hoover Institution, Stanford, California.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Food and Drug Administration, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2023 for the Department of Transportation, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Admiral Linda L. Fagan, to be Commandant of the Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, 10:15 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: business meeting to consider the nomination of Kathryn Huff, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Energy (Nuclear Energy); to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of David Applegate, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the United States Geological Survey, and Carmen G. Cantor, of Puerto Rico, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of the Interior, and Evelyn Wang, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, Department of Energy, 10 a.m., SD–366.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''A 2022 Review of the Farm Bill: The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program'', 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of the Interior, 9 a.m., Zoom.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Agriculture, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Education, 10 a.m., 2358–C Rayburn and Zoom.

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, budget hearing on the Department of State, 10 a.m., Zoom.

Subcommittee on Homeland Security, budget hearing on the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn and Zoom.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Justice, 2 p.m., Zoom.

Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, hearing entitled ''Air Force Installations and Quality of Life Update'', 2 p.m., 2358–A Rayburn and Zoom.

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Energy, 2:30 p.m., 2362–B Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Member Day'', 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing entitled ''F–35 Sustainment'', 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Intelligence and Special Operations, hearing entitled ''Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Request for U.S. Special Operations Forces and Command'', 4:30 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy, hearing entitled ''The Fiscal Year 2023 DOE Budget'', 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Task Force on Financial Technology, hearing entitled ''What's in Your Digital Wallet? A Review of Recent Trends in Mobile Banking and Payments'', 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment and Cyber, hearing entitled ''The Role of Young People in Fostering Peace in Northern Ireland'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Full Committee, hearing entitled ''The State Department's Foreign Policy Priorities and the FY23 Budget Request'', 1 p.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on House Administration, Subcommittee on Elections, hearing entitled ''A Growing Threat: The Impact of Disinformation Targeted at Communities of Color'', 10 a.m., Zoom.

Committee on the judiciary, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Oversight of the Department of Homeland Security'', 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing entitled ''The Opportunities and Risks of Offshore Carbon Storage in the Gulf of Mexico'', 9:30 a.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled ''Preventing Pandemics through US Wildlife-borne Disease Surveillance'', 10 a.m., 1334 Longworth and Webex.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Land, hearing on H.R. 4878, the ''National Discovery Trails Act''; H.R. 6589, the ''Historic Preservation Enhancement Act''; H.R. 6805, the ''African-American Burial Grounds Preservation Act''; H.R. 7002, the ''Gateway Solidarity Act''; H.R. 7075, the ''Ukrainian Independence Park Act''; and H.R. 7218, the ''Colorado National Heritage Areas Reauthorization Act'', 2 p.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Now or Never: The Urgent Need for Ambitious Climate Action'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Full Committee, markup on the Budget Views and Estimates Letter; H.R. 5315, the ''Drone Infrastructure Inspection Grant Act''; H.R. 6270, the ''Advanced Aviation Infrastructure Modernization Act''; H.R. 3482, the ''National Center for the Advancement of Aviation Act of 2021''; H.R. 7242, the ''Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act of 2022''; H.R. 2020, the ''Post-Disaster Assistance Online Accountability Act''; H.R. 5703, the ''Post-Disaster Mental Health Response Act''; H.R. 7211, the ''Small State and Rural Rescue Act''; and General Services Administration's Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2023'', 10 a.m., HVC–210 and Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on the Views and Estimates Letter to the Committee on the Budget; and hearing entitled ''Proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget with Health and Human Services Secretary Becerra'', 10:30 a.m., 1100 Longworth and Webex.

Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Turning an Idea into Law: Modernizing the Legislative Process'', 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the Senate

10 a.m., Thursday, April 28

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of the House message to accompany H.R. 4521, America COMPETES Act, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the compound motion to go to conference with the House at 12 noon. If cloture is invoked on the compound motion, Senate will vote on adoption thereon at 1:45 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Thursday, April 28

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of S. 3522—Ukraine Democracy Defense Lend-Lease Act of 2022 (Subject to a Rule).

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

HOUSE

Balderson, Troy, Ohio, E418
Barr, Andy, Ky., E420, E422
Bergman, Jack, Mich., E417, E422
Bishop, Sanford D., Jr., Ga., E419
Buck, Ken, Colo., E415, E417
Emmer, Tom, Minn., E420
Gosar, Paul A., Ariz., E423
Higgins, Brian, N.Y., E414, E415, E417, E422
Jackson Lee, Sheila, Tex., E413, E415, E416, E418, E419, E420, E421, E423
Kaptur, Marcy, Ohio, E418
Keating, William R., Mass., E424
Maloney, Carolyn B., N.Y., E414, E420
McCollum, Betty, Minn., E418
McHenry, Patrick T., N.C., E423
Meng, Grace, N.Y., E419
Rodgers, Cathy McMorris, Wash., E414, E415, E421
Rose, John W., Tenn., E416
San Nicolas, Michael F.Q., Guam , E422
Smucker, Lloyd, Pa., E416
Stefanik, Elise M., N.Y., E421
Steil, Bryan, Wisc., E424
Waltz, Michael, Fla., E421
Wittman, Robert J., Va., E417, E421

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