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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. GALLEGO).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 19, 2022.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RUBEN GALLEGO 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 7, 2022, the Chair would now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at noon), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MALINOWSKI) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

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

Sovereign God, as the world turns its attention to the final tributes of a great queen, we pray Your blessing over the leaders of this country. Each day as we renew our oath to support and defend its Constitution, signed 235 years ago, renew in us our ''most sacred duty'' to maintain ''inviolable respect'' for the sustaining energy of a free government.

While this document serves as the framework for the ''vital principles'' of liberty and security, it is You, Holy God, who laid the foundations of the Earth and of our Nation. Uphold us in our governance by the favor of Your grace.

Likewise, as we acknowledge the cornerstone George Washington laid 229 years ago for this magnificent Capitol building, we ask, O Lord, that You remain the foundation for all that takes place within these walls. Remind us that You, the master builder, have laid the footing of faith and virtue that You have tasked us, the American people, to build upon.

May we be worthy of the legacy which we have inherited, and faithful to the privilege to serve in this House and in this country, the care for each You call us to steward with wisdom.

Upheld by the strength of Your name, we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania 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.

OUR UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

(Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as the Chaplain just previously mentioned, we recently celebrated the 235th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution in Philadelphia.

As the Member of Congress who represents the Independence Hall where it was drafted and adopted, it is a great honor for all of us in my district to know that our city played such an important role in the history and founding of our country.

It is now up to all of us to again read our Constitution and bring it close to not only our minds but our hearts. Every single day we must work to uphold it and uphold our democracy.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Byrd, one of its clerks, announced that the Secretary of the Senate be directed to request the House of Representatives to return to the Senate the bill (S. 1198) ''An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.''.

MAKE FENTANYL A SCHEDULE I NARCOTIC

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address

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the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last year, over 100,000 Americans lost their lives to drug overdoses and 70 percent of those deaths involved synthetic opioids like fentanyl.

These lethal compounds have continued to pour across a southern border that is not secure, and into communities that remain overwhelmed by this terrible onslaught.

Unless we in Congress act, possessing fentanyl will become completely legal in just over 3 months.

Unless we work now to permanently make fentanyl a schedule I narcotic, Americans will wake up on New Year's Day in a country where a drug responsible for tens of thousands of deaths can freely be sold on our streets.

Our communities are counting on us.

We need to pass legislation that permanently labels fentanyl as the deadly drug that we all know that it is.

No more short-term bans.

No more playing politics while lives are at stake.

BIDEN'S BORDER CRISIS

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

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the crisis at our southern border.

The Biden administration's inaction and removal of vital policies such as title 42 has caused a massive influx of illegal immigrants into our country.

This past weekend, 1,433 migrants attempted to cross the border and claim asylum. In this group, there were four gang members, one sex offender, and one migrant with an active warrant out for their arrest.

We need to approach immigration with commonsense legislation that prevents bad actors like this from entering our country.

It is disturbing to hear stories from people in the district who have lost loved ones or close friends from fentanyl overdoses and other illegal drugs coming across the southern border.

Today, I would like to reiterate my calls for President Biden to visit the border. Since taking office, I have visited the southern border three times to listen to the stories of our fearless border agents about the Biden administration's ineffective policies. President Biden has proven that he is not interested in or capable of securing or keeping America safe.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to wish an amazing person, my husband, Curt Meeks, a happy birthday. Happy birthday, Curt.

Mr. Speaker, I am also extending my deepest heartfelt sympathies to my sister-in-law, Diana Cogliano, Mari-Eleanor Miller Martino and her husband, Ralph Martino, on the sudden passing of their mother, Josephine Martino, this morning when she passed. May God's grace go with you as you cross this journey.

INFLATION CRISIS

(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, inflation has outpaced workers' wages for 17 months in a row under Biden. This has cost the average American worker over $3,000 in lost income with the price of everyday costs, such as gas, utility bills, and food, reducing pocketbooks of families.

Food costs alone are up over 11 percent, the largest 1-year increase in prices in 43 years. More specifically, a trip to the grocery store will feature cost increases such as: Flour up 23 percent; roasted coffee up 19 percent; lunch meats up 18 percent; milk up 17 percent.

According to a new Fox poll, the inflation is the largest issue facing Americans voters, along with murderous crime, preferring Republicans to handle these issues. Biden inflation is a tax on all Americans.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, who successfully protected America for 20 years as the global war on terrorism continues moving from a safe haven in Afghanistan to America.

Happy birthday, Senator TIM SCOTT of South Carolina.

REQUESTING RETURN OF S. 1198, SOLID START ACT OF 2021

The Speaker pro tempore laid before the House the following privileged message from the Senate:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to request the House of Representatives to return to the Senate the bill (S. 1198) entitled ''An Act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the request of the Senate is agreed to, and S. 1198 will be returned to the Senate.

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, THE HONORABLE MIKE THOMPSON, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Maira Calderon, District Representative, the Honorable MIKE THOMPSON, Member of Congress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, September 14, 2022.

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

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I, Maira Calderon, have been served with a subpoena for testimony issued by the Superior Court of California, County of Napa.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

MAIRA CALDERON,
District Representative.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

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

PEACE CORPS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1456) to amend the Peace Corps Act to reauthorize the Peace Corps, better support current and returned volunteers, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1456

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Peace Corps Reauthorization Act of 2022''.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Authorization of appropriations; integration of information age Peace Corps volunteer opportunities.
Sec. 3. Readjustment allowances; expedited re-enrollment and transition assistance.
Sec. 4. Health care continuation for Peace Corps volunteers.
Sec. 5. Access to antimalarial drugs and menstrual products for Peace Corps volunteers.
Sec. 6. Codification of Executive Order 11103.
Sec. 7. Volunteers providing virtual services for the Peace Corps.
Sec. 8. Protection of Peace Corps volunteers against reprisal or retaliation.
Sec. 9. Comprehensive illegal drug use policy with respect to Peace Corps volunteers.
Sec. 10. Peace Corps National Advisory Council.
Sec. 11. Peace Corps volunteers serving within the United States at the request of another agency.
Sec. 12. Use of official seal, emblem, and name of the Peace Corps.
Sec. 13. Clarification regarding eligibility of United States nationals.
Sec. 14. Memorandum of Agreement with Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the Department of State.
Sec. 15. Reports to Congress.
Sec. 16. Workers compensation for Peace Corps volunteers.
Sec. 17. Technical and conforming edits.
Sec. 18. Determination of budgetary effects.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; INTEGRATION OF INFORMATION AGE PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.

Section 3 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2502) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking ''$270,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, $298,000,000 for fiscal year 2001, $327,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and $365,000,000 for fiscal year 2003'' and inserting ''$430,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2023 and 2024'';

(2) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (e); and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(f) In recognition of the transformative power of internet access in international development efforts, and, as exemplified by its virtual service pilot initiative, the Peace Corps shall be administered to—

''(1) give particular attention to the expansion of those programs, projects, training, and other activities that leverage the internet, as appropriate, for development, education, and social and economic mobility; and

''(2) develop positions for Peace Corps volunteers that include such programs, projects, training, and other activities.''.

SEC. 3. READJUSTMENT ALLOWANCES; EXPEDITED RE-ENROLLMENT AND TRANSITION ASSISTANCE.

(a) VOLUNTEERS.—Section 5 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by inserting '', safety,'' after ''health'';

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''$125'' and inserting ''$375'';

(B) by striking ''his'' each place it appears and inserting ''the volunteer's''; and

(C) by striking ''he'' and inserting ''the volunteer'';

(3) by redesignating subsections (e) through (p) as subsections (d) through (o), respectively;

(4) by amending subsection (e), as so redesignated—

(A) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE'' after ''PRESCRIPTION OF MEDICATIONS''; and

(B) by inserting ''concerning the mental health care provided to volunteers during their service,'' after ''experts licensed in the field of mental health,'';

(5) in subsection (f), as so redesignated, by striking ''subsequent'';

(6) in subsection (g), as so redesignated, by striking ''he'' and inserting ''the Director'';

(7) in subsection (m), as so redesignated—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''subsection (e)'' each place it appears and inserting ''subsection (d)''; and

(ii) by striking ''he'' and inserting ''the President''; and

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''subsection (1)'' and inserting ''subsection (k)'';

(8) in subsection (n), as so redesignated, by striking ''his'' each place it appears and inserting ''the volunteer's''; and

(9) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

''(p) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, with respect to Peace Corps volunteers and trainees whose service ended involuntarily as a result of an emergency, suspension of operations, or otherwise through no fault of the volunteer or trainee, the Director of the Peace Corps shall—

''(1) waive such non-medical or non-security application requirements as the Director may determine for the re-enrollment of each such volunteer and trainee during the 2-year period beginning on the date of such involuntary end of service;

''(2) prioritize the medical clearance for each such volunteer and trainee to facilitate re-enrollment; and

''(3) permit each such volunteer and trainee, to the extent practicable and in consideration of the needs of overseas posts and the suitability of the volunteer or trainee to meet those needs, to resume the activity of each such volunteer and trainee at the time of the involuntary end of service.

''(q) The Director of the Peace Corps may authorize separation allowances, in amounts determined by the Director, to Peace Corps volunteers and trainees whose service ended involuntarily as a result of an emergency, suspension of operations, or otherwise through no fault of the volunteer or trainee.''.

(b) VOLUNTEER LEADERS.—Section 6 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2505) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$125'' and inserting ''$375''; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''he'' and inserting ''the Director''; and

(B) by striking ''in section 5(e)'' each place it appears and inserting ''in section 5(d)''.

SEC. 4. HEALTH CARE CONTINUATION FOR PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS.

Subsection (d) of section 5 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504), as redesignated pursuant to section 4, is amended to read as follows:

''(d)(1) Volunteers and trainees shall receive such health care (including, if necessary, for volunteers and trainees, services under section 8B) during their service, as the Director of the Peace Corps may determine to be necessary or appropriate.

''(2) Applicants for enrollment shall receive such health examinations preparatory to their service, applicants for enrollment who have accepted an invitation to begin a period of training under section 8(a) shall receive, preparatory to their service, such immunization, dental care, and information on prescription options and potential interactions, as necessary and appropriate and in accordance with subsection (e).

''(3) Returned volunteers shall receive such health examinations within six months after termination of their service, including services provided in accordance with section 8B (except that the six-month limitation shall not apply in the case of such services).

''(4) Subject to such conditions as the President may prescribe, such health care may be provided in any facility of any agency of the United States Government, and in such cases the appropriation for maintaining and operating such facility shall be reimbursed from appropriations available under this Act. Health care may not be provided under this subsection in a manner inconsistent with the Assisted Suicide Funding Restriction Act of 1997 (Public Law 105–12).

''(5) Returned volunteers, including those whose period of service is subject to early termination as the result of an emergency, shall receive upon termination of their service with the Peace Corps two months of short-term non-service-related health insurance for transition and travel (SHIFTT), to provide coverage for a 60-day period within which such volunteer will be advised to obtain qualifying health insurance, and an opportunity to extend for an additional 1 month such SHIFTT insurance, at the expense of such volunteer.

''(6) Not later than 30 days before the date on which the period of service of a volunteer or trainee terminates, or 30 days after the date of such termination if such termination is the result of an emergency, the Director of the Peace Corps, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall provide detailed information to such volunteer or trainee on options for health care after termination other than health care provided by the Peace Corps, including—

''(A) where additional, detailed information, including on the application process and eligibility requirements for medical assistance through State plans under title XIX of the Social Security Act (or waiver of State plans), may be obtained, including through external health care 'navigators' or health care option identification services available within the public and private sectors;

''(B) where detailed information on qualified health plans may be obtained, including through external health care 'navigators' or health care option identification services available within the public and private sectors; and

''(C) if such volunteer or trainee is 25 years of age or younger, detailed information regarding the eligibility of such volunteer or trainee to enroll as a dependent child in a group health plan or health insurance coverage in which the parent of such volunteer or trainee is enrolled if such plan or coverage offers such dependent coverage.''.

SEC. 5. ACCESS TO ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS AND MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS FOR PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS.

Section 5A of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504a) is amended—

(1) by striking subsections (c) and (e);

(2) by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e);

(3) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsections:

''(c) ANTIMALARIAL DRUGS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Peace Corps shall consult with experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding recommendations for prescribing malaria prophylaxis, and implement such recommendations to the extent practicable, in order to provide the best standard of care within the context of the Peace Corps environment.

''(2) CERTAIN TRAINING.—The Director of the Peace Corps shall ensure that each Peace Corps medical officer serving in a malaria-endemic country receives training in the recognition of the side effects of such medications.

''(d) ACCESS TO MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this subsection, the Director of the Peace Corps shall establish a comprehensive policy to ensure Peace Corps volunteers who require menstrual products are able to access such products by—

''(A) increasing stipends for such volunteers to purchase such products; or

''(B) providing such volunteers with such products in the generic product types selected by such volunteer, if available in the country of service.

''(2) CONSIDERATION.—The policy required under paragraph (1) shall take into consideration the availability for purchase locally of menstrual products, the price of such products, and cultural norms regarding menstruation.

''(3) COST.—If stipends are increased pursuant to the policy required under paragraph (1), the Director of the Peace Corps shall ensure that such increase is sufficient to cover the average cost within the country of service of menstrual products required by volunteers.''; and

(4) in paragraph (1)(A) of subsection (e), as so redesignated, by inserting '', patient confidentiality standards'' before '', and guidelines''.

SEC. 6. CODIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11103.

The Peace Corps Act is amended by inserting after section 5A (22 U.S.C. 2504a) the following new section:

"SEC. 5B. CODIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11103.

''(a) Executive Order 11103 (22 U.S.C. 2504 note; 28 Fed. Reg. 3571; relating to Providing for the Appointment of Former Peace Corps Volunteers to the Civilian Career Services), as amended by Executive Order 12107 (44 Fed. Reg. 1055; relating to the Civil Service Commission and Labor-Management in the Federal Service), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this section, shall remain in effect and have the full force and effect of law, consistent with subsection (b).

''(b)(1) The period of eligibility for noncompetitive appointment to the civil service provided to an individual by operation of subsection (a), including any individual who is so eligible on the date of the enactment of this section, shall be extended by the total number of days that, during such period—

''(A) a hiring freeze for civilian employees of the Executive branch is in effect by order of the President with respect to any Executive agency at which the individual has applied for employment;

''(B) there is a lapse in appropriations with respect to any Executive agency at which the individual has applied for employment; or

''(C) the individual is receiving disability compensation under section 8142 of title 5, United States Code, based on their service as a Peace Corps volunteer, retroactive to the date the individual applied for such compensation.

''(2) The period of eligibility for noncompetitive appointment status to the civil service by operation of subsection (a) shall apply to a Peace Corps volunteer—

''(A) whose service ended involuntarily as the result of a suspension of volunteer operations by the Director of the Peace Corps, but shall not last longer than 12 months from the date on which such service ended involuntarily; or

''(B) who re-enrolls as a volunteer in the Peace Corps after completion of a term of service.

''(3) In this subsection:

''(A) The term 'hiring freeze' means any memorandum, Executive order, or other action by the President that prohibits an Executive agency from filling vacant Federal civilian employee positions or creating new such positions.

''(B) The term 'Executive agency' has the meaning given that term in section 105 of title 5, United States Code, and includes the United States Postal Service and the Postal Regulatory Commission, but does not include the Government Accountability Office.

''(c) Subject to subsection (b), Executive Order 11103 (22 U.S.C. 2504 note; 28 Fed. Reg. 3571; relating to Providing for the Appointment of Former Peace Corps Volunteers to the Civilian Career Services), as amended by Executive Order 12107 (44 Fed. Reg. 1055; relating to the Civil Service Commission and Labor-Management in the Federal Service), as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this section, shall, except as set forth herein, remain in effect and have the full force and effect of law. In the event of a conflict between the language herein and Executive Order 11103, the language herein shall prevail.

''(d) Any volunteer whose service terminated after January 1, 2020, and who has been certified by the Director as having served satisfactorily as a volunteer under the Act may, for two years after their separation from the Peace Corps, be appointed to a position in any United States department, agency, or establishment in the competitive service under title 5, United States Code without competitive examination and in accordance with such regulations and conditions consistent with this subsection as may be prescribed by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management.''.

SEC. 7. VOLUNTEERS PROVIDING VIRTUAL SERVICES FOR THE PEACE CORPS.

The Peace Corps Act is amended by inserting after section 5B, as added by section 6 of this Act, the following new section:

"SEC. 5C. VOLUNTEERS PROVIDING VIRTUAL SERVICES FOR THE PEACE CORPS.

''(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Congress declares that the Peace Corps has a demonstrated ability to deliver information, training, and technical assistance virtually through the internet and other electronic means to communities abroad.

''(b) AUTHORITY.—The Director of the Peace Corps is authorized to recruit individuals, who may be located within the United States or third countries, to provide services virtually by electronic means to communities in host countries to flexibly meet the expressed needs of those countries.

''(c) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—The Director of the Peace Corps—

''(1) may recruit, train, and accept, on such terms and conditions as the Director may determine necessary or appropriate, the services of individuals, especially those individuals who face barriers to serving physically in a host country, who shall serve on a part-time basis as virtual service volunteers to meet the expressed needs of host countries, such as information, training, and technical assistance, through the internet or other electronic or virtual means; and

''(2) may provide for incidental expenses of such individuals, as determined by the Director to be appropriate for the nature of the assignments.

''(d) INDIVIDUALS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED VOLUNTEERS.—An individual who provides services under the authority of this section shall not be considered to be a volunteer for purposes of section 5 unless the Director of the Peace Corps requires the individual to physically serve in the host country on a temporary basis.

''(e) INDIVIDUALS NOT TO BE CONSIDERED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—An individual who provides services under the authority of this section shall not be considered a Federal employee except for the purposes described in section 5(h).''.

SEC. 8. PROTECTION OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS AGAINST REPRISAL OR RETALIATION.

Section 8G of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2507g) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) PROHIBITION AGAINST REPRISAL OR RETALIATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Peace Corps shall take all reasonable measures, including through the development and implementation of a comprehensive policy, to prevent and address reprisal or retaliation against a volunteer by any Peace Corps officer or employee, or any other person with supervisory authority over the volunteer during the volunteer's period of service.

''(2) REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION; RELIEF.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A volunteer may report a complaint or allegation of reprisal or retaliation—

''(i) directly to the Inspector General of the Peace Corps, and the Inspector General may conduct such investigations and make such recommendations with respect to the complaint or allegation as the Inspector General considers appropriate; and

''(ii) through other channels provided by the Peace Corps, including through the process for confidential reporting required in subsection (a).

''(B) RELIEF.—The Director of the Peace Corps—

''(i) may order any relief for an affirmative finding of a proposed or final resolution of a complaint or allegation of reprisal or retaliation in accordance with policies, rules, and procedures of the Peace Corps; and

''(ii) shall ensure such relief is promptly provided to the volunteer.

''(3) APPEAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A volunteer may appeal to the Director of the Peace Corps any proposed or final resolution of a complaint or allegation of reprisal or retaliation.

''(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to affect any other right of recourse a volunteer may have under any other provision of law.

''(4) NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS AND REMEDIES.—The Director of the Peace Corps shall ensure that volunteers are informed in writing of the rights and remedies provided under this section.

''(5) DISPUTE MEDIATION.—The Director of the Peace Corps shall offer the opportunity for volunteers to resolve disputes concerning a complaint or allegation of reprisal or retaliation through mediation in accordance with procedures developed by the Peace Corps.

''(6) STAFF MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER COOPERATION.—The Director of the Peace Corps may take such disciplinary or other administrative action, including termination of service or finding of ineligibility for re-employment or reinstatement, with respect to a staff member or volunteer who unreasonably refuses to cooperate with an investigation conducted by the Inspector General of the Peace Corps into a complaint or allegation of reprisal or retaliation.

''(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) REPRISAL OR RETALIATION.—The term 'reprisal or retaliation' means taking, threatening to take, or initiating adverse administrative action against a volunteer because the volunteer made a report pursuant to subsection (a) or otherwise disclosed to a covered official or office any information pertaining to waste, fraud, abuse of authority, misconduct, mismanagement, violations of law, or a significant threat to health and safety, whenever the activity or occurrence complained of is based upon the reasonable belief of the volunteer that it has taken place.

''(B) COVERED OFFICIAL OR OFFICE.—The term 'covered official or office' means any of the following:

''(i) Any Peace Corps employee, including an employee of the Office of Inspector General.

''(ii) A Member of Congress or a representative of a committee of Congress.

''(iii) An Inspector General (other than the Peace Corps Inspector General).

''(iv) The Government Accountability Office.

''(v) An authorized official of the Department of Justice or other law enforcement agency.

''(vi) A United States court or grand jury.''.

SEC. 9. COMPREHENSIVE ILLEGAL DRUG USE POLICY WITH RESPECT TO PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS.

The Peace Corps Act is amended by inserting after section 8I (22 U.S.C. 2507i) the following new section:

"SEC. 8J. COMPREHENSIVE ILLEGAL DRUG USE POLICY WITH RESPECT TO PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall develop and implement a comprehensive drug

use policy with respect to Peace Corps volunteers. Such policy shall—

''(1) establish a zero tolerance policy regarding volunteer or trainee involvement with illegal drugs; and

''(2) require that every case of volunteer or trainee illegal drug involvement be brought immediately to the attention of relevant Peace Corps leadership, including the Director, and be reported expeditiously by the Peace Corps to the Office of the Inspector General.

''(b) CONSULTATION.—In developing the policy described in subsection (a), the Director may consult with and incorporate, as appropriate, the recommendations and views of experts in the field of substance abuse, and shall consult with the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

''(c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director 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 the illegal drug use policy required to be developed and implemented under this section.''.

SEC. 10. PEACE CORPS NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL.

Section 12 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2511) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''the President and'';

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''conduct on-site inspections, and make examinations, of the activities of the Peace Corps in the United States and in other countries in order to'';

(ii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) by striking ''the President, the Director of the Peace Corps, and, as the Council considers appropriate, the Congress,'' and inserting ''the Director and, as the Council considers appropriate, the Congress''; and

(II) by striking ''and'' after the semicolon at the end;

(iii) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (G); and

(iv) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraphs:

''(D) make recommendations for utilizing the expertise of returned Peace Corps volunteers in fulfilling the goals of the Peace Corps;

''(E) make recommendations for increasing recruitment of volunteers from diverse backgrounds and better supporting such volunteers during their training and enrollment in the Peace Corps;

''(F) make recommendations to reduce any financial barriers to application, training, or enrollment in the Peace Corps, including a volunteer's medical expenses and other out-of-pocket costs; and'';

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the first sentence—

(aa) by striking ''fifteen'' and inserting ''seven''; and

(bb) by striking ''the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate'' and inserting ''the Director of the Peace Corps''; and

(II) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following new sentence: ''At least four of such members shall be returned Peace Corps volunteers, and not more than four of such members may be members of the same political party.'';

(ii) by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

''(C) No member of the Council appointed under this paragraph may be an officer or employee of the Peace Corps.'';

(iii) by amending subparagraph (D) to read as follows:

''(D) The members of the Council shall be appointed to 2-year terms.''; and

(iv) by striking subparagraphs (E), (F), (G), (H), and (I); and

(B) by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

''(3) The Director of the Peace Corps shall designate one of the members of the Council as Chair, who shall serve in such capacity for a term of two years.'';

(3) in subsection (d)(1)(B), by striking ''his or her'' and inserting ''the member's'';

(4) in subsection (g)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''At its first meeting and at its first regular meeting in each calendar year thereafter'' and inserting ''At its first meeting each calendar year''; and

(B) in the second sentence, by inserting before the period at the end the following: '', and each shall serve in that capacity for a term of two years. The Director of the Peace Corps may renew, not more than once per member, the term of a voting member appointed as Chair of the Council under the preceding sentence'';

(5) in subsection (h)(1), by striking ''The Council'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: ''The Council shall hold a regular meeting during each calendar quarter at a date and time to be determined by the Chair of the Council or at the call of the Director of the Peace Corps.'';

(6) in subsection (i)—

(A) by striking ''the President and'' (including in the subsection heading) each place such term appears;

(B) by striking ''the President shall'' and inserting ''the Director shall''; and

(C) by striking ''the President or''; and

(7) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

''(k) INDEPENDENCE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.—None of the activities or functions of the Council under subsection (b)(2) may undermine the independence or supersede the duties of the Inspector General of the Peace Corps.

''(l) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Council.

''(m) FUNDING OF THE COUNCIL.—The Council shall be fully funded from amounts made available to the Peace Corps to carry out this Act.''.

SEC. 11. PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS SERVING WITHIN THE UNITED STATES AT THE REQUEST OF ANOTHER AGENCY.

(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Congress declares that the Peace Corps provided emergency disaster relief in response to Hurricane Katrina in 2006 and provided COVID–19 relief in 2021 at the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency and therefore it is the policy of the United States that the Peace Corps be authorized to recruit volunteers to serve within the United States at the request of another agency.

(b) RECRUITMENT OF DOMESTIC VOLUNTEERS.—The Peace Corps Act is amended by inserting after section 14 (22 U.S.C. 2513) the following new section:

''SEC. 14A. PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS SERVING WITHIN THE UNITED STATES AT THE REQUEST OF ANOTHER AGENCY.

''The Director may recruit, train, and accept, for limited periods of time, on such terms and conditions as the Director may determine necessary or appropriate, the services of individuals who are not then serving outside the United States as volunteers or trainees (unless such appointment is made with the consent of the volunteer or trainee serving outside the United States as an extension of such service), who shall serve without compensation as domestic volunteers within the United States to provide assistance at the request of any Federal Government agency with authority to do so. Such service within the United States may be initiated by the Director following the request from the other agency and a determination by the Director that such action is in the best interests of the United States and the Peace Corps. Domestic volunteers shall not be considered volunteers under section 5 and shall not be deemed a Federal employee except for the purposes described in section 5(h). The Director may provide for incidental expenses of domestic volunteers, as determined by the Director to be appropriate for the nature of the assignments.''.

SEC. 12. USE OF OFFICIAL SEAL, EMBLEM, AND NAME OF THE PEACE CORPS.

Section 19 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2518) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''The President'' and inserting ''The Director of the Peace Corps''; and

(B) by striking ''he'' and inserting ''the Director''; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting before the period at the end the following: '', except that the official seal or emblem and the name 'Peace Corps' may be used on any death announcement, gravestone, plaque, or other grave marker of any person who served as a volunteer or as an officer or employee of the Peace Corps under such rules as may be prescribed by the Director''; and

(B) in paragraph (2), in the first sentence, by inserting ''or in accordance with the exception specified in paragraph (1),'' before ''shall be fined''.

SEC. 13. CLARIFICATION REGARDING ELIGIBILITY OF UNITED STATES NATIONALS.

The Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 7(a)(5), by striking ''United States citizens'' each place such term appears and inserting ''nationals of the United States'';

(2) in section 8(b), by striking ''citizens'' and inserting ''nationals'';

(3) in section 10(b), by striking ''citizen or resident'' and inserting ''national'';

(4) in section 12(g), by striking ''citizens'' and inserting ''nationals''; and

(5) in section 26—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) through (8) as paragraphs (6) through (9), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

''(5) The term 'national of the United States' has the meaning given such term in section 101(a)(22) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(22)).''.

SEC. 14. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH BUREAU OF DIPLOMATIC SECURITY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and at least once every five years thereafter, the Director of the Peace Corps, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security, shall review the Memorandum of Agreement between the Bureau of Diplomatic Security of the Department of State and the Peace Corps relating to security support and protection of Peace Corps volunteers and staff members abroad and update such Memorandum of Agreement, as appropriate.

(b) NOTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Peace Corps and the Assistant Secretary of State

for Diplomatic Security shall jointly submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a written notification relating to an update to the Memorandum of Agreement made pursuant to subsection (a).

(2) TIMING OF NOTIFICATION.—A written notification submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be submitted not later than 30 days before the update referred to in such paragraph shall take effect.

SEC. 15. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—The Peace Corps Act is amended—

(1) in section 8E (22 U.S.C. 2507e)—

(A) by striking ''President'' and inserting ''Director'' each place it appears;

(B) in subsection (c), by striking ''September 30, 2023'' and inserting ''September 30, 2025''; and

(C) in subsection (d)(1)(A), by striking ''September 30, 2018'' and inserting ''September 30, 2025''; and

(2) in section 8I (22 U.S.C. 2507i)—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''September 30, 2018'' and inserting ''September 30, 2025''; and

(B) in subsection (c), by striking ''President'' each place it appears and inserting ''Director''.

(b) GAO REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report relating to the post-service health care delivery and insurance coverage pursuant to subsection (d) of section 5 of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2504), as amended by section 4 of this Act, and section 8B of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2507b).

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) Information relating to examinations, counseling, and other mental health care services provided by the Peace Corps to returned volunteers in the six months following the end of the term of service of such volunteers.

(B) Recommendations relating to—

(i) better protection of patient confidentiality for returned Peace Corps volunteers for mental health care services;

(ii) improved access to mental health providers that will accept payment from the Peace Corps; and

(iii) whether such mental health care services for returned volunteers would be better provided under the Short-term Health Insurance For Transition and Travel (SHIFTT) plan or a similar commercially available insurance plan to be paid for by the Peace Corps.

(c) REPORT ON MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION STANDARDS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Peace Corps 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 the guidelines and standards used to evaluate the mental health of Peace Corps applicants prior to service. Such report shall include—

(1) a detailed description of mental health screening guidelines and evaluation standards used by the Peace Corps to determine medical eligibility of applicants for service, including a description of the most common mental health conditions of applicants;

(2) specific standards in the mental health screening process that could lead to an applicant's disqualification from service, and a description of how these determinations are made;

(3) a description of any expedited mental health clearance process for severe or recent symptom presentation;

(4) a description of periods of stability related to certain mental health conditions and symptoms recommended prior to an applicant's clearance to serve;

(5) an assessment of the impact of updated mental health evaluation guidance, including a comparison of mental health related volunteer medevacs in years before and after updated guidelines were implemented; and

(6) a review of these screening guidelines, conducted by a panel of certified and qualified medical professionals in the United States, that evaluates these standards based on scientific evidence and mental health research and proposes relevant updates or additions to current guidance.

(d) REPORT ON VOLUNTEER MEDICAL EVACUATIONS.—Not later than the first May 1 occurring after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for five years, the Director of the Peace Corps 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 volunteer medical and mental health evacuations. Such report shall include—

(1) the number of Peace Corps volunteer medical and mental health evacuations during the previous year;

(2) a breakdown of these evacuations into medical and mental health evacuation categories; and

(3) the estimated cost of these evacuations for each year, including a breakdown of costs between medical and mental health evacuation categories.

(e) REPORT AND EXTENSION OF THE SEXUAL ASSAULT ADVISORY COUNCIL.—Section 8D of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2507d) is amended—

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

''(d) REPORTS.—On an annual basis for the duration of its mandate, the Council shall submit to the Director, the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on its findings based on the reviews conducted pursuant to subsection (c) and shall include relevant recommendations. Such reports shall be made publicly available.''; and

(2) in subsection (g), by striking ''October 1, 2023'' and inserting ''October 1, 2025''.

(f) REPORT ON PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the Peace Corps 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—

(1) the presence of the Peace Corps in the Pacific Islands region; and

(2) a strategy to expand such presence, as practicable, including—

(A) outcomes of consultations with regional allies and partners on areas in which cooperation can reduce factors limiting Peace Corps expansion; and

(B) timelines for expanding and reopening country programs in the Pacific Islands region.

SEC. 16. WORKERS COMPENSATION FOR PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8142 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''GS–7'' and inserting ''GS–7, step 5'';

(B) by striking paragraph (2); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

(2) in subsection (d)(1), by striking ''subsection (c)(3)'' and inserting ''subsection (c)(2)''.

(b) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by subsection (a)(1)(A) shall apply to any volunteer (as that term is defined in subsection (a) of section 8142 of title 5, United States Code) with respect to whom benefits under chapter 81 of such title commence, by operation of such section, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 17. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING EDITS.

The Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by amending section 1 to read as follows:

''SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

''(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the 'Peace Corps Act'.

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

''TITLE I—THE PEACE CORPS

''Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
''Sec. 2. Declaration of purpose.
''Sec. 2A. Peace Corps as an independent agency.
''Sec. 3. Authorization.
''Sec. 4. Director of the Peace Corps and delegation of functions.
''Sec. 5. Peace Corps volunteers.
''Sec. 5A. Health care for volunteers at Peace Corps posts.
''Sec. 5B. Codification of Executive Order 11103.
''Sec. 5C. Volunteers providing virtual services for the Peace Corps.
''Sec. 6. Peace Corps volunteer leaders.
''Sec. 7. Peace Corps employees.
''Sec. 8. Volunteer training.
''Sec. 8A. Sexual assault risk-reduction and response training.
''Sec. 8B. Sexual assault policy.
''Sec. 8C. Office of victim advocacy.
''Sec. 8D. Establishment of sexual assault advisory council.
''Sec. 8E. Volunteer feedback and Peace Corps review.
''Sec. 8F. Establishment of a policy on stalking.
''Sec. 8G. Establishment of a confidentiality protection policy.
''Sec. 8H. Removal and assessment and evaluation.
''Sec. 8I. Reporting requirements.
''Sec. 8J. Comprehensive illegal drug use policy with respect to Peace Corps volunteers.
''Sec. 9. Participation of foreign nationals.
''Sec. 10. General powers and authorities.
''Sec. 11. Reports.
''Sec. 12. Peace Corps National Advisory Council.
''Sec. 13. Experts and consultants.
''Sec. 14. Detail of personnel to foreign governments and international organizations.
''Sec. 14A. Peace corps volunteers serving within the United States at the request of another agency.
''Sec. 15. Utilization of funds.
''Sec. 16. Foreign currency fluctuations account.
''Sec. 17. Use of foreign currencies.
''Sec. 18. Activities promoting Americans' understanding of other peoples.
''Sec. 19. Exclusive right to seal and name.
''Sec. 20. [Reserved.]
''Sec. 21. [Reserved.]
''Sec. 22. Security investigations.
''Sec. 23. Universal military training and service act.
''Sec. 24. Foreign language proficiency act.
''Sec. 25. Nonpartisan appointments.
''Sec. 26. Definitions.
''Sec. 27. Construction.
''Sec. 28. Effective date.

''TITLE II—AMENDMENT OF INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

''Sec. 201. [Reserved.]
''Sec. 202. [Reserved.]

''TITLE III—ENCOURAGEMENT OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE PROGRAMS

''Sec. 301. Voluntary Service Programs.'';

(2) in subsection (a) of section 2—

(A) by striking ''men and women'' and inserting ''individuals'';

(B) by striking ''help the peoples'' and inserting ''partner with the peoples''; and

(C) by striking ''trained manpower'' and inserting ''trained individuals'';

(3) in subsection (e) of section 3 (as so redesignated by section 2 of this Act), by striking ''disabled people'' and inserting ''people with disabilities'' each place it appears;

(4) in subsection (b) of section 4—

(A) by striking ''him'' and inserting ''the President'';

(B) by striking ''he'' and inserting ''the Director''; and

(C) by striking ''of his subordinates'' and all that follows through ''functions.'' and inserting ''subordinate of the Director the authority to perform any such functions.'';

(5) in section 7—

(A) in subsection (a), by moving the margins of paragraphs (7) and (8) two ems to the left;

(B) in the second sentence of subsection (c), by striking ''in his discretion'' and inserting ''in the President's discretion''; and

(C) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (b);

(6) in section 8A—

(A) in subsection (c), by striking ''his or her'' and inserting ''the volunteer's'';

(B) in paragraph (2) of subsection (d), by inserting ''the'' before ''information''; and

(C) in subsection (f)—

(i) in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (2), by striking ''his or her'' and inserting ''the volunteer's'' each place it appears; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (4), by striking ''his or her'' and inserting ''that person's'';

(7) in section 8C, in the heading of subsection (a), by striking ''VICTIMS'' and inserting ''VICTIM'';

(8) in section 8E—

(A) in subsection (b), by striking ''subsection (c),'' and inserting ''subsection (c)''; and

(B) in subsection (e)(1)(F), by striking ''Corp's'' and inserting ''Corps'';

(9) in section 9—

(A) by striking ''Act proceedings'' and inserting ''Act. Removal proceedings'';

(B) by striking ''under which he'' and inserting ''under which that person''; and

(C) by striking ''for which he'' and inserting ''for which that person'';

(10) in section 10—

(A) in subsection (b) (as amended by section 13 of this Act), by striking ''he'' and inserting ''the President''; and

(B) in subsection (d), by striking ''section 3709'' and all that follows through ''1949'' and inserting ''sections 3101(a), 3101(c), 3104, 3106, 3301(b)(2), and 6101 of title 41, United States Code'';

(11) in section 14—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking ''his'' after ''of'' and before ''agency'' and inserting ''that''; and

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) by striking ''preserving his'' and inserting ''preserving the''; and

(ii) by striking ''he'' after ''assigned, and'';

(12) in section 15—

(A) in subsection (c), in the first sentence, by striking ''that Act'' and inserting ''such subchapter''; and

(B) in subsection (d)(7), by striking ''his designee'' and inserting ''the Director's designee'';

(13) in section 23, by striking ''Universal Military Training and Service Act'' and inserting ''Military Selective Service Act (50 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.)'';

(14) in section 24, by striking—

(A) ''his'' and inserting ''the volunteer's''; and

(B) ''he'' each place it appears and inserting ''the volunteer'';

(15) in section 26 (as amended by section 13 of this Act)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking ''which he or she'' and inserting ''which the medical officer'';

(B) by further redesignating paragraphs (2) through (9) (as so redesignated by section 13) as paragraphs (3) through (10), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

''(2) The term 'Director' means the Director of the Peace Corps.'';

(D) in paragraph (7), as so redesignated, by striking ''5(m)'' and inserting ''5(n)''; and

(E) in paragraph (10), as so redesignated—

(i) by redesignating clauses (i) and (ii) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and moving such subparagraphs, as so redesignated, 2 ems to the left; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A), as so redesignated, by striking ''section 5(f)'' and inserting ''section 5(e)''; and

(16) in section 301, by striking ''Sec. 301. (a) The Congress'' and inserting the following:

''VOLUNTARY SERVICE PROGRAMS

''SEC. 301.

''(a) The Congress''.

SEC. 18. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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. 1456, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act, and I thank Mr. GARAMENDI for authoring this important bill.

This week marks 61 years in which President Kennedy signed the bill creating the Peace Corps into law, with the mission of promoting world peace and friendship. The Peace Corps has fulfilled this vision and has evolved into a vital diplomatic tool for U.S. foreign policy.

Since 1961, more than 240,000 Americans have served as Peace Corps volunteers in 143 countries, conducting people-to-people diplomacy and development in partnership with communities in some of the poorest countries of the world.

Volunteers work in sectors that include education, agriculture, environment, health, youth, and community economic development. From incorporating agroforestry technologies in Zambia's farming system, to promoting volunteerism in Georgia, there is no doubt about the profound impact that the Peace Corps has had on the world's developing nations.

In addition to changing lives of people all over the world, the Peace Corps has also shaped the next generation of American and foreign leaders and changemakers, by fostering cross-cultural immersion and collaboration.

After 61 years of success, we think it is time to further strengthen the Peace Corps' global mission by providing additional resources to better the agency and to support its volunteers. Congress last authorized the Peace Corps in 1999. For this reason, the bill is timely, provides a much-needed update to benefits for volunteers that include readjustment allowance, re-enrollment priority, transition assistance, health insurance, noncompetitive eligibility for Federal employment, and updated workers' compensation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman MEEKS and Ranking Member MCCAUL for moving this legislation forward in a bipartisan way. The bill will enhance the ability of the Peace Corps to make strong and strategic investments to meet the challenges of today and continue to be a transformative force for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge all Members to vote in support of this critical legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. GARAMENDI and Mr. GRAVES for their bipartisan work on the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act.

Last year, the Peace Corps celebrated its 60th anniversary. The Peace Corps has played an important role in America's foreign assistance efforts, and I thank the volunteers who have selflessly given their time to do work abroad.

The Peace Corps faced many challenges during the pandemic, but I am pleased that volunteers are finally returning to their important tasks overseas. As they return, volunteer safety must continue to be the agency's top priority.

Tragically, the number of volunteers reporting sexual assault during their service has risen. This is devastating, and we must continue to hold the Peace Corps accountable for maximizing the safety and welfare of our volunteers.

This bill reinforces and builds on key reforms made by Congress in 2011, including extending the mandate of the Sexual Assault Advisory Council.

□ 1415

It also expedites the reenrollment process for volunteers whose service was cut short by the pandemic, and it directs the Peace Corps to establish a zero-tolerance policy on volunteers' drug use.

This bill is an important step toward exercising our oversight responsibilities and driving reforms that will protect the Peace Corps volunteers that we all represent.

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI).

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today, I am excited to join my colleagues as we consider the first reauthorization of the Peace Corps in two decades and also celebrate the 61st anniversary of the establishment of this extraordinary American invention.

This week, we celebrate the anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's signing of the Peace Corps Act into law on September 22, 1961. My wife, Patti, and I began our careers in public service when we joined the Peace Corps as young married graduates fresh out of UC Berkeley.

Our post was to a remote village in western Ethiopia. We taught the seventh and eighth grades and engaged in community development. Like so many Americans of every age and background, we answered JFK's call to service.

Over the 60 years since the first volunteers arrived in Liberia, more than 240,000 Americans have served in 143 countries. Their tasks were to assist in the economic and social development in those countries.

JFK gave the call to service: ''Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country.'' By 1962, Peace Corps volunteers were in-country. They were bringing advanced agricultural production techniques. They were teaching and providing medical education and healthcare services. They were creating cooperatives. They were building roads. They were bringing every conceivable skill that every nation needed.

When the Soviet Union collapsed, Peace Corps volunteers were asked by 13 newly independent states to come and bring the best of America with them. Americans young and old with every skill arrived. Since 1992, 3,552 American Peace Corps volunteers have served in Ukraine.

Prior to the global COVID–19 pandemic, Peace Corps volunteers served in 61 countries. For 60 years, the benefits of these Peace Corps volunteers' work at home and abroad were undeniable.

Over the decades, many Members and former volunteers have had the honor of co-chairing the Congressional Peace Corps Caucus. I thank my co-chair, GARRET GRAVES, as we lead congressional understanding and support for this essential element of America's international engagement and also the indelible impact that the Peace Corps service has had on the lives of so many around the world and in our own country.

The COVID–19 pandemic shut down Peace Corps programs around the world. Today, the Peace Corps is diligently returning its volunteers to this essential work. The agency has set an ambitious goal of surpassing 10,000 volunteers annually serving abroad. Volunteers are now in 27 countries, and every month, another country is restarting its program.

My bill, the bipartisan Peace Corps Reauthorization Act, H.R. 1456, builds upon the Sam Farr and Nick Castle Peace Corps Reform Act of 2018 and the Kate Puzey Peace Corps Volunteer Protection Act of 2011.

It does make many important reforms, which have already been discussed here on the floor. I would only add that it does guarantee additional health insurance coverage for returned volunteers immediately following their service and requires the Peace Corps to facilitate long-term public and private health insurance coverage opportunities for returning volunteers. As mentioned, the workers' compensation rate has increased.

This bill strengthens the protection of volunteers against reprisals or retaliation for reporting wrongdoing within the agency and overseas.

In total, this bill would provide the necessary Federal resources to support international programs, and current, returning, and former Peace Corps volunteers, by authorizing an annual appropriation of $430,500,000. This current, critical legislation will reinvigorate the Peace Corps and ensure that its essential work can continue to shape and inspire people around the world for years to come.

In 1961, President Kennedy understood that the Peace Corps would ''permit our people to exercise more fully their responsibilities in the great common cause of world development.''

He set out three goals. To paraphrase, first, unpack your bag and live with and help meet the needs in your new community. Second, in your new community, work to create a better understanding of America by being the real face of America. Third, bring an understanding of the world back home.

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I can think of no better way to honor JFK's vision than for this Congress to pass the bipartisan Peace Corps Reauthorization Act and advance the Peace Corps into the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to pass this important bill.

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill. In the more than two decades since the Peace Corps was last authorized, the agency and its volunteers have done great work around the world on behalf of the American people, but the agency still has work to do.

By building on key reforms as volunteers go back into the field, this legislation will ensure that the Peace Corps is prepared to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1456, the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act, as amended, would significantly upgrade the Peace Corps and better support Americans who are ready to serve their Nation and make the world a better place.

I thank Mr. GARAMENDI for his service to the Peace Corps in Ethiopia and for this bill. It is clear from Mr. GARAMENDI and from many other Americans—we all know how their Peace Corps service has transformed their lives and the lives of those with whom they volunteered.

All of this has contributed to a stronger American image abroad, reaffirming our conviction in the enduring value of the Peace Corps. Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me and support this bill.

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

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1456.

I won't mince words: H.R. 1456 includes a Peace Corps payout.

Section 16 of this bill gives injured Peace Corps Volunteers an arbitrary increase in Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) benefits—increasing the current deemed pay level that is used to calculate benefits from GS–7, step 1, to GS–7, step 5.

No one has put forward a rationale for why this increase is necessary or appropriate for Peace Corps Volunteers.

Not a single hearing has been held to discuss or examine this issue.

In fact, the increased benefit level in H.R. 1456 is out of line with deemed pay rates for other volunteers.

For example, Job Corps Volunteers have a deemed pay level of GS–2 and AmeriCorps Vista Volunteers are deemed GS–5.

I would also note that tens of thousands of federal workers are at GS–7, step 1, or lower on the federal pay scale. But again, no one has explained why Peace Corps Volunteers should be deemed to have a higher GS level than these federal workers.

Furthermore, this bill sets a terrible precedent for other programs that will inevitably ask for an increase in FECA benefits. Congress will have no basis to reject their requests if this proposal passes.

And guess who will be breaking out their checkbooks to foot the bill of these benefit increases?

Hardworking taxpayers.

And I'm willing to bet they won't get an explanation either.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this Peace Corps payout and vote no on H.R. 1456.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1456, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

UPHOLDING THE DAYTON PEACE AGREEMENT THROUGH SANCTIONS ACT

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8453) to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to foreign persons undermining the Dayton Peace Agreement or threatening the security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8453

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 ''Upholding the Dayton Peace Agreement Through Sanctions Act''.

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to support Bosnia and Herzegovina's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and multiethnic character;

(2) to back and bolster Bosnia and Herzegovina's progress towards Euro-Atlantic integration;

(3) to encourage officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina to resume institutional participation at all levels of government to advance functionality and common-sense reforms for greater prosperity and for Bosnia and Herzegovina to obtain European Union candidate status;

(4) to push Bosnia and Herzegovina to implement the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights;

(5) to advocate for robust participation in the October 2, 2022, general elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

(6) to utilize targeted sanctions against persons who undermine the Dayton Peace Agreement and democratic institutions, including by blocking, boycotting or not recognizing the results of elections, in Bosnia and Herzegovina to support peace and stability in that country;

(7) to urge the European Union to join the United States and United Kingdom in sanctioning Milorad Dodik, a member of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, for his actions that undermine the stability and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

(8) to expose and condemn the Government of Russia for its role in fueling instability in Bosnia and Herzegovina and undermining the Dayton Peace Agreement, the role of the Office of the High Representative, and the European Union Force in BiH's Operation Althea;

(9) to work with other regional States, including Serbia and Croatia, to support the territorial integrity and stability of Bosnia and Herzegovina; and

(10) to use its voice and vote at the United Nations, the Peace Implementation Council and its Steering Board, and other relevant international bodies to support the Office of the High Representative.

SEC. 3. IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN PERSONS UNDERMINING THE DAYTON PEACE AGREEMENT OR THREATENING THE SECURITY OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA.

(a) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—

(1) LIST REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for five years, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a list of foreign persons that are determined—

(A) to be responsible for or complicit in, or to have directly or indirectly engaged in, any action or policy that threatens the peace, security, stability, or territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including actions that seek to undermine the authority of Bosnia and Herzegovina's state-level institutions, such as forming illegal parallel institutions or actions that threaten the Office of the High Representative;

(B) to be responsible for or complicit in, or to have directly or indirectly engaged in, any action or policy that undermines democratic processes or institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

(C) to be responsible for or complicit in, or to have directly or indirectly engaged in, or to have attempted, a violation of, or an act that has obstructed or threatened the implementation of, the Dayton Peace Agreement or the Conclusions of the Peace Implementation Conference Council held in London in December 1995, including the decisions or conclusions of the Office of the High Representative, the Peace Implementation Council, or its Steering Board;

(D) to be a member, official, or senior leader of an illegal parallel institution or any other institution that engages in activities described in subparagraph (A), (B) or (C), as determined by the Secretary of State;

(E) to be responsible for or complicit in, or to have directly or indirectly engaged in, or attempted to engage in, corruption related to Bosnia and Herzegovina, including corruption by, on behalf of, or otherwise related to the government in Bosnia and Herzegovina, or a current or former government official at any level of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina, such as the misappropriation of public assets, expropriation of private assets for personal gain or political purposes, corruption related to government contracts or the extraction of natural resources or bribery;

(F) to be an adult family member of any foreign person described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E) unless they have condemned the sanctionable activity and taken tangible steps to oppose the activity;

(G) to have knowingly facilitated a significant transaction or transactions for or on behalf of a foreign person described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E);

(H) to be owned or controlled by, or to have acted or purported to act for or on behalf of, directly or indirectly, a foreign person described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E); or

(I) to have knowingly materially assisted, sponsored, or provided financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to or in support of, a foreign person described in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E).

(2) IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—Upon the submission of each list required by paragraph (1), the President shall impose the sanctions described in subsection (c) with respect to each foreign person identified on the list.

(b) ADDITIONAL MEASURE RELATING TO FACILITATION OF TRANSACTIONS.—The Secretary of the Treasury may, in consultation with the Secretary of State, prohibit or impose strict conditions on the opening or maintaining in the United States of a correspondent account or payable-through account by a foreign financial institution that the President determines has, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, knowingly conducted or facilitated a significant transaction or transactions on behalf of a foreign person on the list required by subsection (a)(1).

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

(1) PROPERTY BLOCKING.—Notwithstanding the requirements of section 202 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701), the President may exercise of all powers granted to the President by that Act to the extent necessary to block and prohibit all transactions in all property and interests in property of the foreign person 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.

(2) ALIENS INADMISSIBLE FOR VISAS, ADMISSION, OR PAROLE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—An alien on the list required by subsection (a)(1) is—

(i) inadmissible to the United States;

(ii) ineligible for a visa or travel to 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.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The issuing consular officer, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of Homeland Security (or a designee of one of such Secretaries) shall, in accordance with section 221(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1201(i)), revoke any visa or other entry documentation issued to an alien on the list required by subsection (a)(1) regardless of when the visa or other entry documentation is issued.

(ii) EFFECT OF REVOCATION.—A visa or other entry documentation revoked under clause (i) shall—

(I) take effect immediately; and

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

(d) EXCEPTIONS.—

(1) EXCEPTION FOR INTELLIGENCE, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND NATIONAL SECURITY ACTIVITIES.—Sanctions under this section shall not apply to any authorized intelligence, law enforcement, or national security activities of the United States.

(2) EXCEPTION TO COMPLY WITH UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT.—Sanctions under subsection (c)(2) shall not apply with respect to the admission of an alien to the United States if the admission of the alien 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, the Convention on Consular Relations, done at Vienna April 24, 1963, and entered into force March 19, 1967, or other applicable international obligations.

(3) EXCEPTION RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.—Sanctions under this section may not be imposed with respect to transactions or the facilitation of transactions for—

(A) the sale of agricultural commodities, food, medicine, or medical devices;

(B) the provision of humanitarian assistance;

(C) financial transactions relating to humanitarian assistance or for humanitarian purposes; and

(D) transporting goods or services that are necessary to carry out operations relating to humanitarian assistance or humanitarian purposes.

(e) WAIVER.—The President may, on a case-by-case basis and for periods not to exceed 180 days each, waive the application of sanctions or restrictions imposed with respect to a foreign person under this section if the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 15 days before such waiver is to take effect that the waiver is vital to the national interest of the United States.

(f) REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, prescribe regulations as necessary for the implementation of this Act.

(2) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 10 days before the prescription of regulations under paragraph (1), the President shall notify the appropriate congressional committees regarding the proposed regulations and the provisions of this Act that the regulations are implementing.

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

(h) PENALTIES.—The penalties provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1705) shall apply to a person that violates, attempts to violate, conspires to violate, or causes a violation of regulations prescribed to carry out this Act to the same extent that such penalties apply to a person that commits an unlawful act described in subsection (a) of such section 206.

(i) TERMINATION OF SANCTIONS.—The President may terminate the application of sanctions under this section with respect to a foreign person if the President determines and reports to the appropriate congressional committees not later than 15 days before the termination of the sanctions that—

(1) credible information exists that the foreign person did not engage in the activity for which sanctions were imposed;

(2) the foreign person has been prosecuted appropriately for the activity for which sanctions were imposed; or

(3) the foreign person has credibly demonstrated a significant change in behavior, has paid an appropriate consequence for the activity for which sanctions were imposed, and has credibly committed to not engage in an activity described in subsection (a)(1) in the future.

(j) SUNSET.—The authority to impose sanctions under this section shall terminate on the date that is five years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION IN IMPOSING SANCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after receiving a request from the chairman and ranking member of one of the appropriate congressional committees with respect to whether a person, foreign person, or foreign financial institution, as the case may be, meets the criteria described in this Act, Executive Order 14033 (86 Fed. Reg. 31079; relating to blocking property and suspending entry into the United States of certain persons contributing to the destabilizing situation in the Western Balkans), or any Executive order issued pursuant to this Act or under the Balkans regulatory regime, the President shall—

(1) determine if the person, foreign person, or foreign financial institution, as the case may be, meets such criteria; and

(2) submit a classified or unclassified report to such chairman and ranking member with respect to such determination that includes a statement of whether or not the President imposed or intends to impose sanctions with respect to such person, foreign person, or foreign financial institution.

(b) SUNSET.—This section shall terminate on the date that is five years after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. EXCEPTION FOR IMPORTATION OF GOODS.

(a) EXCEPTION RELATING TO IMPORTATION OF GOODS.—The authorities and requirements to impose sanctions under this Act shall not include the authority or requirement to impose sanctions on the importation of goods.

(b) GOOD DEFINED.—In this section, 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.

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ADMITTED; ALIEN.—The terms ''admitted'' and ''alien'' have the meanings given those terms in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives; and

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

(3) CORRESPONDENT ACCOUNT; PAYABLE-THROUGH ACCOUNT.—The terms ''correspondent account'' and ''payable-through account'' have the meanings given those terms in section 5318A of title 31, United States Code.

(4) DAYTON PEACE AGREEMENT.—The term ''Dayton Peace Agreement'', also known as the ''Dayton Accords'', means the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, initialed by the parties in Dayton, Ohio, on November 21, 1995, and signed in Paris on December 14, 1995.

(5) FOREIGN FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.—The term ''foreign financial institution'' has the meaning of that term as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury by regulation.

(6) FOREIGN PERSON.—The term ''foreign person'' means a person that is not a United States person.

(7) ILLEGAL PARALLEL INSTITUTION.—The term ''illegal parallel institution'' means an agency, structure, or instrumentality at the Republika Srpska entity level that disrupts the authority of the state-level institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and undermines its constitutional order.

(8) KNOWINGLY.—The term ''knowingly'', with respect to conduct, a circumstance, or a result, means that a person has actual knowledge, or should have known, of the conduct, the circumstance, or the result.

(9) PERSON.—The term ''person'' means an individual or entity.

(10) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ''United States person'' means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence;

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction within the United States, including a foreign branch of such an entity; or

(C) any person in the United States.

SEC. 7. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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. 8453, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8453, the Upholding the Dayton Peace Agreement Through Sanctions Act. I thank Representatives WILD and WAGNER for their dedicated efforts to introduce and move this important bill.

Memories and horrific consequences of the Balkan wars of the 1990s are with us all, those of us who experienced that war in the region and those of us who worked on the ending of that war. I was one of those people.

I was at the Dayton peace conference in 1995 as a young State Department staffer and remember how close we came to failure and the extraordinarily positive consequences of success: ending a war that claimed 200,000 lives, reaffirming the centrality and importance of American leadership in Europe and the importance of the NATO alliance, and keeping the peace in the transatlantic community.

The fragile peace that we ushered in with the Dayton Accords was meant to leave the threats of ethnic nationalism and demagoguery in the past and to create a framework, as imperfect as it was, for cooperation and, ultimately, the integration of those countries into European institutions.

Well, some of those young countries have done as we hoped. They successfully moved toward and integrated into the European Union and NATO. Some have struggled on that path but are still striving for a democratic and prosperous future.

Some of the problems that they still experience are internal of their own making, but others are coming from outside actors, particularly Russia and China, who see an interest and an opportunity to keep these countries in chaos and limbo.

In 2 weeks, the people of Bosnia will head to the polls in decisive elections that will determine their country's fate. However, in the lead-up to and following the elections, there will be temptations to break away from the Dayton Accords and the spirit of peace and partnership that they represent. The citizens of Bosnia deserve better from their leadership.

This legislation, which the House Committee on Foreign Affairs marked up in July, is designed to hold the bad actors holding Bosnia back accountable and to prevent others from hurting that country's chances to enjoy a free and democratic future.

As we are learning from Putin's cruel and unjustified war on the people and the very idea of Ukraine, peace and democracy are not guaranteed but must be fostered and protected always.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 8453, the Upholding the Dayton Peace Agreement Through Sanctions Act, my bipartisan bill codifying key sanctions authorities that will help the United States stave off a serious crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The country is headed into important general elections in just a few short weeks on October 2, and time is running out to send a strong deterrent message to bad actors intent on destabilizing the country.

Bosnia's democratic institutions, its territorial integrity, even the Office of the High Representative, the independent body tasked with implementing the Dayton Accords, are all at risk.

Peace in Bosnia came at a very steep price. Those who would threaten the very foundations of the country must be held accountable.

The reckless secessionism and destabilizing actions of ethnonationalist politicians like Milorad Dodik, the Serb member of Bosnia's tripartite presidency, are extremely dangerous. The October elections could be a critical flash point.

□ 1430

It worries me tremendously to see Serb and Croat nationalist parties, with the support of the ruthless Putin regime, working to roll back the progress Bosnia has made.

We have a strong and vibrant Bosnian community in my hometown of St. Louis, Missouri. Many of my constituents fled to the city during and after the 1992 and 1995 Bosnian war in which more than 100,000—200,000 lost their lives. My constituents want to see their homeland prosper as a unified, sovereign, and multi-ethnic state.

I cannot imagine the heartache they must feel when Dodik denies the horrifying genocide committed by Serb troops against Bosniak Muslims at Srebrenica, or when he threatens to lead the dissolution of Bosnia.

These actions are offensive to those who lost loved ones in the Bosnian war, and they are profoundly dangerous to Bosnia's future.

It is imperative, Mr. Speaker, that the United States wield our economic toolkit to deter threats to Bosnian sovereignty and territorial integrity as the country navigates these challenges.

H.R. 8453 codifies and mandates key sanctions authorities to address the political crisis and corruption in Bosnia. Ahead of the country's October general election, this bill sends a critical signal to local officials engaging in destabilizing and anti-democratic behavior, and to Russia for its destructive influence, that the United States will hold them accountable.

At this volatile moment, Bosnians need the United States House of Representatives to stand in unequivocal support of their peaceful, democratic future.

I appreciate the chair and ranking member's swift attention to this urgently needed bill that I have the great honor of putting forward. I also thank Representative WILD for working with me on this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 8453, the Upholding the Dayton Peace Agreement Through Sanctions Act.

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

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

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I thank Representative WILD for working with me on this important legislation.

And as a guarantor of the Dayton Peace Agreement, the United States cannot stand by while Bosnia and Herzegovina are threatened by destabilizing ethnonationalist forces and Russia's destructive influence.

This legislation sends an unmistakable message to any actor that threatens the peace, security, and stability, or territorial integrity of Bosnia. If such destabilizing behavior is not ceased, he or she will be sanctioned. These sanctions will not be considered, nor deliberated over, but mandated.

With the country's October election less than a month away, the time for the U.S. House of Representatives to act is now. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 8453, Upholding the Dayton Peace Agreement Through Sanctions Act, will help prevent malevolent actors from undermining peace and stability in Bosnia, to protect that country's free and democratic future from efforts to unravel the Dayton Accords.

The progress made since the devastating Balkan wars of the 1990s must be preserved. Efforts to provoke tensions must not and will not be tolerated by the United States. Russia's war of choice in Ukraine has showed us the consequences of a land war in Europe in the 21st century. We cannot allow anything remotely similar to happen in the Balkans, and I am confident that Congress and the administration will work together to prevent that.

I once again thank my colleagues, Representatives WILD and WAGNER, for introducing H.R. 8453, and I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting this bill.

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 New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8453, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

CORRUPTION, OVERTHROWING RULE OF LAW, AND RUINING UKRAINE: PUTIN'S TRIFECTA ACT

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6846) to require a review of sanctions with respect to Russian kleptocrats and human rights abusers, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6846

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 ''Corruption, Overthrowing Rule of Law, and Ruining Ukraine: Putin's Trifecta Act'' or ''CORRUPT Act''.

SEC. 2. REVIEW OF SANCTIONS WITH RESPECT TO RUSSIAN KLEPTOCRATS AND HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSERS.

(a) DETERMINATION WITH RESPECT TO IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a determination, including a detailed justification, of whether any person listed in subsection (b) meets the criteria for the imposition of sanctions under provisions of law that authorize the imposition of sanctions relating to corruption or human rights violations.

(b) PERSONS LISTED.—The persons listed in this subsection, which include Russian persons and current and former Russian government officials, are the following:

(1) Roman Arkadyevich Abramovich.
(2) Konstantin Lvovich Ernst.
(3) Victor Evdokimovich Gavrilov.
(4) Dmitry Ivanov.
(5) Pavel Vladimirovich Krasheninnikov.
(6) Elena Evgenievna Morozova.
(7) Mikhail Albertovich Murashko.

(8) Ella Alexandrovna Pamfilova.
(9) Dmitry Nikolayevich Patrushev.
(10) Denis Gennadievich Popov.
(11) Margarita Simonovna Simonyan.
(12) Vladimir Roudolfovitch Solovyev.
(13) Andrey Yuryevich Vorobyev.
(14) Igor Vladimirovich Yanchuk.
(15) Victoria Valerievna Abramchenko.
(16) Maxim Alekseevich Akimov.
(17) Igor Olegovich Aleshin.
(18) Sergey Vladimirovich Aleksandrovsky.
(19) Anton Andreyevich Alikhanov.
(20) Igor Alekseevich Altushkin.
(21) Ekaterina Sergeevna Andreeva.
(22) Dmitry Vasilievich Aristov.
(23) Roman Evgenievich Artyukhin.
(24) Zaur Asevovich Askenderov.
(25) Pavel Alekseevich Astakhov.
(26) Ludmila Valentinovna Babushkina.
(27) Igor Vyacheslavovich Barinov.
(28) Victor Fedorovich Basargin.
(29) Marat Alimzhanovich Basharov.
(30) Nikolay Viktorovich Baskov.
(31) Andrey Removich Belousov.
(32) Yuri Ivanovich Borisov.
(33) Larisa Igorevna Brycheva.
(34) Igor Yurievich Bryntsalov.
(35) Petr Pavlovich Biryukov.
(36) Yury Alexandrovich Burlachko.
(37) Igor Yurievich Chaika.
(38) Alexey Olegovich Chekunkov.
(39) Elena Evgenievna Chernyakova.
(40) Yulia Dmitrievna Chicherina.
(41) Yuri Anatolyevich Chikhanchin.
(42) Artur Nikolaevich Chilingarov.
(43) Vladimir Viktorovich Chistyukhin.
(44) Sergey Alekseevich Dankvert.
(45) Adam Sultanovich Delimkhanov.
(46) Evgeny Ivanovich Ditrikh.
(47) Zarina Valeryevna Doguzova.
(48) Alexey Alexandrovich Druzhinin.
(49) Dmitry Petrovich Dyuzhev.
(50) Daniil Vyacheslavovich Egorov.
(51) Ilya Vladimirovich Eliseev.
(52) Alexander Vladimirovich Emelianenko.
(53) Marina Valentinovna Entaltseva.
(54) Ksenia Valentinovna Yudaeva
(55) Valery Alexandrovich Fadeev.
(56) Valery Nikolaevich Falkov.
(57) Valery Valerievich Fedorov.
(58) Aram Ashotovich Gabrelyanov.
(59) Oleg Mikhailovich Gazmanov.
(60) Valery Abisalovich Gergiev.
(61) Dmitry Yurievich Gogin.
(62) Tatiana Alexeyevna Golikova.
(63) Olga Yurievna Golodets.
(64) Vasily Yuryevich Golubev.
(65) Alexander Nikolaevich Gorbenko.
(66) Dmitry Vladimirovich Gorelov.
(67) Viktor Petrovich Goremykin.
(68) Vladimir Mikhailovich Gundyaev.
(69) Oleg Vladimirovich Ilyinikh.
(70) Yury Olegovich Isaev.
(71) Alexander Valentinovich Ishchenko.
(72) Mikhail Yuryevich Ivankov.
(73) Alexander Sergeevich Kalinin.
(74) Natalya Ivanovna Kasperskaya.
(75) Evgeny Valentinovich Kaspersky.
(76) Sergey Alexandrovich Karaganov.
(77) Alexander Gennadievich Khloponin.
(78) Viktor Borisovich Khristenko.
(79) Eduard Yuryevich Khudainatov.
(80) Andrey Stepanovich Kigim.
(81) Sergey Georgievich Kireev.
(82) Dmitry Mikhailovich Kirillov.
(83) Philip Bedrosovich Kirkorov.
(84) Vladislav Nikolaevich Kitaev.
(85) German Sergeevich Klimenko.
(86) Franz Adamovich Klintsevich.
(87) Anton Anatolyevich Kobyakov.
(88) Dmitry Viktorovich Kochnev.
(89) Victor Anatolievich Koksharov.
(90) Petr Viktorovich Kolbin.
(91) Ekaterina Vladimirovna Kolokoltseva.
(92) Alexander Sergeevich Kolpakov.
(93) Veniamin Ivanovich Kondratyev.
(94) Aleksandr Vladimirovich Konovalov.
(95) Alexander Nikolaevich Konovalov.
(96) Boris Nikolaevich Korobets.
(97) Anton Olegovich Kotykov.
(98) Alexander Alexandrovich Kozlov.
(99) Sergey Sergeevich Kravtsov.
(100) Svetlana Aleksandrovna Krivonogih.
(101) Nikolai Mikhailovich Kropachev.
(102) Alexey Leonidovich Kudrin.
(103) Andrey Vasilievich Lavrishchev.
(104) Alexander Vladimirovich Lazarev.
(105) Artemy Andreyevich Lebedev.
(106) Vyacheslav Mikhailovich Lebedev.
(107) Igor Evgenievich Levitin.
(108) Alexandra Yuryevna Levitskaya.
(109) Alexey Evgenievich Likhachev.
(110) Maxim Stanislavovich Liksutov.
(111) Andrei Yurievich Lipov.
(112) Olga Borisovna Lyubimova.
(113) Magomedsalam Magomedalievich Magomedov.
(114) Iskander Kakhramonovich Makhmudov.
(115) Pavel Viktorovich Malkov.
(116) Ziyad Manasir.
(117) Denis Valentinovich Manturov.
(118) Vladimir Lvovich Mashkov.
(119) Oleg Vasilievich Matytsin.
(120) Vladimir Rostislavovich Medinsky.
(121) Sergey Alimovich Melikov.
(122) Andrey Nikolaevich Metelsky.
(123) Nikita Sergeevich Mikhalkov.
(124) Garry Vladimirovich Minkh.
(125) Rustam Nurgaliyevich Minnikhanov.
(126) Dmitry Yuryevich Mironov.
(127) Yekatrina Mikhailovna Mizulina.
(128) Artur Alekseevich Muravyov.
(129) Anzor Akhmedovich Muzaev.
(130) Elvira Sakhipzadovna Nabiullina.
(131) Alexander Vasilievich Neudko.
(132) Alexander Valentinovich Novak.
(133) Roman Vitalyevich Novikov.
(134) Ivan Ivanovich Okhlobystin.
(135) Vladimir Evgenevich Ostrovenko.
(136) Ella Alexandrovna Pamfilova.
(137) Evgeny Ignatievich Petrov.
(138) Andrey Andreevich Pisarev.
(139) Oleg Anatolyevich Plokhoi.
(140) Nikolay Radievich Podguzov.
(141) Alexey Petrovich Polikashin.
(142) Georgy Sergeyevich Poltavchenko.
(143) Yana Evgenyevna Poplavskaya.
(144) Denis Gennadievich Popov.
(145) Anna Yuryevna Popova.
(146) Mikhail Evgenievich Porechenkov.
(147) Kristina Andreevna Potupchik.
(148) Alexander Valerievich Potapov.
(149) Iosif Igorevich Prigozhin.
(150) Evgeny Alexandrovich Primakov.
(151) Svetlana Gennadievna Radionova.
(152) Anastasia Vladimirovna Rakova.
(153) Nikolay Vyacheslavovich Rastorguev.
(154) Ksenia Denisovna Razuvaeva.
(155) Alexey Evgenievich Repik.
(156) Maxim Valeryevich Rumyantsev.
(157) Konstantin Igorevich Rykov.
(158) Dmitry Vadimovich Sablin.
(159) Victor Antonovich Sadovnichy.
(160) Alla Vladimirovna Samoilova.
(161) Vladimir Viktorovich Selin.
(162) Natalya Alexeevna Sergunina.
(163) Maksut Igorevich Shadaev.
(164) Anton Pavlovich Shalaev.
(165) Alexey Valerievich Shaposhnikov.
(166) Maxim Alekseevich Shaskolsky.
(167) Karen Georgievich Shakhnazarov.
(168) Ilya Vasilievich Shestakov.
(169) Inna Konstantinovna Shevchenko.
(170) Mikhail Viktorovich Shmakov.
(171) Nikolay Grigoryevich Shulginov.
(172) Igor Anatolyevich Shumakov.
(173) Olga Nikolaevna Skorobogatova.
(174) Konstantin Evgenyevich Skrypnyk.
(175) Oleg Aleksandrovich Skufinsky.
(176) Vyacheslav Mikhailovich Skvortsov.
(177) Veronika Igorevna Skvortsova.
(178) Ivan Vasilyevich Sovetnikov.
(179) Dmitry Albertovich Tayursky.
(180) Valentina Vladimirovna Tereshkova.
(181) Valery Vladimirovich Tikhonov.
(182) Boris Yurievich Titov.
(183) Konstantin Borisovich Tolkachev.
(184) Vladimir Ilyich Tolstoy.
(185) Igor Vasilyevich Tonkovidov.
(186) Alexander Vyacheslavovich Trembitsky.
(187) Nikolai Nikolaevich Tsukanov.
(188) Dmitry Vladislavovich Tulin.
(189) Alexander Evgenyevich Udodov.
(190) Yury Viktorovich Ushakov.
(191) Ruben Karlenovich Vardanyan.
(192) Irina Alexandrovna Viner-Usmanova.
(193) Vadim Vladimirovich Yakovenko.
(194) Igor Khanukovich Yusufov.
(195) Valery Dmitrievich Zorkin.
(196) Roman Viktorovich Zolotov.
(197) Yuri Sergeevich Zubov.
(198) Viktor Alexeevich Zubkov.

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

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Financial Services 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 New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) and the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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. 6846, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6846, the Corruption, Overthrowing Rule of Law, and Ruining Ukraine: Putin's Trifecta Act, or better known as the CORRUPT Act. You can imagine we worked hard on that acronym.

I first thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for the bipartisan effort. Representatives CURTIS, KINZINGER, SALAZAR, FITZPATRICK, and JOE WILSON, on the Republican side, led this bill with me when Putin's invasion kicked off.

And despite what the news often says, behind the curtains I have seen tremendous bipartisan unity over the last 6 months to ensure that Ukraine's brave people have all of the military hardware and economic support that they need.

I will start by reminding us why we are advancing the CORRUPT Act today. We are passing this bill today because of the death and destruction in Ukraine.

Right here, you see a picture from the village of Bucha. When Bucha was liberated, Ukrainians found mass graves with hundreds, including many civilians with hands tied behind their

backs. The Associated Press says more than 1,300 bodies have been found in just this one location. And sadly, as the Ukrainian military advances and retakes more of its sovereign territory from the Russian invaders, more such evidence of massacres is coming to light.

We are here because this is a moral outrage, because this is evil. We are also here because we understand that the people of Ukraine are not just fighting for their country; they are fighting for ours. They are not just fighting for their freedom and security; they are fighting for ours.

They are fighting for the idea that in the 21st century, no country can change borders with tanks. No leader can seek power through murder. These are principles that protect everybody in the world, including the people of the United States.

And with this bill, we are sending another clear bipartisan signal that Congress supports President Biden's unprecedented sanctions against Putin's regime; and that we will continue to push for targeted sanctions against key enablers of Putin's repression until Ukraine is free.

Now, we have before us a list of nearly 200 key cronies of Putin. Identified by brave Russian democracy activists, these are the people who keep Putin in power and continue to fuel the war in Ukraine. They must not continue to profit from investments, accounts, condos, properties, planes, yachts held in the West.

But I also want to use this opportunity to make an important point; that Putin's senseless invasion started with his cruel repression inside Russia. The first victims of Putin were in Russia, brave Russians who stood up for democracy and freedom in their country.

Right here, you see a picture of a dear friend of mine, Vladimir Kara-Murza, a brave Russian hero. Putin tried to poison him twice, and he survived, miraculously. Putin now holds him in Russia's new gulags. Why? Because he openly calls for democracy and freedom in Russia.

So you don't get to the war crimes in Bucha without this. So this is why the U.S. Congress is going to continue pushing for targeted sanctions against those corrupt cronies of Putin propping up his repression and fueling the horrific war in Ukraine; because it is the same people responsible for both of these crimes; because we believe it is what is best for the Ukrainian people and the Russian people and for the United States.

I would like to use Vladimir Kara-Murza's own words to make that point. He said that the Magnitsky Act, the bill that we passed years ago to facilitate the sanctions against corrupt and repressive cronies of the Putin regime:

The Magnitsky Act is the most pro-Russian law ever to have been passed by a foreign parliament. Nothing can send a chill down the backs of Putin's autocratic enablers like the realization that not even the Kremlin, with all of its patronage, all of its oil money, will be able to guarantee their ill-gotten gains.

Finally, as we continue to freeze the assets of corrupt Russian officials and leaders, we must also face the fact that many of their condominiums, and villas, and investment accounts, and trusts remain hidden right here in the United States because of loopholes in our own laws.

So I am going to continue to push with the same congressional leaders who have supported the CORRUPT Act, the bill we are passing today, Representatives MARIA SALAZAR, JOE WILSON, STEVE COHEN, ABIGAIL SPANBERGER, RICHARD HUDSON, to include the House-passed ENABLERS Act in this year's NDAA, the national defense bill.

It will make sure that Putin's cronies, the ones who we are sanctioning today in the CORRUPT Act, as well as Venezuelan kleptocrats, and Chinese Communist Party officials repressing their people, that these dictators and their enablers can no longer hide their money and earn interest here in New Jersey, in Florida, and across America.

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

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

Mr. Speaker I rise in support of this bill. Without question, the horrific and illegal war Russia is waging against the people of Ukraine is Putin's war.

But Putin's regime and, by extension, his barbaric behavior in Ukraine, are shamelessly supported by too many Russian military officials, lawmakers, oligarchs, and propagandists who have yet to face U.S. sanctions.

These enablers and supporters of Putin's unprovoked war of aggression should not be able to set foot in the United States of America. They should not be able to enjoy their ill-gotten wealth here. They should not be able to buy expensive homes here, and they should not be able to send their children to school here.

Failing to act would be a great disservice to the victims of Putin's depravity, not just in Ukraine, but those in Russia as well who have suffered from the Kremlin's domestic crackdown.

At the outset of the full-scale invasion, Putin signed a ludicrous law mandating sentences of up to 15 years for telling the truth about his war in Ukraine. In Russia, calling it a war and not a special operation is illegal.

□ 1445

Questioning the wisdom of his unjustifiable war is illegal. Those still brave enough to speak out these truths, including Vladimir Kara-Murza, now sit behind bars in Russia as political prisoners.

This bill calls on the administration to make a sanctions determination for nearly 200 Russians linked to the regime's pervasive corruption and human rights violations. These names were compiled by a team of investigators organized by now-jailed Russian opposition politician and anticorruption crusader Aleksei Navalny for not only their part in Putin's kleptocracy but also for supporting the Kremlin's war against Ukraine.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill to send a strong signal to Putin's regime and all his cronies that they will be held accountable for backing the regime's crimes at home and abroad.

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

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

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for closing.

Mr. Speaker, in the months leading up to February 24, many of us called for the Biden administration to impose severe sanctions before—let me underscore ''before''—Russian troops amassing on Ukraine's border invaded. These sanctions, we argued, would make crystal clear to Putin and his cronies that they would be held accountable for launching this renewed invasion.

Unfortunately, the administration chose not to heed this warning, sacrificing a final opportunity to deter the war raging today.

While the administration has since worked with allies and partners to cut off funding to Putin's war machine, it cannot rest in its efforts to target all those in Russia complicit in the Kremlin's crimes at home and abroad. Thus, I urge all my colleagues to support this bill to ensure Putin's enablers face real consequences.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6846, with this bill, the CORRUPT Act, we stand in bipartisan solidarity with the Ukrainian people and with the many people in Russia who oppose this war, who believe that Putin's regime is as destructive to their country as it is to the rest of the world.

We are saying, with passing this bill, that the United States is absolutely committed to tracking down the dirty money that props up Putin's repression, his brutal criminal war in Ukraine. Hopefully, as we scour the world to seize the yachts and the property and the bank accounts of these people, we will be able to put the proceeds of that wealth to good use to help rebuild the country that Putin is destroying.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6846, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3895) to extend and authorize annual appropriations for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom through fiscal year 2024.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3895

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 ''United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2022''.

SEC. 2. UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 207(a) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6435(a)) is amended by striking ''2019 through 2022'' and inserting ''2023 and 2024''.

(b) EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATION.—Section 209 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6436) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2022'' and inserting ''September 30, 2024''.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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. 3895.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act of 2022. I thank our Senate colleagues and Mr. SMITH and Ms. ESHOO for their leadership in advancing this important measure—in Mr. SMITH's case, his leadership over many, many years in advancing the cause of religious freedom across the world.

Since 1998, USCIRF has served as a leading advisory panel to the United States Government on matters related to religious freedom globally. It is responsible for monitoring the freedom of religion or belief abroad and for making policy recommendations to the President, Secretary of State, and to Congress.

The past several USCIRF reauthorizations have been bipartisan and faithful to the original mandate as established by Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the right to practice a religion, or to practice no religion, is a fundamental human right. The principle of religious liberty should extend to all people, not only ones who come from a specific set of religious beliefs. As respect for democracy and human rights continue to be under stress in many parts of the world, the work of USCIRF and other human rights groups to shine a light on religious freedom is even more important.

I thank Chairman MEEKS and Ranking Member MCCAUL for moving this legislation forward in a bipartisan way. The bill will enhance the Commission's ability to continue its important work promoting religious freedom and to highlight those countries around the world that have to do better.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge all Members to vote in support of the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill, S. 3895, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I and my good friend and colleague, ANNA ESHOO, have worked together on many religious freedom issues over the many years and have introduced the House companion bill to the Senate bill before us to authorize the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom.

It is both timely and essential that we pass this legislation. Timely, because USCIRF's authorization runs out at the end of this month; and essential, because the cause of religious freedom is under sustained and escalating threat around the globe, particularly in the world's remaining communistic dictatorships, from Cuba to Vietnam to North Korea to Iran, and to the world's largest oppressor of religious freedom in the world today, the People's Republic of China under Xi Jinping.

Indeed, just today, we see that the great defender for religious liberty, 90-year-old Cardinal Joseph Zen, has been put on trial in Hong Kong, a city-state which was once a bastion of freedom, but which now sadly has buckled to the dictates of Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party. All of us here in Congress and the White House need to raise our voices in defense of Cardinal Zen.

Sadly, we also need to add to that list of oppressors Nicaragua, where Comandante Daniel Ortega has reestablished his Sandinista dictatorship along communist lines and is waging a relentless war against the Catholic Church, the one institution which has consistently stood up for freedom throughout his tenure of abuse.

I would note parenthetically that I met with Ortega in 1984 on a human rights trip with Tony Hall and Frank Wolf, and the man is back. He has been back for a number of years, and his proclivity toward dictatorial rule, imprisoning the very people who run against him—I held a hearing earlier this year with the wives of two of the opponents for him in the general election. What does he do? It was with their wives, and they were very articulate, very passionate, very courageous in speaking out for their husbands. But Ortega says, ''I don't like what you are doing; I don't like that you are running against me,'' so he throws them in prison, and they are still in prison. And his oppression of the church has reached new lows as we speak.

Mr. Speaker, USCIRF also calls attention to other issues around the world, including whether you are a Christian or a Muslim or you happen to be Jewish or happen to be a member of a lesser-known faith, such as Baha'i or Falun Gong, USCIRF reports—I encourage everyone to go to their website and read their reports. They are fact-filled, they are very persuasive, based on all these kinds of investigations. The human rights NGOs all feed information to them about what is going on. They talk to the State Department, but they are really a good check on the State Department in terms of getting it right.

That is particularly true when it comes to designating certain countries to be CPC countries, countries of particular concern. Unfortunately, the State Department has a less-than-stellar record of picking and choosing and giving passing grades artificially to some countries that ought to be on the CPC designation, which is the worst violator and, therefore, susceptible to sanctioning by the United States Government.

As a matter of fact, this just happened with regards to Nigeria, where USCIRF accurately labeled Nigeria a top-tier violator of religious freedom while the State Department gave it an unwarranted upgrade right before the Secretary of State went to Abuja to meet with the President there.

We should have said to the President of Nigeria, President Buhari: ''You have got to clean up your act. The killing of Christians, of churches, houses of worship and schools, has to come to an end.'' Some of it he can't stop, but the response could be far better for much of it. Unfortunately, there is serious allegations of aiding and abetting, particularly with Fulani, the killing of Christians there.

I would also point out to my colleagues that Nury Turkel, who is the Chairman of the Board of USCIRF, was born, of all places, in a Chinese detention center during the cultural revolution. He has been a leader on behalf of the Uyghurs in Xinjiang, as my colleagues on both sides of the aisle

know—we all know it—they are committing genocide. Now, we have walking point of USCIRF, a man who was actually born in a detention center, and he has been articulate and strong.

Last week, in the China Commission, which I serve as ranking member, when he testified, he just hit it out of the park in terms of good, factual information, persuasive, what next to do, with regards to that genocide and other concerns of all religious faiths that are being oppressed by the Chinese Communist Party.

I will end by saying that it is this great Commission that keeps speaking out so boldly about de-Sinicization of all religions in China. That means they all comport with Xi Jinping's etiology. Whether you are Catholic, Protestant, Buddhist, Uyghur, or Falun Gong, they are breathing down your neck and putting people in prisons if they do not adhere and comport with Xi Jinping's mandates.

Frank Wolf is now a member of the Commission, and I congratulate him on that. Here is the guy that wrote the law in 1998, the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. We had real opposition to it. I was one of his cosponsors, and I put together a number of hearings in my committee where the bill first originated. But it was Frank who was the absolute champion, and we named the 2016 act after him to honor the champion work that he is doing, the life-changing work across the globe.

I thank Frank for his tenacious defense of religious freedom of all people.

Mr. Speaker, USCIRF needs to be reauthorized. I thank my colleague, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 3895, the USCIRF Reauthorization Act, is critically needed to ensure that our country maintains the tools we need to stand up for human rights and, in particular, religious freedom around the world.

I thank my friend from New Jersey, once again, for encouraging us to move on this and really for being the conscience of the House on these issues for so many, many years.

I remember many times testifying before you back in the day, and I am glad that you are still reminding us that this is some of the most important work that we can do.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3895.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

READ ACT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7240) to reauthorize the READ Act, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7240

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 ''READ Act Reauthorization Act of 2022''.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION.

Section 4(a) of the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development Act (division A of Public Law 115–56; 22 U.S.C. 2151c note) is amended by striking ''during the following five fiscal years'' and inserting ''during the following ten fiscal years''.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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. 7240, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7240, the reauthorization of the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development, or the READ Act. I would first like to thank my colleagues, Representative BASS and Representative SMITH, for their leadership in this legislation. I also want to acknowledge former Appropriations Chairwoman LOWEY for championing basic education programs for so many years in the House. The READ Act is just one piece of her great legacy.

The bill we are considering today reauthorizes the READ Act for another 5 years, continuing our country's leadership in expanding access to basic education for kids around the world. As Chairwoman LOWEY would say, education is one of the greatest force multipliers in foreign aid. Every dollar we spend on a child's education is an investment in their future and in a more peaceful and prosperous world.

□ 1500

Since the READ Act was signed into law in 2017, we have made significant progress in responding to the needs of our partner countries to improve literacy, strengthen education systems, expand access to safe learning, and promote education as a foundation for sustained economic growth.

Despite this progress, the READ Act and our basic education programs remain critical in the face of profound learning loss everywhere due to the COVID–19 pandemic. Learning poverty has increased by a third in low- and middle-income countries, with an estimated 70 percent of 10-year-olds unable to understand a simple written text, up from 57 percent before the pandemic.

According to the World Bank, this generation of students now risks losing $21 trillion in potential lifetime earnings, or the equivalent of 17 percent of the world's GDP. Millions of kids around the world remain out of school.

Children need a quality education, whether in Bethesda, Nairobi, or Kabul. But investing U.S. taxpayer dollars in this cause is not just charity; it is in our collective interest. Reauthorizing the READ Act is thus a step toward maintaining U.S. leadership in achieving this goal, and I urge my colleagues to support its passage through the House.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the READ Act reauthorization, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS), my good friend and colleague, for championing this effort. I am proud to be the Republican lead on this bill. There are 50-plus cosponsors on it. It is a bipartisan bill that seeks to encourage and strengthen our efforts at education overseas.

Mr. Speaker, investment in basic education is an investment in the prosperity and the security of the next generation and the communities they live in, and that applies both at home and abroad.

Without the opportunity to attend school and learn how to read and write, children around the world are falling behind and are more vulnerable to extremism, violence, and exploitation.

In the Africa, Global Health, and Global Human Rights Subcommittee, Ms. BASS and I—when I was chairman of the committee and now she as chair—have held a number of hearings about this challenge of helping these children so they can have good lives, care for their families, and be as well read and as well positioned in their communities as humanly possible.

That is why the United States is a leader in this sector. The United States provides $950 million to partner countries to support basic education around the world, making strategic investments in improving educational access, quality, and teacher training.

While important gains have been made, COVID–19 had a devastating impact on learners, both in the United States and around the world. We all

know that from our work within our own constituencies. According to the most recent report to Congress from the ILO on U.S. basic education programs, in 2021, 24 million additional students were at risk of dropping out of school; 22 million more girls and young women were at risk of forced marriages, early marriages especially, as a result of this; and 9 million additional children were at risk of child labor, all because of the impacts of COVID.

We need to do a hurry-up offense, I think, to try to get back to normalcy and back to a better regimen of training and teaching.

Despite these immense challenges, the U.S. Government's efforts to support basic education programs did reach 33.4 million learners in 73 countries around the world, and I am very proud of the United States' efforts to invest in future generations. It is a credit to our taxpayers that they are supportive of this—and they are—as well as this Congress on both sides of the aisle.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7240, the reauthorization of the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development Act, or the READ Act, comes at a critical time.

Despite the progress we have made toward expanding access to education around the world, COVID–19 has set us back, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. The bill demonstrates our continuing commitment to ensuring every child has access to safe, equitable, and quality education, and our confidence that every dollar invested in this cause returns dividends by way of global economic growth and stability.

Once again, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS) for introducing this bill, along with the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for their leadership in advancing this critical reauthorization. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

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

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7240, the READ Act Reauthorization Act of 2022. This bipartisan bill, I authored with Africa Subcommittee Ranking Member CHRIS SMITH, is a straightforward reauthorization of the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development (READ) Act of 2017, which was signed into law in the 115th Congress.

The original READ Act required a five-year Comprehensive Strategy to equitably expand access to basic education for children around the globe and measurably improve the quality of basic education and learning outcomes in literacy, numeracy, and other basic skills that prepare an individual to be an active, productive member of society and the workforce.

The READ Act Reauthorization Act, which passed the Committee on Foreign Affairs by voice vote, would extend the original authorization by an additional five years. I have also worked closely with the authors of the original READ Act, Senate Majority Whip DICK DURBIN and Senator MARCO RUBIO, who have introduced companion legislation in the Senate as S. 3938.

As implemented in the READ Act, it is the policy of the United States Government to work with partner countries, other donors, multilateral institutions, the private sector, and nongovernmental and civil society organizations, including faith-based organizations, to promote quality basic education through programs and activities.

Since the READ Act's implementation, we have begun to see significant progress in building the foundational skills necessary for students to thrive and succeed in their educational endeavors. For example, in FY 2021 alone, U.S. basic education programs reached more than 33.4 million pre-primary, primary, and secondary students in 73 countries and more than one million additional individuals with tertiary, vocational, and other workforce training.

The READ Act also required the President to submit a comprehensive integrated United States strategy to promote basic education. The U.S. Government Strategy on International Basic Education for Fiscal Years 2016–2023 emerged from this effort and was designed to promote basic education in partner countries for all children, particularly children from vulnerable groups, including women and children, and measurably improve the quality of basic education and the achievement of key learning outcomes. The strategy has been carried out by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through a Senior Coordinator of International Basic Education, since 2017.

Since the launch of the USG Strategy on International Basic Education in 2018, agencies and departments have: Created harmonized indicators and streamlined yearly reporting to Congress; Launched the first international basic education website that includes information across all U.S. agencies involved in supporting basic education worldwide; And has increased coordination among U.S. federal agencies and departments by establishing a process for sharing research, tools, and resources to better leverage taxpayer dollars.

Although the READ Act has seen initial success, our partners at USAID and other Federal agencies require time to update the current Strategy and adapt it to new and emerging issues in global education, such as the COVID–19 pandemic which closed schools and resulted in learning loss around the world.

USAID has already begun consulting implementing partners and think tanks at the working and local levels to update the Strategy, and they plan to have a full rollout by September. This update will focus on equitable learning outcomes and joint reporting on global learning poverty from COVID–19 among other issues.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation has received bipartisan and bicameral support, backing from USAID (which implements the Strategy) as well as endorsements from 38 international education organizations. I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in passing this important reauthorization measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7240, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

SECURING GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8503) to require the development of a strategy to promote the use of secure telecommunications infrastructure worldwide, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8503

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 ''Securing Global Telecommunications Act''.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress as follows:

(1) The United States Government should promote and take steps to ensure American leadership in strategic technology industries, including telecommunications infrastructure and other information and communications technologies.

(2) The expansive presence of companies linked to the Chinese Communist Party, such as Huawei, in global mobile networks and the national security implications thereof, such as the ability of the People's Republic of China to exfiltrate the information flowing through those networks and shut off countries' internet access, demonstrates the importance of the United States remaining at the technological frontier and the dire consequences of falling behind.

(3) The significant cost of countering Huawei's market leadership in telecommunications infrastructure around the world underscores the urgency of supporting the competitiveness of United States companies in next-generation information and communication technology.

(4) To remain a leader at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and preserve the ITU's technical integrity, the United States must work with emerging economies and developing nations to bolster global telecommunications security and protect American national security interests.

(5) Multilateral cooperation with like-minded partners and allies is critical to carry out the significant effort of financing and promoting secure networks around the world and to achieve market leadership of trusted vendors in this sector.

SEC. 3. STRATEGY FOR SECURING GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall develop and submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and Energy and Commerce and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation and of the Senate a strategy, to be known as the ''Strategy to Secure Global Telecommunications Infrastructure'' (referred to in this Act as the ''Strategy''), to promote the use of secure telecommunication infrastructure in countries other than the United States.

(b) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary of State shall consult with the President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Chief Executive Officer of the Development Finance Corporation, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, the Director of the Trade and Development Agency, the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission, and the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, in developing the Strategy, which shall consist of an approach led by the Department of State using the policy tools, and informed by the technical expertise, of the other Federal entities so consulted to achieve the goal described in subsection (a).

(c) ELEMENTS.—The Strategy shall also include sections on each of the following:

(1) Mobile networks, including a description of efforts by countries other than the United States to—

(A) promote trusted Open RAN technologies while protecting against any security risks posed by untrusted vendors in Open RAN networks;

(B) use financing mechanisms to assist ''rip-and-replace'' projects and to incentivize countries to choose trusted equipment vendors;

(C) bolster multilateral cooperation, especially with developing countries and emerging economies, to promote the deployment of trusted wireless networks worldwide; and

(D) collaborate with trusted private sector companies to counter Chinese market leadership in the telecom equipment industry.

(2) Data centers, including a description of efforts to—

(A) utilize financing mechanisms to incentivize countries other than the United States to choose trusted data center providers; and

(B) bolster multilateral cooperation, especially with developing countries and emerging economies, to promote the deployment of trusted data centers worldwide.

(3) Sixth (and future) generation technologies (6G), including a description of efforts to—

(A) deepen cooperation with like-minded countries to promote United States and allied market leadership in 6G networks and technologies; and

(B) increase buy-in from developing countries and emerging countries on trusted technologies.

(4) Low-Earth orbit satellites, aerostats, and stratospheric balloons, including a description of efforts to work with trusted private sector companies to retain the ability to quickly provide internet connection in response to emergency situations.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON MALIGN INFLUENCE AT THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall develop and submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation the Senate a report on Russian and Chinese strategies and efforts—

(1) to expand the mandate of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to cover internet governance policy; and

(2) to advance other actions favorable to authoritarian interests and/or hostile to fair, industry-led processes.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall also identify efforts by China and Russia—

(1) to increase the ITU's jurisdiction over internet governance and to propose internet governance standards at the ITU;

(2) to leverage their private sector actors to advance their national interests through the ITU, including—

(A) encouraging Chinese and Russian companies to leverage their market power to pressure other member countries to deliver favorable decisions on ITU elections; and

(B) China's efforts to leverage Huawei's role as the primary telecommunications equipment and services provider for many developing countries to compel such countries to deliver favorable decisions on standards proposals, election victories, candidate selection, and other levers of power at the ITU; and

(3) to use the influence of Chinese and Russian nationals serving in the ITU to advantage the companies, standards decisions, and candidates that advance the CCP and Kremlin's interests.

(c) FORM.—The report required by this section shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 5. REPORT ON MULTILATERAL COORDINATION.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Administrator for the United States Agency on International Development, the Chief Executive Officer of the Development Finance Corporation, the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission, and the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, shall develop and submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce and of the House of Representatives and the Committees Foreign Relations and on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and of the Senate a report that identifies opportunities for greater collaboration with allies and partners to promote secure information and communications technology infrastructure in countries other than the United States, including through—

(1) joint financing efforts to help trusted vendors win bids to build out information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure;

(2) incorporating ICT focuses into allies' and partners' international development finance initiatives; and

(3) diplomatic coordination to emphasize the importance of secure telecommunications infrastructure to countries using untrusted providers.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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. 8503.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8503, the Securing Global Telecommunications Act, introduced by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

A week from today, the International Telecommunication Union, the U.N. organization that oversees global telecom and tech issues, will have a plenipotentiary for the first time in 4 years. Crucially, among the elections to be held during this time, there will be an election to decide who will lead the agency as its secretary general.

The current secretary general is a Chinese national who has used his position to bolster the PRC's interests. The upcoming race to decide who will next lead the organization is between an American, Doreen Bogdan-Martin, and a Russian national, Rashid Ismailov. The Russians and Chinese have consistently staked out positions on internet governance that would make the communications sector more friendly for authoritarian governments such as they, governments that want to crack down on human rights, on freedom of speech and expression.

This bill is an answer that stakes out a better telecommunications future. It calls on the administration to submit a strategy on how to promote American economic and security interests in critical technologies like 5G, Open RAN, and low-Earth orbit satellite internet.

The bill positions the United States to lead on global telecommunications issues and requires the administration to increase reporting and transparency on Russian and PRC activities in the telecommunications sector. This information will help us better coordinate with like-minded democracies on digital and internet freedom and security issues.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 8503, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support the Securing Global Telecommunications Act introduced by two of my colleagues on the Foreign Affairs Committee, the gentlewoman from North

Carolina (Ms. MANNING) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

The Chinese Communist Party does not hide the fact that its end goal is to replace freedom and democracy with dictatorship and oppression, and they use advanced communications such as 5G networks to spread their malign influence. The CCP seeks to spread that influence further by dominating the international standards-setting bodies that set the rules of the road for emerging technologies to skew those standards and industries toward their interests and industries.

This bipartisan bill seeks to bolster U.S. efforts that are already underway, but I think it takes it even further to promote secure telecommunications infrastructure around the world.

It will require, for example, that the U.S. Department of State submit a report on Chinese and Russian efforts to advance their interests at international standards-setting bodies, as my colleague from New Jersey just pointed out, like the International Telecommunication Union, or ITU, and to identify opportunities for multilateral collaboration to promote secure telecom providers.

Lastly, it codifies the International Digital Economy and Telecommunication Advisory Committee, which the State Department created to provide expert advice to the Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy on ICT policy matters.

Mr. Speaker, it is a good bill and deserves the support of Members on both sides. I urge its support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING).

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Representative MALINOWSKI, for yielding. I thank Chairman MEEKS for his leadership in advancing this legislation to the floor, and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), my friend, for partnering with me on this important bill.

I rise today in support of my Securing Global Telecommunications Act, a bipartisan bill I introduced to help combat China's attempts to dominate the next generation of critical technology.

Mr. Speaker, many of the products we use every day are connected to telecommunications networks, and they rely on a nearly invisible set of internationally agreed-upon standards.

Our strategic competitors, Russia and China, want to gain an unfair advantage over these critical areas. They are determined to set the rules of the road for the next generation of critical technologies like 5G and AI. They are relentless in their efforts to provide their own companies, like Huawei and ZTE, with an unfair advantage while shutting out all competitors.

This effort is not just about helping their businesses win. This is about controlling a key strategic domain, which poses serious risks and consequences for the U.S. and global security. That is because the PRC has demonstrated its willingness to abuse technology to steal data, conduct surveillance, and invade privacy, all to further its geopolitical agenda and bolster its model of a closed, authoritarian system of governance.

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The United States and our allies must work together to counter this threat. We need to develop and deploy more secure and better trusted tech and telecommunications infrastructure.

My bipartisan bill will help do just that.

First, the bill will require a comprehensive strategy for securing global telecommunications infrastructure worldwide, incorporating mobile networks, data centers, and emerging technologies like LEO satellites and 6G.

We can't afford to be complacent about this challenge. We must have a cohesive strategy to address this issue.

This bill will also help crack down on Russia's and China's malign influence at the International Telecommunication Union, or ITU—a little-known but incredibly important U.N. organization that could determine the standards behind the future of the digital world. It is vital that America and allied countries are in the room at the table and leading the charge to set next-generation technology standards.

Finally, the bill would encourage the U.S. to work closely with our allies and partners to promote and finance secure networks and trusted vendors, without having to rely on Chinese state-owned companies that threaten our security.

Taken together, these important measures will help us shore up key gaps and vulnerabilities, while countering China's strategic technology ambitions.

Mr. Speaker, our adversaries hope and believe that they can achieve undue influence and dominance over international telecom infrastructure and technical standards.

This bill is a step toward stopping their unfettered aggression in an area that is of vital strategic importance.

It will help preserve our global leadership in tech and telecom, keep our companies competitive, and protect the safety and integrity of the networks we rely on every day.

Once again, I thank Chairman MEEKS for his leadership in this area. I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 8503, the Securing Global Telecommunications Act, is important legislation that will position our country to be a leader in the world's telecommunications future. It will ensure that the U.S. Government is taking steps to shore up and protect our digital infrastructure at home and help us better coordinate with like-minded democracies as we work to thwart Russia and the PRC's malign efforts to crack down on dissent and freedom of expression.

I again thank my colleagues, Representatives MANNING and KIM for introducing this legislation. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill.

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 New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8503, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

COUNTERING UNTRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS ABROAD ACT

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8520) to establish certain reporting and other requirements relating to telecommunications equipment and services produced or provided by certain entities, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8520

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 Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act''.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the national security of the United States is affected by the telecommunications security of United States allies, partners, and other countries around the globe;

(2) the importance of mobile and internet services makes such services tempting and effective tools for malign influence and economic coercion;

(3) Huawei Technologies Company and ZTE Corporation (and any subsidiary or affiliate of either such entity) should not serve as a vendor of telecommunications equipment or services given the close ties to, and control over, such entities by the People's Republic of China; and

(4) it is in the economic and national security interests of the United States to ensure that countries around the globe use trusted telecommunications equipment or services.

SEC. 3. REPORT ON UNTRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES IN COUNTRIES WITH COLLECTIVE DEFENSE AGREEMENT WITH UNITED STATES.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for two years, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, shall submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign

Relations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the prevalence of untrusted telecommunications equipment or services in the networks of United States allies and partners.

(b) MATTERS.—The report under subsection (a) shall enumerate each United States ally or partner with respect to which the United States has entered into a collective defense agreement and include, for each such country, the following:

(1) A description of the presence, or lack thereof, of untrusted telecommunications equipment or services in any 5G network of the country.

(2) If any untrusted telecommunications equipment or service is present in such a network—

(A) an enumeration of any mobile carriers that are using the untrusted telecommunications equipment or service present, and any mobile carriers that are not;

(B) a determination of whether the untrusted telecommunications equipment or service present is in the core or periphery of the network; and

(C) any plans by the United States ally or partner, or the individual mobile carrier, to rip and replace the untrusted telecommunications equipment or service present with a trusted telecommunications equipment or service.

(3) A description of any plans by network operators to use untrusted communications equipment or services in the deployment of Open Radio Access Network (Open RAN) technology, or any successor to such technology, or in future 6G networks.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES IN UNITED STATES EMBASSIES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Comptroller General of the United States has reported that 23 percent of all telecommunications device manufacturers of the Department of State have at least one supplier reported to be headquartered in the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation.

(2) The Comptroller General has reported that four percent of all telecommunications contractors of the Department of State have at least one supplier reported to be headquartered in the People's Republic of China.

(b) REPORT.—

(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 such other departments and agencies as the Secretary determines necessary, shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report containing an assessment of the use of covered telecommunications equipment or services in United States embassies and by United States embassy staff and personnel.

(2) MATTERS.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include information on the following:

(A) The status of the implementation by the Secretary of State of the prohibition under subsection (a)(1) of section 889 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115–232; 132 Stat. 1917; 41 U.S.C. 3901 note prec.) with respect to equipment, systems, and services used at United States embassies, including—

(i) an identification of the United States embassies with respect to which the Secretary has implemented such prohibition, and an identification of those with respect to which the Secretary has not implemented such prohibition, if any;

(ii) an identification of any difficulties that have delayed the implementation of such prohibition by the Secretary with respect to United States embassies, such as visibility into supply chains, costs of equipment replacement, and plans for timely remediation;

(iii) information on any waivers that have been granted to an entity under subsection (d) of such section 889 for equipment, systems, or services used at United States embassies, including a justification of why each waiver was granted and any other information required pursuant to paragraph (1)(B) of such subsection; and

(iv) for any entity that has sought a waiver specified in clause (iii), the implementation status of the phase-out plan of the entity submitted by the entity pursuant to subsection (d) of such section 889.

(B) Information regarding the extent to which the digital devices of United States embassy staff and personnel are serviced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of either such entity), or any other entity headquartered in the People's Republic of China, and an assessment of the likelihood of the intelligence services of the People's Republic of China gaining access to the contents and data of the digital devices used by United States embassy personnel as a result of any such servicing.

(C) Any other information regarding ongoing efforts to safeguard the communications security of United States embassies.

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

SEC. 5. SUPPORTING TRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, shall select for the provision of support under this section telecommunications infrastructure projects that have the potential, as determined by the Secretary, to promote the national security of the United States and meet such other requirements as the Secretary may prescribe.

(b) DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL SUPPORT.—The Secretary of State shall provide to each project selected under subsection (a), as appropriate, diplomatic and political support, including by using the diplomatic and political influence and expertise of the Department of State to build the capacity of countries to resolve any impediments to the development of the project.

(c) EARLY STAGE PROJECT SUPPORT.—The Director of the United States Trade and Development Agency should provide, as appropriate, early-stage project support with respect to projects selected under subsection (a).

SEC. 6. DISCLOSURE AND TRANSPARENCY OF UNTRUSTED COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(s) DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN ACTIVITIES RELATED TO UNTRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each issuer required to file an annual or quarterly report under subsection (a) shall disclose in that report the information required in paragraph (2) if, during the period covered by the report, the issuer or any affiliate of the issuer used or contracted to use covered telecommunications equipment or services.

''(2) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—If an issuer or affiliate of the issuer has engaged in an activity described in paragraph (1), the issuer shall disclose such activity, including a detailed description of—

''(A) whether the covered telecommunications equipment or services are being used in a mobile network run by the issuer, and whether those equipment or services were used in the core or periphery of the network;

''(B) whether the covered telecommunications equipment or services were used for cloud computing or data storage;

''(C) whether any covered telecommunications equipment or services were replaced with other vendors; and

''(D) whether the issuer is currently engaging in negotiations or planning to contract to use additional covered telecommunications equipment or services.

''(3) NOTICE OF DISCLOSURES.—If an issuer reports under paragraph (1) that the issuer or an affiliate of the issuer has knowingly engaged in any activity described in that paragraph, the issuer shall separately file with the Commission, concurrently with the annual or quarterly report under subsection (a), a notice that the disclosure of that activity has been included in that annual or quarterly report that identifies the issuer and contains the information required by paragraph (2).

''(4) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION.—Upon receiving a notice under paragraph (3) that an annual or quarterly report includes a disclosure of an activity described in paragraph (1), the Commission shall promptly—

''(A) transmit the report to—

''(i) the President;

''(ii) the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Energy and Commerce, and Financial Services of the House of Representatives; and

''(iii) the Committees on Foreign Relations, Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

''(B) make the information provided in the disclosure and the notice available to the public by posting the information on the Internet website of the Commission.

''(5) COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'covered telecommunications equipment or service' has the meaning given to the term 'covered communications equipment or service' in section 9 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1608).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect with respect to reports required to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission after the date that is 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COVERED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE; UNTRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.—The terms ''covered telecommunications equipment or service'' and ''untrusted telecommunications equipment or service'' have the meaning given to the term ''covered communications equipment or service'' in section 9 of the Secure and Trusted Communications Network Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1608).

(2) TRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICE.—The term ''trusted telecommunications equipment or service'' means any telecommunications equipment or service that is not a covered telecommunications equipment or service.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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. 8520.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8520, the Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Act.

Imagine the following: A senior official for a NATO ally of the United States transmits a vital national security matter to his country's embassy here in Washington, but before the call even reaches the embassy, it is intercepted by Chinese spyware, which transmits the call to Beijing. Before our officials even hear the top-secret message, CCP officials have captured and recorded the information.

Threats like this are very real and on the rise. Even here in the United States, intelligence and defense officials are concerned that telecommunications equipment made by the company Huawei could capture communications about our nuclear arsenal.

Around the world, the problem is worse. Many of our partners and allies have all of their major cell phone networks backed by unsafe equipment giving the PRC and its friends backdoor access to our private communications. Many countries, replete with this unsafe equipment, have mutual defense treaties with the United States.

The Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Act would be a crucial tool to address these security issues.

First, it would require the State Department to ensure that the Department itself is not relying on unsafe equipment at our embassies around the world.

Second, it would require a comprehensive report on the telecommunications security of all countries with which the United States has a mutual defense treaty.

Third, it authorizes our State Department to provide diplomatic support for telecommunications projects and pushes our United States Trade and Development Agency to finance important projects in this area.

Finally, it requires mobile network operators listed on American stock exchanges to disclose whether they have Huawei, ZTE, or other unsafe equipment in their networks. Currently, many network operators fail to disclose this information despite existing sanctions against Huawei. This provision would be beneficial for our national security but also crucial for investors and shareholders in these companies.

I thank Representatives WILD and WAGNER for their important work on this bill, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act requires the State Department to conduct a report on the presence and risks posed by any Chinese telecommunications vendor like Huawei or ZTE in the networks of defense-allied countries.

It also requires the General Accountability Office, or GAO, to report on Chinese and Russian telecom suppliers serving U.S. embassies overseas.

Finally, it tasks the State Department with identifying telecom infrastructure projects that will strengthen U.S. national security, and with helping countries currently being serviced by Chinese vendors to build capacity for replacing those vendors.

I would hope by now that most U.S. officials understand the threats to U.S. national security posed by tech companies controlled by the Chinese Communist Party, like Huawei. But we must also ensure that our allies and partners are not duped by the seemingly low cost of telecom services provided by state-backed countries. While seemingly cheap, the real cost lies in giving the CCP control over all of your telecommunications data, which they will use to spread their malign influence globally.

So I support the bill strongly, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 8520, the Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Act is an important initiative in finding and addressing American vulnerabilities to cyber spying and espionage, particularly in our communications with partners and allies whose unsecure networks may provide backdoor access to these increasing threats.

I, once again, thank Representatives WILD and WAGNER for their tremendous work in advancing this bill and their commitment to protecting our national security from cyber and security threats. I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting this bill.

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 New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8520, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

RUSSIA CRYPTOCURRENCY TRANSPARENCY ACT

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7338) to require congressional notification prior to payments of Department of State rewards using cryptocurrencies, authorize the appointment of a Director of Digital Currency Security in the Office of Economic Sanctions Policy and Implementation of the Department of State, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7338

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 ''Russia Cryptocurrency Transparency Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) On February 24, 2022, the Government of the Russian Federation, led by Vladimir Putin, launched an unprovoked, full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

(2) This unprovoked act of aggression violates Ukraine's right to independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and constitutes an emergency in international relations.

(3) The invasion by the Government of the Russian Federation of Ukraine caused significant displacement in Ukraine and triggered a broader humanitarian crisis in Europe.

(4) On March 23, 2022, the Department of State released a statement assessing that the Russian Armed Forces committed war crimes by launching indiscriminate attacks on civilians and non-military infrastructure, including apartment buildings, schools, and hospitals, leaving thousands of innocent civilians killed or wounded.

(5) The United Nations Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has projected that, over the next three months, 12,000,000 people living in Ukraine will need humanitarian assistance, 6,700,000 people will be internally displaced, and 4,000,000 people will flee Ukraine.

(6) Rapid humanitarian assistance is necessary 6 across sectors to address the needs of refugees and internally displaced persons from Ukraine.

(7) Cryptocurrency has been used as an effective cross-border payment tool to send millions to the Ukrainian Government, Ukrainian army, and Ukrainian refugees with limited access to financial services.

(8) In response to the war of aggression by the Government of the Russian Federation, the United States has imposed an array of sanctions, cutting off major Russian financial institutions from Western markets and freezing the assets of numerous Russian oligarchs.

(9) Given that regimes sanctioned by the United States have used cryptocurrencies to evade sanctions, there are increasing concerns that these digital assets may be used to circumvent the sanctions now imposed on Russia and Belarus by the United States and other foreign countries.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATIONS FOR STATE DEPARTMENT CRYPTOCURRENCY REWARDS.

(a) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Subsection (e) of section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(7) The Secretary of State shall notify the appropriate congressional committees not later than 15 days before paying out a reward in cryptocurrency.''.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the use of cryptocurrency as a part of the Department of State Rewards program that—

(1) explains why the Department of State made the determination to pay out rewards in cryptocurrency;

(2) lists each cryptocurrency payment already provided by the State Department;

(3) provides evidence as to why cryptocurrency payments would be more likely to induce whistleblowers to come forward with information than rewards paid out in United States dollars or other prizes;

(4) analyzes how the State Department's use of cryptocurrency could undermine the dollar's status as the global reserve currency; and

(5) examines if the State Department's use of cryptocurrency could provide bad actors with additional hard-to-trace funds that could be used for criminal or illicit purposes.

(c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

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

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON BLOCKCHAIN USAGE FOR UKRANIAN HUMANITARIAN NEEDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the most effective avenues to promote economic development and provide humanitarian aid to Ukraine, including possible uses of cryptocurrencies or other technologies incorporating blockchains. Such report shall—

(1) review and analyze the advantages offered by cross-border transactions involving digital assets relative to other traditional avenues for cross-border humanitarian relief payments and the reasons for those advantages, including structural barriers which may impact the cost, efficiency, and reliability of traditional payment channels; and

(2) also review and analyze ways in which technologies incorporating blockchains can—

(A) assist in the care, support, or resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons from Ukraine;

(B) address humanitarian access challenges and ensure the effective delivery of such assistance to persons from Ukraine;

(C) increase efficiency, accountability, and transparency in the administration of humanitarian aid provided by the United States to persons from Ukraine;

(D) prevent corruption through the use of ''web3'' technologies;

(E) improve access to capital; and

(F) bolster the efficiency and reliability of cross-border remittances.

(b) FORM.—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form and may include a classified annex.

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

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

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

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVENESS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SANCTIONS.

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

(1) on March 9, 2022, President Biden issued an Executive Order outlining a national policy to mitigate the risks, and harness the potential benefits of, digital assets and distributed ledger technology;

(2) the growing development and adoption of digital assets have created an urgent need for the United States to play a leading role in the global financial system and facilitate technological innovation;

(3) these developments have had significant implications that pose risks to the financial stability and national security interest of the United States, including issues relating to privacy and surveillance;

(1) the United States Government must—

(A) ensure the efficacy and enforcement of the United States' sanctions regime by preventing the misuse of digital assets, which can facilitate transactions by Russian persons subject to sanctions;

(B) mitigate national security liabilities and systemic financial risks posed by the misuse of digital assets by developing policy recommendations and addressing existing regulatory gaps; and

(C) maintain technological leadership to promote United States global competitiveness and play a leading role in the global governance of digital assets.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that provides an assessment on how digital currencies affect the effectiveness and enforcement of United States sanctions against the Russian Federation and actors subject to sanctions related to the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine.

(2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) describe any efforts by the Russian Federation or persons subject to sanctions related to the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine to utilize digital assets to evade the sanctions regimes of the United States and its international allies and partners;

(B) describe any efforts by persons subject to sanctions related to the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine to use decentralized finance technology or other similar technology to effect transactions, including digital wallets, digital asset trading platforms, and digital asset exchanges;

(C) assess how the use or adoption of digital currencies could undermine the national security interests of the United States and impact the efficacy and enforcement of sanctions, , and the enforcement of anti-money laundering provisions;

(D) detail actions taken by the United States government to work with private sector actors to combat the evasion of sanctions imposed by the United States; and

(E) include recommendations for new legislative and regulatory measures needed to strengthen the United States Government's ability to prevent any states, state-sponsored actors, and non-state-sponsored actors from using digital currencies to evade sanctions imposed by the United States Government.

(c) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

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

(2) the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives;

(3) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate; and

(4) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(d) REPORT FORM.—The report required under subsection (b) shall be submitted in unclassified form with a classified annex, if necessary.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7338, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7338, the Russia Cryptocurrency Transparency Act introduced by the chairman and ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Representatives MEEKS and MCCAUL. I also acknowledge Chairwoman WATERS of the Financial Services Committee, who has been deeply engaged on cryptocurrency issues for years and has shown such tremendous leadership on the topic.

Russia's illegal, immoral, and indefensible invasion of Ukraine has placed renewed focus on how the Putin regime evades sanctions and continues to fund itself.

One answer is cryptocurrency. Virtually unregulated globally, cryptocurrency technology has increasingly become a tool for people seeking to avoid financial sanctions. While there are legitimate and responsible companies that police their platforms and products, there are also products like cryptocurrency tumblers that have little or no value to society other than helping people evade sanctions and launder money.

At the same time, the people of Ukraine have demonstrated the potential value of cryptocurrency. Some refugees, for example, have found that it is a particularly useful way to conduct cross-border transactions, and the sale of nonfungible tokens has been used to support Ukraine and its people.

Balancing these tradeoffs is not easy, but Chairman MEEKS' bill, I believe, strikes the right balance. It will provide necessary transparency and information about these practices to ensure that our foreign policy is up to the challenge of adapting to this new technology.

I strongly support the measure, and I urge all of my colleagues to do the same.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Russia Cryptocurrency Transparency Act, H.R. 7338, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bipartisan legislation authored by Chairman MEEKS and Ranking Member MCCAUL would exercise oversight of the State Department's use of cryptocurrency as part of its rewards program, as well as measures to improve the efficacy and enforcement of U.S. sanctions against Russia.

Emerging technologies like blockchain, the foundation for many cryptocurrencies, offer immense opportunities. For example, people around the world sent aid using cryptocurrency to those fleeing Russia's full-scale barbaric invasion of Ukraine.

However, this bill will ensure that the U.S. is taking the necessary steps to prevent these emerging technologies from undermining sanctions, including those currently aimed at bankrupting Putin's war machine.

While the rise of digital assets like cryptocurrencies promise innovative financial opportunity, digital assets could be ripe for abuse as Russia seeks to evade the unprecedented sanctions the United States and Europe have imposed for Vladimir Putin's brutal war of choice on Ukraine.

□ 1530

This legislation will provide greater oversight in the State Department's rewards program, helping ensure that these hard-to-trace funds are not falling into the hands of bad actors. It also will help the State Department develop sanctions enforcement mechanisms to prevent sanctions evasion through the use of cryptocurrencies.

Given the tremendous need for humanitarian support as Europe faces the largest influx of refugees since World War II, this legislation also asks the State Department to assess how crypto can be used to support humanitarian assistance to Ukrainians fleeing the war.

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. In closing, Mr. Speaker, I just want to thank, again, my colleagues, Chairman MEEKS and Ranking Member MCCAUL, for introducing this legislation.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7338, 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. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

COUNTERING ASSAD'S PROLIFERATION TRAFFICKING AND GARNERING OF NARCOTICS ACT

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6265) to require a strategy by the United States Government to disrupt and dismantle the Captagon trade and narcotics networks of Bashar al-Assad in Syria.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6265

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 Assad's Proliferation Trafficking And Garnering Of Narcotics Act'' or the ''CAPTAGON Act''.

SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY STRATEGY TO DISRUPT AND DISMANTLE NARCOTICS PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING AND AFFILIATED NETWORKS LINKED TO THE REGIME OF BASHAR AL-ASSAD IN SYRIA.

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

(1) the Captagon trade linked to the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria is a transnational security threat; and

(2) the United States should develop and implement an interagency strategy to deny, degrade, and dismantle Assad-linked narcotics production and trafficking networks.

(b) REPORT AND STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Director of National Intelligence, and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a written strategy to disrupt and dismantle narcotics production and trafficking and affiliated networks linked to the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria. Such strategy shall include each of the following:

(1) A strategy to target, disrupt, and degrade networks that directly or indirectly support the narcotics infrastructure of the Assad regime, particularly through diplomatic and intelligence support to law enforcement investigations and to build counter-narcotics capacity to partner countries through assistance and training to law enforcement services in countries, other than Syria, that are receiving or transiting large quantities of Captagon.

(2) Information relating to the use of statutory authorities, including the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019 (22 U.S.C. 8791 note), the Foreign Narcotics Kingpin Designation Act (popularly referred to as the ''Kingpin Act''), section 489 of the Foreign Assistance Act (relating to the international narcotics control strategy report), and associated actions to target individuals and entities directly or indirectly associated with the narcotics infrastructure of the Assad regime.

(3) Information relating to the use of global diplomatic engagements associated with the economic pressure campaign against the Assad regime to target its narcotics infrastructure.

(4) A strategy for leveraging multilateral institutions and cooperation with international partners to disrupt the narcotics infrastructure of the Assad regime.

(5) A strategy for mobilizing a public communications campaign to increase awareness of the extent of the connection of the Assad regime to illicit narcotics trade.

(6) A description of the countries receiving or transiting large shipments of Captagon, and an assessment of the counter-narcotics capacity of such countries to interdict or disrupt the smuggling of Captagon, including an assessment of current United States assistance and training programs to build such capacity in such countries.

(c) FORM OF REPORT.—The report required under subsection (b) shall be submitted in an unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

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

(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Financial Services, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on the Judiciary, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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. 6265.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6265, the CAPTAGON Act.

I would like to first thank Representatives FRENCH HILL and BRENDAN BOYLE, as well as Members from both sides of the aisle for reintroducing this bipartisan legislation and addressing an important issue which continues to fuel the Assad regime's coffers and campaign of brutality.

Despite condemnation from the United States and the international community, Bashar al-Assad's military has continued its relentless assault on the Syrian people committing reprehensible crimes against humanity upon them.

Even as American and European sanctions restrict this regime's ability to transact and deal internationally, its campaign of brutality continues to seek sources of revenue around the world.

One of these illicit sources of revenue is the smuggling of the narcotic stimulant drug, Captagon, which is trafficked to, in, and around Syria, and has become a cash source for the Assad regime to enrich itself and prolong its atrocities against Syrians.

Though initial steps have been taken by the State Department, our intelligence community, and the Drug Enforcement Agency to work with allies and partners to counter this traffic, more can and must be done.

So the CAPTAGON Act would require the Federal Government to develop an interagency strategy to disrupt and dismantle narcotics trafficking and networks linked to the Assad regime in Syria. It also requires reporting on such efforts and on coordination with our partners.

This is an important step in ensuring we can use every tool we have to stop the spread of Captagon in the region and to choke off illicit revenue for this brutal regime.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the bipartisan group of Members, including you, Mr. Speaker, for presenting this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, September 19, 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. 6265, the ''Countering Assad's Proliferation Trafficking And Garnering Of Narcotics Act'' or the ''CAPTAGON 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. 6265, 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, September 19, 2022.

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

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER: I am writing to you concerning H.R. 6265, the ''Countering Assad's Proliferation Trafficking And Garnering Of Narcotics Act'' or the ''CAPTAGON 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. 6265 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. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL), who is the ranking member on the Financial Services Committee. He is author of this important legislation, and in the past, Mr. Speaker, he served under George Herbert Walker Bush as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Treasury. He also was the special assistant for economic policy under 41, George Herbert Walker Bush, so he brings a wealth of knowledge and information that we are blessed to have here in this House.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I thank my two friends from New Jersey for managing the floor, and I thank my good friend, the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) for working with me on this important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I do rise in support of H.R. 6265, the CAPTAGON Act. I really appreciate Chairman MEEKS and Ranking Member MCCAUL shepherding this legislation through the committee and now to the House floor. As I said, Congressman BOYLE and I worked collectively on this over the past year, and I appreciate his leadership on our Friends of Syria Caucus.

The decade of destruction and deteriorating human rights situation in Syria is well known. But just look at the poster next to me for a snippet of the headlines coming out of the region as it relates to this poison, this drug, Captagon.

In addition to regularly committing war crimes against his own people, the Assad regime in Syria has now become a narco state. Narcotic production and trafficking in Syria and its neighbors have become more expansive and more widespread.

The current epicenter of the drug trade is in territory controlled by the Assad regime. This has been well known now for at least 2 years. Yet despite that, just last week the State Department and White House failed to include Syria in their required determinations of major drug transit and major illicit drug producing countries.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter dated July 15, 2022, from Senator ROGER MARSHALL of Kansas, Representative BRENDAN BOYLE, and myself to Secretary Blinken urging that Syria be added to this determination.

Washington, DC, July 15, 2022.

Hon. ANTONY BLINKEN,
Secretary of State,
Department of State.

DEAR MR. SECRETARY: We are writing to respectfully request that your administration review and determine whether Syria meets the criteria of a ''major illicit drug producing country'' or ''major drug-transit country'' as defined in sections 481(e)(2) and 481(e)(5) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. §2291(e)(2) and §2291(e)(5)).

Elements of the Assad regime and regime-affiliated networks have reportedly engaged in state-sponsored amphetamine production and trafficking. We have seen a troubling increase in Captagon exports from Assad regime-affiliated networks relying on a robust pharmaceutical sector and smuggling routes between Syria and neighboring countries. This uptick has also coincided with increased Assad-affiliated Captagon seizures globally.

Not only is this trade a potential source of revenue for elements of the Assad regime and its affiliates, but the industrial-scale amphetamine production represents a security threat to the region itself, particularly as Captagon production can become methamphetamine with a few changes to the production process. In response, the House of Representatives designed an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2022 to encourage your administration to develop a multi-agency strategy to disrupt and dismantle these networks. The Joint Explanatory Statement for the FY2022 NDAA noted that ''the Captagon trade is a cause of instability in the Middle East that has negative implications for the national security of the United States and its allies and partners. We support development of a strategy to guide appropriate action against narcotics production and trafficking and affiliated networks linked to the regime of Bashar al-Assad in Syria.''

As you know, section 706 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003 (P.L. 107–228) requires that the President submit an annual report no later than September 15 of each year that identifies each country determined by the President to be a major drug transit country or major illicit drug-producing country. In its most recent report, the White House did not list Syria among the 22 countries identified as major drug transit or major illicit drug producing countries. If a country is designated as having ''failed demonstrably'' in its counternarcotics commitments, the United States must cease providing certain categories of foreign assistance (as defined in section 481(e)(4) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; 22 U.S.C. §2291(e)(4)) to such country unless the President determines that the provision of such assistance is vital to U.S. national interests or that the country, at any time after the President's initial report to Congress, has made ''substantial efforts'' to comply with the counternarcotics conditions in the legislation. This prohibition does not affect narcotics-related assistance and humanitarian assistance (i.e., disaster relief assistance, assistance involving the provision of food or medicine, and assistance for refugees).

We, therefore, request that you determine whether the Government of Syria meets the criteria for designation as a major drug transit country or major illicit drug-producing country.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We look forward to receiving your expeditious response.

Sincerely,

ROGER MARSHALL,
United States Senator.
BRENDAN BOYLE,
Member of Congress.
FRENCH HILL,
Member of Congress.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, this recent omission tracks with the administration's diplomacy disconnect from our American values. First, earlier this year, State erred and did not include Nigeria, leaving them off as a country of particular concern for religious freedom. And now it is Syria left off as a major drug-producing country.

Mr. Speaker, this is why this bill is so critical and important at this time.

We need an all-of-Government approach to addressing the Assad regime's drug production and trafficking.

Captagon has already reached Europe, and it is only a matter of time before it reaches our shores. If we do not work with our like-minded partners to first hinder the narcotics trade and replace it with a working system of institutions that serve the Syrian people, then Assad will, in fact, add the title drug kingpin to his recognized global status as a leading mass murderer.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this important bill.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, FRENCH HILL, for authoring this very, very important piece of legislation. It mandates an interagency strategy on how the U.S. is responding to the destabilizing Captagon drug trade in the Middle East.

Captagon, as I think my colleagues know, is a highly addictive amphetamine that is fast becoming the most widely abused drug in the Middle East. Given the growing threat Captagon poses to the stability in the region and to individual human lives, the lack of resources devoted to address its proliferation is alarming.

In addition to this drug trade creating a crisis along Jordan's border, there is growing evidence that the murderous Assad regime is deeply involved in Captagon trafficking. This narco trafficking fuels Assad's war on the Syrian people and further threatens regional stability. The administration clearly is not doing enough, as was pointed out by my good friend and colleague, FRENCH HILL, to focus on this threat, which is why we need this bill to admonish the administration and to force the administration, the executive branch, to acknowledge this problem and to respond to it.

The CAPTAGON Act will help ensure that we are countering this destabilizing drug trade which is helping to bankroll one of the most brutal tyrants of our time.

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, I thank, once again, my colleagues, Representatives FRENCH HILL and BRENDAN BOYLE, for introducing this critical legislation. I hope all of our colleagues will join us in supporting it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6265.

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. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

URGING THE EUROPEAN UNION TO DESIGNATE HIZBALLAH IN ITS ENTIRETY AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 558) urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 558

Whereas, in April 1983, a Hizballah terror attack against the United States Embassy in Beirut killed 63 people;

Whereas, in October 1983, a Hizballah terror attack against the United States Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, killed 241 American and 58 French servicemembers supporting the Multinational Force peacekeeping mission;

Whereas, in July 2012, a Hizballah terror attack, carried out by an operative with dual Lebanese-French citizenship, in Burgas, Bulgaria, killed 5 Israeli tourists and 1 Bulgarian;

Whereas, in March 2013, a Swedish-Lebanese Hizballah operative in Cyprus was convicted of planning terror attacks against Israeli tourists;

Whereas, in June 2015, a Hizballah operative was sentenced to 6 years in prison after he stockpiled more than 8 tons of ammonium nitrate in Cyprus;

Whereas the Hizballah International Financing Prevention Act of 2015 (Public Law 114–102) and the Hizballah International Financing Prevention Amendments Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–272) broadened financial sector sanctions against Hizballah to compel foreign financial institutions to refrain from supporting the terrorist group;

Whereas, in May 2018, the Department of the Treasury imposed sanctions on Abdullah Safi-Al-Din, Hizballah's representative to Iran, Mohammad Ibrahim Bazzi, a Hizballah financier, and blacklisted 5 of Bazzi's companies, including Belgian energy services conglomerate Global Trading Group NV;

Whereas, in October 2018, French police raided the Islamic Zahra Centre on suspicion of supporting Hizballah, freezing the organization's funds, and seizing illegal weapons;

Whereas, in September 2020, 4 former leaders of the Zahra Centre France were arrested on suspicion of continuing to run the association;

Whereas, in July 2019, the Department of the Treasury designated 2 Hizballah-backed members of Lebanese Parliament, Amin Sherri and Muhammad Hasan Ra'd, and Hizballah security official Wafiq Safa, stating that Hizballah uses its operatives in parliament to advance its violent activities;

Whereas, as of April 2020, Germany believed there to be 1,050 people with suspected links to Hizballah in the country;

Whereas Europol's June 2020 European Union Terrorism Situation and Trend Report outlined that Hizballah is ''suspected of trafficking diamonds and drugs and of money laundering via the trade in second-hand cars'', and the report also stated that ''investigations face the difficulty of demonstrating that the funds collected are channeled to the military wing of the organization'';

Whereas United States-led Project Cassandra and Operation Cedar exposed the criminal-business wing of Hizballah, the Business Affairs Component (BAC) of Hezbollah's External Security Organization;

Whereas, during Project Cassandra, Hizballah elements involved in drug trafficking were arrested in the United States, South America, and several European countries, including France, Belgium, Germany, and Italy;

Whereas Hizballah's criminal activity in Europe is run by the BAC, which reports to the External Security Organisation, also known as Unit 910, or the Islamic Jihad Organization, and Abdallah Safieddine, Hizballah's representative in Iran, is also involved in this activity;

Whereas, in August 2020, United Nations Secretary General Guterres called on Lebanon to disarm Hizballah, citing the terror group's persistent violation of Resolution 1701 (2006);

Whereas Iran is the prime sponsor of Hizballah, harboring, financing, training, and arming the group;

Whereas the Department of the Treasury and Department of State estimate that Iran provides as much as $700,000,000 per year to Hizballah in the form of financial and logistical support, weapons, and training;

Whereas Hizballah now has an arsenal of approximately 150,000 missiles and rockets, many of which can reach deep into Israel;

Whereas Hizballah fighters have been supporting the Assad regime in Syria, often leading operations in the conflict which has left more than 500,000 dead;

Whereas Hizballah's destabilizing actions in Syria have contributed to a migrant crisis that has brought over 700,000 refugees to Europe;

Whereas Hizballah trains and provides weapons for militias in Iraq and Yemen, further destabilizing the region and perpetuating violence in those countries;

Whereas Hizballah activities continue to plague Lebanon with profound economic and political instability and violence;

Whereas, in August 2020, at least 220 people died and thousands more were injured when a massive stockpile of ammonium nitrate exploded in Beirut's port;

Whereas Hizballah's cross border illicit arms and drugs trafficking undermines the Lebanese Armed Forces, the legitimate security establishment of the country as outlined in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1701 (2006);

Whereas, in October 2012, Hizballah Deputy Secretary General Naim Qassem stated that ''[Hizballah does not] have a military wing

and a political one . . . Every element of Hizballah, from commanders to members as well as our various capabilities, are in the service of the resistance'';

Whereas the United States, Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovenia, Serbia, and Kosovo, among others, have designated Hizballah in its entirety as a terror organization;

Whereas, in March 2016, the Gulf Cooperation Council formally branded Hizballah, in its entirety, a terrorist organization, and the League of Arab States shortly thereafter adopted the same designation;

Whereas the Department of the Treasury has diligently added persons and entities to the list of Specially Designated Global Terrorists who have provided material support to the Hizballah terrorist organization, thereby hampering its financing and logistical capabilities;

Whereas the European Union, in July 2013, designated Hizballah's so-called ''military wing'', but not the organization as a whole, as a terrorist organization;

Whereas, despite restrictions put on Hizballah since the designation of its military wing, the group continues to conduct illicit narcotrafficking, money laundering, and weapons trafficking throughout Europe and the world; and

Whereas the House of Representatives has previously called on the European Union to fully designate Hizballah as a terrorist organization, passing House Resolution 359 in October 2017: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) applauds and expresses support for the continued, increased cooperation between the United States and the European Union (EU) in thwarting Hizballah's criminal and terrorist activities;

(2) supports transcontinental efforts within Europe to share intelligence information among police and security services to facilitate greater cooperation in tracking, apprehending, and prosecuting terrorists, foreign fighters, and potential offenders;

(3) encourages the European Union to implement sanctions against Hizballah-affiliated terrorists in tandem with the United States;

(4) recommends greater civil society engagement in both the United States and Europe to underscore Hizballah's malign regional influence; and

(5) urges the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization and increase pressure on the group, including through—

(A) facilitating better cross-border cooperation between European Union members in combating Hizballah;

(B) issuing arrest warrants against members and active supporters of Hizballah;

(C) freezing Hizballah's assets in Europe, including those masquerading as charities; and

(D) prohibiting fundraising activities in support of Hizballah.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. 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. 558, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 558, urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization.

I thank first my dear friend, TED DEUTCH, the chairman of our Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism for reintroducing this important legislation which previously did pass the House in the 115th Congress. When Ted departs our Foreign Affairs Committee in October, we are all going to miss his voice, particularly on issues regarding the Middle East, and his tireless advocacy in defense of American interests and those of our allies around the world.

Now, despite all we know about Hizballah, a murderous, terrorist organization that also serves as an Iranian proxy in the region, our friends and partners in the European Union only include Hizballah's military branch, not its political branch, on its list of sanctioned terrorist organizations.

The Government of the United States, in contrast, makes no distinction between its two branches and includes Hizballah in its entirety on the U.S. foreign terrorist organization list because we know they are one and the same. The European Union is long overdue in coming to the same realization.

Congress is pleased that many individual European countries have acted despite the position of the E.U. as a whole. The Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council have also designated Hizballah in its entirety. So it remains troubling that the E.U., an organization that shares so many of our values, interests, and policy goals, continues to allow Hizballah's political wing to operate freely, advancing Hizballah's violent agenda around the world.

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

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the resolution.

I would like to start off by thanking my good friend and colleague, TED DEUTCH, for not only introducing this important resolution but his tremendous work during his tenure in the House, particularly in combating anti-Semitism. There is no better friend of Israel than TED DEUTCH, and there is no better friend of the Jewish community that is under siege here in the United States and around the world than TED DEUTCH.

□ 1545

He and I co-chaired the House Anti-Semitism Task Force. As we all know, and many of my colleagues know, he is leaving on October 1 to head up the American Jewish Committee, AJC.

What is AJC's gain is our loss, for Mr. DEUTCH has brought character and leadership to this Congress, and he will be deeply missed, and I thank him again for his very, very strong voice.

Mr. Speaker, as the Lebanese lira continues its downward decline, Hizballah has become increasingly reliant on illicit criminal networks across Europe to help finance their criminal enterprise.

Combating Hizballah's malign activity requires robust transatlantic law enforcement cooperation. This can only take place once Hizballah is designated as a terrorist organization in its entirety.

Recognizing an arbitrary distinction between Hizballah's political and military wings gives Hizballah space to operate across Europe, providing legal cover for its military wing to continue financing terrorism through its political branch.

There is no distinction between Hizballah's political and military wings—both serve the same ugly malign agenda that seeks to undermine the stability of the Lebanese state, prop up the murderous dictatorship of Bashar al-Assad, and threaten Israel's security.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome the recent steps taken by Germany and others to designate Hizballah in full as a terrorist organization, and all of the European Union needs to do likewise.

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING).

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Representative MALINOWSKI, for yielding. I also thank my dear friend and colleague, Congressman TED DEUTCH, for his tremendous leadership on this and so many issues as the chairman of the Subcommittee on Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism. It is a privilege to serve with him.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 558, a bipartisan resolution I was proud to help introduce with Chairman DEUTCH, urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization.

The Iranian-backed terrorist group, Hizballah, is responsible for thousands of civilian deaths, not just in the Middle East, but around the globe. Until 9/11, Hizballah had killed more Americans than any other terrorist group. Today, it maintains an arsenal of 150,000 rockets aimed at Israel.

Just this past week, Hizballah's leader, Hassan Nasrallah, issued a series of grave threats and provocations against Israel, claiming its missiles are locked on an Israel offshore gas field, which Israel seeks to develop to export much-needed energy supplies to Europe.

This is another reminder of why it is incomprehensible that any EU member

can credibly assert any distinction between Hizballah's so-called military and political wings. The truth is, there is one unified Hizballah, and it is dedicated to carrying out terrorist activities around the world.

That is why this bipartisan resolution calls on our partners in the EU to take a stronger stand against worldwide terrorism by designating Hizballah—as a whole—as a terrorist organization.

We must continue to keep pressure on Hizballah and all other terrorist groups that threaten the United States and our ally Israel, and undermine peace, security, and stability throughout the region.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for this bipartisan measure, and I thank Chairman DEUTCH for his steadfast leadership on this important issue.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH).

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, Mr. MALINOWSKI, for yielding, and for his friendship, leadership, and kind words. I thank my other friend from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for his leadership and for his kind words. I thank Ms. MANNING for her leadership and kind words, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 558, which urges the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization.

Mr. Speaker, this is Hizballah. Hizballah that bombed the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, the U.S. and French Marine barracks in Beirut, the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, the AMIA Jewish Center in Buenos Aires, bombed Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia, and has—as Ms. MANNING pointed out—over 150,000 rockets pointed at Israeli civilians.

First, I thank Chairman MEEKS and Ranking Member MCCAUL for their leadership on the Foreign Affairs Committee and for bringing this resolution to the floor today.

I also want to extend my gratitude to my good friend from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) for partnering with me on this resolution, and to Ranking Member JOE WILSON for his leadership on the subcommittee and for his commitment to working with me on this and a host of so many other critical issues—issues critical to America's security.

Mr. Speaker, I also take this moment on the House floor to thank my Foreign Affairs staff, Sophie Mirviss, MENA staff director; professional staff member, Jack Steinberg; and of course, Casey Kustin, our former staff director.

Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago, a Hizballah suicide bomber blew up a bus in Burgas, Bulgaria. On that bus were 42 Israeli tourists, mostly young people. That day, Hizballah ended five lives and injured 32 others. In 2013, almost exactly 1 year later, the European Union took action to designate Hizballah's military wing as a terrorist organization.

But the inadvertent result of this designation was that a false distinction was made: a false distinction between Hizballah's military and political wings. Let me be clear, there are no different branches of Hizballah; it is in its entirety a terrorist organization.

You don't need to take my word for this. The United States Government makes no distinction between the organization's branches and includes Hizballah, in its entirety, on the U.S. Foreign Terrorist Organization List. But you also don't need to take our Government's word for it, or the word of Germany, Israel, Guatemala, Argentina, the United Kingdom, or the many other countries that have designated all of Hizballah, rightfully, as a terrorist organization. Take Hizballah's word for it. One of their own representatives in the Lebanese Parliament explicitly said, ''the military wing of Hizballah is inseparable from its political wing.''

It is a fact that Hizballah is one unified terrorist organization. An organization that, with support from the Iranian regime, has carried out horrific terror attacks around the globe and continues to spread violence and terror throughout the Middle East.

It is an Iranian terror proxy. The same Iranian regime whose President last night on American television deemed the reality of the Holocaust—deemed it false—denied the reality of the Holocaust. It denied Israel's very right to exist.

Iran-backed Hizballah consistently threatens Israel and its citizens with drones, missiles, threats of invasion, and undermines stability and economic opportunity in Lebanon. What's more, the organization supports the brutal Assad regime and is complicit in its murder of more than half a million people from the ongoing conflict in Syria.

The facts are clear: Around the world, Hizballah should be designated as a terrorist organization in its entirety.

That is why I stand in support of this resolution: as global partners of the United States and key players in the international rules-based order, the EU must designate all of Hizballah as a terrorist organization so we can increase global cooperation to isolate and dismantle this group.

I recognize there are legal concerns from our European friends that designating all of Hizballah as a terrorist organization could prevent support for the Lebanese people, as Hizballah has infiltrated the country's political system.

The EU rightful recognizes Hamas in its entirety as a terrorist organization, despite that fact that Hamas operates as a political party in Gaza. This does not impact the EU's ability to support Gaza reconstruction, just as designating Hizballah as a whole would not prevent the EU from supporting the needs of the people of Lebanon, and the refugees inside Lebanon.

It is time for the EU to fix this false distinction once and for all, and the global momentum is on our side. In 2016, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Arab League both designated Hizballah as a terrorist organization with no distinction between its political and military wings, despite Lebanon being a member of the Arab League. The EU should take note of that.

A full EU designation now would demonstrate Europe's commitment to cracking down on Iran's use of proxy terrorist groups, destabilizing the region, and attacking our shared national security priorities.

This resolution sends an important message to our European allies. More can and must be done to counter the Iranian proxy Hizballah, which begins with calling them what they are, a terrorist organization in its entirety that is committed to the destruction of our ally, Israel, and continues to undermine the values and interests of both the United States and Europe. It is time for the EU to join us in designating Hizballah in its entirety. A nearly identical measure passed the House in 2017 by voice vote.

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

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute and 30 seconds to the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I came to Congress in April 2010 committed to standing up to Iran's malign activities, and support for Hizballah is a prime example. As I prepare to conclude my time in this Chamber, I urge my colleagues to continue to unite the world against Iran's terror proxies and to boldly take action to ensure Iran never has nuclear weapons; never forgets that the U.S. will always stand against its human rights violations, against its support for terror, against its anti-Semitism, against its call for Israel's destruction, against its unlawfully detention of Americans—Morad Tahbaz, Emad Sharghi, Siamak Namazi, Baquer Namazi, and refuses to bring closure to the family of Bob Levinson.

My colleagues, we must continue to stand up to Iran's aggression. Today's vote is a vote to urge our European allies to designate all of Hizballah—what it is—an Iran-backed terror proxy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for their cooperation on this bill, and I thank them for their friendship all these many years.

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

Mr. Speaker, I strongly agree with Representative DEUTCH. I have always believed the first principle of foreign policy is to call things by their proper name. Sometimes we have to be pragmatic in our dealings around the world, but always start by being honest. Hizballah is a terrorist organization.

Say it. The European Union should do so, as well.

Today, we are being heard again on a bipartisan basis—loud and clear—and I hope the European Union hears our message. I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting 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 New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 558, 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. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

□ 1600

HELEN KELLER NATIONAL CENTER REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1433) to reauthorize the Helen Keller National Center for Youths and Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1433

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 ''Helen Keller National Center Reauthorization Act of 2022''.

SEC. 2. HELEN KELLER NATIONAL CENTER REAUTHORIZED.

The first sentence of section 205(a) of the Helen Keller National Center Act (29 U.S.C. 1904(a)) is amended by striking ''1999 through 2003'' and inserting ''2023 through 2027''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEMPOLINSKI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. 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. 1433, the Helen Keller National Center Reauthorization Act of 2022.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1433, the Helen Keller National Center Reauthorization Act, which would reauthorize the Helen Keller National Center for 5 years.

The Helen Keller National Center for Youths and Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind was first authorized by Congress in 1967 to assist the deaf-blind community in America.

To this day, it is the only comprehensive national program that provides information, referrals, support, and training exclusively to Americans who have combined vision and hearing loss, while also supporting families and professionals who work with the deaf-blind community.

Moreover, the Helen Keller National Center is the only comprehensive national program that provides for information, referral, support, and training exclusively to youth and adults who have combined vision and hearing loss. The center also supports families and professionals who work with the deaf-blind community.

Thankfully, through our actions today, we will be one step closer to reauthorizing the center's important work through 2027.

The Helen Keller center performs life-changing work. This work and the population it serves deserve all of our support.

Lastly, I thank the sponsor of the legislation, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. POCAN), and the cosponsors, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. COLE), the gentleman from New York (Mr. SUOZZI), and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK), for their leadership on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the American deaf-blind community and support this bipartisan legislation before us.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1433, bipartisan legislation to reauthorize the Helen Keller National Center Act.

This center is unique. In fact, it is the only one of its kind. Since 1967, the center has helped individuals with combined vision and hearing loss by providing them, as well as their families and service providers, with specialized, intensive services to help them lead successful and independent lives. This includes, but isn't limited to, career and technical education.

Simply put, the center offers hope and dignity to those it serves. This center is on the forefront of research in developing new and innovative ways for those that are deaf-blind to live a full and independent life. The end goal is allowing those with combined vision and hearing loss to work and thrive in communities of their choice.

The Helen Keller National Center is living up to the legacy of its namesake. Helen Keller is the epitome of perseverance. She overcame every obstacle to lead a successful life that impacted the lives of so many.

She once wrote, ''A happy life consists not in the absence but in the mastery of hardships.'' There is so much we can learn from Helen Keller's commitment to serving others despite her own trials.

This bipartisan bill will ensure that the Helen Keller National Center continues to help deaf-blind youth and adults triumph over adversity, just as Helen Keller did more than 50 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and, in doing so, empower those who are deaf-blind to live full, successful, and independent lives. This bill will help ensure these students and adults have all the resources they need to reach their fullest potential.

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

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SUOZZI), a cosponsor of the legislation.

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for giving me the opportunity to speak in support of H.R. 1433, the reauthorization of the Helen Keller National Center for Youths and Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind in our country.

Let me start by thanking not only the chairman but Congressman POCAN and all of my colleagues who, on a bipartisan basis, have shown overwhelming support for this legislation and the national center.

The Helen Keller National Center for the Deaf-Blind, located in my district, is the only center of its type anywhere in the Nation. People from all over the country travel to the center for help, and they have regional support centers, as well.

In my first 2 weeks in office, back in 2017, I visited the Helen Keller National Center for the first time. I heard stories from people whose lives were changed and whose families' lives were changed because of the miracles that were brought into their lives by this exceptional national treasure.

People's lives have been changed dramatically because of the work of this center supported by this Congress for 55 years, since 1967. We need to continue to support the center.

I thank my colleagues for the great work that they have done in supporting it and continuing to increase its funding year after year. Let us keep working together on a bipartisan basis to serve the people of our country, especially this vulnerable population. Imagine what it would be like to be deaf and blind.

This is truly a national treasure, and I thank my colleagues for their support.

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of reauthorizing the Helen Keller National Center Act.

Helen Keller's story is an example of determination and hard work. Not only did she overcome her difficulties, but

she worked tirelessly to better the lives of others. In doing so, she showed the world there were no boundaries. That is how the center looks at its work and those who it serves.

As a parent of a child with a disability, this issue is very near and dear to my heart, so I am glad to have this time today to share my thoughts and experiences. I know firsthand the importance of each child with a disability having every possible opportunity to succeed and thrive. Any parent of a child with any disability can tell you that their top priority is to provide the very best for their children's education and growth.

I will work tirelessly in and out of Congress for the disability community. This is one of many reasons why I support this bill. Today's bipartisan legislation will allow the center to continue its invaluable research and developmental programs in several areas, including communication techniques and teaching methods.

All of this leads to improved program offerings and, ultimately, better lives for deaf-blind Americans and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 1433.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will help members of the deaf-blind community across the country. I thank the gentleman from New York for his leadership, along with the sponsors and cosponsors of the legislation. I am proud that the House is considering this legislation today.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1433, 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. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

BRIDGING THE GAP FOR NEW AMERICANS ACT

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3157) to require the Secretary of Labor to conduct a study of the factors affecting employment opportunities for immigrants and refugees with professional credentials obtained in foreign countries.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 3157

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 ''Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPLICABLE IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES.—The term ''applicable immigrants and refugees''—

(A) means individuals who—

(i)(I) are not citizens or nationals of the United States; and

(II) are lawfully present in the United States and authorized to be employed in the United States; or

(ii) are naturalized citizens of the United States who were born outside of the United States and its outlying possessions; and

(B) includes individuals described in section 602(b)(2) of the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009 (title VI of division F of Public Law 111–8; 8 U.S.C. 1101 note).

(2) OTHER TERMS.—Except as otherwise defined in this section, terms used in this Act have the definitions given such terms under section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)).

SEC. 3. STUDY ON FACTORS AFFECTING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES WITH PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS OBTAINED IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

(a) STUDY REQUIRED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Administrator of the Internal Revenue Service, and the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration, shall conduct a study of the factors affecting employment opportunities in the United States for applicable immigrants and refugees who have professional credentials that were obtained in a country other than the United States.

(2) WORK WITH OTHER ENTITIES.—The Secretary of Labor shall seek to work with relevant nonprofit organizations and State agencies to use the existing data and resources of such entities to conduct the study required under paragraph (1).

(3) LIMITATIONS ON DISCLOSURE.—Any information provided to the Secretary of Labor in connection with the study required under paragraph (1)—

(A) may only be used for the purposes of, and to the extent necessary to ensure the efficient operation of, such study; and

(B) may not be disclosed to any other person or entity except as provided under this subsection.

(b) INCLUSIONS.—The study required under subsection (a)(1) shall include—

(1) an analysis of the employment history of applicable immigrants and refugees admitted to the United States during the 5-year period immediately preceding the date of the enactment of this Act, which shall include, to the extent practicable—

(A) a comparison of the employment applicable immigrants and refugees held before immigrating to the United States with the employment they obtained in the United States, if any, since their arrival; and

(B) the occupational and professional credentials and academic degrees held by applicable immigrants and refugees before immigrating to the United States;

(2) an assessment of any barriers that prevent applicable immigrants and refugees from using occupational experience obtained outside the United States to obtain employment in the United States;

(3) an analysis of available public and private resources assisting applicable immigrants and refugees who have professional experience and qualifications obtained outside of the United States to obtain skill-appropriate employment in the United States; and

(4) policy recommendations for better enabling applicable immigrants and refugees who have professional experience and qualifications obtained outside of the United States to obtain skill-appropriate employment in the United States.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall—

(1) submit a report to Congress that describes the results of the study conducted pursuant to subsection (a); and

(2) make such report publicly available on the website of the Department of Labor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEMPOLINSKI) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. 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. 3157, the Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, each year, millions of immigrants and refugees come to the United States to find a better life and achieve the American Dream. Many of these new Americans arrive with valuable experiences in specialized fields and international degrees that could help strengthen our communities and our economy.

Regrettably, we know that these Americans face barriers that prevent them from utilizing their skills and credentials to contribute to our country and pursue their careers. In fact, nearly 2 million highly skilled immigrants are underemployed or working in low-skilled jobs instead of their expert fields.

These barriers directly affect our economy, costing tens of billions of dollars in forgone wages and billions in lost Federal, State, and local tax payments each year.

In response, the Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act will help us better understand not only the employment barriers facing immigrants and refugees but also steps we can take to ensure that new Americans can join our economic growth and pursue careers in which they can succeed to their fullest potential.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a ''yes'' vote on this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act. I applaud our colleagues in the Senate for approving this bill this summer by unanimous consent. I also acknowledge our colleague, Mr. JOHN KATKO, for his work on a companion bill in the House.

S. 3157 directs the Secretary of Labor to conduct a study on barriers to employment for legal immigrants and refugees who earn their professional credentials somewhere other than the United States. The study will also include policy recommendations for better helping these immigrants and refugees obtain skill-appropriate employment in the United States.

Obstacles for foreign-educated immigrants and refugees who are legally in the United States but are unemployed or underemployed include language barriers, credential recognition difficulties, regulatory hurdles, and a lack of professional networks to offer assistance.

This underutilization of skills, or brain waste, is costing the United States billions of dollars per year in lost individual earnings, economic output, and tax revenue.

The healthcare sector is especially impacted by this challenge. Two million immigrants with college degrees in the United States have been relegated to low-wage jobs or unable to find work, often because of licensing, credential recognition, and other barriers. This leaves immigrants and refugees unable to contribute fully to the economy, reach their full potential, or secure the American Dream.

In addition to providing recommendations for addressing these challenges for individual immigrants and their families, S. 3157 will benefit all Americans and our economy. With too many jobs still going unfilled and a rapidly evolving labor market, it is vital we address this issue now.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support S. 3157, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW), the chair of the Subcommittee on Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Workforce Development of the Small Business Committee.

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 3157, a bill to help eliminate barriers to employment facing immigrants and refugees across the country.

I represent one of the most diverse districts in Colorado, and we know in Colorado and in my community that diversity is our strength.

Many of our immigrant refugee neighbors have skills and professional credentials they can't use because of regulatory hurdles. These hurdles, whether language barriers, difficulty in recognizing credentials, or a lack of professional networks, prevent many from making a good living for their families or contributing fully to our economy in reaching their full potential.

The unemployment and underemployment of these folks is a missed opportunity for our businesses, for our community, and for our country.

In 2016, across the U.S., nearly 2 million immigrants with college degrees were unable to find work or were employed in low-wage jobs. This includes more than one-third of the 11,000 immigrants in the State of Colorado with health-related undergraduate degrees in 2020.

Identifying these barriers to full employment for these immigrants and refugees is an essential first step to overcoming them. This bill would direct the Department of Labor to conduct a collaborative interagency study of the barriers that hold back refugees and immigrants from their full potential.

I thank Senator KLOBUCHAR and Congressman KATKO for their diligence in this effort, and I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting passage of this bill today.

Mr. SEMPOLINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO), my friend.

□ 1615

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 3157, the Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act. This legislation's journey to the House floor began in my office 3 years ago and was born out of a conversation with Interfaith Works of Central New York, a nonprofit in my district.

Interfaith Works serves the Central New York community by working to resettle individuals and families that have fled unimaginable hardship, seeking opportunity and prosperity legally, legally, in the United States.

As advocates from the organization with firsthand experience described, Interfaith's resettlement efforts consistently encounter a troubling trend; underemployment or unemployment among individuals that come to America with professional degrees and certifications from other countries.

This phenomenon, often referred to as ''brain waste,'' impacts individuals with skills and experiences in a wide range of in-demand fields, and it is by no means isolated to Central New York.

A study by the Migration Policy Institute estimated that 2 million immigrants and refugees with college degrees have been relegated to low-wage jobs or left unemployed in the U.S., with 60 percent of these individuals holding credentials in the healthcare sector.

On an annual basis, this untapped talent is estimated to cost nearly $40 billion in uncollected wages and over $10 billion in unrealized tax receipts.

Simply put, these are individuals who came to our country through the proper channels—and I can't stress that enough—who want to contribute to our economy, and who are now facing significant obstacles in seeking employment through no fault of their own.

Most concerningly, the underutilization of their skills comes in the midst of a nationwide workforce crisis, when our economy needs their contributions more than nearly any point in my lifetime.

So, what is Congress going to do about it?

I am proud to say that the Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act takes a significant first step in addressing brain waste and enabling millions of individuals who are already legally present in the United States to participate fully in our economy.

This bill would seek to identify the underlying factors that contribute to brain waste by directing the Department of Labor to study existing barriers and issue recommendations to help combat them.

Critically, the narrowly tailored consensus approach taken by this legislation has already received strong bipartisan support, with the legislation passing in the Senate by unanimous consent earlier this year.

The Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act also has significant support nationwide and has been endorsed by over 200 workforce development groups and community organizations.

I thank Representatives CROW, FITZPATRICK, and GOTTHEIMER for joining me in introducing the House version of this bill in a bipartisan manner, as well as Senators KLOBUCHAR and CORNYN for their work to move this legislation through the Senate.

I also thank the hundreds of national advocates who have worked tirelessly to raise awareness surrounding this brain waste and to build support for this commonsense legislation.

This bill is about upholding the American Dream and unlocking opportunities for millions of workers, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting to send it to the President's desk.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act. This bill will help us understand how to give legal immigrants with professional credentials more access to opportunities in our country.

Immigrants and refugees who spent years earning college degrees and professional credentials should not be relegated to low-wage jobs because they were educated outside of the United States.

Those pursuing a better life and respecting our laws should be commended, not punished. S. 3157 will shed light on the bureaucratic hurdles and

unnecessary red tape these workers face and how we might remove these obstacles.

It would be foolish of us to let good talent go to waste, especially as our country continues to face a labor shortage, particularly in the healthcare sector.

This legislation is common sense. It will help immigrants and refugees who are in our country legally fulfill their potential, better provide for their families, and become even more of an asset to our economy. I urge a ''yes'' vote on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues have pointed out, the Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act is particularly critical as we continue to recover from the economic consequences of the COVID–19 pandemic. Now, more than ever, we must draw from the skills of our Nation's immigrants and refugees to accelerate our recovery and strengthen our communities.

In other words, this bill will ensure that the new Americans can re-establish their careers, succeed to their full potential, and join the effort to build back a brighter future for all Americans.

I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. SEMPOLINSKI), the gentleman from New York (Mr. KATKO), the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. CROW), the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK), and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. GOTTHEIMER), as well as Senator KLOBUCHAR of Minnesota, Senator CORNYN of Texas, Senator COONS of Delaware, and Senator MURKOWSKI from Alaska, for their leadership on this legislative priority.

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. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 3157.

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. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

NO TRAFFICKING ZONES ACT

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7566) to amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the punishment for human trafficking in a school zone, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7566

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 ''No Trafficking Zones Act'' or the ''NTZ Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds as follows:

(1) Child sex trafficking can have devastating immediate and long-term consequences, including health impacts, psychological and physical trauma, and even death.

(2) While any child can be targeted by a trafficker, research, data, survivors' lived experiences, and expertise have revealed that traffickers often target vulnerable youth who lack strong support networks, supervision, care, or basic necessities, have low self-esteem, have experienced violence in the past, are experiencing homelessness, are experiencing academic difficulties, or are marginalized by society, and lure them into forced labor and prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation. Traffickers are masters of manipulation and prey upon vulnerabilities using psychological pressure, intimidation, and drugs to control and sexually exploit the child for their benefit.

(3) The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) has received reports of child sex trafficking in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. These reports include incidents occurring in every type of community, including suburban, rural, urban, and Tribal lands. In 2021, NCMEC received more than 17,200 reports of possible child sex trafficking.

(4) Of 22,326 trafficking victims and survivors identified through contacts with the National Human Trafficking Hotline in 2019, at least 5,359 were under age 18.

(5) Many underage victims of sex trafficking are students in the United States school system. No community, school, socioeconomic group, or student demographic is immune.

(6) While the internet and social media make up the majority of first encounters, traffickers regularly find young people in shopping malls, through friends, at bus stops, and at schools. Specifically, traffickers systematically target vulnerable children and youth by frequenting locations where young people congregate, including schools. They also use peers or classmates, who befriend the target and slowly groom them for the trafficker by bringing the young person along to parties and other activities.

(7) A 2018 survey reported that 55 percent of young sex trafficking survivors in Texas were trafficked while at school or school activities and 60 percent of trafficked adults say they were first groomed and solicited for trafficking on school campuses.

(8) Schools can and should be safe havens for students. Schools are best positioned to identify and report suspected trafficking and connect affected students to critical services. Students are more likely to report instances of sex trafficking, attempted sex trafficking, or grooming for the purposes of sex trafficking where they feel most safe from harm and threats.

SEC. 3. INCREASED PUNISHMENT FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN SCHOOL ZONES.

Section 1591 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

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

''(e)(1) Whoever violates subsection (a) in a school zone, or on, or within 1,000 feet of, a premises on which a school-sponsored activity is taking place, or on, or within 1,000 feet of a premises owned by an institution of higher education, shall, in addition to the punishment otherwise provided under this section, be imprisoned for not more than 5 years.

''(2) In this subsection:

''(A) The term 'school zone' has the meaning given such term in section 921.

''(B) The term 'school-sponsored activity' means any activity that is produced, financed, arranged, supervised, or coordinated by a school or a State educational agency or local educational agency or is under the jurisdiction of a State educational agency or local educational agency.

''(C) The terms 'State educational agency' and 'local educational agency' have the meanings given those terms under section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

''(D) The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).''.

SEC. 4. INCREASED PUNISHMENT FOR COERCION AND ENTICEMENT IN SCHOOL ZONES.

Section 2422 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking ''individual who has not attained the age of 18 years'' and inserting ''minor''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(c)(1) Whoever violates subsection (a) or (b) knowing, or having reasonable cause to believe, that the violation is committed against a minor who is enrolled in school and is, at the time of the violation, in a school zone or on, or within 1,000 feet of, a premises on which a school-sponsored activity is taking place, or against a person who is enrolled in an institution of higher education and is, at the time of the violation on or within 1,000 feet of a premises owned by the institution of higher education, shall, in addition to the punishment otherwise provided under this section, be imprisoned for not more than 5 years.

''(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply in a case in which a minor's presence on, or within 1,000 feet of, the premises on which a school-sponsored activity is taking place is not related to such school-sponsored activity, or the person's presence on or within 1,000 feet of the premises owned by the institution of higher education is not related to their enrollment at such institution.

''(d) In this section:

''(1) The term 'minor' means an individual who has not attained 18 years of age.

''(2) The term 'school' means a public, parochial, or private school that provides elementary or secondary education.

''(3) The term 'school zone' has the meaning given such term in section 921.

''(4) The term 'school-sponsored activity' means any activity that is produced, financed, arranged, supervised, or coordinated by a school or a State educational agency or local educational agency or is under the jurisdiction of a State educational agency or local educational agency.

''(5) The terms 'State educational agency' and 'local educational agency' have the meanings given those terms under section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

''(6) The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given such term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).''.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on H.R. 7566, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, this bill was introduced as an important response to stopping human trafficking and sex trafficking at schools. In fact, its name was Stop Human Trafficking in School Zones. I introduced that bill to stop human trafficking in school zones.

I am glad to be here on the floor of the House to continue this journey in protecting our children. I want to start with the words from the Major Cities Chiefs Association, one of the major supporters of this legislation:

Child sex trafficking is one of the most despicable crimes an individual can commit. Sadly, there are far too many children victimized by this scourge. For example, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received more than 17,200 reports of possible child sex trafficking in 2021.

It is especially troubling that these crimes sometimes occur at schools which should be a safe haven for America's children.

Besides gun violence, human trafficking, sex trafficking is a scourge that takes and destroys the lives of our children.

H.R. 7566 will play an important part in addressing child sex trafficking by establishing additional penalties for offenders who commit these offenses in a school zone or within 1,000 feet of a school-sponsored activity.

We want to be heard on stopping human trafficking and sex trafficking at our schools. And so the No Trafficking Zones Act, which was formerly the Stop Human Trafficking in Schools Act, would ensure that schools across the country, including institutions of higher learning, are safe spaces for learning and academic exploration, free from the menace of sex trafficking.

H.R. 7566 would establish a sentencing enhancement of up to 5 years in several instances: First, in the case of any person who commits the offense of sex trafficking within a primary or secondary school zone or on or within 1,000 feet of the premises of a school-sponsored activity, or premises owned by an institution of higher learning.

Second, for any person who commits the offense of coercion and enticement of a minor enrolled in a primary or a secondary school, or a person enrolled in an institution of higher learning, to travel in interstate or foreign commerce and engage in criminal sexual activity while the minor is in a school zone, or on or within 1,000 feet of premises where a school-sponsored activity is taking place, or while the person is on or within 1,000 feet of the premises owned by the institution of higher education.

And third, for any person who commits the offense of coercion and enticement of a minor using the mail or facilities of interstate or foreign commerce, such as the text and instant messaging or social media platforms which have been used extensively, while the minor who is enrolled in school or an institution of higher education, is in a school zone, or on or within 1,000 feet of premises where a school-sponsored activity is taking place, or premises owned by the institution of higher education.

Human trafficking is one of the greatest threats to human rights in the United States. It destroys a human being's life, and it destroys, forever, a child's life.

In 2020, 11,193 instances of potential human trafficking were reported to the United States National Human Trafficking Hotline, with at least 70 percent of those instances involving sex trafficking, while an estimated 25 percent of all human trafficking victims in this country are in my home State of Texas at any given time, many of whom are minors.

Mr. Speaker, I gave and held the first human trafficking hearing, field hearing from Houston, Texas, with my cosponsor of this legislation, the honorable MIKE MCCAUL. I express my appreciation for his collaboration on this legislation, his enthusiastic collaboration, as he did join me when we held the first hearing on human trafficking in Houston, through the Homeland Security Committee.

What I would say is that Houston had been the epicenter of human trafficking. It was a powerful hearing, and I am glad that we have joined together now to stop human trafficking at schools.

Let me also offer my sympathy to him and his family for their loss.

At least 5,359 trafficking victims and survivors identified through the hotline in 2019 were under the age of 18. And in 2021, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received more than 17,200 reports of suspected child sex trafficking. Many of these young victims of sex trafficking are students in school systems, colleges, trade schools, and universities across the country.

A 2018 survey reported that in Texas, where no trafficking zone legislation passed with bipartisan support earlier this year, 55 percent of young sex trafficking survivors were trafficked while at school or school activities, and 60 percent of trafficked adults said they were first groomed and solicited for trafficking while on school campuses.

That has been a hotbed of opportunity for the scourge of sex traffickers who want to prey upon our innocent children. I am grateful that the legislation in Texas generated out of an effort chaired by Bishop James Dixon, chair of the Houston Sports Authority at the NRG Arena, and began to develop a policy where there would be no trafficking zones around major stadiums and events.

Members of this body know all too well that children are sexually exploited in many ways. Some young people are trafficked by their schoolmates or people they once considered friends. And while the traffickers seek out young people who have noticeable vulnerabilities, including problems at school, conflicts at home, or even the need to fill in a tuition gap caused by the loss of a scholarship, no child or young person is truly safe from the schemes of charismatic traffickers bent on exploiting and destroying young lives.

□ 1630

With the proliferation of social media and the myriad ways in which we communicate with one another, traffickers have put these same means of communication to their own use to find, target, lure, groom, victimize, and exert control over their victims while buyers are using technology to find and purchase sex anonymously.

Traffickers have infiltrated every known form of communication, especially the sites, messaging apps, and social media platforms our children use most frequently, leaving young children more vulnerable to manipulation. Access to the internet, cell phones, and smartphones make it easier, Mr. Speaker, for traffickers and buyers to communicate with children and youth.

Even when they are at school, in class, or attending school-sponsored activities, there are no barriers, no walls, no brick walls, cement walls, steel walls, that can keep a trafficker from getting a precious child.

As a result, trafficking has reached the halls, lunchrooms, gyms, dormitories, and classrooms of schools, colleges, and universities in every corner of the United States of America.

These staggering facts and statistics led me to introduce this bipartisan legislation, the No Trafficking Zones Act, along with Chairman NADLER and Representative MCCAUL, who I wish to thank for working with me, as I have said previously, as well as Representative JOHNSON of Louisiana for his amendment that included the protection for young people at institutions of higher education.

We came together in a bipartisan manner to exert the influence necessary to protect America's children collectively. I, again, thank Chairman NADLER, Representative MCCAUL of Texas, and Representative JOHNSON of Louisiana. I am delighted to work with them.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, human trafficking, especially the sex trafficking of children, is an abhorrent crime, and all convicted offenders should face serious criminal penalties.

This bill would provide increased criminal penalties for human trafficking or coercing a minor to engage

in illegal sex acts in school zones or near school-sponsored activities, as my colleague from Texas stated.

Texas recently enacted a similar law. According to the Texas State Senate bill report, 55 percent of young sex trafficking survivors in Texas were trafficked while at school or during school activities.

The Justice Department's Office of Justice Programs reports that the average age of entry into prostitution is, unbelievably, 12 to 14 years old and that traffickers are known to recruit at schools and in after-school programs.

However, this legislation doesn't address a root cause of this serious problem, our unsecure southwest border. Tragically, we know that human smuggling and trafficking occurs daily at the southwest border.

Under Democrat leadership, this Congress has failed to fix the completely broken immigration system or to address the Biden border crisis, which cartels and other organized criminal organizations have exploited to smuggle and traffic children into our country.

Cartels and criminal organizations continue to take advantage of the Biden administration's complete failure to secure the southwest border.

We should focus Congress' efforts on securing our southwest border to prevent the type of human trafficking this legislation seeks to address.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, the issue of stopping human trafficking in school zones is such a crucial issue that I would hope that the focus of our debate today would be on saving the lives of children.

I will just simply make the point, being on the Committee on Homeland Security and chairing the Judiciary subcommittee that deals with Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, that we all can work together for comprehensive immigration reform.

Here we are today, specifically focused and pointed on ensuring that there are no trafficking zones in our country and specifically around our school zones where children cannot be harmed.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters from the Major Cities Chiefs Association; Texas State Representative Ron Reynolds; NAACP, Bishop James Dixon, Branch President; Break the Cycle U.S.A., Valerie Winborne, mother of trafficking victim; and Courtney Litvak, surviving—a summary of her experience where she was trafficked.

MAJOR CITIES
CHIEFS ASSOCIATION,
July 13, 2022.

Hon. SHELIA JACKSON LEE,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR REP. JACKSON LEE, REP. NADLER, AND REP. MCCAUL: I write on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association (MCCA) to register our support for H.R. 7566, the *Stop Human Trafficking in School Zones Act*. The MCCA is a professional organization of police executives representing the largest cities in the United States and Canada.

Child sex trafficking is one of the most despicable crimes an individual can commit. Sadly, there are far too many children victimized by this scourge. For example, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received more than 17,200 reports of possible child sex trafficking in 2021. It's especially troubling that these crimes sometimes occur at schools, which should be a safe haven for America's children. H.R. 7566 will play an important part in addressing child sex trafficking by establishing additional penalties for offenders who commit these offenses in a school zone or within 1,000 feet of a school-sponsored activity. These enhanced penalties will help establish a strong deterrent and ensure those who commit these heinous acts are held accountable.

Thank you for your leadership and ongoing commitment to protecting America's children. Please do not hesitate to contact me if the MCCA can be of further assistance.

Sincerely.

JERI WILLIAMS,
CHIEF, PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT,
President, Major Cities Chiefs Association.

RON REYNOLDS,
TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
July 13, 2022.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. SHELIA JACKSON LEE,
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Crime, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER AND CHAIRWOMAN LEE: As organizations and leaders in the movement to end human trafficking, we want to thank you for scheduling this important markup of H.R. 7566, the Stop Trafficking in School Zones Act, which you introduced along with Representative Michael McCaul. The need for legislation that makes clear that children and youth are never to be trafficked or pursued by sex traffickers especially while at school or participating off-campus in school-sponsored activities.

Human trafficking poses a grave danger to individual well-being, public health, public safety, national security, economic development, and prosperity. Child and youth sex trafficking can have devastating immediate and long-term consequences, including health impacts, psychological and physical trauma, substance use disorders, mental health problems, and even death. While any minor can be targeted by a trafficker, traffickers often target vulnerable youth, including those who lack strong support networks, supervision care, have low self-esteem, are experiencing academic difficulties, are marginalized by society, or ostracized by their peers. No child or community is immune. Recruiting and grooming occur everywhere that kids can be found, even in schools across the country. Traffickers frequent places where young people can be found, including school-sponsored events like basketball and football games, field trips, and talent shows. They also use peers and classmates, who befriend the traffickers' targets and groom them for the trafficker by forming relationships with the students and brining them along to parties and other activities, slowly acclimating them to the traffickers and their lifestyle.

Targeting youth online via social media, direct messaging, and the like has become an increasingly common tactic among traffickers. They will look vulnerable young people who are receptive to their advances. Grooming occurs online or in person, over an extended period. They gain their targets' trust, fulfill their needs, make promises, gradually isolating them and exerting control over their lives—sometimes virtually. Technology has made it much easier for traffickers to seek out children and youth.

To that end, we would like to express our strong support for H.R. 7566 because young people should be safe at all times—but especially while they are trying to learn or pursue school-related endeavors that enhance their educational experiences. We are thrilled that the House Judiciary Committee will condenser this legislation that would establish a sentencing enhancement for those who would dare to commit sex trafficking or contact young people for such purposes while they are at school-sponsored activities and encourage members to vote yes.

We thank you for your leadership and as survivors and advocated dedicated to eradicating human trafficking, we are grateful for your commitment to ensuring that those who choose to target and victimize children will be held accountable.

Sincerely,

RON REYNOLDS,
State Representative.

NAACP,
July 13, 2022.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. SHEILA JACKSON LEE,
Chairwoman, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER AND CHAIRWOMAN LEE: As organizations and leaders in the movement to end human trafficking, we want to thank you for scheduling this important markup of H.R. 7566, the Stop Trafficking in School Zones Act, which you introduced along with Representative MICHAEL MCCAUL. The need for legislation that makes clear that children and youth are never to be trafficked or pursued by sex traffickers especially while at school or participating off-campus in school-sponsored activities.

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Sincerely,

JAMES DIXON, II,
Branch President,
NAACP Houston Branch.

BREAK THE CYCLE,
July 13, 2022.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. SHEILA JACKSON LEE,
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Crime,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER AND CHAIRWOMAN LEE: As an organization and leader in this movement for over a decade to end human trafficking, we want to thank you for scheduling this important markup of H.R. 7566, the Stop Trafficking in School Zones Act, which you introduced along with Representative Michael McCaul. The need for legislation that makes clear that children and youth are never to be trafficked or pursued by sex traffickers, especially while at school or participating off-campus in school-sponsored activities.

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Targeting youth online via social media, direct messaging, and the like has become an increasingly common tactic among traffickers. They will look for vulnerable young people who are receptive to their advances. Grooming occurs online or in person, over an extended period. They gain their targets' trust, fulfill their needs, make promises, gradually isolating them and exerting control over their lives—sometimes virtually. Technology has made it much easier for traffickers to seek out children and youth.

To that end, we would like to express our strong support for H.R. 7566 because young people should be safe at all times—but especially while they are trying to learn or pursue school-related endeavors that enhance their educational experiences. We are thrilled that the House Judiciary Committee will consider this legislation that would establish a sentencing enhancement for those who would dare to commit sex trafficking or contact young people for such purposes while they are at school or school-sponsored activities and encourage members to vote yes.

We thank you for your leadership and as survivors and advocates dedicated to eradicating human trafficking, we are grateful for your commitment to ensuring that those who choose to target and victimize children will be held accountable.

Sincerely,

BREAK THE CYCLE USA.

July 13, 2022.

Hon. JERROLD NADLER,
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
Hon. SHEILA JACKSON LEE,
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Crime,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN NADLER AND CHAIRWOMAN LEE: NTZ is a bi-partisan organization disrupting the criminal activity of human trafficking. NTZ's mission is to create No Trafficking Zones across the nation. In order to create no trafficking zones, we must have policies set in place to protect our communities from commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Children in America are being preyed upon every single day in schools across our nation. In 2021, NTZ was a part of the creation of the S.B.1831 ''No Trafficking Zone Act'' for schools in Texas. The ''No Trafficking Zone Act was authored by Rep. Senator Larry Taylor, was carried in the House by State Representative Senfronia Thompson, and approved with 100 percent bipartisan support. Our belief is there needs to be unity in fighting for the protection of our great Nation's children.

In this letter, you will hear testimonies of Mother and the names of their daughters. You will learn brutal detail of what is sex trafficking. Sex trafficking is the slave trade where a person is raped and owned by another.

We want to thank you for scheduling this important markup of H.R. 7566, the Stop Trafficking in School Zones Act, which you introduced along with Representative Michael McCaul. America needs legislation that makes it clear, that children and youth are never to be commercially sexually exploited or pursued by sex traffickers, especially while at school or participating offcampus in school-sponsored activities

An Alarming Fact: Did you know that 60 percent of trafficked adults say they were first introduced to trafficking (groomed or solicited) on school campuses?

We have support across the nation. Parents and families want their children safe while they are at school. Parents and families across our country are picking up the pieces of destruction as their children are being groomed and lured on school campuses or during school functions. We have human trafficking detectives, advocates, social workers, parents, elected officials, law enforcement leaders, school district superintendents, board members, PTO parents, survivor leaders, nurses, doctors, and antitrafficking specialists coming together to say enough is enough. We need laws to protect our youth while they are in school from sexual predators. This is happening in all communities across our nation.

The term ''institutional grooming'' describes the perpetrator using a position of trust to gain access to a child/youth and avoid detection. Perpetrators of grooming can use online and offline methods to reach their victims.

Valerie Winbornes's daughter was trafficked in Virginia. She like most families said she received no help and there was no justice for her twelve-year-old daughter who was trafficked from her school.

Madelynn Bennetsen. She trusted a girl in JH who she thought was her friend—who would later lead her on the path of skipping class, running away from home, drugs, and trafficking. If there were more awareness and training for the staff in the school and even myself. We may have been more alert to these behaviors as red flags instead of teenage behavior problems. We make it our life's work to help others in honor of Mady. Mady was murdered by her trafficker and never returned home.

Mary Well's daughter was a target because she had Autism. She also was a young girl who was murdered and never returned home.

Courtney Litvack was trafficked out of Katy Texas. Katy is a suburban wealthy area in Harris County. She was sold to multiple traffickers and eventually taken to Las Vegas. Her family as all of these other families will express with grief that there was no justice.

Leddie a fifteen-year-old girl committed suicide after she could not get the proper help after being recovered from being sex trafficked.

Do you know traffickers pick out young girls on tick tok and Instagram and tell groomers to go lure them from school? In many states, the traffickers introduce girls as young as twelve to strip clubs. Fourteen and fifteen-year-old girls are trafficked by gangs, pimps, and organized crime and then ''trained' and ''broken in' at strip clubs. They will form a trauma bond with many of their traffickers and such a level of shame that most girls will not know how to leave even if they physically can. They will also have the girls become addicted to drugs becoming numb to being raped. The teen's addiction will have them not knowing or understanding everything that is happening and controlling them through their addiction and abuse. I have given definitions to the terms in this paragraph.

NTZ and I want to express our gratitude for scheduling this important markup of H.R. 7566, the Stop Trafficking in School Zones Act, which you introduced along with Representative Michael McCaul. The need for legislation that makes clear that children and youth are never to be trafficked or pursued by sex traffickers, especially while at school or participating off-campus in school-sponsored activities. Every day kids are going missing and are being sex trafficked from their schools or were contacted at their school. We must change this. This is unacceptable. Nelsen Mandela said There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children.

To that end, we would like to express our strong support for H.R. 7566 because young people should be safe at all times—but especially while they are trying to learn or pursue school-related endeavors that enhance their educational experiences. We are thrilled that the House Judiciary Committee will consider this legislation that would establish a sentencing enhancement for those

who would dare to commit sex trafficking and slavery on our children at schools. I encourage and pray the members will vote yes.

Respectfully,

JACQUELYN ALUOTTO,
President, No Trafficking Zone—NTZ.

COURTNEY LITVAK

Courtney has made it her mission to tell her story and speak out to spread awareness about human trafficking and help shape policy to protect other young people from falling victim to the schemes of human traffickers, and to hold traffickers accountable.

Courtney first became entangled in sex trafficking when she was still in high school.

Despite what some believe about victims of human trafficking, she grew up in a loving, church-going family, in a safe neighborhood, and attended an upscale, suburban high school in Texas. But, by the age of 17 she was under the control of her first trafficker and she was being advertised for illicit sex on websites like Backpage.com.

Courtney was a junior in high school when a series of traumatic experiences occurred, leaving her emotionally and physically susceptible and in a downward spiral—like so many victims of human trafficking. She began participating in high-risk behaviors, including abusing drugs and alcohol.

A trafficker, with ties to her high school, used fellow students to prey upon her and use her vulnerabilities to their advantage—offering her friendship and support when she felt she had none, meanwhile drawing her gradually and deeper into ''the life.''

Courtney was actually being groomed by two different organized crime networks simultaneously and each groomer chatted with her through social media and messaging other apps. One network even invested in grooming Courtney for almost an entire year. She grew to trust these people, who were in fact all friends of friends and all formerly attended her high school.

Her first trafficker picked her up from her school on multiple occasions. Consequently, she was unenrolled from her school and had her entire life uprooted in a desperate attempt for her family to intervene in her exploitation. Courtney returned back to her hometown where days after turning 18 she was taken from her home by the other invested trafficking network. She soon realized that this individual she thought she loved meant to pass her on to her next trafficker for a finder's fee of $500.

Eventually, Courtney would be transported from Texas to California, then, Las Vegas—passing from the clutches of one trafficker to another.

The coercive tactics of her captors varied from subtle to overt, physical to psychological—from violent to caring.

On an occasion when she attempted to seek help, law enforcement officials treated her like a criminal, convincing her that the safest place for her was with her trafficker.

Fortunately, after years of exploitation, overdoses, and mulitple suicide attempts, Courtney escaped her final trafficker in 2018. She sought trauma counseling and attended an intense out of state recovery program, became a consultant, and, in 2020, was appointed to the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I would just simply like to suggest that we can find trafficking in many other places.

I also include in the RECORD the article: ''Epstein's 'ground zero': How the financier reportedly wreaked havoc on Royal Palm Beach High School community.''

[From Business Insider, July 27, 2019]

EPSTEIN'S 'GROUND ZERO': HOW THE FINANCIER REPORTEDLY WREAKED HAVOC ON THE ROYAL PALM BEACH HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY

(By Kat Tenbarge)

Former Royal Palm Beach High School Assistant Principal Carolyn Brown told The Palm Beach Post it was an ''open secret'' that female students were involved in something suspicious that involved hundreds of dollars in cash and resulted in girls being bullied for being ''prostitutes'' and ''sugar babies.''

What administers didn't know, or at least didn't act upon, was that at least 15 underage girls enrolled at the high school were sexually assaulted by financier and now convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, according to police reports obtained by The Palm Beach Post.

Like dozens of other accusations against the shadowy financier, who is currently being held without bail on charges of sex trafficking of minors and conspiracy in the southern district of New York, Epstein's Royal Palm Beach High accusers say he paid them to give him massages, during which he would coerce them into sex acts.

Epstein was well aware that his victims would have been high schoolers, since The Post reported that a Royal Palm Beach High transcript was found in 2005 in his bedroom desk drawer at his $12 million Palm Beach estate, next to a massage table and an armoire filled with sex toys.

One Royal Palm Beach High accuser told police she was 16-years-old when Epstein asked her to give him a massage while she was topless. She said she told him she was in high school. He asked what her favorite sex position was.

Another 16-year-old told police Epstein said he would help her get into her dream college, New York University, after reviewing her SAT scores and high school transcript.

Epstein also wrote a note on his own Jeffrey E. Epstein-branded stationary, Palm Beach police officers found, which instructed an employee to deliver a dozen roses to an underage girl who performed in a Royal Palm Beach High play. Police found the note in Epstein's garbage in 2005.

These findings were some of the evidence brought forward before Epstein signed a plea deal in 2008 that allowed him to avoid federal prosecution and serve 13 months of an 18-month prison sentence, during which he could work from a high-rise in Palm Beach 12 hours a day, 6 days a week.

Now, Epstein is pleading not guilty to sex trafficking charges that accuse the elite financier of assaulting upward of 80 women, many who were underage at the time of the assault, including some as young as 14. The Palm Beach Post reports that Epstein recruited girls from several Palm Beach, Florida high schools, but that Royal Palm Beach High was his ''ground zero.''

The Post reports that girls who were part of Epstein's underage sexual assault scheme were bullied for being ''prostitutes'' and ''sugar babies,'' which administrators took notice of when they found $300 in a girl's purse after she was caught fighting with another female student.

Attorney Adam Horowitz, who has represented some of Epstein's accusers in eight civil lawsuits, was quoted as describing the girls who were allegedly targeted as vulnerable, with some ''living in trailer parks,'' in The Post.

Epstein asked girls to bring their friends, The Post reported, paying girls up to $200 for recruiting new victims. ''The younger the better,'' he instructed them, according to one accuser who was first approached by an adult who worked for Epstein in 2003 at a resort in Riviera Beach.

That accuser went into her senior year at Royal Palm Beach High with Epstein's goal in mind, with The Post reporting she recruited at least eight other underage girls who then recruited their own friends, including some girls who were on the verge of homelessness and needed money, badly.

''Knowing what we know now, it's so sad what happened to those girls,'' Brown, the former assistant principal, told The Post.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an article: '''Open secret' at Royal Palm High School: At least 15 students were lured to Jeffrey Epstein's Palm Beach mansion'' right out of the school.

OPEN SECRET AT ROYAL PALM HIGH: AT LEAST 15 STUDENTS WERE LURED TO JEFFREY EPSTEIN'S PALM BEACH MANSION

(By Lulu Ramadan)

Tucked in the drawer of Jeffrey Epstein's bedroom desk, near a massage table and a wooden armoire filled with sex toys, was a teenage girl's Royal Palm Beach High School transcript.

She was 16 years old when Epstein lured her to his Palm Beach home set at the end of a dead-end street behind a wall of hedges.

And she's one of at least 15 girls from Royal Palm Beach High School who Epstein sexually exploited in that bedroom 15 years ago, police reports reveal.

Epstein, a multimillionaire financier then in his 50s, lured a procession of girls as young as 14 to his home to perform nude massages for money, police and court records say. The massages often ended with Epstein groping or sexually assaulting the girls.

Epstein's victims attended several Palm Beach County schools, including Lake Worth Middle and Palm Beach Gardens High.

But Royal Palm Beach High, with about 3,000 students, many from the county's rural reaches, was ground zero.

Evidence suggests Epstein knew his victims were school girls and the signs didn't escape Royal Palm Beach High administrators. The girls endured teasing and classmates called them ''prostitutes.'' After two girls fought, an administrator found one of them had $300 in her purse.

Aside from the student transcript found in Epstein's desk in 2005, police collected more evidence and witness statements that suggest Epstein knew his victims were still school children:

He scrawled a note on Jeffrey E. Epstein-branded stationery instructing one of his employees to deliver a dozen roses to a girl who performed in a Royal Palm Beach High play. Police found the note in his trash.

One 16-year-old girl described to detectives giving Epstein a massage while she was topless. He asked her about herself and she told him she was a student at Royal Palm High. He then asked her which was her favorite sexual position, she told police.

Another girl, who met Epstein at age 16, said Epstein reviewed her college applications and SAT scores and promised to help her get into her dream school, New York University.

Though Palm Beach detectives uncovered these details in 2005, the Palm Beach County State Attorney's Office and U.S. Attorney's Office in Miami, then headed by Alexander Acosta, cut Epstein a plea deal that landed him in jail for 13 months on two charges of soliciting prostitution.

This month, a decade after his release from a Palm Beach County jail, federal agents in New York arrested Epstein, 66, on charges of sex trafficking minors. The move came eight

months after a Miami Herald investigation zeroed in on Acosta's role in Epstein's plea deal and let victims tell their stories publicly for the first time.

Epstein preyed on dozens of girls, at least 32 identified at the time by police but about 80 identified in 2018 by the Herald.

''These girls had never even been to Palm Beach island,'' said Adam Horowitz, an attorney who represented Epstein victims in eight civil lawsuits filed against the multimillionaire.

''Some of them were living in trailer parks. This was a whole new world to them.''

FOR EPSTEIN: 'THE YOUNGER THE BETTER'

Some of the girls told Epstein they were uncomfortable with being touched during massages, so he asked them to bring friends instead, police reports and court records reveal.

He paid girls about the same amount, around $200, to recruit a friend as he paid the girls who stripped down and performed massages, court records show.

Royal Palm Beach High was a target by coincidence.

''One of Epstein's recruiters managed to infiltrate that circle,'' Horowitz said.

The ''recruiter'' approached a 17-year-old Royal Palm Beach High School student in 2003 at a resort in Riviera Beach with an offer to make $200 for an hour to give a massage, she told police two years later.

The teen went to Epstein's seven-bedroom home on the Intracoastal Waterway, where an assistant led her up a staircase lined with pictures of naked young girls and into Epstein's bedroom, police say.

In keeping with descriptions to police from many Epstein victims, the teen found Epstein wearing only a towel, which he later removed, before lying on a massage table.

Epstein tried to grope her, but she resisted. She told him she didn't want to be touched, she told detectives.

So Epstein asked her to bring friends to his home for cash instead. ''The younger the better,'' Epstein said, according to her police statement.

Going into her senior year at Royal Palm Beach High, the girl became a conduit to the school, recruiting at least eight other girls she'd met on campus, court depositions and police testimonies reveal.

And those girls recruited more girls.

NAME-CALLING AND A FIGHT

One Royal Palm Beach High student told detectives in 2005 that she targeted promiscuous teens on campus. Another said she brought a friend on the verge of homelessness and strapped for cash.

School administrators knew something unusual was happening, police reports show.

Students teased the Epstein clique as ''prostitutes'' or ''sugar babies,'' a term for young women who seek relationships with wealthy, older men, The Post learned from court depositions and former students.

The tension came to the administration's attention in February 2005, when a 14-year-old freshman, the first of Epstein's victims to speak to police, got into a fight on campus with a girl who called her a ''prostitute,'' police said.

But the school kept no disciplinary record of the fight and didn't report anything, police learned in 2005.

At the time, it appeared the girls were making money doing something nefarious, one former administrator, then-Assistant Principal Carolyn Brown, said in a brief interview this month.

It was an ''open secret,'' Brown said, stopping short of saying whether school administrators knew the girls were paid for sexual favors.

Brown was subpoenaed to testify in the 2005 criminal case against Epstein after she found $300 in the 14-year-old's purse on campus shortly after the fight, court records reveal.

Administrators considered and then dismissed the idea that it might be drug money, detectives wrote in a 2005 report.

Brown, who is retired, never spoke to prosecutors. Soon after her subpoena, federal prosecutors struck Epstein's plea deal calling for 18 months in county jail, registration as a sex offender and payments to victims.

It wasn't clear if the principal at the time, Sheila Henry, knew that more than a dozen students were involved with Epstein. Henry wasn't mentioned in police reports and could not be reached for comment.

But two former students reached by The Post, who asked to stay anonymous, said students gossiped that some girls had rich, older boyfriends who bought them expensive gifts. Six other students didn't recall any such talk.

None of the girls knew then what the public knows now: That a Palm Beach millionaire tapped a local high school to prey on girls for his sexual gratification.

''Knowing what we know now,'' said Brown, the former assistant principal, ''it's so sad what happened to those girls.''

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the article: ''Police: Children recruiting other kids for human trafficking at schools.'' This was in Florida.

[From WKMG ClickOrlando.com, Nov. 1, 2018]

POLICE: CHILDREN RECRUITING OTHER KIDS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING AT SCHOOLS

FLORIDA RANKS 3RD IN THE NATION FOR CALLS TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE

(By Erik von Ancken)

Orlando, FL.—Human trafficking is real and it is happening in Central Florida.

Crystal Blanton, co-chair of the Marion County Human Trafficking Task Force, said she receives thousands of reports from the National Human Trafficking Hotline every year.

''Usually the reports are in the thousands, every year,'' Blanton said. ''Thousands of people are being human trafficked. Right here in Marion County and across the state of Florida.''

Blanton said it's not like the movies (''Taken'' 2008), where young girls are taken during their summer vacations by foreign human traffickers to be sold to sultans or sheiks.

But local children, often as young as 12, are being recruited into a life of forced prostitution.

''I just think it's the internet, I hate to say it,'' Blanton said. ''Social media has grown the field of human trafficking. It's easier for these traffickers to make contact with victims.''

Blanton said traffickers look for vulnerable teenagers online—runaways, teenagers complaining about their lives and their parents, young people with drug addictions—and befriend them.

But human trafficking isn't confined to any race or class, according to Blanton.

Some victims were on the honor roll headed to college.

''We've had doctors' children who have been intertwined,'' Blanton said.

Blanton also said human traffickers align with students and use them and their schools as recruiting grounds.

''There are recruiters, juvenile recruiters in the schools, working with a pimp of some kind, and they are sent out in the schools and given a job to bring other minors on board,'' Blanton said.

Blanton said the task force has had success educating Marion County elementary, middle and high school principals in looking for signs of human trafficking and placing Human Trafficking Hotline posters in schools.

Mike Lanfersiek, a sergeant at the Human Trafficking Squad at Orlando's Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation (MBI), said the definition of human trafficking is forcing a person to have sex or to work through force, fraud or coercion.

''Human trafficking is quite simply the exploitation of another person for commercial sex or forced labor,'' Lanfersiek said.

Lanfersiek said once victims, female or male, enter into the life of human trafficking, they are kept there by their captor, taking advantage of their vulnerability.

''A vulnerability to substance abuse, the fear of physical beating, or withholding passports or documents, things like that,'' Lanfersiek.

Lanfersiek's Human Trafficking Squad has rescued hundreds of young women and children, often from hotels in the tourist district of Orange and Osceola Counties.

''Anywhere where the trafficker thinks there might be demand for commercial sex,'' Lanfersiek said.

Traffickers often set up their prostitution operation at hotels because they cater to visitors in town for business or pleasure who are looking for sex, according to Lanfersiek.

Lanfersiek said he just rescued a 15-year-old girl from a hotel on International Drive.

''She had met someone on the 'Plenty of Fish' website and felt this person was her boyfriend, exploiting her vulnerabilities, pimping her out,'' Lanfersiek said.

In July, MBI agents arrested three men for luring a teenage girl through a social media app to an International Drive hotel and then prostituting her and having sex with her.

In 2016, Orlando police charged two men with the death of a 14-year-old girl who they'd been allegedly prostituting, driving her to men's homes to have sex.

Lanfersiek said MBI regularly sets up undercover sting operations to catch traffickers and rescue victims.

MBI analysts spend their days online, searching through postings by human traffickers looking for victims and offering them for prostitution.

Lanfersiek offered this warning: If you're coming to Central Florida looking for a date for sex, you may get a date with an undercover officer.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, my good friend has spoken about the southern border. I include in the RECORD the article: ''Recruitment and Entrapment Pathways of Minors into Sex Trafficking in Canada and the United States: A Systematic Review.'' Northern border, by the way, that I would offer to say.

[From Trauma, Violence, & Abuse]

RECRUITMENT AND ENTRAPMENT PATHWAYS OF MINORS INTO SEX TRAFFICKING IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

(By Kyla Baird and Jennifer Connolly)

Abstract—the domestic sex trafficking of minors is occurring across Canada and the United States. Understanding the routes into sex trafficking, including the way traffickers target, recruit and enmesh youth in the sex trade is invaluable information for service providers and law makers developing prevention and intervention initiatives. This review synthesized research on the exploitation processes and tactics employed by traffickers in the sex trafficking of domestic minors in Canada and the US. The authors comprehensively and systematically

searched five electronic databases and obtained additional publications and grey literature through a backward search of the references cited in articles reviewed for inclusion. Inclusionary criteria included: Studies published in the English language between January 1990 and June 2020 containing original research with quantitative or qualitative data on the recruitment or pathways into sex trafficking for minors trafficked within the US and Canada. The search yielded 23 eligible studies. The synthesis of the studies in the review converged on the notion of sexual exploitation occurring on a continuum comprising of three components; the recruitment context, entrapment strategies utilized by traffickers, and enmeshment tactics used to prolong exploitation. Findings highlight the significant physical, psychological and emotional hurdles faced by youth victims of sex trafficking and point to the importance of comprehensive and holistic approaches to prevention and intervention practices.

Human trafficking is a global problem that has garnered significant international and national attention over the past 2 decades. In 2000, 140 countries signed onto the Palermo protocol agreeing that human trafficking is a significant human rights violation and a criminal offense that requires prevention, the protection of vulnerable populations, and the prosecution of violators of the protocol. In North America, both Canada and the United States signed this protocol and have since passed legislation and policies to combat human trafficking. Sex trafficking became criminalized in Canada in 2005 when human trafficking entered the criminal code under section 279.01 and in the United States in 2000 with the passing of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA). Sex trafficking is one of the most common forms of human trafficking consisting of the recruitment and exploitation of an individual through the use of threats, force, coercion, deception, or abuse of power for the purpose of a commercial sex act (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 2014). A commercial sex act, as defined by the American TVPA (2000), is ''any sexual act for which something of value is given or received.'' Common examples include prostitution, pornography, sexual massage parlors, and strip clubs. Commercial sex acts may be exchanged for money, drugs, shelter, clothing, or food (Cole & Anderson, 2013; Kotrla, 2010). Sex trafficking is rampant across the United States and Canada (Clawson et al., 2009; Dalley, 2010). Despite various political and social differences between these countries, they are united on the front of combating sex trafficking within their borders and expanding research to support effective evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies.

SEX TRAFFICKING OF MINORS (STM)

Minors (under the age of 18) are overrepresented among victims of sex trafficking, with the majority of victims recruited between 12 and 14 years of age (Jordan et al., 2013; Smith et al., 2009). Given the elevated risk for minors, research and legislation have begun to focus on the specific issue of the STM. Consequently, our understanding of the risks for recruitment, experiences, and needs of underage victims is growing, and important policy actions have been taken. In the past decade, both Canada and the United States have passed legislation, reformed laws, and enacted policies to combat issues of the STM. Legislative changes in both Canada and the United States have transformed the way victims are viewed and treated by law enforcement. More specifically, American and Canadian federal consent laws declared minors under the age of 18 unable to consent to commercial sex and have shifted the lens of law enforcement from criminalizing youth in the sex trade to viewing them as victims (Adelson, 2008; Franchino-Olsen, 2019). Language in research on STM has followed suit, shifting from calling underage victims of sex trafficking ''teen prostitutes'' to ''victims of STM.''

On the basis of age, youth from all sectors of society are at risk for recruitment into sex trafficking. Developmental vulnerabilities such as identity formation, the need for belonging, desire for autonomy, desire for romantic relationships, and evolving problem-solving skills make them easily exploitable by traffickers who appeal to these vulnerabilities (Schwartz, 2015). Based on the growing literature, some youths are at greater risk for recruitment than others. Several risk factors for STM have been identified, including involvement with child protective services, history of childhood sexual abuse, homelessness, physical and emotional abuse, neglect, exposure to intimate partner violence, problematic relationships with caregivers, drug and alcohol abuse, and teen dating violence (Choi, 2015; Countryman-Roswurm, 2012; Countryman-Roswurm & Bolin, 2014; Farley et al., 2005; Franchino-Olsen, 2019; Kotrla, 2010; Landers et al., 2017). Traffickers are known to be deeply perceptive of the developmental vulnerabilities of youth and target their unmet needs through strategic recruitment methods.

Simply being a girl places a youth at an elevated risk status relative to boys (Estes & Weiner, 2001), with 98% of victims being women and girls (International Labour Organization, 2012). Adolescent girls are particularly vulnerable to sexual exploitation due to social norms that cast gendered expectations and power imbalances in relation to sexual activities, with boys being expected to take sexual initiatives. Sexual inexperience, desire for romantic relationships, and insecurity among young girls can set the stage for manipulation and exploitation by adolescent boys or men (Hanna, 2002).

Based on the differential needs and situations of youth, the recruitment and exploitation of underage populations are thought to differ from adult populations (Bouché & Shady, 2017; Dank et al., 2014). While it may be riskier to traffic a youth due to increased policing efforts in protecting minors and higher sentences for STM, it has been suggested that these risks are offset by the youth being easier to manipulate and control and being highly desired by purchasers, bringing in more money for the trafficker (Dank et al., 2014). Compared to adults, youths have greater needs for protection, less life experience, and are dependent on adults for basic needs such as food and shelter, making them more vulnerable to traffickers who vow to provide care, protection, and basic needs (Bruhns et al., 2018; Cole & Anderson, 2013). Given youths' physical and emotional dependency on adults, some research have suggested youths are more trusting and less able to identify traffickers' coercive and manipulative strategies to entrap them (Cole & Sprang, 2015). Adult victims, on the other hand, are generally less psychologically dependent on their trafficker (Bouché & Shady, 2017). In addition, literature on the trafficking of adults identify several risk factors that are more unique to adult victim populations, including needing to financially support dependents, low educational attainment, and having few job skills (Holger-Ambrose et al., 2013). Despite differences in adult and underage victim populations, much of the extant research on recruitment for sex trafficking have pooled both underage and adult participants or examined victimized adults only, limiting our understanding of the STM specifically (Reid, 2014). In order to translate sex trafficking research into evidence-based initiatives to combat the STM, it is important for research to delineate the specific ways in which traffickers target and recruit youth into the sex trade. The current study aims to synthesize research that focuses on youth recruitment into sex trafficking in North America.

NORTH AMERICAN CONTEXT OF SEX TRAFFICKING

There have been few attempts to estimate the prevalence of the STM in North America; however, available statistics are often ''guesstimates'' rather than reliable rates (Franchino-Olsen et al., 2020; Stransky & Finkelhor, 2012). Available estimates for STM most commonly come from the United States, where the rates range from 1,400 to upward of 199,000 victims (Banks & Kyckelhahn, 2011; Estes & Weiner, 2001; Snyder & Sickmund, 2006; U.S. Department of Justice, 2004), with the most commonly cited study estimating upward of 325,000 children at risk for sexual exploitation in the United States each year (Estes & Weiner, 2001). However, available statistics are problematic as they often fail to distinguish between domestic and international victims, are based on varying definitions of sex trafficking, are geographically limited, and utilize nonreplicable, unreliable methodologies (Fedina et al., 2019; Franchino-Olsen et al., 2020; Stransky & Finkelhor, 2012). Researcher error aside, the very nature of the sex trafficking industry presents barriers to the acquisition of accurate statistics. Most significant among these is the fact that trafficking occurs largely underground, within criminal networks that are transient, discrete, and often invisible, even to law enforcement (Duger, 2015; Franchino-Olsen et al., 2020). Difficulty in obtaining estimates of an invisible crime is compounded by the fact that many individuals victimized by sex trafficking do not view themselves as victims of a crime and therefore do not report it in any official capacity (Mcclain & Garrity, 2011). Despite flawed and unreliable statistics, STM is known to be widespread across Canada and the United States, requiring immediate action and sound research to uncover trends and pathways of youth into sex trafficking including the way traffickers target, recruit, and enmesh youth in the sex trade (Clawson et al., 2009; Cole & Sprang, 2015; Dalley, 2010).

While STM defies geographic borders, a country's economic environment, geographic positioning, laws, employment rates, per capita income, and historical events shape the industry and individual risk for recruitment (Hepburn & Simon, 2010; C. O'Brien, 2009). As a result, trends in STM within North America are different from the European context. The permeable borders between European countries allow for easy international movement between proximal countries (Lindstrom, 2004). For example, one report found only 5% of all identified sex-trafficked victims in the United Kingdom (UK) were originally from the UK, which is a stark contrast to the picture of trafficking in NA where the majority of victims are domestic persons (Baird, McDonald & Connolly, 2020; Banks & Kyckelhahn, 2011; Mitchell et al., 2010; Royal Canadian Mounted Police [RCMP], Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre, 2014; Serious Organised Crime Agency, 2013). Given sex trafficking industries vary between countries based on differences in social, geographical, cultural, economic, and historical factors, it is not appropriate to generalize understandings of STM across countries that are dissimilar across these factors (Hepburn & Simon, 2010). As such, the current study narrowed its focus to systematically reviewing the recruitment of minors for sex trafficking in two countries, Canada and the

United States both of which have similar cultural, economic, geographic, and historical contexts.

The domestic STM is of major concern within Canada and the United States (Clawson et al., 2009; Dalley, 2010). While both countries adhere to the standards of affluent and profitable nations that are alluring destinations for international sex traffickers, research consistently shows that domestic youth (i.e., youth trafficked within their country of origin) comprise the majority of underage victims in their respective countries (Baird et al., 2020; Kotrla, 2010; RCMP, Human Trafficking National Coordination Centre, 2014). Due to the risks and challenges associated with transporting victims across borders, some research suggests that domestic youths are preferred by traffickers (Smith et al., 2009). In summarizing the literature on recruitment and entrapment, it is important to distinguish between international and domestic sex trafficking due to the nuanced differences in the process of exploitation. Comparatively, researchers suggest domestic sex traffickers more often utilize interpersonal relationships and domestic violence to entrap their target and international traffickers rely upon kidnapping, parents' selling their children, and offering false promises of jobs abroad for entrapment (Cecchet & Thoburn, 2014). Understanding the specific ways American and Canadian youths are recruited by traffickers and exploited domestically is important in developing effective prevention and intervention strategies.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, then let me offer this point of importance. The victims are not here on this floor, but we must carry their story to this floor, to ensure that we do not see another victim.

So I will offer these words from Courtney. Courtney has made it her mission to tell her story and speak out to spread awareness of human trafficking and help shape policy to protect other young people from falling victim to the schemes of human traffickers and to hold traffickers accountable.

She became entangled in sex trafficking while still in school. Despite what some believe about victims of human trafficking, she grew up in a loving, church-going family, in a safe neighborhood, and attended an upscale suburban high school in Texas.

At the age of 17, she was under the control of her first trafficker. She was being advertised for illicit sex on websites like Backpage. A trafficker with ties to her high school used fellow students to prey upon her and use her vulnerabilities to their advantage, offering her friendship and support when she felt she had none, meanwhile drawing her gradually and deeper into the life. She was actually groomed by two different organized crime networks simultaneously, and each groomer chatted with her through social media and messaging. One network even invested in grooming Courtney for almost an entire year.

Her first trafficker picked her up from school. She was unenrolled from her school and had her entire life uprooted in a desperate attempt to intervene in an exploitation.

She returned back to her hometown where days after turning 18, she was taken from her home by another invested trafficker. She soon realized she was in this world, and over and over again she was used and transported from Texas to California to Las Vegas, passing from one hand to the next.

What a vile life. She is willing to share this life.

It is extremely important that we pass this legislation and that we address the question of what can happen to our innocent children.

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

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

I would just once again like to emphasize the idea that although human trafficking is at the forefront of what we are discussing here today, we must continue to focus on the southern border and making sure that we secure that soon.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for closing.

Let me express my appreciation to those who sacrificed to share with us their stories and those who worked on this very important effort: Bishop James Dixon, II, the No Trafficking Zone cofounder and senior pastor of the Community of Faith Church, Branch President of the NAACP, Houston Branch; Jacquelyn Aluotto, NTZ cofounder, founder of Real Beauty Real Women; and Courtney Litvak, a member of the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking, who will participate in unveiling their annual report later this week; and so many others who have really helped. Jacquelyn Aluotto was someone who inspirationally wanted to lead us in this direction and worked very hard.

Each of us has a duty to protect young people, whether it be from drugs, gun violence, or sex traffickers. Our children deserve to be safe, and parents should know their children will be safe when they put them on the school bus or move them into their new dorms.

To be sure, H.R. 7566, the No Trafficking Zones Act, provides increased accountability for anyone who would dare interrupt or interfere with a young person's ability to obtain an education and lay the foundation for a productive future for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

In drafting this legislation, I am grateful for the contribution of the No Trafficking Zone Initiative and all of those whose names I have called, including those names not called, those victims silenced, or lives lost or destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 7566. This is a great day for helping to stop sex trafficking, human trafficking, where our children should be most safe, and that is at our schools.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7566, the bipartisan "No Trafficking Zones Act," would ensure that schools across the country, including institutions of higher education, are safe spaces for learning and academic exploration—free from the menace of sex trafficking.

H.R. 7566 would establish a sentencing enhancement of up to five years in several instances:

First, in the case of any person who commits the offense of sex trafficking within a primary or secondary school zone, or on, or within 1,000 feet of the premises of a school-sponsored activity or premises owned by an institution of higher education;

Second, for any person who commits the offense of coercion and enticement of a minor enrolled in a primary or secondary school or a person enrolled in an institution of higher education—to travel in interstate or foreign commerce and engage in criminal sexual activity—while the minor is in a school zone, or on, or within 1,000 feet of, premises where a school-sponsored activity is taking place or while the person is on, or within 1,000 feet of, premises owned by the institution of higher education;

And, third, for any person who commits the offense of coercion and enticement of a minor using the mail or facilities of interstate or foreign commerce—such as text and instant messaging or social media platforms—while the minor who is enrolled in school or an institution of higher education, is in a school zone, or on, or within 1,000 feet of, premises where a school-sponsored activity is taking place or premises owned by an the institution of higher education.

Human trafficking is one of the greatest threats to human rights in the United States. In 2020, 11,193 instances of potential human trafficking were reported to the United States National Human Trafficking Hotline with at least 70 percent of those instances involving sex trafficking, while an estimated 25 percent of all human trafficking victims in the country are in my home state of Texas at any given time—many of whom are minors. That is why the Stop Human Trafficking in School Zones Act that we are debating is so important to pass.

At least 5,359 of trafficking victims and survivors identified through the hotline in 2019 were under the age of 18, and in 2021, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received more than 17,200 reports of suspected child sex trafficking.

Many of these young victims of sex trafficking are students in school systems, colleges, trade schools, and universities across the country.

A 2018 survey reported that in Texas—where No Trafficking Zone legislation passed with bipartisan support earlier this year—55 percent of young sex trafficking survivors were trafficked while at school or school activities and 60 percent of trafficked adults said they were first groomed and solicited for trafficking while on school campuses.

Members of this body know all too well that children are sexually exploited in many ways. Some young people are trafficked by their schoolmates or people they once considered friends.

And while traffickers seek out young people who have noticeable vulnerabilities—including problems at school, conflicts at home, or even the need to fill in a tuition gap caused by the loss of a scholarship—no child or young person is truly safe from the schemes of charismatic traffickers bent on exploiting and destroying young lives.

With the proliferation of social media and the myriad ways in which we communicate with one another, traffickers have put these same means of communication to their own use—to find, target, lure, groom, victimize, and exert control over their victims. While buyers are using technology to find and purchase sex anonymously.

Traffickers have infiltrated every known form of communication—especially the sites, messaging apps, and social media platforms our children use most frequently—leaving young people more vulnerable to manipulation.

Access to the internet, cell phones, and smartphones makes it easier for traffickers and buyers to communicate with children and youth—even when they are at school, in class, or attending school-sponsored activities.

As a result, trafficking has reached the halls, lunchrooms, gyms, dormitories, and classrooms of schools, colleges, and universities in every corner of this nation.

These staggering facts and statistics led me to introduce this bipartisan legislation, the No Trafficking Zones Act, known as the Stop Human Trafficking in School Zones Act, along with Chairman NADLER and Representative MCCAUL, who I wish to thank for working with me, as well as Representative JOHNSON of Louisiana for his amendment, that included the protections for young people at institutions of higher education.

Each of us has a duty to protect young people—whether it be from drugs, gun violence, or sex traffickers. Our children deserve to be safe; and parents should know their children will be safe when they put them on the school bus or move them into their new dorms.

To be sure, H.R. 7566, the No Trafficking Zones Act, provides increased accountability for anyone who would dare interrupt or interfere with a young person's ability to obtain an education and lay the foundation for a productive future—for the purpose of sexual exploitation.

In drafting this legislation, I am grateful for the contributions of the No Trafficking Zone Initiative, Bishop James Dixon, Jacquelyn Aluotto, and Courtney Litvak, who is also a member of the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking and will participate in unveiling their Annual Report later this week.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7566, 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.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION ACT OF 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7181) to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to direct the Secretary of Transportation to seek to provide for the posting of contact information of the national human trafficking hotline in the restrooms of each aircraft, airport, over-the-road bus, bus station, passenger train, and passenger railroad station operating within the United States, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7181

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 Prevention Act of 2022''.

SEC. 2. POSTING OF NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING PHONE NUMBER IN CERTAIN RESTROOMS.

Section 107(b)(1)(B)(ii) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (enacted as division A of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(1)(B)(ii))) is amended by—

(1) striking the third sentence; and

(2) inserting after the period at the end the following: ''The contact information of the national human trafficking hotline (including options to reach out to the hotline such as through phone, text, or TTY) shall be posted as follows:

''(I) In a visible place in all Federal buildings.

''(II) The Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall seek to coordinate with the owners and operators of aircraft, airports, over-the road buses, bus stations, passenger trains, and passenger railroad stations to place the contact information of the national human trafficking hotline in the restrooms of each such aircraft, airport, over the-road bus, bus station, passenger train, and passenger railroad station operating within the United States.

''(III) The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and in coordination with the heads of such other Federal agencies as may be appropriate, shall place the contact information of the national human trafficking hotline at each port of entry.''.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. 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. 7181.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7181, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2022, would provide for the posting of the contact information for the National Human Trafficking Hotline in the restrooms of our country's transportation centers, where we know many trafficking victims pass through, as well as all Federal buildings and ports of entry to inform victims and those who witness suspected trafficking situations that help is available.

As I have said many times before, smuggling people across international borders is an equally troubling crime but distinct from human trafficking. Smugglers must be prosecuted, and the exploitation of their victims must not go unpunished. While many believe human trafficking happens only in other countries, the victimization of adults, youth, and children for the purposes of performing labor, commercial sex acts, and other services happens on an enormous scale in rural, urban, and suburban communities across the United States. We can document that by many organizations that are fighting the scourge of human trafficking.

H.R. 7181 would require the posting of the National Human Trafficking Hotline contact information in all Federal buildings; require the Department of Transportation and the Department of Health and Human Services to coordinate with owners and operators of transportation hubs such as airports, bus stations, and train stations to post the contact information for the hotline in their restrooms; and, three, require the Department of Health and Human Services and other appropriate Federal agencies to post the hotline's contact information at every port of entry.

In 2020, more than 11,193 instances of potential human trafficking were reported to the United States National Human Trafficking Hotline.

□ 1645

Ms. JACKSON LEE. In Texas, there are reportedly 313,000 victims of human trafficking at any given time, including 79,000 children and youth who are victims of sex trafficking and 234,000 adults who are victims of labor trafficking. The victims of human trafficking tend to be concealed, living in fear and isolated, in some cases physically and in other cases emotionally.

They might remain under the control of their traffickers for a variety of reasons, including a lack of the basic necessities to escape, like transportation or a safe place to go. Some may be afraid for their safety, while others may not recognize that they are under the control of their trafficker. Even after they are rescued or escape, there is always a possibility the victims will be revictimized.

The National Human Trafficking Hotline is an essential component of the fight to end human trafficking, offering toll-free phone lines and SMS text lines that are available 24 hours a day, every day of the year. The hotline provides help, safety, and hope to victims and survivors by connecting them to the support and services they need.

They must know that they are not alone. That is the most important message that we want to give on the floor of the House today. The victims of sex trafficking and human trafficking, the children and the adult victims, are not alone.

Victims in crisis can receive assistance with safety planning, emotional support, and/or immediate connections

to emergency services, while survivors can get help in rebuilding their lives. Mr. Speaker, that is an important aspect of this legislation we are putting forward today.

The hotline also plays a vital role in combating human trafficking by helping law enforcement identify and rescue victims by receiving tips about a potential situation of human trafficking and by providing reports of tips to the appropriate authorities.

We must make every effort to identify victims and ensure victims and survivors of human trafficking are connected to services that can lead them to safety and help them begin to restore their lives. That begins with reaching them where they are and letting them know who they can call on for help without risking their safety.

Traffickers rely on our Nation's transportation infrastructure to transport their victims from city to city and State to State. In the brief moments victims are allowed by their traffickers to have a moment alone in the restroom of a bus station or airport, they may be able to call or even text for help. Victims, survivors, and concerned citizens need to know that help is just a phone call away because one call can mean the difference between life and death.

Despite the clandestine nature of human trafficking, we have learned from survivors that opportunities do exist to reach victims, and we should make the most of them. H.R. 7181, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2022, does exactly that.

I am very grateful to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS), the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA), and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) for introducing this strategic and practical measure.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, human trafficking is a terrible and tragic evil. We should do all we can in Congress to fight trafficking and help victims.

This legislation would change the law to direct the Secretary of Transportation to post the contact information of the National Human Trafficking Hotline in locations where victims may be able to see them and seek help.

Because this horrific crime often involves border crossings, Republicans added an amendment in committee directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to post the contact information of the National Human Trafficking Hotline at ports of entry.

It is well documented that human traffickers often use the transportation industry for both recruiting and operations. In 2020, the latest year for which data is available, 10,583 incidents of human trafficking were reported to the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline, and 16,658 victims of trafficking were identified.

We hope this legislation will help to raise awareness about human trafficking and assist victims in seeking help by posting hotline information in places where they may see it.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, before I yield to the gentleman for his closing, I include in the RECORD the ''Katy Sex-Trafficking Survivor Teams with White House to Fight Growing Threat''; ''4-Year-Old Among 31 Human Trafficking Victims Rescued in Kansas, Missouri''; ''Texas authorities rescue 70 missing children victimized by sex trafficking''; from the Houston Chronicle, November 23, 2020, ''Report: Human Trafficking Spikes in Texas Amid Pandemic''; and two additional articles relating to human trafficking.

[From Katy Magazine News, Dec. 10, 2019]

KATY SEX-TRAFFICKING SURVIVOR TEAMS WITH WHITE HOUSE TO FIGHT GROWING THREAT

(By Natalie Cook Clark)

21-year-old Courtney Litvak of Katy hopes her experience as a sex-trafficking victim can help other young people. As the Childproof America Ambassador, she has taken her fight against human trafficking to the White House.

After a year of ''grooming'' from various people, Courtney Litvak, a Cinco Ranch High School student, left her Katy home. At 18-years-old, she started a life in human trafficking that lasted two years. Now, saved and back home, Courtney works to raise awareness and end this epidemic affecting students around the country, and right here in Katy.

CINCO RANCH STUDENT SURVIVED SEX-TRAFFICKING

Courtney Litvak, now 21, grew up in Katy in a loving home. She went to church every Sunday and competed on a local swim team. But at 18, she willingly left her home to enter a life in human-trafficking.

''I was groomed by multiple people over the period of a year,'' says Courtney. ''This is such a subtle process that it's easy not to notice.'' She pointed out that social media is often a major form of communication and makes such crimes difficult to track.

VICTIMS LOSE ALL CONTROL

''They (victims) don't understand what will be their reality when they lose control,'' explains Courtney. She felt she was targeted when she was vulnerable after experiencing a traumatic event.

''I was assaulted and I became a changed person,'' says Courtney. ''You should not go through a loss and then become a target.''

CHILDPROOF AMERICA SUPPORTS FAMILIES, EDUCATES COMMUNITIES

In 2017, Courtney's mother, Kelly Litvak founded Childproof America, a non-profit organization aimed at educating families and communities about the warning signs that can ultimately save children from becoming victims of this growing trend in our country.

''It's key for people to understand this issue,'' says Kelly. ''Every household in Katy needs to be informed about human trafficking. Denial is a coping mechanism and it's difficult for parents to comprehend. Child and sex should never go into the same sentence. It's because of this mindset that this is a threat to Katy. These people are counting on families to be naive and it makes us sitting ducks.''

INFORMAL INTERVENTIONS

In addition to her duties as spokesperson, Courtney meets informally with teens and young adults going through the grooming process or trafficking.

''A parent will reach out to Childproof America and we talk for about an hour on what they have found and are going through,'' explains Kelly. ''Then Courtney is filled in and if the youth is willing, she will sit down with them and can help in key activities.''

These meetings are very effective. Since becoming the Childproof America spokesperson this past August Courtney has spoken to about 10 students, 3 of whom were boys. Currently, Courtney and Kelly say that these sessions are seen as being 100 percent successful in getting these young people out of a harmful and dangerous situation. However, they stress that these cases will be followed up on.

''You can't help someone who doesn't want to be helped,'' says Courtney.

KATY-BASED CHILDPROOF AMERICA AVERAGES 2–3 CALLS A WEEK

Since Childproof America is Katy-based and many in Katy know the Litvak's story about 80 percent of their calls come from Katy residents. They average 2–3 calls a week but it comes in waves. Recently Childproof America worked with the Children's Assessment Center to host a Childproof America emergency safety seminar when calls reached a sudden increase.

''We started receiving so many calls that we felt something was going on,'' says Kelly.

THIS IS NOT THE STUDENT'S FAULT

''I wish someone would have looked at me and said I get it,'' says Courtney. ''I wanted to be validated and heard, just listened to. We need to do better at recognizing these groups and knowing this doesn't happen over night and this is not the person's fault.''

When Courtney was trafficked, the city of Katy and Houston community accepted that she chose this.''That is not true,'' says Courtney.

MASTER MANIPULATORS

Courtney describes the people involved with human trafficking as master manipulators.

''Everything is in their control,'' explains Courtney. ''All of your decisions are theirs. You're a commodity, a property.''

According to the University of Texas, more than 79,000 children are being trafficked for sex in Texas alone.

''I've never seen so much coverage especially on social media,'' says Courtney. ''It's really a combination of more awareness being brought to it and such organizations are growing. It (human trafficking) is continuing to get more sophisticated and growing.''

INTEREST FROM THE WHITE HOUSE

A major initiative launched by Childproof America is the education and outreach initiatives, specifically Family Guides, which is exclusive to their group. Family Guides is inspired by parents of victims and is designed to meet the need of families in crisis. During a time of stress and fear, families need a trained advocate who knows how to navigate the issue quickly to help. Families with minor children and 18+ are matched with a compassionate advocate who can assist with critical questions in a quick and effective fashion. It's this program that has really piqued the interest of officials in our nation's capital.

SUCCESS IN D.C.

Just before Thanksgiving, Courtney and her mother were invited to meet with lvanka Trump, advisor to the President. In that meeting, they discussed how the current administration could help fight against human trafficking.

''Ivanka was amazing and a champion for this cause,'' says Kelly. ''We were prepared to present our mission in a short time.''

The Litvaks say that lvanka was interested and has followed up since their initial meeting.

''We're going back to D.C. in January,'' says Kelly. ''We developed a true trust and lvanka's administration has asked up for our opinions on top leaders on this topic.''

PUTTING EVERYTHING INTO PERSPECTIVE

''What we're doing really didn't sink in until I was there (meeting Ivanka),'' says Courtney. ''It was really emotional, which is hard for me to be vulnerable. Our trip to D.C. put everything into perspective. I'm repurposing the pain and it's the beginning of something great.''

''There are so many areas where people are suffering,'' says Courtney. ''No matter where the suffering is, I hope to help and use my platform to establish relationships with leaders to get the ball rolling.''

PASSION FOR OTHER AREAS

Courtney is passionate with other areas of service that she hopes one day to be able to work with her connections to make a difference.

''I'd love to help the homeless,'' says Courtney. ''Growing up in Katy I could never wrap my head around it. I've seen the gap and want to help.''

LOCAL SCHOOLS NEED TO OPEN DOORS TO EXPERT TRAINING

Childproof America is working with local schools and groups to help spread their education initiative and educate people on this difficult subject.

''We have been talking to Fort Bend ISD and now they are organizing a massive training for everyone from students, parents, and teachers,'' says Kelly. ''Every school district needs to swing open their doors to experts to train people on this subject. Schools need to get over the mindset that if they have training, people will think that they are having a problem. We need to empower the community.''

FAITH BROUGHT HER BACK

Courtney credits her faith in God for giving her the strength to stop putting harmful substances in her body and to breakthrough the brain washing to get help and leave that lifestyle.

''I'm not the first person this has happened to and I won't be the last,'' says Courtney. ''I always want to continue to be very raw and very genuine on this subject. I'm not putting a time stamp on my service. I will always put my full heart into it but what that will look like I don't know.''

HUMAN TRAFFICKING IS IN KATY AND DOESN'T DISCRIMINATE

It is important to note that human trafficking doesn't discriminate. It can happen to anyone, and according to Childproof America, this activity is happening in Katy and Katy schools, like it's happening all over.

''I always want to acknowledge that everyone who's been through this does not need to talk or help others,'' says Courtney. ''It is extremely difficult and it's a lifelong recovery.''

[From Newsweek, July 1, 2021]

4-YEAR-OLD AMONG 31 HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS RESCUED IN KANSAS, MISSOURI

(By Matthew Impelli)

A 4-year-old child was among a group of 31 human trafficking victims recently rescued by authorities in Kansas and Missouri.

The victims rescued were sexually exploited, according to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The 4-year-old was the youngest victim rescued in the group of 31 human trafficking victims, which included 14 missing children and 17 adults.

The Department of Homeland Security said in a statement that, ''The operation took place June 17–26, 2021 in Wichita, Kansas, Independence, Missouri and Kansas City, Missouri.''

''The results of the operation were announced by Homeland Security Investigations Deputy Special Agent in Charge, Kansas City, James Wright,'' the statement read. ''He was joined by Heartland Anti-Trafficking Rescue Taskforce partners from across the region in making the announcement.''

Along with rescuing the 31 human trafficking victims, the operation also resulted in the arrest of 82 individuals. The individuals ''will be charged with crimes related to soliciting prostitution, commercial sex trafficking, sodomy, narcotics violations, felony assault on a police officer, sex offender registry violations and outstanding warrants,'' according to the Homeland Security statement.

Homeland Security investigators received assistance during the operation from the Wichita Police Department; the Kansas Bureau of Investigation; Kansas Highway Patrol; the Department of Health and Human Services; the United States Marshal's Service; the Platte County Sheriff's Office; the Independence Police Department; the Jackson County Sheriffs Department; Missouri State Highway Patrol; the Bourbon County Sheriff's Office and the Hutchinson Police Department.

The Department of Homeland Security did not identify any of the victims rescued or those arrested and noted that ''the defendants in this case are presumed innocent and entitled to a fair trial where the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.''

Homeland Security investigators completed a similar operation on Thursday in Fresno County, California. Operation Stolen Hearts focused on arresting human traffickers and child predators seeking to pay for sex with minors. The operation ended on June 23 and resulted in the rescue of 10 women and girls ''from the sex trade,'' as well as the arrest of 21 individuals, according to Homeland Security.

The arrested individuals were charged with ''contacting a minor with intent to commit a sexual offense, aiding prostitution, arranging a meeting with a minor for lewd purposes and solicitation of acts of prostitution.''

Newsweek reached out to the Department of Homeland Security for further comment but did not receive a response in time for publication.

[From Fox News, June 1, 2022]

TEXAS AUTHORITIES RESCUE 70 MISSING CHILDREN VICTIMIZED BY SEX TRAFFICKING

THE CHILDREN RANGED IN AGES FROM 10 TO 17

(By Andrew Mark Miller)

Law enforcement officials have successfully recovered dozens of missing children as part of a joint task force operation in West Texas. The three-week operation, known as ''Operation Lost Souls,'' started in late April in the Texas counties of El Paso, Midland, Ector and Tom Green and recovered 70 children ranging in age from 10 to 17 who were victims of sex trafficking, physical and sexual abuse, according to a press release from the Department of Homeland Security.

''Operation Lost Souls exemplifies Homeland Security Investigations' commitment to protecting the public from crimes of victimization. In this case, we are looking out for our children—our community's most precious resource,'' said HSI El Paso Deputy Special Agent in Charge Taekuk Cho.

''HSI is committed to continue working with our law enforcement partners to locate, recover and help missing children heal, while ensuring that perpetrators are held responsible for these heinous crimes and brought to justice.''

The operation was conducted by several law enforcement agencies, including the Texas Highway Patrol, El Paso Police Department, U.S. Marshals Service and the FBI.

''At the Department of Public Safety, teamwork is one of our core values,'' said DPS Major Matthew Mull. ''We are grateful for all of our law enforcement partners who participated in this operation and who work around the clock every day to protect our communities, including our youth.''

HSI added that several agencies have provided counseling to the children.

Authorities say that the children who were located outside of West Texas were found in Dallas, Texas; Colorado; and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

Federal law enforcement teams have successfully rescued missing children in operations across the country over the last few years, including in January 2021, when the FBI announced it located 33 children in the Los Angeles area.

U.S. marshals in Ohio rescued 45 missing children and 109 additional human trafficking survivors during ''Operation Autumn Hope'' in October 2020.

[From the Houston Chronicle, Nov. 23, 2020]

REPORT: HUMAN TRAFFICKING SPIKES IN TEXAS AMID PANDEMIC

(By Olivia P. Tallet, Staff writer)

Texas, already the home to the second highest number of sex trafficking cases, is seeing a steep increase in crisis calls related to the illegal activity because of the coronavirus pandemic. What's more, trafficking activities are exploding online, as criminals adapt to the changing environment, experts said.

The Lone Star State is only second to California with 2,455 victims and survivors identified in Texas from over 2,000 calls to the hotline, which now includes texts and other means for victims to communicate, according to a report released last week by the Polaris Project. The calls led to the identification of 515 traffickers and 240 businesses involved in this illegal trade.

An analysis by Polaris comparing the hotline activity in three periods this year to 2019 indicates that crisis has worsened by about 40 percent, and that the pandemic has impacted the victims' vulnerabilities, as well as the manner of sex trafficking operations nationwide.

The number of cases identified through the hotline is only a fraction of the prevalence of human trafficking, which is defined as an individual being deceived or coerced into prostitution, forced labor, or domestic servitude.

''Calls have more to do with people on the ground knowing about the hotline as a resource,'' said Ayan Ahmed, a Polaris spokesperson. ''It's more about awareness.''

Because Houston is considered a hub for human trafficking, the issue has gained significant awareness in the city, said Ann

Johnson, former human trafficking prosecutor in Harris County. She said hotlines might get more calls here ''because our general population is more on alert.''

Elaine Andino, a director with the nonprofit United Against Human Trafficking in Houston, said the prevalence of human trafficking is hard to gauge because it's mostly a hidden crime that flourishes in businesses posing as legal enterprises or exploits victims who are too vulnerable to report them.

Andino said the most reliable study available in Texas about this illegal trade was published by the University of Texas at Austin in 2016, which estimated that there are 310,000 victims of human trafficking at any given moment in the state. Most are victims of labor trafficking, 234,500, while 79,000 are minors and youth in sex trafficking.

Victims have been driven further underground and have become more vulnerable as the pandemic forced the closure of businesses, saw many employees let go, and prompted an economic crisis, Andino said.

Many agencies providing services to victims were also impacted and unable to receive new clients, according to the Polaris report, titled ''Crisis in Human Trafficking During the Pandemic.''

''There are roughly about 500 beds in the entire country for trafficking victims,'' Andino said. ''A lot of these shelters are restricting how many people come into the shelters to prevent COVID from spreading.''

While the pandemic closed businesses in industries where human trafficking thrives, such as hospitality, restaurants and bars, the criminal enterprise adapted by moving heavily online.

''A lot of victimization has just moved online,'' said Andino. ''There are lots and lots of trafficking victims who are forced to have sex on camera now; we saw a lot of that really, really spike during COVID.'' Several reports point to a significant increase in porn consumption during the pandemic, with modalities such as cam sex and 3D services gaining traction.

With social distancing, many men have avoided paying for in person sex, but those who continue tend to be the most reckless and violent, ''so it became even more of a scary situation for trafficking victims'' vulnerability to abuse, Andino added.

The pandemics effect has increased the very vulnerabilities that put victims in the hands of traffickers in the first place, said former prosecutor Johnson. For example, some minors who are trying to escape abusive parenting get sucked into trafficking. Also, immigrants are more likely to get coerced by employers to work in dire conditions for little or no pay.

''Every victim I've seen, whether it's age, race, background, the common theme, is vulnerability,'' said Johnson.

Johnson insists that tackling human trafficking will require increasing services to victims and prosecuting exploiters, including sellers who profit from the business and the consumer who pay for the abuse.

''You need to continue the awareness constantly,'' said Johnson. ''This is not like turning off the water faucet at once.''

[From SpectrumNews1.com, Dec. 16, 2021]

TIPS FROM COMMUNITY LED OHIO OFFICIALS TO RESCUE 5 SUSPECTED HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

(By Lydia Taylor)

OHIO.—Ohio officials said five suspected human trafficking victims were rescued this month after tips from community members led them to two southern Ohio massage parlors.

The West Chester Police Department and the Chillicothe Police Department contacted Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation in June about tips received about an illegal massage parlor. After investigating further, the BCI found connections between two parlors: The Lucky Asian Bodywork, 1532 N. Bridge St., Chillicothe location and the Lucky Asian Bodywork, 1532 N. Bridge St., Chillicothe location, according to Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost's office.

Officials executed search warrants on Dec. 7, finding five victims who were offered medical attention and access to other resources. Victim advocates were present during both searches and talked with the women. Two women were found at the Chillicothe location and the other three were at the West Chester location.

The BCI is still investigating.

''If you think human trafficking doesn't happen where you live, you're wrong,'' Yost said. ''It happens everywhere across our state and across every demographic. It happens because of the demand, but won't happen in Ohio without consequences—we're watching.''

Ohio is among the worst states for human trafficking. According to data from the Ohio Human Trafficking Task Force, between 2014–2020, more than 1,300 victims were identified by officials. In 2019, Ohio ranked No. 4 for the most human trafficking victims nationwide.

If you are in need of help or know of someone, you can dial 911, contact your local police department or call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1–888–3737–888.

[May 27, 2022]

TWO SEPARATE HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESCUES IN TUSCALOOSA WITHIN ONE WEEK

(By Lauren Harksen)

TUSCALOOSA, AL (WBRC).—Two teenage girls are now home with their families after calling 911 from a Tuscaloosa hotel room. It's the second human trafficking rescue in the city within a week.

It's an issue becoming all-too common in the Tuscaloosa area. Thankfully, the latest trafficking victims had a chance to call for help, but it doesn't always end that way.

''It's extremely unusual for them to call 911 and say, 'Hey we need help.' '' said Tuscaloosa Police Captain Phil Simpson.

That call was from a 15-year-old and an 18-year-old Wednesday night.

''There came a time where they did not want to go any farther with what was going on.'' said Captain Simpson. ''Their initial request was that we help them get home.''

They wanted to return home to their families in a neighboring state.

Captain Simpson says the two were brought to Tuscaloosa as sex trafficking victims. Unfortunately, just one week ago, a similar investigation happened in the area.

''We've seen a lot of this activity increasing and we believe it's leading up to the World Games in Birmingham,'' said Captain Simpson.

He is also Commander of the West Alabama Human Trafficking Task Force and says when large-scale events like the World Games are right around the corner, unlawful acts tend to rise.

''The traffickers want that business, so they're going to go where there's a lot of people,'' he added. ''They're going to take their victims to make them money where there is a lot of people.''

In this day and age, Captain Simpson says most trafficking victims are not abducted. Instead, they are coerced.

''What we see is minors who are vulnerable,'' he said. ''They become enamored with somebody on the internet that they think is innocent and then they meet that person and it goes from there . . . until it's too far or too late for the victims to back out.''

Captain Simpson says the typical gateway for these perpetrators is social media. He encourages parents to keep a close eye on who your children are in contact with because you never know who's on the other side of the screen.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as we have heard, the idea of human trafficking is not going away. This legislation, I believe, will provide us with the important instruction to give to those victims where they may find some relief.

Human trafficking is a multibillion-dollar criminal industry that denies freedom to nearly 25 million people around the world. It is an ever-present threat to the health and safety of victims, many of whom are children, but also poses grave danger to public health and safety and national security.

Although the statistics we recite daily are breathtaking, they represent a mere fraction of the instances of trafficking that occur, as human trafficking is a highly underreported crime.

H.R. 7181, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2022, would help identify, protect, and provide essential services to victims of human trafficking, who are often unseen, by requiring the posting of the contact information for the National Human Trafficking Hotline so that victims and anyone who sees someone who appears to be a victim know who to call or text for help.

This is commonsense, bipartisan legislation that I urge all of my colleagues to support, and I am seeking the support of my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7181, the ''Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2022,'' would provide for the posting of the contact information of the National Human Trafficking Hotline in the restrooms of our country's transportation centers—where we know many trafficking victims pass through—as well as all federal buildings and ports of entry—to inform victims and those who witness suspected trafficking situations that help is available.

As I have said many times before, smuggling people across international borders is an equally troubling crime, but distinct from human trafficking. Smugglers must be prosecuted, and the exploitation of their victims must not go unpunished.

And while many believe human trafficking happens only in other countries, the victimization of adults, youth, and children for the purposes of performing labor, commercial sex acts and other services happens on an enormous scale in rural, urban, and suburban communities across the United States.

H.R. 7181 would: require posting of the National Human Trafficking Hotline's contact information in all federal buildings; require the Department of Transportation and the Department of Health and Human Services to coordinate with owners and operators of transportation hubs, such as airports, bus stations, and train stations to post the contact information

for the hotline in their restrooms; and require the Department of Homeland Security—in consultation with the Department of Health and Human Services and other appropriate federal agencies—to post the hotline's contact information at every port of entry.

In 2020, more than 11,193 instances of potential human trafficking were reported to the United States National Human Trafficking Hotline.

And in Texas, there are reportedly 313,000 victims of human trafficking at any given time, including 79,000 children and youth who are victims of sex trafficking and 234,000 adults who are victims of labor trafficking.

Victims of human trafficking tend to be concealed, living in fear, and isolated—in some cases physically and in other cases emotionally.

They might remain under the control of their traffickers for a variety of reasons, including a lack of the basic necessities to escape—like transportation or a safe place to go.

Some may be afraid for their safety. While others may not recognize that they are under the control of their trafficker.

And even after they are rescued or escape, there is always the possibility that victims will be revictimized.

The National Human Trafficking Hotline is an essential component of the fight to end human trafficking. Offering toll-free phone lines and SMS text lines, that are available 24 hours a day, every day of the year, the hotline provides help, safety, and hope to victims and survivors by connecting them to the support and services they need.

Victims in crisis can receive assistance with safety planning, emotional support, and immediate connections to emergency services while survivors can get help with rebuilding their lives.

The hotline also plays a vital role in combatting human trafficking by helping law enforcement identify and rescue victims; by receiving tips about potential situations of human trafficking; and by providing reports of tips to the appropriate authorities.

We must make every effort to identify victims and ensure victims and survivors of human trafficking are connected to services that can lead them to safety and help them begin to restore their lives.

That begins with reaching them where they are and letting them know who they can call for help without risking their safety.

Traffickers rely on our nation's transportation infrastructure to transport their victims from city to city and state to state. In the brief moments that allow victims to have a moment alone in the restroom of a bus station or airport, they may be able to call—or even text—for help.

Victims, survivors, and concerned citizens need to know that help is just a phone call away because one call could mean the difference between life and death.

Despite the clandestine nature of human trafficking, we have learned from survivors that opportunities do exist to reach victims, and we should make the most of them. H.R. 7181, the Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2022, does exactly that.

I thank Representatives JEFFRIES, BASS, ISSA, and MACE for introducing this strategic and practical measure.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan bill.

Human trafficking is a multi-billion-dollar criminal industry that denies freedom to nearly 25 million people around the world. It as an ever-present threat to the health and safety of victims, many of whom are children, but also poses grave danger to public health and safety and national security.

Although the statistics we recite daily are breathtaking, they represent a mere fraction of the instances of trafficking that occur, as human trafficking is a highly underreported crime.

H.R. 7181, the ''Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2022,'' would help identify, protect, and provide essential services to victims of human trafficking, who are often unseen, by requiring the posting of the contact information for the National Human Trafficking Hotline so that victims—and anyone who sees someone who appears to be a victim—know who to call, or text, for help.

This is commonsense, bipartisan legislation that I urge all of my colleagues to support. Thank you.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7181, 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.

ARTISTIC RECOGNITION FOR TALENTED STUDENTS ACT

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 169) to amend title 17, United States Code, to require the Register of Copyrights to waive fees for filing an application for registration of a copyright claim in certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 169

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 ''Artistic Recognition for Talented Students Act'' or the ''ARTS Act''.

SEC. 2. WAIVER OF FEES FOR WINNERS OF CERTAIN COMPETITIONS.

Section 708 of title 17, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(e)(1) In this subsection, the term 'covered competition' means—

''(A) an art competition sponsored by the Congressional Institute that is open only to high school students; or

''(B) the competition established under section 3 of House Resolution 77, 113th Congress, agreed to February 26, 2013.

''(2) With respect to a work that wins a covered competition, the Register of Copyrights—

''(A) shall waive the requirement under subsection (a)(1) with respect to an application for registration of a copyright claim for that work if that application is submitted to the Copyright Office not later than the last day of the calendar year following the year in which the work claimed by the application wins the covered competition (referred to in this paragraph as the 'covered year'); and

''(B) may waive a fee described in subparagraph (A) for an application submitted after the end of the covered year if the fee would have been waived under that subparagraph had the application been submitted before the last day of the covered year.''.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. 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. 169.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, S. 169, the Artistic Recognition for Talented Students Act, or the ARTS Act, would help introduce promising young students who have won either the Congressional Art Competition or the Congressional App Challenge to the intellectual property system by waiving the fee for these students to apply for a copyright for their winning work.

I applaud the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES) for introducing the House version of this bipartisan, bicameral legislation with the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE), along with several of my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee, including Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet Subcommittee Chairman JOHNSON and Ranking Member ISSA, the gentleman from Rhode Island (Mr. CICILLINE), and the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. SPARTZ).

The bill was passed under suspension last year. We are pleased today to take up passage of the Senate version of the bill, championed by Senators LEAHY and TILLIS, so the bill will pass both Chambers and become law.

We in this Chamber know just how important intellectual property rights are to our country and our economy, yet studies show that awareness of intellectual property is lacking among the country's students, even if they pursue fields that are IP intensive. The ARTS Act helps close this awareness gap early on and allows these students to participate in the intellectual property system without a financial burden.

What it also does is help build the farm team for all of those who will be protecting intellectual property in the

future. It gives them a sense of ownership, and it ties them to the Constitution because intellectual property certainly is part of their constitutional privilege, constitutional rights, and constitutional protection.

Property rights are very important, and that is what intellectual property is. It builds on Congress' work to encourage the creativity of our Nation's youth with the establishment of the Congressional Art Competition and the Congressional App Challenge. Year after year, in both of these competitions, the talent of students displayed is remarkable. I know it well in the candidates that I have seen and the choices that our arts committee in Houston in the 18th Congressional District has made. They are brilliant, and the apps are equally so.

Year after year, in both of these competitions, we see outstanding work. Through both, we continue to see our youth encouraged to develop their artistic and technical talents as Congress intended.

The ARTS Act makes these competitions even more impactful. Under the bill, the students may apply to register a copyright for their winning work or winning app for free. This introduces these students to the intellectual property system and the benefits of copyright protection—again, a constitutional right.

Under current law, the Register of Copyrights cannot waive these fees on her own. The ARTS Act amends the Copyright Act to allow such a fee waiver for these specific circumstances. Building the farm team, again, is so very important.

Once again, I applaud the sponsors of the bill for bringing forward this important legislation, which will aid the next generation of creators and innovators.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 169, the Artistic Recognition for Talented Students Act.

The Constitution authorizes Congress ''to promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.''

Our copyright system is designed to help fulfill that mandate by promoting the work of authors, musicians, artists, and other creators.

Creative industries contribute hundreds of billions of dollars to the U.S. economy every year. This bill makes it easier for some of our brightest young creators to obtain copyrights on their award-winning work. This is essentially the same as the bill that passed the House under suspension of the rules last year.

Promoting and encouraging the next generation of American creators ensures that our creative economy will remain strong for decades to come.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, again, S. 169 is a short but important bill that promotes education and awareness of intellectual property to the next generation of creators. What an outstanding way to build the farm team, to create a buy-in by the young geniuses of our time, both in terms of the apps and arts and many other aspects.

Again, we recognize the constitutional connection to the idea of property, copyright, intellectual property, and it is important for young people to learn early on and to be protective of the genius of America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, S. 169, the ''Artistic Recognition for Talented Students Act'' or the ''ARTS Act,'' would help introduce promising young students who have won either the Congressional Art Competition or the Congressional App Challenge to the intellectual property system by waiving the fee for those students to apply for a copyright registration for their winning work.

I applaud my colleague, Mr. JEFFRIES, for introducing the House version of this bipartisan, bicameral legislation with Ms. MACE, along with several of my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee, including Intellectual Property Subcommittee Chairman JOHNSON and Ranking Member ISSA, Mr. CICILLINE, and Ms. SPARTZ.

This bill was passed under suspension last year. We are pleased today to take up passage of the Senate version of the bill, championed by Senators LEAHY and TILLIS, so that the bill will pass both chambers and become law.

We in this Chamber know just how important intellectual property rights are to our country and our economy. Yet studies show that awareness of intellectual property is lacking among the country's students, even if they pursue fields that are IP-intensive. The ARTS Act helps close this awareness gap early on and allows these students to participate in the intellectual property system without a financial burden.

It builds on Congress's work to encourage the creativity of our nation's youth with the establishment of the Congressional Art Competition and the Congressional App Challenge more.

Year after year, in both of these competitions, the talent our students display is remarkable. Through both, we continue to see our youth encouraged to develop their artistic and technical talents, as Congress intended.

The ARTS Act makes these competitions even more impactful. Under the bill, students may apply to register a copyright for their winning artwork or winning app for free. This introduces these students to the intellectual property system and the benefits of copyright protection.

Under current law, the Register of Copyrights cannot waive these fees on her own. The ARTS Act amends the Copyright Act to allow such a fee waiver for these specific circumstances.

Once again, I applaud the sponsors of the bill for bringing this important legislation forward, which will aid the next generation of creators and innovators.

I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

Mr. Speaker, S. 169 is a short but important bill that will promote education and awareness of intellectual property to the next generation of creators. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 169.

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.

PROTECT REPORTERS FROM EXPLOITATIVE STATE SPYING ACT

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4330) to maintain the free flow of information to the public by establishing appropriate limits on the federally compelled disclosure of information obtained as part of engaging in journalism, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4330

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 ''Protect Reporters from Exploitative State Spying Act'' or the ''PRESS Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) COVERED JOURNALIST.—The term ''covered journalist'' means a person who regularly gathers, prepares, collects, photographs, records, writes, edits, reports, investigates, or publishes news or information that concerns local, national, or international events or other matters of public interest for dissemination to the public.

(2) COVERED SERVICE PROVIDER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''covered service provider'' means any person that, by an electronic means, stores, processes, or transmits information in order to provide a service to customers of the person.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term ''covered service provider'' includes—

(i) a telecommunications carrier and a provider of an information service (as such terms are defined in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153));

(ii) a provider of an interactive computer service and an information content provider (as such terms are defined in section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230));

(iii) a provider of remote computing service (as defined in section 2711 of title 18, United States Code); and

(iv) a provider of electronic communication service (as defined in section 2510 of title 18, United States Code) to the public.

(3) DOCUMENT.—The term ''document'' means writings, recordings, and photographs, as those terms are defined by Federal Rule of Evidence 1001 (28 U.S.C. App.).

(4) FEDERAL ENTITY.—The term ''Federal entity'' means an entity or employee of the judicial

or executive branch or an administrative agency of the Federal Government with the power to issue a subpoena or issue other compulsory process.

(5) JOURNALISM.—The term ''journalism'' means gathering, preparing, collecting, photographing, recording, writing, editing, reporting, investigating, or publishing news or information that concerns local, national, or international events or other matters of public interest for dissemination to the public.

(6) PERSONAL ACCOUNT OF A COVERED JOURNALIST.—The term ''personal account of a covered journalist'' means an account with a covered service provider used by a covered journalist that is not provided, administered, or operated by the employer of the covered journalist.

(7) PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY DEVICE OF A COVERED JOURNALIST.—The term ''personal technology device of a covered journalist'' means a handheld communications device, laptop computer, desktop computer, or other internet-connected device used by a covered journalist that is not provided or administered by the employer of the covered journalist.

(8) PROTECTED INFORMATION.—The term ''protected information'' means any information identifying a source who provided information as part of engaging in journalism, and any records, contents of a communication, documents, or information that a covered journalist obtained or created as part of engaging in journalism.

SEC. 3. LIMITS ON COMPELLED DISCLOSURE FROM COVERED JOURNALISTS.

In any matter arising under Federal law, a Federal entity may not compel a covered journalist to disclose protected information, unless a court in the judicial district in which the subpoena or other compulsory process is, or will be, issued determines by a preponderance of the evidence, after providing notice and an opportunity to be heard to the covered journalist that—

(1) disclosure of the protected information is necessary to prevent, or to identify any perpetrator of, an act of terrorism against the United States; or

(2) disclosure of the protected information is necessary to prevent a threat of imminent violence, significant bodily harm, or death, including specified offenses against a minor (as defined by section 111(7) of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (34 U.S.C. 20911(7))).

SEC. 4. LIMITS ON COMPELLED DISCLOSURE FROM COVERED SERVICE PROVIDERS.

(a) CONDITIONS FOR COMPELLED DISCLOSURE.—In any matter arising under Federal law, a Federal entity may not compel a covered service provider to provide testimony or any document consisting of any record, information, or other communications stored by a covered provider on behalf of a covered journalist, including testimony or any document relating to a personal account of a covered journalist or a personal technology device of a covered journalist, unless a court in the judicial district in which the subpoena or other compulsory process is, or will be, issued determines by a preponderance of the evidence that there is a reasonable threat of imminent violence unless the testimony or document is provided, and issues an order authorizing the Federal entity to compel the disclosure of the testimony or document.

(b) NOTICE TO COURT.—A Federal entity seeking to compel the provision of testimony or any document described in subsection (a) shall inform the court that the testimony or document relates to a covered journalist.

(c) NOTICE TO COVERED JOURNALIST AND OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A court may authorize a Federal entity to compel the provision of testimony or a document under this section only after the Federal entity seeking the testimony or document provides the covered journalist on behalf of whom the testimony or document is stored pursuant to subsection (a)—

(A) notice of the subpoena or other compulsory request for such testimony or document from the covered service provider not later than the time at which such subpoena or request is issued to the covered service provider; and

(B) an opportunity to be heard before the court before the time at which the provision of the testimony or document is compelled.

(2) EXCEPTION TO NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notice and an opportunity to be heard under paragraph (1) may be delayed for not more than 45 days if the court involved determines there is clear and convincing evidence that such notice would pose a clear and substantial threat to the integrity of a criminal investigation, or would present an imminent risk of death or serious bodily harm, including specified offenses against a minor (as defined by section 111(7) of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (34 U.S.C. 20911(7))).

(B) EXTENSIONS.—The 45-day period described in subparagraph (A) may be extended by the court for additional periods of not more than 45 days if the court involved makes a new and independent determination that there is clear and convincing evidence that providing notice to the covered journalist would pose a clear and substantial threat to the integrity of a criminal investigation, or would present an imminent risk of death or serious bodily harm under current circumstances.

SEC. 5. LIMITATION ON CONTENT OF INFORMATION.

The content of any testimony, document, or protected information that is compelled under sections 3 or 4 shall—

(1) not be overbroad, unreasonable, or oppressive, and as appropriate, be limited to the purpose of verifying published information or describing any surrounding circumstances relevant to the accuracy of such published information; and

(2) be narrowly tailored in subject matter and period of time covered so as to avoid compelling the production of peripheral, nonessential, or speculative information.

SEC. 6. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to—

(1) apply to civil defamation, slander, or libel claims or defenses under State law, regardless of whether or not such claims or defenses, respectively, are raised in a State or Federal court; or

(2) prevent the Federal Government from pursuing an investigation of a covered journalist or organization that is—

(A) suspected of committing a crime;

(B) a witness to a crime unrelated to engaging in journalism;

(C) suspected of being an agent of a foreign power, as defined in section 101 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 (50 U.S.C. 1801);

(D) an individual or organization designated under Executive Order 13224 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note; relating to blocking property and prohibiting transactions with persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism);

(E) a specially designated terrorist, as that term is defined in section 595.311 of title 31, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor thereto); or

(F) a terrorist organization, as that term is defined in section 212(a)(3)(B)(vi)(II) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(vi)(II)).

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. 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. 4330.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1700

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4330, the Protect Reporters from Exploitative State Spying Act, or the PRESS Act.

The PRESS Act would create a strong but qualified Federal statutory privilege that protects journalists from being compelled by the Federal Government to reveal confidential sources and information.

Additionally, the bill prohibits the Federal Government from compelling an electronic service provider that stores a journalist's information to disclose that information, as well as information relating to the journalist's personal account or technology device, to the government unless a court determines that there is a reasonable threat of imminent violence absent the information's disclosure and subject to other requirements and certain specified exceptions.

H.R. 4330 is necessary and long-overdue legislation.

Over the past several decades, Presidential administrations of both parties have attempted to crack down on leaks of classified information to media outlets, and these investigations have included efforts to obtain journalists' records. For example, just last year, The Washington Post, The New York Times, and CNN reported that the Department of Justice under the Trump administration sought the information and records of their reporters.

The most sacred part of our freedom includes the protection and freedom of the press. That is embedded in the Constitution in our First Amendment in the Bill of Rights, so to hear and to see that glaring infraction shows us the necessity of this legislation before us.

In addition, during the Obama administration, the Department reportedly searched FOX News reporter James Rosen's emails and even listed him as a coconspirator in an Espionage Act case it brought against a source of the leaked information.

These and other recent episodes illustrate the need for stronger Federal protections for journalists and their sources.

The truth is cleansing. The truth is democracy.

Indeed, 40 States and the District of Columbia have enacted press shield laws, while other States afford similar privileges through their State constitution of common law.

Moreover, there has been longstanding and bipartisan support in Congress for Federal protections. In

2005, former Vice President Mike Pence, when he was a Member of this body, first introduced the Free Flow of Information Act, which was very similar in concept to H.R. 4330. That legislation subsequently passed the House twice in the 110th and the 111th Congresses, the first time by 398–21, and the second time by voice vote. Unfortunately, the Senate never took action on these bills, but I am pleased that efforts to advance a Federal reporters shield bill continue in the House today.

Again, we must stand for liberty. It is my hope that the Senate will finally take up this important issue.

I thank Congressmen JAMIE RASKIN, TED LIEU, and JOHN YARMUTH for their work on the PRESS Act. I also thank the Judiciary Committee ranking member, JIM JORDAN, for his support.

The need for this legislation is as great, if not greater, than when it was first introduced in an earlier form many years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this important bipartisan legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, there is a reason why the Founders chose to enshrine the freedoms of the press in the First Amendment to the Constitution. It is an important part of a functional and informed democracy.

Over the years, versions of this bill have received widespread support from across the political spectrum. In fact, the first version of this bill was introduced by none other than Vice President Pence when he was a Member of this body.

Liberty depends on the freedom of the press. Good reporters are committed to holding our government accountable. A critical aspect of the freedom of the press is the pursuit of truth without intimidation or coercion from the government.

Administrations of both parties have unjustly targeted journalists, but none more so in recent years than the Obama administration. The Obama administration's control on the flow of information has been described as ''the most aggressive . . . since the Nixon administration.''

The Biden administration isn't proving to be much better.

In a free country, we need to make sure that the government cannot unmask journalists' sources without good cause. This bill provides those protections and recognizes the importance of independent journalism to our country.

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. RASKIN), the author of the PRESS Act, who has been persistent in his commitment to civil liberties as an important member of the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding and for her very distinguished and passionate advocacy for civil liberties and civil rights. I thank her for her excellent management of this legislation. I also thank the floor leader on the minority side for his excellent words on the legislation, as well.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 4330, the Protect Reporters from Exploitative State Spying Act, or the PRESS Act, which I introduced with Congressmen LIEU and YARMUTH. It is a close successor to the bill that then-Congressman Mike Pence got passed in the House in the 110th Congress by a lopsided vote of 398–21.

Given that the bill passed unanimously in the Judiciary Committee earlier this year, I am very hopeful that this is the Congress in which we can get it done.

Our Founders insisted that the American people must have the means to acquire the truth about their own government, their society, and their world. Those ''who mean to be their own governors,'' said Madison, ''must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.''

Newspapers were critical, a form of continuing public education about government and about society. Thomas Jefferson said: ''If it were left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.''

The great Tom Paine not only defended but demonstrated the power of the pen as the people's weapon against political tyranny. His sensationally successful pamphlet ''Common Sense'' argued the central importance of free speech and free press to the survival of political democracy.

In theory, the specific command in the First Amendment that Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of the press was unnecessary because press freedom would already, by definition, be subsumed under the freedom of speech. The Framers insisted upon protecting the structurally distinctive role that the press plays as a watchdog institution in a representative democratic society.

Not everyone can go to congressional hearings or State legislative sessions or county council meetings late into the night. Not all of us can travel to Ukraine to uncover Russian war crimes against the people there or go to Afghanistan to see what it means to have theocratic tyranny oppressing the people. Not everyone can personally go get the Pentagon Papers or break the Watergate scandal or penetrate crime and drug trafficking rings or see with their own eyes how climate change is ravaging the Louisiana coast or Pakistan. As citizens of the United States, we are all equally implicated and affected by these developments, and we are all equally invested in obtaining the truth about them. This is why we need professional journalists and newspapers.

Yet, reporters in our country face violence, threats, intimidation, and even jail time just for doing their jobs, providing news and information.

The Committee to Protect Journalists reported that journalists in the United States faced unprecedented attacks in 2020. At least 110 reporters were arrested or criminally charged in relation to their reporting, and around 300 were assaulted in 2020 alone.

Many families in my State of Maryland are still reeling from the mass shooting at the Capital Gazette newspaper in Annapolis, which took the lives of five different journalists and injured several others in 2018.

Lots of reporters face harsh legal consequences just for reporting and then faithfully maintaining the confidentiality of sources.

One journalist who faced repercussions simply for doing his job I know well—Brian Karem, one of my constituents. In 1990 and 1991, he went to jail four different times to protect confidential sources while working as a TV reporter. The last time, he went to jail for nearly 2 weeks while the Supreme Court considered his case, and he was only spared a long sentence when his source moved from Texas to California and, no longer fearing for her life, came forward.

Now more than ever, we need to make good on the constitutional promise of a free press by establishing a Federal shield law to protect journalists against government overreach and prosecutorial abuses that may occur from one administration to the next.

The PRESS Act is an update of the Free Flow of Information Act that I introduced with the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JORDAN), the ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, in the 115th Congress. It will prevent Federal law enforcement from being able to obtain information from covered journalists through their work devices and accounts, as well as their personal devices and accounts. It will also prevent government officials from conducting an end run around these prohibitions by precluding them from seeking third-party communications held by communications services, except in narrow and carefully cabined exceptional instances.

America favors shield laws to protect the media because our people know that the press is not the enemy of the people. The press is the people's best friend.

Forty-nine States and Washington, D.C., have already passed State shield laws or adopted some kind of reporter's privilege of their own. What better evidence could we have that the American people want a free and aggressive press to expose corruption and safeguard democracy?

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

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I fervently hope that my colleagues on both

sides of the aisle—indeed, every Member of the House of Representatives—will rise to support this bill, the successor to our 2017 bipartisan bill and the successor to the bill that then-Congressman, now-Vice President Mike Pence navigated to victory in the House on a vote of 398–21 15 years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her indulgence.

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, I would inform you and my colleague from Texas that I have no further speakers, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, let me just comment, as I determine whether we have any further speakers, that this protection of the First Amendment rights of our journalists are so crucial, and this legislation enjoys bipartisan support.

We have already made the point that we have found some offense of this in bipartisan officeholders, government, so I think it is important, in the spirit of harmony today, that we choose no President to suggest one was more so than the others, and I can't think of any comparison to the previous administration. But, today, we are standing here and wanting to bring people together around the importance of ensuring that the press is protected and shielded, that the truth is cleansing, and that the truth is heard.

Clearly, in the Trump administration, the truth was challenged, and we are grateful that the press stood tall.

I believe this legislation is extremely important to cleanse all persons in public life so that public officials can serve in the spirit of transparency and that journalists can provide the facts to all the people of America.

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

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

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

Mr. Speaker, as I indicated, H.R. 4330 is a bipartisan effort similar to legislation worked on by Vice President Pence.

□ 1715

The Judiciary Committee reported the bill on a bipartisan basis by voice vote. In addition, H.R. 4330 is supported by numerous civil liberties and journalist organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, Demand Progress, the Society of Professional Journalists, the News Media Alliance, the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Press Photographers Association, the Radio Television Digital News Association, the News Leaders Association, MPA—the Association of Magazine Media, the Project for Privacy and Surveillance Accountability, and the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4330, the ''Protect Reporters from Exploitative State Spying Act'' or the ''PRESS Act.'' The PRESS Act would create a strong, but qualified, federal statutory privilege that protects journalists from being compelled by the federal government to reveal confidential sources and information.

Additionally, the bill prohibits the federal government from compelling an electronic service provider that stores a journalist's information to disclose that information, as well as information relating to the journalist's personal account or technology device, to the government, unless a court determines that there is a reasonable threat of imminent violence absent the information's disclosure, and subject to other requirements and certain specified exceptions.

H.R. 4330 is necessary and long overdue legislation.

Over the past several decades, presidential administrations of both parties have attempted to crack down on leaks of classified information to media outlets, and these investigations have included efforts to obtain journalists' records.

For example, just last year, The Washington Post, The New York Times, and CNN reported that the Department of Justice under the Trump Administration sought the information and records of their reporters.

In addition, during the Obama Administration, the Department reportedly searched Fox News reporter James Rosen's e-mails and even listed him as a co-conspirator in an Espionage Act case that it brought against the source of the leaked information.

These and other recent episodes illustrate the need for stronger federal protections for journalists and their sources.

Indeed, forty states and the District of Columbia have enacted press shield laws, while other states afford similar privileges through their state constitutions and common law.

Moreover, there has been longstanding and bipartisan support in Congress for federal protections.

In 2005, Former Vice President Mike Pence, when he was a member of this body, first introduced the ''Free Flow of Information Act,'' which was very similar in concept to H.R. 4330. That legislation subsequently passed the House twice, in the 110th and 111th Congresses, the first time by a 398 to 21 vote, and the second time by voice vote.

Unfortunately, the Senate never took action on those bills, but I am pleased that efforts to advance a federal reporters' shield bill continue in the House today. It is my hope that the Senate will finally take up this important issue.

I want to thank Congressmen JAMIE RASKIN, TED LIEU, and JOHN YARMUTH for their work on the PRESS Act. I also thank Judiciary Committee Ranking Member JIM JORDAN for his support.

The need for this legislation is as great, if not greater, than when it was first introduced in its earlier form many years ago.

I urge all my colleagues to vote YES on this important bipartisan legislation.

As I noted earlier, H.R. 4330 and similar federal press shield legislation has long enjoyed strong bipartisan support. The Judiciary Committee reported the bill on a bipartisan basis by voice vote.

In addition, H.R. 4330 is supported by numerous civil liberties and journalists' organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union, Demand Progress, the Society of Professional Journalists, the News Media Alliance, the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Press Photographers Association, the Radio Television Digital News Association, the News Leaders Association, MPA—The Association of Magazine Media, the Project for Privacy and Surveillance Accountability, Protect The 1st, and the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Given the broad support for the bill and the pressing need for federal protections for journalists and their sources, I urge the House to pass H.R. 4330.

Mr. Speaker, given the broad support of the bill and the pressing need for Federal protections for journalists and their sources, I urge the House to pass H.R. 4330, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4330, 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.

AMENDING TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE, PROVIDING AN ADDITIONAL PLACE FOR HOLDING COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3034) to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Western District of Washington, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3034

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

SECTION 1. ADDITIONAL PLACE FOR HOLDING COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON.

Section 128(b) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''Mount Vernon,'' after ''Tacoma,''.

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

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. JACKSON LEE. 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. 3034.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3034 which would amend title 28 of the U.S. Code to provide an additional place for holding court in the Western District of Washington.

This one-sentence bill would allow the residents of that district which is comprised of half of Washington State from the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean to attend Federal Court in Mount Vernon, Washington, halfway between Seattle and the Canadian border.

Currently, residents of the surrounding counties, including the third most populous county in the State, have to travel significant distances to access the Federal justice system leading to increased travel time and administrative costs. Adding Mount Vernon as an additional court location would alleviate those burdens. It would also be a cost-free change because there is an existing facility available for the court to use, and no court personnel would be permanently stationed there. Making use of this existing facility would ensure that litigants, attorneys, witnesses, and other court users would have greater access to the justice that our Federal courts provide.

Mr. Speaker, the Judiciary Committee is the holder, protector, and nurturer of the Constitution. There is probably nothing as important among other elements but for the right to a trial by jury or right to be heard as a litigant in a court. This important legislation is suggesting that those who may have difficulty or are even deprived because of distance or other issues dealing with the far reaches of where this court is away from them can now have unfettered access to court in their region, in their area.

This move will benefit the many individuals who live, work, and do business in northwest Washington which is very far from the present site of the Federal Court. This legislation is broadly supported by the judges, attorneys, prosecutors, public defenders, and law enforcement in the Western District of Washington.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative SUZAN DELBENE and RICK LARSEN for calling attention to this issue and for introducing this legislation to improve the lives of the residents of Washington State. Chairman NADLER and all of the members of the Judiciary Committee were very pleased to work with this legislation, and Congresswoman DELBENE and Congressman LARSEN to be able to make this fix to provide an additional pathway of justice and the protection of the constitutional rights of individuals to have their access to courts and to trials by jury.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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

Mr. FITZGERALD. Mr. Speaker, it appears that this bill has wide, bipartisan support among Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is good music and good sounds to hear my colleague indicating that this legislation has widespread support, and he is absolutely right.

The only point that I would want to emphasize is that whenever this body and this Judiciary Committee can expand the rights to the protection of Americans and their rights to access justice, we should stand tall.

Today, this legislation, with a small fix of providing an additional site for the people of western Washington to access their constitutional, judicial, and legal rights, I think this is a celebration. So because of the broad support for this, we are delighted.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of H.R. 3034, and make known that it is a straightforward bill that will improve the administration of justice in Washington State and will reinforce our duty and responsibility to the American people for justice.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3034, which would amend title 28 of the U.S. Code to provide an additional place for holding court in the Western District of Washington.

This one-sentence bill would allow residents of that district, which comprises half of Washington state—from the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean—to attend federal court in Mount Vernon, Washington, halfway between Seattle and the Canadian border.

Currently, residents of the surrounding counties, including the third most-populous county in the state, have to travel significant distances to access the federal justice system, leading to increased travel time and administrative costs. Adding Mount Vernon as an additional court location would alleviate those burdens. It would also be a cost-free change because there is an existing facility available for the court to use, and no court personnel would be permanently stationed there.

Making use of this existing facility would ensure that litigants, attorneys, witnesses, and other court users would have greater access to the justice that our federal courts provide.

This move will benefit the many individuals who live, work, and do business in Northwest Washington, and this legislation is broadly supported by the judges, attorneys, prosecutors, public defenders, and law enforcement in the Western District of Washington.

I thank Representatives SUZAN DELBENE and RICK LARSEN for calling attention to this issue and for introducing this legislation to improve the lives of the residents of Washington state.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3034 is a straightforward bill that will improve the administration of justice in Washington State. I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3034.

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.

ENSLAVED VOYAGES MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4009) to authorize the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4009

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 ''Enslaved Voyages Memorial Act''.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE WORK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate the enslaved individuals, whose identities may be known or unknown, who endured the Middle Passage.

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemorative work under this section shall be in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Commemorative Works Act'').

(c) PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY OF THE GEORGETOWN AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIC LANDMARK PROJECT AND TOUR.—The Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(d) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If upon payment of all expenses for the establishment of the memorial (including the maintenance and preservation amount required by section 8906(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code), there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour shall transmit the amount of the balance to the Secretary of the Interior for deposit in the account provided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United States Code.

(2) ON EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—If upon expiration of the authority for the commemorative work under section 8903(e) of title 40, United States Code, there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour shall transmit the amount of the balance to a separate account with the National Park Foundation

for memorials, to be available to the Secretary of the Interior or Administrator (as appropriate) following the process provided in section 8906(b)(4) of title 40, United States Code, for accounts established under section 8906(b)(2) or (3) of title 40, United States Code.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4009, the Enslaved Voyages Memorial Act, introduced by my colleague, Representative ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON.

This bill will authorize the establishment of a memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its surroundings commemorating the enslaved individuals who disembarked here after forced migration by way of the transatlantic slave trade.

This memorial will honor the lives of all enslaved individuals, celebrate their contributions to our history, and recognize their remarkable resilience and fortitude throughout four centuries of slavery.

During this time period, enslavers forced the transport of 12.5 million captive Africans to sell in the Americas. The Georgetown waterfront has an extensive and long-neglected history of involvement in the slave trade. In fact, 1,475 enslaved individuals disembarked at the Georgetown waterfront while the institution of slavery grew on this continent.

Establishing a memorial to honor those who were enslaved will create a powerful site of truth-telling and remembrance.

I thank my colleague, Delegate Norton, for introducing this important and significant piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4009 offered by Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, which authorizes the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to establish a work on Federal land in Washington, D.C., to commemorate the enslaved individuals, whose identities may be known or unknown, who endured the forced voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to the United States during the Middle Passage.

This effort is being championed by the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project, a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring the enslaved and free African Americans who worked in, lived in, and built Georgetown.

In 2019, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization designated the Georgetown waterfront as a site of memory for historical places associated with slavery.

The bill requires the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to follow the standard legal framework established by the Commemorative Works Act Committee. This is a great effort, and I applaud Delegate Holmes Norton for her leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), who is the principal sponsor of the legislation.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend, Chairman GRIJALVA, for yielding, and I thank him and Chairman NEGUSE for bringing this bill to the floor.

This bill would authorize the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to establish a memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia commemorating the enslaved individuals who endured forced migration to the United States by way of the transatlantic slave trade. The National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission unanimously supported this bill, and it passed out of committee by unanimous consent.

We must not hide this history. Enslaved individuals, known and unknown, rest at the core of our Nation's history. The atrocities of the system of chattel slavery shed light on our Nation's central struggle between slavery and freedom—a freedom under which some could be owned, beaten, separated from their families, and denied any rights.

This bill provides for the creation of a powerful marker of truth-telling and remembrance. Let us honor the personhood of these individuals who were repeatedly assumed to have none so that they will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WESTERMAN).

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill along with the other suspension bills that we have worked with Chairman GRIJALVA to get on the floor today.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize the dedicated service of one of my staff members, Terry Camp, who will be leaving us next month.

Known affectionately as ''Turbo'' by his colleagues, he has certainly lived up to that nickname. Since starting on the House Committee on Natural Resources in 2015, Terry has had a hand in nearly 60 bills that have been signed into law. This total doesn't even account for the countless bills he has been a part of that have been enacted as part of various legislative packages.

While this is an impressive total, it doesn't even come close to the number of now-famous Capitol tours he has given, which he offers in both English and Spanish.

As our national parks staffer, he has visited numerous national park units throughout his tenure, frequently stopping by any nearby units on family vacations. That dedication has led to the creation of many new bills, including the Save the Liberty Theater Act which was signed into law earlier this year.

□ 1730

Terry's passion for public service is perhaps surpassed only by his passion for the Utah State University Aggies.

Terry exemplifies the guiding principles of my office by always abiding in love, competing to win, and succeeding through service. While we will miss him in the Halls of Congress, we wish him, his wife, Kayla, and their son, Elijah, all the best as they start the next chapter of their lives back in their home State of Utah.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4009, 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. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

NATIONAL SERVICE ANIMALS MEMORIAL ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill

(H.R. 6353) to authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6353

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 ''National Service Animals Memorial Act''.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE WORK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Service Animals Monument Corporation (referred to in this section as the ''Corporation'') may establish a commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia and its environs to commemorate the heroic deeds and sacrifices of service animals and handlers of service animals in the United States.

(b) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS.—The establishment of the commemorative work under this section shall be in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Commemorative Works Act'').

(c) PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY OF THE NATIONAL SERVICE ANIMALS MONUMENT CORPORATION.—The Corporation shall be solely responsible for the acceptance of contributions for, and the payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the commemorative work under this section.

(d) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If, upon payment of all expenses for the establishment of the commemorative work under this section (including the maintenance and preservation amount required by section 8906(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code), there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work, the Corporation shall transmit the amount of the balance to the Secretary of the Interior for deposit in the account provided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United States Code.

(2) ON EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—If, upon expiration of the authority for the commemorative work under section 8903(e) of title 40, United States Code, there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the commemorative work under this section, the Corporation shall transmit the amount of the balance to a separate account with the National Park Foundation for memorials, to be available to the Secretary of the Interior or the Administrator of General Services, as appropriate, in accordance with the process provided in section 8906(b)(4) of title 40, United States Code, for accounts established under paragraph (2) or (3) of section 8906(b) of such title.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 the measure under consideration today.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 6353, the National Service Animals Memorial Act, introduced by my colleague, Representative SUSAN WILD.

The bill would authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish commemorative work on Federal land in the District of Columbia, and its surroundings, to commemorate the heroic deeds and sacrifices of service animals—and handlers of service animals—in the United States.

The bill recognizes the National Service Animals Monument Corporation's mission to honor and recognize the broad scope of service animals through a memorial to educate the public of the contributions by service animals and of the human-animal bond between service animals and their handlers.

The memorial will ensure that the contributions of service and working animals are understood, and that their history is not forgotten.

In doing so, the bill recognizes the lifesaving and life-sustaining service these animals so generously provide to our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Representative WILD, for introducing this legislation and championing this bill on behalf of her constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support for H.R. 6353, a ''yes'' vote, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6353, offered by Representative WILD, would authorize the National Service Animals Memorial Corporation to create a commemorative work on Federal land in Washington, D.C., to honor the heroic acts and sacrifices of service animals and their handlers.

The commemorative work would feature the contributions of animals, such as heroic service dogs, that have assisted humans for generations by serving as guides for those with disabilities and supporting law enforcement, search and rescue, and military personnel.

Some well-known examples of heroic dogs include Cairo, which was part of the Navy SEAL team that killed Osama bin Laden. H.R. 6353 prohibits the use of Federal funds to create or maintain this work.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative WILD for her work on this legislation, and I urge adoption of this bill.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6353, 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.

KEEP AMERICA'S REFUGES OPERATIONAL ACT OF 2022

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6734) to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer services, community partnership, and refuge education programs of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6734

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 ''Keep America's Refuges Operational Act of 2022''.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE SYSTEM VOLUNTEER SERVICES, COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP, AND REFUGE EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

Section 7(g) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742f) is amended by striking ''2018 through 2022'' and inserting ''2023 through 2027''.

SEC. 3. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6734, the Keep America's Refuges Operational Act, introduced by our colleague, Representative HAKEEM JEFFRIES.

This bill will reauthorize the volunteer services, community partnerships, and refuge education programs of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

The refuge system spreads itself across 568 national wildlife refuges and protects nearly 837 million acres of land, water, and wetlands. These important lands serve as homes for over an array of species, including 700 birds, 220 mammals, 1,000 fish, and 250 reptile and amphibian species.

Volunteers in the refuge system are crucial to keeping the refuges running, encouraging millions of the tourists each year, and generating billions of local revenue while creating jobs for neighboring communities.

Reauthorizing these volunteer services allows the Fish and Wildlife Service to continue providing transportation, uniforms, lodging, awards, subsistence, and training for those who selflessly choose to volunteer on these projects.

During the March hearing on the bill, we heard from Ms. Caroline Brouwer of the National Wildlife Refuge Association, and Ms. Joan Patterson from the Coalition of Refuge Friends and Advocates about the outside role that volunteers and friend groups play in keeping refuges running, as well as serving and connecting with the local community.

The Fish and Wildlife Service also testified in support of the legislation. In June, the National Resources Committee reported the bill to the House by unanimous consent.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the bill sponsor and my colleagues on the committee for the bipartisan support for this legislation, and I urge its adoption.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6734, the Keep America's Refuges Operational Act of 2022.

This bill introduced by my colleagues, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. GRAVES, reauthorizes volunteer programs at our national wildlife refuges.

Specifically, this bill would reauthorize for 5 fiscal years several U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services programs, including those related to volunteer services, community partnerships, donations and gifts, and education projects.

The Fish and Wildlife Services currently utilize volunteers for tours, restoring the habitat, plant and animal surveys, staffing refuge stores and visitor centers, and all other activities.

While I believe more work needs to be done to improve our overall management of our national wildlife refuges, the volunteer activities that this bill will reauthorize are an effective tool to perform needed work without increasing costs to taxpayers.

Solutions such as this legislation are especially welcome during times like these when our national debt continues to balloon, and inflation continues to soar because of reckless spending pushed forward by the majority and the current administration.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES).

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished chair for yielding, as well as his continued leadership of this all-important committee and in connection with this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of H.R. 6734, the Keep America's Refuges Operational Act. I thank my colleagues, Representatives THOMPSON and SABLAN, and certainly Representative WITTMAN for his leadership on the other side of the aisle.

This commonsense and bipartisan legislation reauthorizes the National Wildlife Refuge System volunteer, community partnership, and education program. Because of this program, refuges continue to benefit from volunteer support, which has successfully saved taxpayer dollars, generated millions for local economies, and promoted jobs in communities throughout America.

The National Wildlife Refuge System is comprised of over 560 refuges located in every United States territory and State. They make up over 800 million acres of habitat dedicated to the conservation of fish and wildlife. Each year, National Wildlife Refuge System hosts more than 60 million visitors, generating over $3 billion in revenue for local economies and supporting more than 40,000 jobs.

Visitors come from all over to explore, hunt, fish, and enjoy America's natural beauty. Refuges help to mold the next generation of conservationists and outdoor enthusiasts by providing learning experiences and cherished memories.

But this wouldn't be possible without the dedicated refuge volunteers and community partners who donate their time and their energy to keep refuges open and operational. During fiscal year 2021, approximately 11,700 volunteers gave close to 649,000 hours of their time, which is the equivalent of nearly 318 full-time employees or a contribution of more than $18 million.

Volunteers provide critical support to full-time staff in numerous ways. They operate visitor centers, conduct fish and wildlife population surveys, maintain visitor structures, roads and paths, fight invasive species, and protect native plants and animals. They also help refuges raise money for key infrastructure projects and visitor centers.

Volunteers are of all ages, come from diverse walks of life, work in many different capacities, and truly represent the gorgeous mosaic of the American people. But one thing they all have in common is their commitment to preserving America's natural beauty so that we can all enjoy it for years to come.

In the 115th Congress, the House passed an identical reauthorization bill, which was signed into law by President Trump in April of 2018. Since that time, the program has continued to leverage volunteer hours allowing wildlife refuges to remain accessible for millions of visitors each year. It is my hope that we can again work across the aisle to support, in different ways, our National Wildlife Refuge System.

□ 1745

I will take a moment to acknowledge the cosponsors of this legislation, Chairman GRIJALVA and Representatives GRAVES, THOMPSON, and SABLAN, with a particular special thanks to Representative WITTMAN for partnering with me, once again, to advance this legislation. I greatly appreciate their leadership and longstanding support for the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Supporting this bill in this Chamber means supporting the economic benefits to be gained from being good stewards of the environment that God has given to this great country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 6734.

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all involved on a significant partnership on this legislation that has brought benefits historically to our park systems and refuge systems and will continue to do so. Let me thank my friends across the aisle for their bipartisanship on that.

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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6734, 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.

DESIGNATION OF THE KOL ISRAEL FOUNDATION HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL AS A NATIONAL MEMORIAL

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7618) to designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a national memorial.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7618

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

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF THE KOL ISRAEL FOUNDATION HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL AS A NATIONAL MEMORIAL.

(a) CONGRESSIONAL RECOGNITION.—Congress—

(1) recognizes the significance of the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in preserving the memory of the 6,000,000 Jews murdered by the Nazi regime and allies and collaborators of the Nazi regime; and

(2) honors the life and legacy of the Holocaust survivors who erected the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial.

(b) DESIGNATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial located in Bedford Heights, Ohio, is designated as a national memorial.

(2) EFFECT OF DESIGNATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The national memorial designated by paragraph (1) is not a unit of the National Park System.

(B) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS.— The designation of the national memorial by paragraph (1) shall not require or permit Federal funds to be expended for any purpose related to the national memorial.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7618, introduced by my colleague, Representative SHONTEL BROWN.

This bill would designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a national memorial.

This bill recognizes the significance of the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial, which helps preserve the memory of the 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazi regime and honors the life and legacy of the Holocaust survivors who built this memorial.

Completed in 1961 by survivors of the Holocaust residing in northeast Ohio, the Kol Israel Holocaust Memorial is likely the first and oldest Holocaust memorial in the United States.

For more than 60 years, the Kol Israel Foundation has looked over the memorial, which has the ashes of Jewish victims and other tokens of remembrance buried at its base. The bill ensures national historic recognition for the Kol Israel Holocaust Memorial and preserves the memories and resiliency of the victims and the survivors of the Holocaust.

I thank my colleague, Representative SHONTEL BROWN, for introducing this important legislation, for introducing this important acknowledgment and memorial, and championing the bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes,'' and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7618, offered by Representative BROWN, would designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Museum at Zion Memorial Park in Bedford Heights, Ohio, a national memorial.

This memorial was dedicated in May 1961 and honors the 6 million Jews murdered during the Holocaust. It is one of the first Holocaust commemorative works in the United States, and it is surrounded by walls with the names of those who died in the Holocaust, along with the survivors who later passed away.

The memorial also includes the ashes of Jewish martyrs killed by Nazis from three concentration camps buried at its base.

I hope the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial will continue to bring peace and comfort to the families and the community who lost loved ones during the Holocaust.

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

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. BROWN), the sponsor of the legislation.

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GRIJALVA for his leadership and for yielding to me.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7618, a bipartisan bill to recognize the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial as a national memorial.

H.R. 7618 was unanimously voted out of the House Natural Resources Committee on July 20, 2022, and its bipartisan Senate companion, S. 4121, led by Senators SHERROD BROWN and ROB PORTMAN, favorably passed out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on July 21, 2022.

Mr. Speaker, this bill recognizes and honors a memorial in my district with a remarkable history. In 1961, surviving victims of the Holocaust erected the Kol Israel Memorial, dedicating it to the 6 million Jewish victims of the Nazi regime, its allies, and collaborators.

From 1939 to 1945, the Holocaust touched all corners of Jewish life from east to west, from Africa to Northern Europe. Thriving Jewish life in mainland Europe was decimated. The genocide wiped out entire Jewish communities, villages, and towns in a campaign that Nazis carried out with ruthless precision. They did so with mass shootings, concentration camps, and death camps like none the world had ever seen.

The trauma, pain, and suffering inflicted on the Jewish community were not confined to their side of the Atlantic. Many members of our American Jewish community were touched by profound loss, and survivors found refuge in many communities across the United States.

One such group of survivors made its way to northeast Ohio, putting down roots in Bedford Heights, a thriving part of Ohio's 11th Congressional District. They never forgot the horrors of the past and began planning a memorial to the 6 million as early as 1959, only 14 years after the end of the Second World War.

Since the memorial's dedication on May 28, 1961, survivors and their families have continuously cared for what is likely the oldest memorial of its kind in the United States.

On the memorial's exterior walls, the survivors engraved the names of their family members and loved ones. At the foot of the monument, the survivors also buried firsthand artifacts and keepsakes and ashes of victims from three concentration camps.

Given its historical significance, the Kol Israel Memorial deserves to be recognized by Congress. Designating the site as a national memorial ensures that future generations understand the true legacy of a very dark chapter in history.

This legislation comes at no cost to taxpayers and does not establish the memorial as a unit of the National Park Service. The Kol Israel Foundation will retain oversight and responsibility for the memorial, as it has for six decades.

Members of the Ohio community, including Ohio Governor Mike DeWine, the Ohio General Assembly, and prominent local and national stakeholders, have all supported efforts to recognize the Kol Israel Memorial.

The bill also enjoys wide support from a coalition of organizations such as the Jewish Federation of Cleveland, the Anti-Defamation League, and the American Jewish Committee.

I thank all the cosponsors of this legislation, including our seven co-leads from both sides of the aisle: Representatives KAPTUR, RYAN, BEATTY, JOYCE, BALDERSON, GONZALEZ, and CAREY. They, too, have a deep understanding of the importance of the Kol Israel Memorial and this legislation, particularly at a time of rising anti-Semitism in the United States and around the world.

Let me take one moment, Mr. Speaker, to speak about the dangers of Holocaust denial and distortion. Last night on ''60 Minutes,'' we watched in shock and disgust as the President of Iran denied the existence of the Holocaust and pretended to seek more information on its veracity.

Today, let us all speak in a loud and clear voice: The Holocaust happened. It was devastating. We must work every

day to remember so that we may honestly say ''never again.''

I am honored to represent one of the country's most celebrated Jewish communities, which happens to reside in Ohio's 11th Congressional District. Now is our opportunity to honor the victims of the Holocaust who call this country home and remember their bravery, dedication, and everlasting legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my House colleagues for taking swift action on H.R. 7618 so we may send a strong signal of support for our Jewish community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this critical legislation.

Mr. CARL. Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7618.

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.

BLACKWELL SCHOOL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2490) to establish the Blackwell School National Historic Site in Marfa, Texas, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2490

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 ''Blackwell School National Historic Site Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) the Blackwell School, located at 501 South Abbott Street, in Marfa, Presidio County, Texas, is—

(A) associated with the period of racial segregation in Marfa public schools; and

(B) the only extant property directly associated with Hispanic education in Marfa since the other buildings were torn down after the Blackwell School closed in 1965;

(2) the Blackwell School is a tangible reminder of the period during which the doctrine of ''separate but equal'' dominated education and social systems;

(3) despite being categorized as ''white'' by Texas law, Mexican Americans were regularly excluded from commingling with Anglo individuals at barbershops, restaurants, funeral homes, theaters, churches, and schools;

(4) the spectrum of experiences of students and teachers at the Blackwell School are an important record of life in a segregated school in the context of the history of Texas and the United States;

(5) Mexican and Mexican American culture and history in Marfa is tied to the Blackwell School, which for more than 50 years served as a leading feature of the Hispanic community, illustrating the challenge of maintaining cultural identity in a dominant Anglo society;

(6) Hispanic influences continue to be seen in social and religious organizations, business and government institutions, and shared experiences of language, food, and music in Marfa, Texas;

(7) the historic Blackwell School building is a physical record of—

(A) the longevity and beauty of the distinctive design and craftsmanship informed by traditional techniques and materials; and

(B) the transition from the purely vernacular to the period of materials, design, and workmanship made available after the arrival of the railroad;

(8) the original historic school building and grounds on which the Blackwell School building stands provide an authentic setting to commemorate and interpret the history of the Blackwell School;

(9) the Blackwell School is closely associated with the broad patterns of local, State, and national history in the area of school segregation; and

(10) Mexicans and other members of the Latin American diaspora have placed a high value on education as a means of economic, social, and political advancement, but Hispanics and Latinos have not always had equitable opportunities and access to quality educational facilities in the United States.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MAP.—The term ''map'' means the map entitled ''Blackwell School National Historic Site Proposed Boundary'', numbered 593/178387, and dated February 2022.

(2) NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.—The term ''National Historic Site'' means the Blackwell School National Historic Site established by section 4(a)(1).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BLACKWELL SCHOOL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), there is established the Blackwell School National Historic Site in the State of Texas as a unit of the National Park System to preserve, protect, and interpret for the benefit of present and future generations the Blackwell School, including—

(A) the role of the Blackwell School as an academic and cultural cornerstone in Marfa, Texas; and

(B) the function of the Blackwell School within a segregated system of education in Texas and the United States from the period of 1885 through 1965.

(2) DETERMINATION BY SECRETARY.—The National Historic Site shall not be established until the date on which the Secretary determines that—

(A) a written agreement has been entered into by the Secretary with the Marfa Unified School District providing that the Blackwell School shall be donated to the United States or co-managed with the Secretary for inclusion in a national historic site to be managed consistently with the purposes of a national historic site; and

(B) a sufficient quantity of land or an interest in land within the boundaries of the National Historic Site has been acquired to constitute a manageable unit.

(b) MAP.—

(1) BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries of the National Historic Site shall be the boundaries generally depicted on the map.

(2) AVAILABILITY OF MAP.—The map shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

(c) ACQUISITION OF AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may only acquire any land or interest in land located within the boundary of the National Historic Site by—

(1) donation;

(2) purchase with donated funds; or

(3) exchange.

(d) ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer the National Historic Site in accordance with—

(A) this Act; and

(B) the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System.

(2) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available to the Secretary to prepare a general management plan for the National Historic Site, the Secretary shall prepare a general management plan for the National Historic Site in accordance with section 100502 of title 54, United States Code.

(B) SUBMISSION.—On completion of the general management plan under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives the general management plan prepared under that subparagraph.

(e) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary shall enter into cooperative agreements with the Blackwell School Alliance and other local, regional, State, academic, and nonprofit partners for interpretive and educational programming, technical assistance, and rehabilitation relating to the National Historic Site.

(f) WRITTEN CONSENT OF OWNER.—No private property or non-Federal public property shall be included within the boundaries of the National Historic Site or managed as part of the National Historic Site without the written consent of the owner of the property.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. 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 measure that is before us under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2490, the Blackwell School National Historic Site Act. This legislation, if the House will recall, was sponsored primarily by Representative TONY GONZALES from Texas.

S. 2490 is a companion to that legislation from the Senate, from Senator CORNYN, and this legislation directs the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Blackwell School National Historic Site to preserve, protect, and interpret the role of the Blackwell School as an academic and cultural cornerstone in Marfa, Texas.

The Blackwell School was the sole public education institution for Mexican-American children in Marfa from 1909 until 1965, when local schools were finally integrated.

The building is a tangible reminder of a time in American history where separate but equal remained prevalent in our culture. It is a symbol of community solidarity, pride, and identity, and it remains to this day.

Approximately 4,000 students attended the Blackwell School over the course of more than 50 years. Despite the inherent unfairness of segregation, the Blackwell School became a meeting place and a source of pride for the local Mexican-American community in the region.

Today, all that remains of the once-sprawling campus is a three-room adobe schoolhouse, one of the last such schools remaining in Texas.

Designating the Blackwell School as a national historic site ensures that the story of the Blackwell School is maintained so that future Americans can learn from and understand its rich, complex, and troubling history.

Representative TONY GONZALES should be applauded for his efforts on this.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in supporting the bill and sending it to President Biden for his signature, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1800

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2490, the Blackwell School National Historic Site Act. This legislation, championed in the House by my friend, TONY GONZALES of Texas, would establish a new unit of the National Park System to tell the history of this segregated education in Marfa, Texas.

Although there was no State law that mandated separate schools for Hispanic students, Texas school districts practiced de facto segregation through the mid-20th century.

Blackwell School was known originally as the Ward School and later renamed for its longtime principal, Jesse Blackwell, who arrived at the school in 1922. During Blackwell's 25-year tenure, the school grew from one building with 120 students to a multi-building campus with more than 600 students.

The original historic school building and grounds provide an authentic setting to the interpretation of history of segregated schools in Texas.

I commend Mr. GONZALES for his work on this important landmark. He has been a strong champion for this legislation, including writing House companion legislation that previously passed this Chamber with strong bipartisan support.

Madam Seaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time on this legislation. I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TONY GONZALES).

Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote ''yes'' on the Blackwell School National Historic Site Act. And I thank my distinguished colleague from Alabama for allowing me this opportunity.

This bill would designate the Blackwell School in my district as one of the first national park sites dedicated to Latino history. This legislation comes at a critical time, as we celebrate the accomplishments of the Latino community during Hispanic Heritage Month.

From 1909 to 1965, the Blackwell School in Marfa, Texas, was the only public school for the city's Mexican-American children. Although there was no State law that mandated separate schools for Hispanic students, it was common practice for them to be taught at different facilities. This meant that the Blackwell School was the only place where children of Mexican descent could be educated and have a shot at the American Dream.

Today, the Blackwell School reminds us of the resiliency the Mexican-American community has displayed throughout our history.

Designating the Blackwell School as a national park site would improve the ability of the Park Service to oversee conservation efforts, promote regional tourism, and share important stories about the Mexican-American community in the U.S.

Please join me in passing this bill to honor the hard work and fighting spirit of the Hispanic community.

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, again, I urge the adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. BROWN of Ohio). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2490.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

NEW PHILADELPHIA NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 820) to establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 820

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 ''New Philadelphia National Historic Site Act''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) HISTORIC SITE.—The term ''Historic Site'' means the New Philadelphia National Historic Site established by this Act.

(2) MAP.—The term ''Map'' means the map titled ''New Philadelphia National Historic Site Proposed Boundary'', numbered 591/176,516, and dated July, 2021.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(4) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the State of Illinois.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PHILADELPHIA.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to subsection (c), there is established the New Philadelphia National Historic Site in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System to preserve, protect, and interpret the history and archeological resources of the town established by Frank McWorter, a formerly enslaved man, in 1836.

(b) BOUNDARY.—The boundaries of the Historic Site shall be the boundaries generally depicted on the Map.

(c) SECRETARIAL DETERMINATION.—The Historic Site shall not be established until the date on which the Secretary determines that the Secretary has acquired a sufficient quantity of land or interests in and within the boundary of the Historic Site to constitute a manageable unit.

(d) NOTICE.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary makes a determination under subsection (c), the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register notice of the establishment of the Historic Site.

SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer land within the boundary of the Historic Site in accordance with—

(1) this Act; and

(2) the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including—

(A) section 100101(a), chapter 1003, and sections 100751(a), 100752, 100753, and 102101 of title 54, United States Code; and

(B) chapter 3201 of title 54, United States Code.

(b) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with the State or other public and nonpublic entities, under which the Secretary may identify, interpret, and provide assistance for the preservation of non-Federal land within the boundaries of the Historic Site and at sites in close proximity to the Historic Site, but located outside the boundaries of the Historic Site, including providing for placement of directional and interpretive signage, exhibits, and technology-based interpretive devices.

(c) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—The Secretary may acquire any land (including interests in land), within the Historic Site boundary by donation, transfer, exchange, or purchase from a willing seller using donated or appropriate funds.

(d) MANAGEMENT PLAN.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the State, shall complete a general management plan for the Historic Site in accordance with any other applicable laws.

(e) NO BUFFER ZONE CREATED.—Nothing in this Act, the acquisition of the land or an interest in land authorized by this Act, or the management plan for the Park shall be construed to create buffer zones outside of the Park. That activities or uses can be seen, heard, or detected from the acquired land shall not preclude, limit,

control, regulate, or determine the conduct or management of activities or uses outside of the Park.

(f) EMINENT DOMAIN OR CONDEMNATION.—In carrying out this Act, the Secretary of the Interior may not use eminent domain or condemnation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the measure under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 820, the New Philadelphia National Historic Site Act. New Philadelphia was the first town platted and legally registered by an African American before the Civil War. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, designated as a National Historic Landmark, and included in the National Park Service's National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program.

This bill would further establish the New Philadelphia National Historic Site in Pike County, Illinois.

Honoring the legacy of New Philadelphia and celebrating the history of Black Americans is critically important. The protection and conservation of New Philadelphia ensures that this important history is preserved so that visitors to the site can have the opportunity to learn from and understand an important part of Illinois and American history.

The story of New Philadelphia is our story, and it rightly deserves a place in our National Park System.

As chair of the Natural Resources Committee, I am committed to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout our committee's work, including by advancing the preservation of forgotten or under-told stories.

I thank my colleague, Representative LAHOOD, for introducing this important legislation and championing the bill on behalf of, not only of his constituents, but the overall interest of the American people.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes,'' and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 820, the New Philadelphia National Historic Site Act, sponsored by Congressman DARIN LAHOOD of Illinois, which would establish New Philadelphia as a unit of the National Park System.

New Philadelphia Town Site, located near Barry, Illinois, is the first known town in the United States to be established and officially registered by an African American.

The national historic site established by this bill will tell the inspiring story of ''Free Frank'' McWorter, who founded New Philadelphia in 1836. He was born into slavery in South Carolina in 1777 and spent the first 42 years of his life enslaved. He worked to save enough money to purchase the freedom of his expectant wife, Lucy, and ensuring the freedom of their child. Two years later, he purchased his own freedom.

The family moved to a pioneer homestead in Illinois, where McWorter founded a town called New Philadelphia where free-born and formerly enslaved African Americans lived, alongside European Americans in a region and an era intense with racial strife.

New Philadelphia was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2005 and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2009. New Philadelphia is also listed as part of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

I commend Representative LAHOOD for sponsoring this bipartisan and locally supported bill. New Philadelphia will be a valuable addition to the National Park System.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time on my side, and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD).

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Alabama (Mr. CARL) for yielding and for his terrific work on the Natural Resources Committee, and I thank the majority and Chairman GRIJALVA for their support.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bipartisan bill, H.R. 820, the New Philadelphia National Historic Site Act.

Located in West Central Illinois, near the Missouri border, in Barry, Illinois, is New Philadelphia. Founded in 1836 by Frank McWorter, this was the first town founded, platted, and registered by an African American in the United States.

Once an enslaved person himself, Mr. Frank McWorter also known as ''Free Frank,'' bought his freedom. Mr. McWorter went on in his life and in his legacy to establish New Philadelphia, but also to demonstrate the critical role many African Americans played in their own freedom efforts.

Through the sale of land in New Philadelphia, among other business ventures, Free Frank used his earnings to free 15 other family members out of slavery. Additionally, many of the residents of New Philadelphia, both European Americans and African Americans, later came together to assist freedom-seekers moving north from slave-occupied States and locations.

The 40-acre original townsite is now nationally and historically significant. It is an archaeological site, advancing our understanding of free, rural communities and the abolitionist movement in the antebellum area.

The New Philadelphia site has already been recognized for its historical significance. It is currently on the National Register of Historic Places and is designated as a National Historic Landmark. The site is also included in the National Park Service Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program, and the Smithsonian National Museum of American History displays many of the artifacts unearthed from the area near New Philadelphia.

This bipartisan bill would establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System.

Many local and regional organizations have worked tirelessly for many years to preserve and protect this site and they deserve so much credit. One organization in particular, the New Philadelphia Association, has done a tremendous job in improving, maintaining, and endorsing the site for the benefit of New Philadelphia descendants, those living in the surrounding community, and those visiting from afar. I am delighted to be here tonight to assist their efforts and support the continued advocacy of many of my engaged constituents on this issue.

Including New Philadelphia in the National Park System would provide certainty and ensure its continued preservation far into the future. The National Park Service will be able to provide the tools, resources, and expertise necessary to elevate the site to its fullest potential.

It is imperative that sites like New Philadelphia are preserved for years to come, so that future generations can better understand their important history as well as the lessons that history provides us.

In closing, I thank the Natural Resources Committee for supporting this important piece of legislation, and I urge the adoption of the bill.

Mr. CARL. Madam Speaker, I urge the adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 820, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: ''A bill to establish the New

Philadelphia National Historic Site in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

LITTLE MANATEE WILD AND SCENIC RIVER ACT

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4358) to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Little Manatee River as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4358

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 ''Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act''.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION FOR STUDY OF WILD AND SCENIC RIVER SEGMENTS, LITTLE MANATEE RIVER, FLORIDA.

Section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(____) LITTLE MANATEE RIVER, FLORIDA.—The approximately 50-mile segment beginning at the source in southeastern Hillsborough County, Florida, downstream to the point at which the river enters Tampa Bay, including appropriate tributaries, but shall not include—

''(A) those portions lying within Manatee County, Florida, and being more particularly described as Parcel ID 247800059, Parcel ID 248200008 and Parcel ID 248100000; and

''(B) South Fork.''.

SEC. 3. STUDY AND REPORT.

Section 5(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1276(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(____) LITTLE MANATEE RIVER, FLORIDA.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this paragraph, the Secretary of the Interior shall—

''(A) complete the study of the Little Manatee River, Florida named in subsection (a)(__); and

''(B) submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report that describes the results of the study.''.

SEC. 4. EFFECT ON MANAGEMENT.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not interfere with the current management of the area of the Little Manatee River described in section 5(a)(__) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, nor shall the fact that such area is listed for study under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) be used as justification for more restrictive management until Congress acts on the study recommendations.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CARL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the item under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4358, the Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act, offered by our colleague from Florida, Representative BUCHANAN.

The bill will formally designate an approximately 51-mile segment of the Little Manatee River in Florida as a national scenic river.

Beginning at its source in southeastern Hillsborough County, the Little Manatee River flows downstream into Tampa Bay.

The river is one of the most pristine blackwater rivers in Southwest Florida and is designated as an outstanding Florida water.

□ 1815

Like all other wild and scenic rivers throughout the country, this bill will protect the river for public enjoyment without the fear of intrusive development.

The bill ensures the river remains available for full a range of recreational activities, such as canoeing, kayaking, boating, and fishing.

Designating the Little Manatee River as a Scenic River will ensure that it continues to be enjoyed by future generations of Floridians and visitors of all stripes.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes,'' and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4358, the Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act. This bill, sponsored by my colleague from Florida, Representative VERN BUCHANAN, would authorize a study of the Little Manatee River in Florida to consider its inclusion as a component of the National Wild and Scenic River System.

The Little Manatee River, which has been designated an Outstanding Florida Water, transitions from a 10- to 20-food-wide creek flowing through an ash and oak floodplain forest to a 300-foot-wide tide-influenced river flowing through tidal marsh that empties into Tampa Bay.

The bill contains important provisions protecting private property rights that ensure that study cannot be used as a justification for new restrictive management practices unless Congress acts to officially designate the river as part of the National Wild and Scenic River System at a future date.

This bill is locally supported, and I commend Representative BUCHANAN for his work on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend, the gentleman from Alabama, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4358, bipartisan legislation I introduced last July with my fellow Floridian Rep. DARREN SOTO, regarding the Little Manatee River. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join with us in voting in support of this bill.

The Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act authorizes the National Park Service (NPS) to study whether it's appropriate to add an approximately 51-mile-long segment of the Little Manatee River, from its source in southeastern Hillsborough County to the point at which the river enters Tampa Bay, to its Wild and Scenic River System.

For my part, I strongly support both passage of this bill today and of subsequently adding the Little Manatee River to the NPS' Wild and Scenic River program in the future. Passage of the bill before us today begins that journey and I have been very pleased to work with my colleagues on the Natural Resources Committee toward realizing that goal.

Adding this river to the Wild and Scenic River program in the future will help ensure the Little Manatee will remain available for a full range of recreational activities for Floridians, like canoeing, kayaking, boating and fishing.

In Florida, protecting our precious natural resources has always been a top priority. Florida's Suncoast is blessed with an abundance of natural treasures like Sarasota Bay, Emerson Point Preserve and Myakka River State Park.

I want all of my colleagues to know that adding the Little Manatee River to the Wild and Scenic River program enjoys strong local support as well. Both the Hillsborough County Commission and the Manatee County Commission have approved resolutions supporting this designation.

Of particular note, Hillsborough County Commission Chairman Stacy White has been a leader in the effort to add the Little Manatee River to the Wild and Scenic River program. He has been a champion of this effort from day one and an invaluable partner for me in my efforts at the federal level.

Protecting and enhancing water quality for all of Southwest Florida has always been one of my highest priorities in Congress.

Approving this bill today will move us forward in our efforts to help ensure a vibrant, clean and healthy environment in my home state of Florida. It's both an important element in our quality of life and a vital part of our economic well-being because millions of people visit Florida every year.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the bipartisan leadership of the Natural Resources Committee for working with me to bring H.R. 4358 to the floor today.

Again, I urge all of my colleagues in the House to join with me in voting for this bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4358, 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. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

CAPTAIN ROSEMARY BRYANT MARINER OUTPATIENT CLINIC

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7698) to designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Ventura, California, as the ''Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner Outpatient Clinic''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7698

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) As of January 2021, of the 1,255 health care facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs, two are named after women.

(2) Rosemary Ann Bryant was born on April 2, 1953, in Harlingen, Texas, to Captain Cecil Bryant and Constance Boylan Bryant, a World War II Navy nurse.

(3) Captain Mariner was the first woman to enroll in the aeronautics program at Purdue University in 1971.

(4) Captain Mariner joined the Navy in 1973, and after graduating from officer candidate school that year, she became a member of the Navy's first flight-training class for women.

(5) In 1974, Captain Mariner was one of six women to earn her wings and in 1975 she became the first female Naval aviator to fly a jet attack aircraft.

(6) In July 1990, Captain Mariner was named commander of Navy ''Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 34'' at Naval Air Station Point Mugu in Ventura County, California. The unit was 30 percent female and made Captain Mariner the first woman to command an operational air squadron, even though women were still barred from flying combat missions.

(7) Captain Mariner became a passionate advocate for women in the military, leading the Women Military Aviators and working with Congress and the Department of Defense to lift restrictions barring women from flying in combat.

(8) Captain Mariner attended the National War College in the District of Columbia, earning a master's degree in national security strategy and served on the staff of the Joint Chiefs at the Pentagon, and a professor of joint military studies at the National War College.

(9) Captain Mariner retired from the Navy in 1997, and moved to Tennessee with her husband Commander Tommy Mariner and her daughter Emmalee.

(10) During her Naval career Captain Mariner logged 17 landings on aircraft carriers and more than 3500 flight hours in 15 different aircraft.

(11) In retirement, Captain Mariner continued her service in her community as a resident scholar in the University of Tennessee's Center for the Study of War and Society, and taught military history in UT's history department for 15 years.

(12) Captain Mariner passed away from ovarian cancer on January 24, 2019, in Knoxville, Tennessee.

(13) In honor of Captain Mariner, the United States Navy conducted its first all-female flyover at the funeral service for Captain Mariner on Saturday, February 2, 2019, in Maynardville, Tennessee.

(14) In July 2021, a panel of Ventura County members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and military spouses recommended that the Ventura Medical Center be named in honor of Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF CAPTAIN ROSEMARY BRYANT MARINER OUTPATIENT CLINIC.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Ventura, California, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the ''Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner Outpatient Clinic''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner Outpatient Clinic''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 7698.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner, a member of the Navy's first flight-training class for women, the first woman to command a naval aviation squadron, and a lifelong advocate for women's military service.

The bill before us, H.R. 7698, would appropriately name the VA outpatient clinic in Ventura, California, the ''Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner Outpatient Clinic.''

I thank Representative JULIA BROWNLEY, chairwoman of the Veterans' Affairs Committee's Women Veterans Task Force, for championing this effort.

The VA has more than 1,200 healthcare facilities nationwide, yet as of the beginning of this Congress, just two of these facilities bore the names of women veterans. Representative BROWNLEY's bill will begin to correct this regretful disparity.

More than 2 million women veterans live in the United States today. They serve across all military branches and divisions, and they are the fastest growing group of veterans that utilize VA healthcare services. So it is fitting that we honor a trailblazing woman like Captain Mariner at one of these VA healthcare facilities.

Captain Mariner had service to this country in her veins. The daughter of a World War II Navy nurse and Army pilot killed in a plane crash when she was just 3 years old, Captain Mariner grew up watching planes take off and land at the Miramar Naval Air Station in San Diego, California.

Captain Mariner went on to become the first woman to enroll in the aeronautics program at Purdue University in 1971, one of six initial women to earn her wings as a U.S. naval aviator in 1974, and the first woman aviator to fly a jet attack aircraft in 1975.

In 1990, Captain Mariner became commander of the Navy's tactical warfare squadron at Naval Air Station Point Mugu in Ventura County.

She continued in public service following her 24-year military career, teaching military history at the University of Tennessee for an additional 15 years.

At Captain Mariner's funeral service in 2019, following a long battle against ovarian cancer, the Navy conducted its first flyover featuring all female pilots. This was, like the naming of the Ventura VA outpatient clinic will be, a fitting tribute to a life of service to this Nation.

H.R. 7698 has letters of support from the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD these three letters.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA,
Sanger, CA, April 6, 2022.

Rep. JULIA BROWNLEY,
Washington, DC.

REP. BROWNLEY: The American Legion Department of California is proud to support the naming of the Ventura County Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic after captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner.

Since its founding in 1919, the American Legion has served veterans, service members, and communities throughout our nation. Our commitment to serving all veterans has been one of the main pillars outlining our purpose. As the United State Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) continues to make strides in the way it supports and cares for women veterans, I believe by renaming VA facilities after brave female veterans it is a great step towards recognizing the contribution of this Nation's woman warriors.

On behalf of the 80,000+ American Legion members in California we urge congress to take action to name this facility to honor this woman veteran who embodies the true essence of duty and service to our community, state, and Nation.

Respectfully,

AUTREY B. JAMES Jr.,
Department Commander,
The American Legion,
Department of California.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS,
Elk Grove, CA, November 1, 2021.

Rep. JULIA BROWNLEY,
Washington DC.

DEAR REP. BROWNLEY: On behalf of the sixty-four thousand members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of California, I am writing to support naming the Ventura County Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic after Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner.

It is our privilege to help recognize and support the contributions of women in military service, notably Capt. Mariner, who we

believe embodies the requirements necessary to name a federal building in her honor. The panel convened in the Ventura County area consisting of members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and military spouses recommended that the Ventura Medical Center be named in honor of Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner and we agree that her military service and women veterans' advocacy is notable for this prestigious honor.

The VFW is committed to improve VA medical centers services for women veterans through legislative advocacy and fully support your work on behalf of our nation's veterans.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

DAWN M. NAPIER,
State Commander.

DAV,
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA,
Santa Fe Springs, CA, November 3, 2021.

To: The Chairs and Ranking Members of both the House and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees

Re Support Naming the Ventura VA Clinic after Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner

DEAR VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEES CHAIRS AND RANKING MEMBERS: As Commander of the Department of California Disabled American Veterans representing over 70,000 DAV Life Members in the State of California and in recognition of our fallen veterans and their survivors . . . as a department of veterans—who advocate daily for the heroes that served this nation; we sincerely urge you to support the bill created to rename the Ventura VA Clinic in Ventura, California, after the late Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner.

Since the Revolutionary War, millions of women and minorities have served in the Armed Forces of the United States. They have served in every role, from infantry soldier to cyber warfare engineer. Yet, as of January 2021, of the 1,255 VA healthcare facilities, only 13 have been dedicated to honor the service of minority veterans, and only two facilities have been named in honor of women veterans.

Rosemary Ann Bryant was born on April 2, 1953, in Harlingen, Texas, to Captain Cecil Bryant and Constance Boylan Bryant, a World War II Navy nurse. She was the first woman to enroll in the aeronautics program at Purdue University in 1971. She joined the Navy in 1973, and after graduating from officer candidate school that year, she became a member of the Navy's first flight-training class for women. In 1974, she was one of six women to earn her wings, and in 1975 she became the first female Naval Aviator to fly a jet attack aircraft.

In July 1990, Captain Mariner was named commander of Navy Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 34 at Naval Air Station Point Mugu in Ventura County, California. The unit was 30 percent female and made Captain Mariner the first woman to command an operational air squadron, even though women were still barred from flying combat missions. Captain Mariner became a passionate advocate for women in the military, leading the Women Military Aviators and working with Congress and the Defense Department to lift restrictions barring women from flying in combat.

She attended the National War College in Washington, DC., earning a master's degree in national security strategy and served on the staff of the Joint Chiefs at the Pentagon, and a professor of joint military studies at the National War College. Captain Mariner retired from the Navy in 1997 and moved to Tennessee with her husband Commander Tommy Mariner and her daughter Emmalee. During her Navy career, Captain Mariner logged 17 landings on aircraft carriers and more than 3500 flight hours in 15 different aircraft. In retirement, she continued her service in her community as a resident scholar in the University of Tennessee's Center for the Study of War and Society and taught military history in UT's history department for 15 years.

Captain Mariner passed away from Ovarian Cancer on January 24, 2019, in Knoxville, Tennessee. In honor of Captain Mariner, the United States Navy conducted its first all-female flyover at the funeral service for Captain Mariner on Saturday, February 2, 2019, in Maynardville, Tennessee. In July 2021, a panel of Ventura County members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and military spouses recommended that the Ventura Medical Center be named in honor of Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner.

In a recent report, the VA Advisory Committee on Women Veterans recommended inclusive naming of VA facilities ''to demonstrate to women veterans that their service matters.'' While VA has concurred with the recommendation, it is the responsibility of Congress to pass legislation to actually name these facilities.

The Chairwoman of the Women Veterans Task Force has helped identify disparities in access to care and benefits, and, where necessary, introduced, advocated for, and passed legislation that fixes those gaps. Naming new or undedicated facilities for women veterans would be a symbolic step to show our appreciation for the great courage, dedication, and sacrifice that these veterans have demonstrated in defense of our Nation.

Please join me in honoring the incredible life of Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner by co-sponsoring this bill and signing onto the letter of support to the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, a requirement to move the bill forward.

Thank you for your support of America's disabled veterans and their survivors. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our Dept. of CA DAV Legislative Director Gerald G. ''J.R.'' Wilson, Jr.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL KERR,
Commander.
DANIEL CONTRERAS,
DAV National 2nd Vice Commander, Adjutant/CEO.
GERALD G. WILSON, Jr.,
Legislative Director.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I wholeheartedly support this bill, I encourage all of my colleagues to do the same, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7698, a bill to rename the VA outpatient clinic in Ventura, California, the Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner Outpatient Clinic.

Captain Mariner was a trailblazer for women in military aviation. She was born in Texas and grew up in San Diego, California. Her mother was a Navy nurse, and her father was a military pilot. She grew up watching planes take off from Naval Air Station Miramar, which inspired her to save up for flying lessons.

In 1972, when she was just 19 years old, she became the first woman to graduate from Purdue University's aeronautical program. She then joined the Navy and was selected as one of the first eight women to enter pilot training. In 1974, she became one of the first six women to earn their naval aviator pilot's wings.

She went on to become one of the first female aviators to fly the A–4 Skyhawk fighter aircraft, the first woman to fly the A–7 Corsair strike aircraft, the first female aviator to be assigned to an aircraft carrier, and the first woman to command an aviation squadron in the Navy.

She commanded a tactical electronic warfare squadron during the first Gulf war. After that, she was one of the first women in the Navy to be promoted to captain. She retired in 1997 after 24 years of military service with over 3,500 flight hours. Her funeral in 2019 was accompanied by the first all-female pilot flyover.

Captain Mariner's contributions to the U.S. military and the Nation were truly remarkable. She set a lasting example for women in the Navy, whose ranks will include, as of Wednesday, my own granddaughter, which I am very proud of, even though I am still having trouble with the Navy over the Marines thing.

Madam Speaker, I am so proud to support this bill, I am grateful to Congresswoman BROWNLEY for sponsoring it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I want to say I appreciate the ranking member's mentioning of his daughter and the connection with today's action. I also extend my pride, and I feel his pride. We also are thankful for his daughter's service.

Madam Speaker, I yield 7 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BROWNLEY), my good friend and the chairwoman of the Subcommittee on Health. She is the author of H.R. 7698, a vital piece of legislation.

Ms. BROWNLEY. Madam Speaker, I thank the chairman of the committee and the ranking member for being so supportive of this bill. I also thank Speaker PELOSI and Majority Leader HOYER, and every member of the California delegation, for their support.

As the chair and ranking member mentioned, my bill, H.R. 7698, will name the new VA outpatient clinic in Ventura County after Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner.

This new VA clinic has been a long time in the making. Since I was elected to Congress, I have been working to expand VA services in Ventura County to ensure that our veterans have access to the timely and quality care that they have earned and deserve.

When I first came to Congress, it was clear that Ventura County veterans were being deeply underserved by the undersized and understaffed local VA clinic, so I immediately set out to work to correct the situation.

While I was able to secure improvements to the facility that existed, it

was clear that the large veteran population in our region needed a much larger facility and one run by VA personnel, personnel that understood them and understood their experiences. That was critically important.

Although the road to passing legislation to authorize a new facility was long, in 2017, my legislation was signed into law. This new clinic will be better equipped to deliver high-quality healthcare to a growing community of veterans living in Ventura County and in the area.

Importantly, the new clinic will have VA personnel and will offer expanded services and more specialty care, like dental care, physical therapy, rehabilitation services, optometry, audiology, podiatry, cardiology, and other services.

Getting the new facility open has been my highest priority in Congress, and I am very, very excited that it will be opening next Tuesday, September 27.

I am very grateful for the work of all the dedicated VA personnel in our region, who have been laser focused on getting this new facility opened and hiring all the necessary staff it needs.

□ 1830

Already, the reviews from local veterans who have toured the new facility have been very positive. I am hopeful that as veterans begin to get care at the facility, it will be truly transformative in their lives.

As chair of the Women Veterans Task Force, I am also especially pleased that the new clinic will be one of the first VA clinics in the country, and the very first in the greater Los Angeles area, with a women-only entrance.

Since the Revolutionary War, millions of women have served in the Armed Forces of the United States. However, when they leave the military, they are often invisible, and far too many women leave military service with the scars of military sexual trauma. The women-only entrance will ensure that our women veterans can feel safe and welcomed and, hopefully, never feel discouraged from seeking the care they need.

While opening this clinic has been my highest priority, I also believe that naming the clinic will provide us with yet another opportunity to recognize the service and sacrifice of our women veterans.

Women comprise the fastest growing and most diverse demographic in both the military and veteran populations.

Through my work in Congress, I am constantly reminded that women are the most visible while serving and the most invisible when they return to civilian life. This is symbolized, sadly, by the lack of VA facilities named after women veterans. In fact, of the 1,255 VA healthcare facilities, only two facilities have been named in honor of women veterans—only two.

To address this, I convened a local citizens advisory panel comprised of veterans and community leaders to select a woman veteran for whom we could name the new clinic, and they selected Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner.

Captain Mariner, a former resident of Ventura County, joined the Navy in 1973, where she became a member of the Navy's first flight training class for women. In 1974, she was one of six women to earn her wings and, the following year, became the first female naval aviator to fly a jet attack aircraft.

Captain Mariner was named commander of the Naval Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 34 at Naval Air Station Point Mugu in Ventura County, California. The unit was 30 percent female and made Captain Mariner the first woman to command an operational air squadron.

Throughout her career, Captain Mariner was a passionate advocate for women in the military, leading the Women Military Aviators and working with Congress and the Department of Defense to lift restrictions barring women from flying in combat.

I could not be more pleased that the House is taking up my bill to honor Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner.

This bill and this clinic send a critically important message to our women veterans, and that is: We see you.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on the bill.

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

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing H.R. 7698, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7698.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COLONEL CHARLES AND JOANNE POWELL DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS CLINIC

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2771) to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in San Angelo, Texas, as the ''Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2771

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

SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Colonel Charles Powell and his wife, Mrs. JoAnne Powell, served the community of San Angelo, Texas, with character and dignity.

(2) Colonel Powell served as the base commander of Goodfellow Air Force Base from 1980 to 1984.

(3) When the Powells moved to San Angelo, Charles was ordered to help Goodfellow avoid closure and the displacement of many members of the Armed Forces from the community they had grown to love.

(4) The impact of Charles' career can still be felt today at Goodfellow Air Force Base, as it serves as a training school for thousands of members from every Armed Force to train in cryptology, intelligence, and firefighting.

(5) JoAnne assisted thousands of constituents in the district offices of Representatives Tom Loeffler, Lamar Smith, K. Michael Conaway, and August Pfluger.

(6) One of the several duties JoAnne spearheaded was the annual process of nominations to the military service academies, which was always a year-round process for her.

(7) With JoAnne's assistance, many of the young men and women of the 11th congressional district of Texas went on to serve the United States and attend one of the military service academies.

(8) In addition, JoAnne was a fierce advocate of veterans and helped thousands of individuals gain access to the veterans benefits they rightfully earned.

(9) JoAnne's compassion and dedication helped make the Concho Valley a better place.

SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF COMMUNITY-BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IN SAN ANGELO, TEXAS.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in San Angelo, Texas, shall after the date of the enactment of this Act be known and designated as the ''Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic'' or the ''Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell VA Clinic''.

(b) REFERENCE.—Any reference in any law, regulation, map, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the community-based outpatient clinic referred to in subsection (a) shall be considered to be a reference to the Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and insert extraneous material on S. 2771.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the lives of Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell, both of whom served the community of San Angelo, Texas, and advocated for veterans for many years.

I thank Senator JOHN CORNYN and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER) for putting forward this legislation, which will rename the San Antonio VA clinic in Colonel and Mrs. Powell's honor.

Colonel Powell served as base commander of Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo from 1980 to 1984. He was instrumental in helping to avoid closure of the base, which today serves as a school for thousands of servicemembers training to be cryptologists, intelligence officers, and military firefighters.

Mrs. Powell also lived a life devoted to public service as district manager to four separate Members of Congress. In this role, Mrs. Powell encouraged many young men and women in the 11th Congressional District of Texas to serve in the United States military and helped numerous veterans access the VA benefits they rightfully earned.

S. 2771 and its companion bill, H.R. 4328, are cosponsored by nearly 40 Members of Congress, Democrat and Republican, and the legislation has the support of The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Disabled American Veterans.

Madam Speaker, I include letters of support from these Members and organizations for the RECORD.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, February 10, 2022.

Chairman JON TESTER,
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.
Chairman MARK TAKANO,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.
Hon. JERRY MORAN,
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.
Hon. MIKE BOST,
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN TESTER, CHAIRMAN TAKANO, RANKING MEMBER MORAN, AND RANKING MEMBER BOST: We are writing to express our support to name the Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in San Angelo, Texas, the ''Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell VA Clinic''.

Colonel Charles Powell served 30 years in the U.S. Air Force and was Commander of the 17th Training Wing at Goodfellow Air Force Base from 1980 until retiring in 1984. Only six months after his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy, he married JoAnne, who soon became a force of her own in the military and veterans' communities. Together, they settled in San Angelo for Charles's final assignment at Goodfellow AFB. The two saved Goodfellow from closure and helped the base become a technical training center.

During her husband's two deployments in Vietnam and during his time at Goodfellow, JoAnne revived the Officer Wives Club and started a Christmas Bazaar program that is ongoing today. Additionally, she was an active volunteer for a program that supported MIA and POW families, the Red Cross, and various other charitable causes.

Beyond these acts of service, JoAnne spent 37 years as a district staffer for four Members of Congress in the San Angelo district. She is believed to have provided casework assistance to thousands of service members and veterans and helped hundreds of district students navigate service academy selections and receive appointments. Although Charles passed away on July 2, 2020, JoAnne upheld Charles' legacy by staying active in the community, eventually being honored as a Lifetime Hero in the community for her contributions to the military community.

On March 24, 2021, JoAnne Powell passed away. Throughout Charles' and JoAnne's life together, they embodied the true meaning of selflessness, patience, and perseverance. The countless hours the Powells dedicated to changing the lives of their neighbors and being a light in their community have left a lasting impact on West Texas. We would be grateful for your support of this effort and hope that the Senate and the House Committees on Veterans' Affairs will give it its prompt consideration.

Sincerely,

John Cornyn, United States Senator; Ted Cruz, United States Senator, August Pfluger, Member of Congress; Louie Gohmert, Member of Congress; Dan Crenshaw, Member of Congress; Van Taylor, Member of Congress; Pat Fallon, Member of Congress; Lance Gooden, Member of Congress; Jake Ellzey, Member of Congress; Lizzie Fletcher, Member of Congress.

Kevin Brady, Member of Congress; Al Green, Member of Congress; Michael T. McCaul, Member of Congress; Kay Granger, Member of Congress; Ronny L. Jackson, Member of Congress; Randy K. Weber, Sr., Member of Congress; Vicente Gonzalez, Member of Congress; Veronica Escobar, Member of Congress; Pete Sessions, Member of Congress; Sheila Jackson Lee, Member of Congress.

Jodey C. Arrington, Member of Congress; Joaqin Castro, Member of Congress; Chip Roy, Member of Congress; Troy E. Nehls, Member of Congress; Tony Gonzales, Member of Congress; Beth Van Duyne, Member of Congress; Roger Williams, Member of Congress; Michael C. Burgess, M.D., Member of Congress; Michael Cloud, Member of Congress; Henry Cuellar, Member of Congress.

Sylvia R. Garcia, Member of Congress; Eddie Bernice Johnson, Member of Congress; John R. Carter, Member of Congress; Colin Z. Allred, Member of Congress; Marc A. Veasey, Member of Congress; Filemon Vela, Member of Congress; Lloyd Doggett, Member of Congress; Brian Babin, D.D.S., Member of Congress.

THE AMERICAN LEGION,
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
Austin, TX, September 23, 2021.

Re Endorsement of re-naming the name of the San Angelo VA Clinic

Rep. AUGUST PFLUGER,
Attn: Meredith Moore, Washington, DC.

DEAR REP. PFLUGER: As the State Commander of The American Legion, Department of Texas, I write to you in support of re-naming the San Angelo VA Clinic to the Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell VA Clinic.

The American Legion, the Nation's largest Veterans organization, believes in memorializing and honoring our Veterans, and we can see no better way to honor Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell for their dedicated service to the Community, State, and Nation.

For God and Country,

JAMES ''BRET'' WATSON,
State Commander.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS,
July 13, 2021.

Hon. MARK TAKANO,
Chairman, House Committee on Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC.
Hon. MIKE BOST,
Ranking Member, House Committee on Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC.

CHAIRMAN TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER BOST: On behalf of the Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars, I am honored to extend my support to U.S. Representative August Pfluger's H.R. 4328, to rename the Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic in San Angelo, Texas, to the ''Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell VA Clinic''.

The Powells were beloved figures in their adopted hometown of San Angelo who devoted a lifetime serving their country and community with honor and dedication. Our hope is memorializing their names on a facility that continues to the veterans they cared so much for, will inspire future generations.

Sincerely,

NORMAN MACEY,
State Commander.

Attest:

DAN WEST,
State Adjutant/Quartermaster.

DAV,
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS,
Lufkin, TX, June 29, 2021.

Chairman MARK TAKANO,
House Committee on Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC.
Ranking Member MIKE BOST,
House Committee on Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC.

CHAIRMAN MARK TAKANO AND RANKING MEMBER MIKE BOST: On the behalf of Disabled American Veterans, Department of Texas, I am honored to extend my support to the efforts of Congressman August Pfluger and the members of Congress from Texas to rename The Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in San Angelo, Texas, to the Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell VA Clinic''.

Colonel Powell was a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and served a distinguished 30 year career in the Air Force, including Commander of Goodfellow Air Base in San Angelo, Texas.

Mrs. Colonel Powell was in the Air Force and was a dedicated Military wife and force in her own right, active in the Officers Wives Club for 30 years. She was a voice for Veterans and served 37 years as District Manager to four members of Congress.

The bill, Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell VA Clinic, would rename the VA Clinic in San Angelo, Texas, to Honor the lives of these two individuals. The Powells were beloved figures in their adopted hometown who spent their lifetime serving their country and community with honor and dedication.

Sincerely,

TERESA JOHNIKEN,
Adjutant/Treasurer, DAV Department of Texas.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I support naming VA's community-based outpatient clinic in San Angelo, Texas, in Colonel Charles and Mrs. JoAnne Powell's honor, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2771. This bill names the VA community-based outpatient clinic, or CBOC, in San Angelo, Texas, after Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell.

Charles Powell graduated from the Naval Academy and went on to spend

three decades in the Air Force. In that time, he deployed twice to Vietnam, served as commander of Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, and eventually attained the rank of colonel.

While not a veteran herself, his wife, JoAnne Powell, was, as the Disabled American Veterans, Department of Texas, put it, a force all her own. During her husband's time as commanding officer of Goodfellow, she revived the Officers Wives Club, started a Christmas bazaar program that continues to this day, supported efforts to prevent the base from closing, and actively volunteered for the local charities and helped families of servicemembers who were prisoners of war or missing in action.

For her efforts, she was honored at the Goodfellow Air Force Base with a lifetime achievement award. JoAnne also spent almost 40 years working for her local Congressmen, helping thousands of servicemembers, veterans, and military families.

This bill fulfills the committee's naming criteria. It has the full support of the Texas congressional delegation, local VSOs, and the veteran community in and around San Angelo.

I particularly recognize the hard work and leadership of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER), my friend, and the Senate sponsor of this bill, Senator CORNYN. They have been relentless in their advocacy for the bill so that Charles and JoAnne's incredible legacy will finally receive the recognition it deserves. I thank them both.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill today.

Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PFLUGER).

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleagues, the ranking member and the chairman, for bringing this bill to the floor.

I rise today in support of my bill to rename the veterans community-based outpatient clinic in San Angelo, Texas, the Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell VA Clinic.

I cannot think of two people more deserving of this honor than Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell. They are both true American heroes who, for their entire lives, dedicated their service to this country through a distinguished career not only in the U.S. Air Force but later in civilian life when they became two of the most ardent and fervent leaders for military and veterans issues.

They shared a love story not only between themselves but also for this country. Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell met in preschool in Nashville, Arkansas. They graduated high school together, and they were married in 1954 after Charles graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy and then joined the Air Force. No matter where Charles' missions took them around the world to different locations, JoAnne was right there, serving alongside him.

Colonel Powell and JoAnne first flew into San Angelo in 1980, and he became the base commander of Goodfellow and JoAnne the honorary first lady. Their mission was daunting, as they were tasked with saving Goodfellow, which was slated for closure. Not only did they immediately spring into action to save the base, but they built a lasting partnership that lasts today between the community and the base, completely converting the base mission into one of a premier intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and fire training installation for every branch of the U.S. military.

After Charles retired, they settled in San Angelo, and their legacy has left over 360,000 graduates from Goodfellow Air Force Base that have joined all branches and all intelligence agencies, including not just the military but the CIA, DIA, FBI, NSA, and more.

Thankfully, their professional service has made this country better, but it is there where they decided to plant their roots and set to work in their community, making it a better place.

In addition to her service as a military spouse, JoAnne Powell gave of herself through immeasurable community involvement on countless boards and civic organizations. Through her 35-year career as a congressional liaison for the 11th District, she worked for Representatives Tom Loeffler, Lamar Smith, Mike Conaway, and, lastly, myself.

She served thousands of veterans in this position. She helped in any way she possibly could. Not only did she spearhead the annual process of nominating young men and women to the service academies, which was a year-round position for both her and Charles Powell, but she also achieved what I think is probably more lasting in helping those cadets and those midshipmen go through the academies, including myself, which was probably her most generous contribution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. SCHRIER). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman.

Mr. PFLUGER. Madam Speaker, Charles and JoAnne Powell were a perfect team, and they supported one another as they completed their missions of life with flying colors. Together, they raised an exceptional daughter, Terri, and adored their two wonderful grandchildren.

I am thrilled today to be able to honor them, to honor their service, the impact that they had in the Concho Valley, the impact that they had on so many veterans, and the impact that they had on our military with the naming of the Charles and JoAnne Powell VA Clinic.

I thank the chairman and ranking member and the entire Texas delegation and your staffs for helping make this a reality. Obviously, I thank Charles and JoAnne Powell for their love of this country, which is a legacy that I think all of us could stand to learn from.

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

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, in closing, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in passing S. 2771, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. TAKANO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2771.

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.

□ 1845

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Motions to suspend the rules with respect to the following measures:

S. 3895,

S. 3157; and,

H.R. 1456.

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.

UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3895) to extend and authorize annual appropriations for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom through fiscal year 2024, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

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

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 402, nays 4, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 438]

YEAS—402

Adams	Allen	Armstrong
Aderholt	Allred	Arrington
Aguilar	Amodei	Auchincloss

Axne
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 (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Cammack
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cawthorn
Chabot
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Comer
Connolly
Conway
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Donalds
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Flores
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (TX)
Gimenez
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
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 (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 (IL)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Newman
Norman
O'Halleran
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Payne
Peltola
Pence
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Price (NC)
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan (NY)
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sempolinski
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Soto
Spanberger
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
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack

NAYS—4

Gohmert
Greene (GA)
Massie
Roy

NOT VOTING—26

Babin
Brown (MD)
Budd
Cartwright
Cheney
Garcia (IL)
Gibbs
Hollingsworth
Joyce (OH)
Katko
Mrvan
Murphy (FL)
Norcross
Pascrell
Pocan
Quigley
Rice (NY)
Salazar
Simpson
Spartz
Speier
Steube
Waltz
Wild
Yarmuth
Zeldin

□ 1909

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.

Stated for:

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 438.

MEMBERS RECORDED PURSUANT TO HOUSE RESOLUTION 8, 117TH CONGRESS

Baird (Bucshon)
Bass (Correa)
Bilirakis (Fleischmann)
Blumenauer (Beyer)
Boebert (Gaetz)
Butterfield (Beyer)
Conway (Valadao)
Crenshaw (Ellzey)
DeFazio (Pallone)
DesJarlais (Fleischmann)
Duncan (Norman)
Gallego (Correa)
Gomez (Evans)
Granger (Gonzales, Tony (TX))
Jacobs (NY) (Tenney)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Jones (Beyer)
Khanna (Jeffries)
Kirkpatrick (Pallone)
LaMalfa (Ellzey)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawrence (Pallone)
McEachin (Beyer)
Meeks (Jeffries)
Meng (Kuster)
Napolitano (Correa)
Nehls (Babin)
Newman (Beyer)
Palazzo (Fleischmann)
Payne (Pallone)
Rodgers (WA) (Moore (UT))
Rogers (KY) (Reschenthaler)
Rush (Bowman)
Ryan (OH) (Correa)
Sánchez (Pallone)
Scott, Austin (Cammack)
Sewell (Cicilline)
Sires (Pallone)
Stansbury (Pallone)
Stewart (Owens)
Thompson (PA) (Keller)
Vargas (Correa)
Welch (Pallone)

BRIDGING THE GAP FOR NEW AMERICANS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3157) to require the Secretary of Labor to conduct a study of the factors affecting employment opportunities for immigrants and refugees with professional credentials obtained in foreign countries, 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. SCOTT) 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 363, nays 52, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 439]

YEAS—363

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Axne
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brown (MD)
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carey
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Carter (TX)
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Conway
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle, Michael F.
Duncan
Dunn
Ellzey
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Estes
Evans
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Flores
Foster
Foxx
Frankel, Lois
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (CA)
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gimenez
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hayes
Hern
Herrell
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Jackson Lee
Jacobs (CA)
Jacobs (NY)
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
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
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 (NC)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Peltola
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rice (SC)
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan (NY)
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sempolinski
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
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
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack

NAYS—52

Babin
Banks
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brooks
Buck
Cammack
Cawthorn
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Comer
Donalds
Emmer
Fallon
Fitzgerald
Franklin, C. Scott
Gaetz
Gohmert
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Harris
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Jackson
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Lamborn
Lesko
Massie
Mast
McClintock
Miller (IL)
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Nehls
Norman
Perry
Posey
Rosendale
Roy
Steube
Taylor
Tiffany
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)

NOT VOTING—17

Brady
Budd
Cartwright
Cheney
Gibbs
Gottheimer
Hollingsworth
Jayapal
Murphy (FL)
Norcross
O'Halleran
Omar
Quigley
Rice (NY)
Simpson
Yarmuth
Zeldin

□ 1923

Messrs. CAWTHORN and JACKSON 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

Baird (Bucshon)
Bass (Correa)
Bilirakis (Fleischmann)
Blumenauer (Beyer)
Boebert (Gaetz)
Butterfield (Beyer)
Conway (Valadao)
Crenshaw (Ellzey)
DeFazio (Pallone)
DesJarlais (Fleischmann)
Duncan (Norman)
Gallego (Correa)
Gomez (Evans)
Granger (Gonzales, Tony (TX))
Jacobs (NY) (Tenney)
Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)
Jones (Beyer)
Khanna (Jeffries)
Kirkpatrick (Pallone)
LaMalfa (Ellzey)
Lamb (Pallone)
Lawrence (Pallone)
McEachin (Beyer)
Meeks (Jeffries)
Meng (Kuster)
Napolitano (Correa)
Nehls (Babin)
Newman (Beyer)
Palazzo (Fleischmann)
Payne (Pallone)
Rodgers (WA) (Moore (UT))
Rogers (KY) (Reschenthaler)
Rush (Bowman)
Ryan (OH) (Correa)
Sánchez (Pallone)
Scott, Austin (Cammack)
Sewell (Cicilline)
Sires (Pallone)
Stansbury (Pallone)
Stewart (Owens)
Thompson (PA) (Keller)
Vargas (Correa)
Waltz (Gimenez)
Welch (Pallone)

PEACE CORPS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2022

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1456) to amend the Peace Corps Act to reauthorize the Peace Corps, better support current and returned volunteers, 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 New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) 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 290, nays 125, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 440]

YEAS—290

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Axne
Bacon
Barr
Barragán
Bass
Beatty
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice (OK)
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bost
Bourdeaux
Bowman
Boyle, Brendan F.
Brady
Brown (OH)
Brownley
Bucshon
Bush
Bustos
Butterfield
Calvert
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carl
Carson
Carter (LA)
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chabot
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Conway
Cooper
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis, Danny K.
Davis, Rodney
Dean
DeFazio
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Demings
DeSaulnier
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doyle, Michael F.
Ellzey
Escobar
Eshoo
Espaillat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flores
Foster
Frankel, Lois
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Gimenez
Gohmert
Golden
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez (OH)
Gonzalez, Vicente
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Herrera Beutler
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
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
LaMalfa
Lamb
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTurner
Lawrence
Lawson (FL)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin (CA)
Levin (MI)
Lieu
Lowenthal
Lucas
Luria
Lynch
Malinowski
Maloney, Carolyn B.
Maloney, Sean
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCaul
McCollum
McEachin
McGovern
McHenry
McKinley
McNerney
Meeks
Meijer
Meng
Mfume
Miller-Meeks
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moulton
Mrvan
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Newman
O'Halleran
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Peltola
Perlmutter
Peters
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Price (NC)
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Rutherford
Ryan (NY)
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sempolinski
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Sires
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Soto
Spanberger
Speier
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Suozzi
Swalwell
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Upton
Valadao
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Waltz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Welch
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack

NAYS—125

Aderholt
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Bentz
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brooks
Buchanan
Buck
Burchett
Burgess
Cammack
Carey
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Cawthorn
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Comer
Curtis
DesJarlais
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn
Emmer
Estes
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Flood
Foxx
Franklin, C. Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Garcia (CA)
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Graves (MO)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Harris
Harshbarger
Hartzler
Hern
Herrell
Hice (GA)
Higgins (LA)
Issa
Jackson
Johnson (LA)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Keller
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kustoff
LaHood
Lamborn
Latta
Long
Loudermilk
Luetkemeyer
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
McCarthy
McClain
McClintock
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (WV)
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Mullin
Murphy (NC)
Nehls
Norman
Obernolte
Owens
Palazzo
Palmer
Pence
Pfluger
Posey
Rice (SC)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Scalise
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stewart
Taylor
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)

NOT VOTING—17

Brown (MD)	Hollingsworth	Rice (NY)
Budd	Lofgren	Simpson
Cartwright	Murphy (FL)	Smith (NJ)
Cheney	Norcross	Yarmuth
Doggett	Perry	Zeldin
Gibbs	Quigley	

□ 1932

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

Baird (Bucshon)	Jacobs (NY) (Tenney)	Rodgers (WA) (Moore (UT))
Bass (Correa)	Johnson (TX) (Jeffries)	Rogers (KY) (Reschenthaler)
Bilirakis (Fleischmann)	Jones (Beyer)	Rush (Bowman)
Blumenauer (Beyer)	Khanna (Jeffries)	Ryan (OH) (Correa)
Boebert (Gaetz)	Kirkpatrick (Pallone)	Sánchez (Pallone)
Butterfield (Beyer)	LaMalfa (Ellzey)	Scott, Austin (Cammack)
Conway (Valadao)	Lamb (Pallone)	Sewell (Cicilline)
Crenshaw (Ellzey)	Lawrence (Pallone)	Sires (Pallone)
DeFazio (Pallone)	McEachin (Beyer)	Stansbury (Pallone)
DesJarlais (Fleischmann)	Meeks (Jeffries)	Stewart (Owens)
Duncan (Norman)	Meng (Kuster)	Thompson (PA) (Keller)
Gallego (Correa)	Napolitano (Correa)	Vargas (Correa)
Gomez (Evans)	Nehls (Babin)	Waltz (Gimenez)
Granger (Gonzales, Tony (TX))	Newman (Beyer)	Welch (Pallone)
	Palazzo (Fleischmann)	
	Payne (Pallone)	

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 117–145)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. STRICKLAND) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, as amended, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2022.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, in New York and Pennsylvania and against the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. This crisis continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224, as amended, with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, *September 19, 2022.*

CELEBRATING THE INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

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

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the Inflation Reduction Act. This law not only makes a massive $370 billion climate and energy investment nationwide, but it could generate up to 5 million new clean energy jobs across America.

Madam Speaker, Texas is number one in wind energy and number two in solar energy. Texas led all States in overall renewable energy production in the first quarter of 2022. There are nearly 240,000 Texas workers in the clean energy industry.

This number will soon increase because of the estimated $66 billion investment in Texas' clean power industry between now and 2030. More Texas workers will be able to gain employment across the solar, wind, and other clean energy industries.

President Biden and House Democrats are not only fighting the climate crisis, but we are making sure workers can transition into good-paying clean energy jobs. We are putting people over politics, and it is about jobs, jobs, and more jobs.

RECOGNIZING THE THUNDERBOLT FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroism of the Thunderbolt Fire Department for its swift and effective response after Savannah Bananas pitcher Bill Lee collapsed while warming up.

Bill ''Spaceman'' Lee is a legendary pitcher, a Boston Red Sox Hall of Famer, and a notorious personality in Major League Baseball. He is beloved by his community. Teammates and colleagues use words like ''infectious,'' ''unique,'' and ''living legend'' to describe him.

His commitment to the great American pastime is lifelong, having continued to pitch for 40 years after the end of his career in the major leagues.

While warming up for a Savannah Bananas game, Bill, unfortunately, suffered from a sudden cardiac episode that rendered him unconscious and unable to breathe. The Thunderbolt Fire Department reacted immediately, however, and Bill was quickly resuscitated and in a stable condition when he was transferred to a local hospital.

Bill is already well on his way to a full and speedy recovery and is today in great spirits, waiting for his next game.

We have the Thunderbolt Fire Department's timely intervention to thank for saving this baseball legend's life, and I take this opportunity to recognize them today.

REAUTHORIZING THE READ ACT

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

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7240 to reauthorize the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development Act, or the READ Act.

I thank my good friend, Chairwoman KAREN BASS, for leading this bipartisan legislation and Chairman MEEKS and the Speaker for moving it to the floor.

Our dear friend and a great leader, Chairwoman NITA LOWEY, who preceded me as chair of the Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs, led the charge to pass the READ Act in 2017. I saw her over this weekend, and she was so excited that this bill was coming to the floor.

The READ Act coordinates and amplifies U.S. efforts to support basic education abroad. Over 58 million children still cannot go to school around the world, more than half are girls, and COVID–19 disrupted learning for hundreds of millions of kids, creating huge challenges for meeting the sustainable development goal of providing a quality education for all kids by 2030.

I was proud to include in the fiscal year 2023 House SFOPS appropriations bill $985 million for international basic education, $35 million above last year's enacted level and $291.6 million above the President's budget request. The READ Act authorization will ensure that these resources will deliver the most value for kids around the world.

INCREASING ILLEGAL CROSSINGS AND DECREASING DEPORTATIONS

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

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I bring attention to the American people of what should be the number one story in every newspaper in the country tomorrow, but we know they won't even cover it.

Today were released the encounters and releases at the southern border for August—just shy of 140,000 people. By

comparison, 2 years ago in August of the prior administration, it was 13,000. So, in 2 years, we have gone from 13,000 to 140,000.

That also means a corresponding increase in the amount of fentanyl crossing the border, and we all know that, right now, we have well over 100,000 illegal drug deaths in America, and of those 100,000, the vast majority contain fentanyl.

I also point out that, right now, the deportations are about one quarter per day as to what they were for people committing crimes 2 years ago.

I want the American people to wake up and demand something serious be done on the border, and I beg the press corps to talk about the new August numbers for people crossing here illegally.

□ 1945

FISCAL YEAR 2023 COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING

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

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my profound support for the work of the House Appropriations Committee and highlight the inclusion of the Fiscal Year 2023 Community Project Funding requests for Indiana's First Congressional District.

I am grateful for the ability to collaborate with local units of government, nonprofit organizations, and institutions of higher education to effectively advocate in a transparent fashion for their eligible projects.

Notably, the House-approved legislation includes funding for vital economic and transportation assets in Northwest Indiana, including the Gary/Chicago International Airport, the Burns Waterway Small Boat Harbor in Portage, and shoreline restoration efforts for Mount Baldy within the Indiana Dunes National Park.

I look forward to continuing to work with all my colleagues to complete our constitutional work to fund government and advance the needs of our districts.

IMMIGRATION HYPOCRISY

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

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, over the past 21 months under the Biden administration, border States and cities such as McAllen, Texas and Yuma, Arizona, have seen hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants enter their cities under these reckless border policies.

I, along with 59 Republicans, introduced H.R. 6592, the Immigration Transparency and Notification Act, to provide for transparency of these secret immigration flights conducted by the Biden administration into my hometown and rural towns across America.

Thousands of illegals were flown into areas across the country with no notice or coordination, yet no one flinched; no mainstream media attention; no outrage from the White House.

Now that Chicago, D.C., and Martha's Vineyard have joined the party and been introduced to open border policy, somehow, now this is a national tragedy and unacceptable. This is hypocrisy at its highest.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

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

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

There was no objection.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to begin the discussion that I think we will continue in days to come and even into the new year, and that is to discuss the Congressional Black Caucus' accomplishments in this Congress, the 117th.

By its very nature, the tenure and the breadth and depth of members of the Congressional Black Caucus, I believe that we can be talking for a very long time, and so this will probably be a continuum to tell the American people how we have been helping to ensure that they have a better quality of life.

I am very proud to join with the chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus, JOYCE BEATTY, who has led us, in the 117th Congress, to be instrumental in the lives of intergenerations, across generational lines, and to ensure that those who are at the beginning of life, and those at the end of life, and those in between raising their families, know that the Congressional Black Caucus is standing with them.

One particularly unique example of that is, of course, the HBCU conference that is going on this week, where HBCUs are coming from all over the country. And it is interesting to be able to associate, not only our colleague, ALMA ADAMS, as the chair of the HBCU Caucus, of which I am a member and many of our colleagues are members, including I see on the floor, Chairman SCOTT.

Under his leadership, the HBCUs have gotten more money—than I believe in the history of many of our tenure here in the United States Congress—working with President Biden. This is the leadership of the Congressional Black Caucus.

So let me quickly begin my comments, and I will look forward to yielding to my friends who are here, including my colleague and friend from Louisiana, Mr. TROY CARTER, Congressman CARTER, who is the new vice chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus. And I know that we are looking forward to many days of action on behalf of the children of America and on behalf of children of color and African-American children.

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus strongly support the President's goal of passing legislation that will significantly reduce healthcare costs for all Americans.

The Inflation Reduction Act will significantly reduce, and has significantly reduced, prescription drug costs and expanded healthcare coverage for millions of Black Americans, relieving financial strains on individuals and families.

What I think is most important is the work that many of us on the Congressional Black Caucus did, including the work that I advocated with our whip, JIM CLYBURN, and Senator WARNOCK. We were on it for the $35 cap on insulin, along with our colleagues. It was driven and inspired by members of the Congressional Black Caucus to ensure that insulin, which now is one of the driving forces of creating a better quality of life for our seniors—you can say that the Congressional Black Caucus was intimately involved in that.

We were intimately involved in ensuring that it has a fair response to climate change around the issue of bringing down the cost of energy for our families in America. And of course, that impacts Black families.

This new law will help bring down energy costs for millions of Black Americans, and it includes very strong protections and programs to promote environmental justice.

Of course, we worked extensively on the bipartisan infrastructure law. That was, of course, a very pivotal role for those of us in the Congressional Black Caucus. Black, Hispanic, Asian American, Pacific Islander, Native Americans, especially those who reside in urban communities, are more likely to be negatively impacted by pollution. Black people are almost three times more likely to die from asthma-related causes than their White counterparts.

And, of course, the Congressional Black Caucus led in negotiations to assure that this was a balanced bill.

In particular, my constituents have already seen the magnificent results of the once-in-a-generation piece of legislation. Houston METRO was granted a $21 million grant to buy battery-powered electric buses, and it has helped it move to the next level, next generation of rapid transit, and plans to go to the airports, both Hobby and Bush Intercontinental, in my district, with bipartisan infrastructure dollars.

And as a hurricane-prone community, as many of the Gulf States are, from Louisiana to Texas and Mississippi, the bipartisan infrastructure bill will help us work on those flood-

prone areas and ensure the safety and life of so many.

I am excited about how the Congressional Black Caucus gravitated around the Juneteenth legislation, the first bill in almost 40 years that created a Federal holiday which was signed on June 17, 2021. I am very pleased to be the first Member to introduce legislation to ensure that there was a holiday after 10 years of introducing the resolutions, and the culmination of all of these years, and particularly, the culmination of Opal Lee, who came on a hot day in 2019, and brought us a million petitions—she was in her nineties—to ensure that Juneteenth could become a Federal holiday.

Her work in getting all those petitions, the introduction of the legislation that I was proud to introduce, and ultimately presiding over the floor—all of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus were strong proponents of this, and we could not have done it without their leadership and urgency.

Many of you know that Juneteenth represents two more years of slavery for those west of the Mississippi, until General Granger came with Order Number 15 to announce that the slaves were free, because the South had not adhered to the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation. So he came to Galveston, Texas, General Granger, announcing the end of the Civil War and the freedom of the last Americans enslaved in the Confederate States.

Since the 1800s, Juneteenth has been an important commemoration to African Americans. Even as Frederick Douglass and W.E.B. Du Bois reminded us that—Frederick Douglass, in particular—there is no power with struggle. And, of course, W.E.B. Du Bois talked to us about ''The Talented Tenth.''

That means that the work of the Congressional Black Caucus is keen, and we are keen to make sure that the work that is done continues to emphasize what is best for them.

Let me also take note of the support of African Americans in helping to assure—and the Congressional Black Caucus, with the leadership of Chairwoman BEATTY, and working with the Judiciary Committee, the chairman of the full committee, NADLER, subcommittee, COHEN and myself, and the members of the Congressional Black Caucus on the Judiciary Committee, we were able to mark up for the first time in history, H.R. 40, the Commission to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals for African Americans Act.

What a powerful experience, first, with two hearings, bringing people from all over, including the author and proponent of the 1619 Project, and leaders and scholars who understood that this is simply restoration and repair, and this must be created as a commission by law, by vote, or executive order.

In addition, glad to have the help of the Congressional Black Caucus on the passage of the Violence Against Women Act, a reauthorization act that I introduced. And in it were many aspects of work or language for people of color for the first time; training for young men and boys on how to deal with the issue of violence, and also the question of rape and how we should be working on that.

We followed with massive work on education, as I indicated, doing more for primary and secondary education than could ever be imagined, under the leadership of Chairman BOBBY SCOTT.

I will conclude my remarks in order to yield to my friends. I want to be able to say that during the midst of the pandemic, there were several things that the Congressional Black Caucus led on. One, to push testing into our community where there was none; to push vaccines and vaccinations into our community where there were none; and to ensure that we focused on lost learning and our children who did not have access to broadband.

It was our voices that made it loud and clear. Ultimately, broadband access has been put more and more into the bipartisan infrastructure bill. But during the pandemic, it was the voices of the Congressional Black Caucus that insisted that we do better with respect to these children who had no access. The stories were large and looming. They were frightening, and I am glad that our voices continue.

There are many other litanies of issues dealing with climate change, dealing with criminal justice reform. It was because of us that ultimately we introduced the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, one of two bills named after George Floyd.

Because of all the work we did, with KAREN BASS and all the members of the CBC, all the work that we did ultimately resulted in an executive order that we do know, as indicated by executive order, that you will have no more choke holds, no more no-knocks, and more that we hope to put into statutory law. We are excited that the bill did include large aspects of the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

With that in mind, I am delighted to be able to yield to—as I talk further about some of these important elements of the work of the Congressional Black Caucus, but I am pleased now to yield to the chairman of the House Education and Labor Committee so that he can evidence the Congressional Black Caucus' 117th Congress accomplishments through the works that he has done on his committee, the Education and Labor Committee.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), chairman of the Education and Labor Committee.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, and I thank her for her good work.

Madam Speaker, the people, the American people deserve a government that puts people over politics and protects hardworking families, not billionaires and special interests. That is why, throughout the 117th Congress, the House Education and Labor Committee has advanced legislation that meets the needs of students, families, workers, and our economy.

Over the last 2 years, Congressional Democrats and the Biden-Harris administration have made historic progress to rescue the American economy, create good-paying jobs, get students back on track, fight child hunger, and boost access to healthcare.

Just in the Education and Labor Committee, there was a lot that was done. We helped create over 10 million jobs in our economy since January 2021: the most jobs in history for 20 months. We recovered all of the jobs lost during the pandemic. We reduced unemployment to historically low levels.

We saved the pensions of over 1 million workers, and protected thousands of businesses by saving the multiemployer pension fund.

We delivered the largest one-time Federal investment to K–12 education in the United States history. And we delivered that money and distributed it according to the Title I formula where poverty is the main factor, meaning that the districts that need it the most got the most. Those that are traditionally overlooked got more money than they have ever gotten before.

□ 2000

We put money into school lunches so that students didn't go hungry during that period of time. We made sure that, with that money, the schools could open safely, stay open safely, and make up for lost learning. During that period of time, during the COVID relief bills, we had more money for historically Black colleges and universities than we ever have in history.

Now, we also made sure that the number of Americans without health insurance, because of the actions that we have taken, is now the lowest it has ever been. We have made sure that they can get vaccines, and those vaccines were distributed equitably. That is not always the case.

We made sure that drug prices were down, particularly insulin for seniors, no more than $35 per month for insulin. A lot of people right now before this bill were paying a lot more than that.

That is just the kind of legislation that came through the Education and Labor Committee. But House Democrats and the Congressional Black Caucus are committed to continuing this historic progress and building back a stronger economy for all Americans. That is why we passed the bipartisan infrastructure law, which not only modernized roads, bridges, and waterways, but will also create millions of good-paying jobs and will deliver broadband to areas that don't have broadband today. We will invest in neighborhoods that were destroyed by previous transportation plans going right down the middle of African-

American neighborhoods, and we will invest in those neighborhoods to try to make up for that devastation.

Moving forward, we are committed to committee work, advancing policies like the Raise the Wage Act, the Protecting the Right to Organize Act, the Equity and Inclusion Enforcement Act, the Strength in Diversity Act, and the Rebuild America's Schools Act to ensure that every worker, student, and family has the opportunity to succeed.

We have done a lot. We haven't finished.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Texas for her leadership and the opportunity to remind the American public of what we have already accomplished.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his remarks. It is clear that there is a new day on the Committee on Education and Labor. That committee, led by Chairman SCOTT, has shown itself to be the people's committee, and I am delighted that his longstanding membership with the Congressional Black Caucus has shown that his work is for all of America. But through the Congressional Black Caucus he has helped and elevated families who have suffered because of racial discrimination and because of economic inequities. He has been focused.

Certainly, I credit him again with the work that has been done on HBCUs. I can assure you, with HBCUs in Texas, everywhere I go, they are taking note of the increased funding that has allowed them to do issues or handle matters with physical infrastructure, scholarship, the new Pell grant executive order, student loan executive order that is allowing for those with Pell grant loans making $120,000 to get $20,000 in relief. The Congressional Black Caucus worked extensively to ensure that those people with student loans were not forgotten.

Let me say it again. We work without ceasing to ensure that individuals who were overburdened with student loans, couldn't get down payments for housing and other matters for their quality of life—we were ensuring that we were in the front, if you will, to continue to advocate for student loan reduction.

Let me just say this, as I prepare to yield to my dear friend on the floor here.

As poet Langston Hughes reminds us, in his famous poem ''Mother to Son,'' life in America for African Americans ''ain't been no crystal stair.''

The goodness of this message is that in spite of it all, African Americans have put on uniforms and fought their battles on behalf of this Nation. African Americans are great lovers of this country, and they are great patriots. African Americans have worked in every level of government. They have, of course, been individuals who have worked, as some will say, at the bottom of the totem pole, meaning every manner of work they have done.

There have been African Americans who were enslaved who helped build the White House and the very building that we are in, never to hold the anger of their station in life but continue to work to insist on a better quality of life for their families.

It is very much important to take note of the bills that we have been able to do as individual Members of Congress.

I am just going to cite H.R. 7566, stops human trafficking in schools, that I introduced; working with an amendment to the Workforce Innovation bill; ensuring HBCU's full access to job skills training; amendment to H.R. 8294, the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development appropriations bill to ensure that HBCUs had specific work—it supports the work of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture by increasing the funding by $2 million.

Then I will finish more deeply on H.R. 40. That bill is much exhibited, as I have been on the floor before, with this slave and his back and the welts on his back from a whip. This was the life of slavery in America.

I just read recently of Germany's response to aging holocaust victims, which I applaud, providing millions of dollars to respond to their pain, just recently. In the course of the commission to study slavery and develop reparation proposals, it would give America a moment of healing. We have been hearing this discussion across the Nation and across the world, most recently, of course, in the halls or the places in Great Britain.

But for America to take that stand that the discussion is worthy, that the study is worthy, that the idea of what kind of proposals would come about, what inclusive ways would we deal with the recognition of over two centuries of slavery—unpaid, no insurance, no workers' comp, no days off, from sunup to darkness, beat by the whip, as the slave narratives in 1939 told us. The stories are powerful. Ripped away from our families. Made families, husband and wife and children. Then you would hear the pleas in the slave narratives when they say, ''Come home, husband. They are about to sell me and the children in different ways and different places.'' It happened to slaves all the time.

I was honored and humbled to meet the survivors of the Wall Street massacre. It happened in 1921. Those people were, in actuality, some even former slaves, but mostly descendants of the most recent people who were slaves, the most recent, their ancestors or their mother might have been a slave. But they built a Wall Street, but yet it could not survive because of racism and discrimination.

So to heal our land, the Congressional Black Caucus has worked in many ways to heal our land, and I am grateful for their advocacy for just a fair and simple study and assessment of what we should do to repair what occurred two centuries and continues even today.

The story is long about the inequities of the GI Bill, redlining, discrimination in voting, in the criminal justice system, the basis of wealth, so distinctive between other populations in this country.

So I thank the Congressional Black Caucus for the extensive legislative history that it has had over the 117th Congress.

It really is my privilege, Madam Speaker, to yield to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CARTER) to speak about the accomplishments of the Congressional Black Caucus, my dear colleague and friend who has shown himself a leader.

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, a huge thank you to our incredible leader, my neighbor, my friend, my colleague, my leader, the honorable Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE, who has the pulse of our country firmly in her grip.

I have watched this woman go from country to country fighting for justice and what is right and what is pure. We can't thank her enough in recognition of the great work she does.

She stands at this rostrum, and she talks about the atrocities in our country while she continues to fight for atrocities in other countries. I applaud her. I thank her for her incredible leadership. It has been a pleasure to work with her, and America has been a better place because of her.

For decades, the CBC has fought for justice, truth, and equality. From within the halls of government that once permitted our ancestors to be enslaved, Congress after Congress, the CBC is at the center of many negotiations and conversations to better the lives of the American people.

The 117th Congress was an exceptional example of CBC's leadership. The CBC led the fight for a national infrastructure investment, so that instead of bridges on the brink and toxic sludge, Americans will have resilient infrastructure and clean, safe, reliable drinking water.

Today, the CBC leads the fight to reduce child poverty. Through policies like the expanded child tax credit and SNAP, we know that instead of setting kids up to struggle, we are setting them up to succeed.

Through policies like the bipartisan Safer Communities Act, we can improve public safety and help prevent terrible, hate-driven crimes like we saw in Buffalo, Uvalde, or any city in the U.S.A. It seems to happen far, far too often.

In Louisiana, because of the actions of the CBC and great leaders in this body, we have been able to have kids not have to sit outside of a McDonald's to use the internet. Since Katrina, since the hurricanes that have wrecked our community, since COVID that has wrecked our world, we know that things like broadband are no longer a luxury but a necessity.

Yet, in many impoverished communities in my district, people would not have access. Many rural areas would not have access to the internet for telehealth, for education, for business purposes, for everyday life, for shopping. These things would not exist. But I am proud today, because of the efforts of this body and because of the CBC, we are able to deliver and bring those things home to the people of Louisiana and America.

We know that because of the infrastructure bill that is now signed into law, Louisiana is seeing dollars flowing that they have never seen before. Bridges that have been on the brink of disaster are being repaired. The opportunity for us to have transportation between New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lake Charles, and beyond is now a reality.

The ability to invest money in areas in my State that have been plagued with chemical poisoning, have been plagued with disease, because of the placement of these facilities that have historically settled themselves in communities of Black and Brown. No longer will our communities be the path of least resistance. No longer will people have to literally die for their jobs.

We can have coexistence, but coexistence begins with everyone recognizing that the single most important commodity that anyone has is its people. Making sure that we have safe environments and clean environments where our children can be educated, where families can live, where families can earn a good living and enjoy clean air, that is what we fight for at the CBC every day.

Louisiana will be the beneficiaries of such efforts. We will continue to fight to make sure that this caucus and this body understands and no longer looks away and says, ''business as usual.'' No longer can we afford to watch children go without. As my dear colleague and chairman of the Education and Labor Committee said moments ago, more money has been invested in HBCUs under this 117th Congress than ever in the history of our country.

More money has been put into infrastructure, since the very creation of the Interstate Highway System, under this Congress, and this CBC has played a pivotal role in making these things happen.

But it doesn't stop here. We must continue to fight. We must continue to go out and make sure that we tell our story: That we are here, we are working, and we will not let anyone turn the clock back on the efforts that we have fought so valiantly for.

I am so proud to serve with giants in the CBC, people that have worked tirelessly for decades to make a difference in our community.

There is a lot of work yet to be done. With the leadership of Chair BEATTY, Whip CLYBURN, and many others, the CBC will continue to secure major wins for the American people, because they deserve it.

Madam Speaker, we will continue to fight. Failure is not an option.

Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Committees on the Judiciary, Homeland Security, and the Budget, as well as the Congressional Black Caucus, I am proud to stand beside my sisters and brothers to explore the achievements of the Congressional Black Caucus throughout the 117th Congress.

I would like to thank Congresswoman BEATTY, the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, for organizing this Special Order today. I would also like to thank Speaker PELOSI for her outstanding leadership throughout this Congress.

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus have been at the forefront of every major legislative achievement this 117th Congress. These achievements have pushed for an increase in equity for African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and people from all backgrounds in the United States.

Members of the Congressional Black Caucus strongly supported the President's goal of passing legislation that will significantly reduce healthcare costs for all Americans and address the very real climate crisis we are all facing.

The Inflation Reduction Act will significantly reduce prescription drug costs and expand health insurance coverage for millions of Black Americans, relieving financial strains on individuals and families.

Among adults 65 and older, Black Medicare beneficiaries are 1.5 times more likely than their white counterparts to have trouble affording medications. They are also 2 times as likely to not fill needed prescriptions due to high drug costs.

5.8 million Medicare beneficiaries are African American, which amounts to 10 percent of all beneficiaries.

Altogether, 5-to-7 million Medicare beneficiaries will see their prescription drug costs go down because of the provision allowing Medicare to negotiate prescription drug costs.

3.3 million Medicare beneficiaries will have their insulin costs capped at $35 a month.

Seniors will also have their yearly prescription drug costs capped at $2,000.

The Inflation Reduction Act will enable free or low-cost health insurance to remain available, allowing over half a million more Black Americans to have health insurance coverage next year, compared to what the situation would be without the IRA.

The Inflation Reduction Act is also the most aggressive legislation on climate change and clean energy in American history.

This new law will help bring down energy costs for millions of Black Americans, and it includes very strong protections and programs to promote Environmental Justice.

The average American family is estimated to see an annual $1,025 in energy savings, as the Inflation Reduction Act tackles one of the largest drivers of inflation—oil and gas prices—by lowering fuel and electricity costs and improving energy efficiency.

This bill will prevent thousands of premature deaths by improving the air we breathe, with communities most burdened by pollution enjoying disproportionate health benefits.

The Inflation Reduction Act alone will help get America 80 percent of the way to achieving its share of greenhouse gas reductions, and the majority of the way toward President Biden's goal of cutting carbon pollution in half this decade.

The members of the Congressional Black Caucus were also leaders in the passage of the Presidents Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The once-in-a-generation investment into our nation's infrastructure addresses the disparate impacts of pollution on communities of color.

Black, Hispanic, Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Native Americans—especially those who reside in urban communities—are more likely to be negatively impacted by pollution. Black people are almost three times more likely to die from asthma related causes than their white counterparts.

My constituents have already seen the magnificent results of this once-in-a-generation piece of legislation.

Houston METRO was granted a $21 million grant to buy battery electric buses and charging infrastructure to replace aging diesel buses that have exceeded their useful life.

The electric buses will improve air quality and health—for riders and residents in Houston's historically disadvantaged communities by eliminating nearly 18,000 tons of greenhouse gases over the next 20 years.

The passage of the law also allowed me to work closely with Secretary Buttigieg to secure $40 million dollars in funding for Bush Intercontinental Airport. IAH's terminal redevelopment program is the largest project in the airport's 53-year-history.

I am very pleased and proud that the CBC's priorities for the 117th Congress included some of my legislation, including the creation of the new Juneteenth federal holiday.

On June 17, 2021, President Biden signed into law the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, establishing June 19th as an annual national holiday.

Since I had placed the creation of a Juneteenth federal holiday on the national agenda—introducing H.R. 7232, on June 18, 2020 and reintroducing the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act in the 117th Congress—witnessing it become law was a true honor and an exhilarating occasion.

It was the culmination of years—even decades—of efforts to have the nation formally recognize the importance of Juneteenth and inculcate it into the pantheon of landmark national occasions with profound significance for the country and all Americans.

That day at the White House, I celebrated the joyful, yet tearful signing ceremony joined by my congressional colleagues, members of the Congressional Black Caucus, representatives of the numerous organizations who toiled in the vineyards for so long, and the first African American Vice-President.

It spoke volumes that the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act had overwhelming bipartisan support, passing by unanimous consent in the Senate and a 415 to 14 vote in the House the next day.

Although I had introduced resolutions recognizing Juneteenth since 2013, establishing Juneteenth as a national holiday was a quantum leap further. Enacting the holiday into law was much more than commemorating the historic events associated with Juneteenth.

Making Juneteenth a national holiday asserts that the historic occasion is a fundamental part of American history. It elevates Juneteenth into the consciousness of all Americans. It reinforces the point that Black history is American history.

National recognition of Juneteenth creates a channel for teaching and learning the truth about slavery which preceded it and both Reconstruction and the Jim Crow era that followed it. Amid this era of misinformation, having the national imprimatur on Juneteenth will launch discussions and awareness of the Black experience in America that will add to multi-ethnic cohesion and mutual respect.

Since the 1800s, Juneteenth has been as important to African Americans as July 4th is to all Americans. Consider also that, at the end of the Revolutionary War, while patriots were celebrating the end of colonialism and subjugation, 450,000 African-Americans were trapped in chattel slavery: our country's original sin. Black Americans were considered and treated as property, not as people.

Juneteenth is special because, on June 19, 1865, General Gordon Granger, the Commanding Officer of the District of Texas, rode into Galveston, Texas, announcing the end of the Civil War and the freedom of the last Americans enslaved in the Confederate states.

The announcement of freedom belatedly freed 250,000 slaves in Texas months after the end of the Civil War and two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation, signed by President Abraham Lincoln, went into effect.

Texas's newly freed men and women reacted first with shock and then with jubilation when General Granger read these words of General Order No. 3:

''The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection therefore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired laborer.''

Until then, slave owners withheld freedom by not informing those whom they enslaved and who enabled their wealth. It was necessary for the Union Army to take control of an area and announce freedom for it to take effect. Because of Galveston's remote location, it was not until June 19, 1865, that the Union Army arrived.

General Granger's reading of General Order No. 3 ended chattel slavery, the institutionalized system of perpetual servitude that held generations of Africans in bondage in the our country for 248 years.

No longer would human beings be forced into a legalized system of unending, lifelong slavery that was known for gruesome murders, dehumanizing rapes, and tortuous beatings and floggings with leather whips tipped with metal to rip flesh from bone. No longer would the atrocities of slavery be permitted by federal laws.

Juneteenth was first celebrated in 1866 under the direction of the Freedmen's Bureau and was often called ''Jubilee Day''. As freed men and women left Galveston to begin their lives anew in other states, the retelling of their Juneteenth memories led to annual celebrations in many other states.

Recognizing the importance of this date, former slaves coined the word ''Juneteenth'' to mark the joyous occasion.

Yet, in some cases, white officials outwardly resisted the holiday, barring the use of public property for the festivities. So, church grounds were used for the festivities, and, as freed men and women achieved upward economic mobility, some communities purchased land for Juneteenth celebrations.

One of the earliest documented land purchases in the name of Juneteenth was organized by Rev. Jack Yates. This fundraising effort yielded $1,000 and the purchase of Emancipation Park in Houston, Texas.

In the town of Mexia, Texas, the local Juneteenth organization purchased Booker T. Washington Park, which became the Juneteenth celebration site in 1898.

Along with parades, prayer readings, performances and cookouts among finely attired attendees, Juneteenth community-centric activities informed Black Americans about voting, promoted education, and showcased the achievements of African Americans and the community.

Perhaps because the holiday carried the message of empowerment, Juneteenth activities were sometimes interrupted and halted by white landowners demanding that their laborers return to work.

Juneteenth continued to be highly revered in Texas decades later, with many former slaves and their descendants making an annual pilgrimage back to Galveston to celebrate June 19th.

Juneteenth remains the oldest known celebration of slavery's demise, commemorating freedom while acknowledging the sacrifices and contributions made by courageous African Americans towards, in more recent years, making our great nation the more conscious and accepting country that it has become.

Juneteenth was, and is, a living symbol of freedom for people who were denied hope of being free.

It serves as a reminder that, as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, ''Freedom is never free,'' and as African American labor leader A. Phillip Randolph often said, ''Freedom is never given. It is won.''

Truer words were never spoken.

We should all recognize the power and truth of those guideposts. Juneteenth calls upon us to pause to remember the enormous price paid by all Americans in our country's quest to realize its promise.

Juneteenth honors the end of the 400 years of suffering that African Americans endured under slavery and celebrates the legacy of perseverance that has become the hallmark of the African American experience in the struggle for equality.

As the poet Langston Hughes reminds us in his famous poem, ''Mother to Son,'' that life in America for African Americans ''ain't been no crystal stair.''

The Jim Crow era in America was marked by violence and terrorism against African Americans as our ancestors sought to activate the promises of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Juneteenth celebrations declined in the 1920s and 1930s partly due to the Great Depression's severe economic difficulties, but mainly because of the resurgence of heinous hate crimes perpetrated by the Ku Klux Klan to derail African Americans from advancing in society politically and economically.

Despite the New Deal's progress and post-WWII economic policies, discrimination and the lingering impact of slavery largely excluded African Americans from the creation of the modern middle class.

However, the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s, and its legal framework for equality, led to a resurrection of Juneteenth celebrations that celebrated the achievements of Black Americans, reinforcing our community's sense of identity and pride.

Juneteenth became an opportunity for us to showcase our successes and our contributions to society, while providing the government with a mirror into demographic disparities and a demand to recommit itself to serving all Americans.

Amid this renewed spirit of identity, pride, and equality, Texas state representative Al Edwards introduced a bill, H.R. 1016, to make Juneteenth a state holiday. The bill became law, and on January 1, 1980, Juneteenth officially became a Texas state holiday, making Texas the first state to officially recognize this celebration of emancipation.

Representative Edwards actively sought to spread the observance of Juneteenth across America. In the two decades after Texas acted, only a few other states did so. But in the past twenty years, a wave of states followed Texas's lead. By 2021, 49 states and the District of Columbia had commemorated or recognized Juneteenth.

Nonagenarian activist Opal Lee, affectionately known as the ''Grandmother of Juneteenth,'' also deserves much credit for the federal holiday. Lee pressed for the holiday for years, and in 2016 at age 89, walked from her home in Fort Worth to Washington, DC, to deliver a petition and raise attention to) the holiday's importance.

Today, after decades of rallies, petitions, editorials, and legislation calling for Juneteenth to be a national holiday, we celebrate the 2nd Juneteenth National Independence Day.

The transformative significance of Juneteenth since the first celebration in 1866 is a remarkable tale in American history.

Though it is now recognized at the national level, it does not erase our nation's racist history in straying from its original promise that ''all men (actually, people) are created equal.''

Every Juneteenth, I return to Frederick Douglass' speech best known as ''What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?''

The answer to this question is Juneteenth. In 2022, we can affirm that June 19, 1865, signifies the start of the American Promise that must be fulfilled and made real for all Americans, including the descendants of slaves.

To say 1776 marks the beginning of our free nation begs the question, ''What does freedom mean if we are not all free?''

Juneteenth remains a pivotal moment, signifying the starting point in the emergence from racial oppression that was endured by generations with perseverance, resilience, and determination.

This vision is shared by millions of Americans who have held fast to the promise of freedom in our nation while fighting for basic human rights. We know that the struggle which began in 1619 did not end with the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.

The fight did not end two years later in 1865, nor 100 years after that with the passage of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts.

The fight for our freedom continues as a common thread in the fabric of this country. But we also recognize the lack of freedom that persists for many, as well as the injustices, abuse, and discrimination that continue in today's America.

The true power of Juneteenth lies both in the commemoration of the past and the possibilities of the future.

When VAWA first became law in 1994, it represented a historic shift in the federal government's role in combating violent crimes committed against women.

Due to the importance of the legislation and resulting success, VAWA was reauthorized on an overwhelming bipartisan basis in 2000, 2005, and 2013.

Recognizing the importance of the law and knowing that the law was set to expire at the end of the year, I introduced the ''Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2018'' in September of 2018.

The reauthorization strengthened and enhanced the vital services provided under the law to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Despite our best efforts, the bill was not brought to the floor, and VAWA was allowed to expire at the end of 2018.

I continued to work, along with other members, victims, survivors, experts, and advocates, to ensure not only that VAWA would be reauthorized but that we enhanced the law and made it better, more effective, and more responsive to the needs of those seeking to heal after suffering trauma.

Therefore, I introduced the bill, HR 1620, the ''Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization Act of 2021''.

This version of the reauthorization represented countless hours of discussions to ensure that we refined and improved upon the earlier iteration of the bill.

H.R. 1620 passed in the House and served as foundation for the bill that was introduced in the Senate and was eventually included in H.R. 2471, the ''Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022'' (the Omnibus) and signed by the President.

Thankfully, after many hard-fought battles, we were finally able to get the VAWA Reauthorization across the finish line this year.

Many of the provisions I included in my bills in 2018 and 2021 carried over to the Senate version of VAWA as well as the Omnibus, such as:

The reauthorization of vital grant programs like the Services Training Offices Prosecutors, or STOP grants, administered by the Department of Justice, which allows the use of STOP grants to develop the most effective law enforcement tools and protocols for preventing domestic violence homicides and requires state, territorial, local, and tribal governments to certify that they have established and implemented such programs to be eligible for grants.

Creating Hope through Outreach Options, Services, and Education, or the CHOOSE program, which clarifies that funding under the CHOOSE program for children and youth is being provided for the core areas of VAWA—domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking—and that services that target youth should also incorporate youth in underserved communities and sex trafficking and bullying as elements when part of a comprehensive youth violence response program.

The preservation of funding for sexual assault services programs, transitional housing grants for victims, grants to states territories, and Indian tribes in rural communities, and grants to support families in the justice system with a history of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking.

Just today, the House passed my bipartisan bill, H.R. 7566, the ''No Trafficking Zones Act.'' The bill would ensure that schools across the country, including institutions of higher education, are safe spaces for learning and academic exploration—free from the menace of sex trafficking.

As predators often prey on communities of color, this bill is a strong measure to fight against sex trafficking that often targets young African Americans and other people of color.

H.R. 7566 would establish a sentencing enhancement of up to five years in several instances:

First, in the case of any person who commits the offense of sex trafficking within a primary or secondary school zone or on or within 1,000 feet of the premises of a school-sponsored activity or premises owned by an institution of higher education;

Second, for any person who commits the offense of coercion and enticement of a minor enrolled in a primary or secondary school or a person enrolled in an institution of higher education—to travel in interstate or foreign commerce and engage in criminal sexual activity—while the minor is in a school zone, or on, or within 1,000 feet of, premises where a school-sponsored activity is taking place or while the person is on, or within 1,000 feet of, premises owned by the institution of higher education;

And, third, for any person who commits the offense of coercion and enticement of a minor using the mail or facilities of interstate or foreign commerce—such as text and instant messaging or social media platforms—while the minor who is enrolled in school or an institution of higher education, is in a school zone, or on, or within 1,000 feet of, premises where a school-sponsored activity is taking place or premises owned by an the institution of higher education.

Human trafficking is one of the greatest threats to human rights in the United States. In 2020, 11,193 instances of potential human trafficking were reported to the United States National Human Trafficking Hotline with at least 70 percent of those instances involving sex trafficking, while an estimated 25 percent of all human trafficking victims in the country are in my home state of Texas at any given time—many of whom are minors.

At least 5,359 of trafficking victims and survivors identified through the hotline in 2019 were under the age of 18, and in 2021, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children received more than 17,200 reports of suspected child sex trafficking.

Many of these young victims of sex trafficking are students in school systems, colleges, trade schools, and universities across the country.

A 2018 survey reported that in Texas—where No Trafficking Zone legislation passed with bipartisan support earlier this year—55 percent of young sex trafficking survivors were trafficked while at school or school activities and 60 percent of trafficked adults said they were first groomed and solicited for trafficking while on school campuses.

Members of this body know all too well that children are sexually exploited in many ways. Some young people are trafficked by their schoolmates or people they once considered friends.

While traffickers seek out young people who have noticeable vulnerabilities—including problems at school, conflicts at home, or even the need to fill in a tuition gap caused by the loss of a scholarship—no child or young person is truly safe from the schemes of charismatic traffickers bent on exploiting and destroying young lives.

With the proliferation of social media and the myriad ways in which we communicate with one another, traffickers have put these same means of communication to their own use—to find, target, lure, groom, victimize, and exert control over their victims. While buyers are using technology to find and purchase sex anonymously.

Traffickers have infiltrated every known form of communication—especially the sites, messaging apps, and social media platforms our children use most frequently—leaving young people more vulnerable to manipulation.

Access to the internet, cell phones, and smartphones makes it easier for traffickers and buyers to communicate with children and youth—even when they are at school, in class, or attending school-sponsored activities.

As a result, trafficking has reached the halls, lunchrooms, gyms, dormitories, and classrooms of schools, colleges, and universities in every corner of this nation.

These staggering facts and statistics led me to introduce this bipartisan legislation which the House passed today to protect young Americans from predators.

Last week, the House passed H.R. 8326, the Ensuring a Fair and Accurate Census Act. By reforming the operations of the Census Bureau, this bill—which includes my amendment—would ensure that racial and ethnic equity in the decennial count will be a priority in future Census counts.

My amendment would enhance the bill's operational impact by specifying that the deputy director appoint an official with responsibility to optimize racial and ethnic equity in the Census count. To ensure that equity be a priority, this official would report directly to the director and deputy director.

In light of the decennial count's extremely consequential impact in terms of funding allocation formulas, political district apportionment, and other uses, it is imperative that the Census Bureau elevate racial and ethnic equity to a top priority in its counting strategies and procedures.

My amendment directs the equity official to engage and collaborate with organizations that have influence with racial and ethnic groups, develop strategies and tactics to maximize participation of these populations, and rectify the undercount that has been typical of recent Census counts, especially among immigrants and homeless people.

The status of the efforts to optimize racial and ethnic equity will also be included in the Census Bureau's biannual reports to Congress, to ensure accountability and bolster the likelihood of progress.

Optimization of racial and ethnic equity in the Census count requires designation of a high-ranking official with direct responsibility for achieving this goal and reports directly to the Census leadership.

My amendment establishes that role, makes racial and ethnic equity in the decennial count a priority, specifies key strategies that must be applied, and ensures that Congress receives regular reports about the progress toward the goal.

H.R. 8326 is an excellent bill with vital reforms that uses this opportunity to advance

equity in the Census count. My amendment creates a framework for achieving this objective.

In May of this year, the House passed HR 7309, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2022.

This bill would ensure that more institutions will be able to provide education and job training services; a wider range of curricula will be available that enables learners to become job-ready; and more Americans will be equipped with skills that will jump-start long-term careers.

It would extend the reach of job skills training and employment preparation to all corners of the country and all segments of society. It does so by creating vital national programs and instituting accountability systems that will monitor program operations and success.

One of my two amendments to this bill would ensure that this legislation helps all Americans, specifically communities of color that historically did not benefit equally from workforce development and job skills training programs.

My amendment ensures that HBCUs and other minority-serving educational institutions are eligible and encouraged to apply for maximal benefits under the bill's programs.

My amendment clarifies that, beyond equality, the job training and workforce development programs at HBCUs and minority-serving institutions should be given priority in order to promote equity for students whose ancestors were denied that right. It can be the impetus for a fresh start.

By including and prioritizing HBCUs and other minority-serving institutions, the institutionalized barriers which 1 impeded generational prosperity will be eroded, even if only incrementally and over time. By leveling the playing field, the imbalance of generational wealth will also be rectified.

Diversity and inclusion must always be a priority particularly in future high-growth industries that are essential to our nation's long-term economic growth, success, and job creation strategy.

The Transportation, Housing & Urban Development, Agriculture Appropriations Act passed the House in July of this year with many amendments that I offered.

One of my amendments to this bill specifically benefits HBCUs. It supports the work of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) by increasing its funding by $2,000,000 for use in agriculture research programs at 1890s Institutions, which are land grant colleges at 28 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), as well as Hispanic-serving institutions, and other educational institutions that benefit underrepresented communities.

This amendment promotes NIFA's work at HBCUs with agricultural experiment stations, cooperative forestry, and other innovations to improve our nation's food production through agricultural research, economic analysis, extension, and higher education.

One of ways NIFA achieves its mission is by providing research grants to education institutions, which include 1890s institutions created by the Morrill Act of 1890.

Today, land-grant colleges and universities can be found in 18 states, the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The list includes:

Alabama A&M University
Alcorn State University
Delaware State University
Florida A&M University
Fort Valley State University
Kentucky State University
Langston University
Lincoln University
North Carolina A&T State University
Prairie View A&M University in Texas
South Carolina State University
Southern University System
Tennessee State University
Tuskegee University
University of Arkansas Pine Bluff
University of Maryland Eastern Shore
University of the District of Columbia*
University of the Virgin Islands
Virginia State University
West Virginia State University

HBCUs annually enroll 40 percent of all African American students in 4-year colleges and universities. HBCUs are prominent among research institutions in fields such as:

animal sciences
sustainable agriculture and agriculture economics
toxicology and waste management
conservation and environmental management
business and industrial development
biomedical science
food and nutrition
plant and social sciences
international development

Agricultural research programs at HCBUs help people living in densely populated areas learn ways to eliminate food deserts, increase public education about farming, bolster appreciation for our nation's farmers, and provide new avenues to careers for graduates with degrees in agriculture who seek to enter cutting-edge agricultural research.

This amendment promotes NIFA's work with HBCUs on agricultural experiment stations, cooperative forestry, and other innovations to improve our nation's food production through agricultural research, economic analysis, extension, and higher education.

The funds provided by my amendment supports research and education for helping urban and suburban communities maximize their green space by turning it into productive farming resources to support access to affordable foods.

Since 2020, the COVID–19 pandemic has swept the country, wreaking its most bitter toll on communities of color.

Early in the pandemic, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control found that Black Americans were infected with COVID–19 at a rate nearly one and a half times higher than that of whites, were hospitalized at a rate nearly four times higher, and were three times as likely to die from the disease.

On February 8, 2021, I introduced H.R. 936, the ''COVID–19 Delivery Act,'' which strengthens FEMA's role in vaccine distribution.

Specifically, this legislation: (1) authorized FEMA as the National Coordinator of vaccine transport and delivery; (2) supported the safe and effective supply chain transport, delivery, and site use of vaccines; (3) implemented the Center for Disease Control and prevention COVID–19 Vaccine Recommendations.

To date I have opened 96 COVID–19 testing sites and 88 vaccination sites in some of the most underserved communities in my district and Houston as a whole.

As an original cosponsor of H.R. 1652 the ''VOCA Fix to Sustain the Crime Victims Fund Act, I helped lead the passage of the bill in the House and on June 22, 2021, President Biden signed the bill into law.

VOCA grants are the primary source of federal funding for thousands of victim service providers around the country, including programs serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, trafficking, and drunk driving.

This critical piece of legislation supports vital victim service programs by preventing future cuts to already diminished federal victim service grants.

H.R. 1652 requires the Department of Justice DOJ to deposit all monetary penalties, including from deferred prosecution and non-prosecution agreements, into the Crime Victims Fund. This simple fix prevents future funding cuts that jeopardize programs' ability to serve their communities.

Although the Congressional Black Caucus has had many legendary achievements this Congress, our work is far from done. We will continue to fight for equality and justice by pushing legislation that will better the lives of African Americans, and indeed all Americans around the nation.

Now more than ever, the facts and circumstances facing our nation demonstrate the importance of H.R. 40, which I introduced, and the necessity of placing our nation on the path to reparative justice, as well as providing accountability for injuries inflicted.

H.R. 40 establishes a national commission to examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the United States from 1619 to the present and recommend appropriate remedies.

H.R. 40 was first introduced by Congressman John Conyers in 1989. Though many thought it a lost cause, Conyers believed that a day would come when our nation would need to account for the brutal abuse of African Americans during slavery, Jim Crow segregation and the enduring structural racism endemic to our society.

With the rise and normalization of white supremacism during the Trump administration, the discussion of H.R. 40 and the concept of restorative justice gained urgency, garnered attention from mainstream media, and illustrated the need for a national reckoning.

Eradication of structural institutionalized racism requires it. Full empowerment, enfranchisement, and inclusion require it. Genuine equality and equity to overcome injustices require it.

A vital step is an official acknowledgment that Black history IS American history and the Juneteenth holiday has achieved that.

Another key step for reconciliation is the development of a factual, historical record that illuminates the truth about the African American experience amid slavery, Reconstruction, Jim Crow, legalized violence, exclusion, and inequality.

The factual, truthful record will expose the fallacies of revisionism and misinformation which, in recent years, have become the favorite tools of those with racist motives and agendas. Vilification of the collegiate study of critical race theory is a typical example.

The role of federal, state, and local governments at each stage in the nefarious chapters of history must be revealed and recognized.

The next step must be a national apology for governmental actions that legalized oppression, violence, inequality, and exclusion

from the means toward socioeconomic mobility and generational wealth.

Reconciliation requires an apology—an acknowledgment of government collusion in past ignominious eras—for three reasons: to provide accountability for past wrongs, to heal the national soul, and to confer official validation of the plights of its victims. Without an apology, there can be no closure; there can be no justice for our ancestors who suffered hideous torment.

With those steps addressed, the focus turns to what can be done to right the wrong. Reparations in various forms are needed to instill equity and create a level playing field for African Americans who are still disadvantaged by the aftershocks of previous eras.

The commission created by H.R. 40 would start by identifying (1) the role of federal and state governments in supporting the institution of slavery; (2) forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed slaves and their descendants; and (3) lingering negative effects of slavery that impact today's African-Americans and society.

The goal of the historical investigations that H.R. 40 mandates is to bring American society to a new reckoning with how our past affects the current conditions of African Americans and to make America a ''more perfect union'' by helping the truly disadvantaged.

Consequently, the reparations movement does not focus on payments to individuals, but rather, on remedies that can be created in as many forms as necessary to equitably address the many kinds of injuries sustained from chattel slavery and its ongoing vestiges.

To merely focus on finance is an empty gesture and betrays a lack of understanding of the depth of the unaddressed moral issues that continue to haunt this nation.

Reparations can have wide-ranging positive effects, for example, a recent peer-reviewed study from Harvard Medical School suggests that reparations for African Americans that narrowed the wealth gap could have cut COVID–19 transmission and infection rates both among Blacks and the population at large.

While it might be convenient to assume that we can address the current divisive racial and political climate in our nation through race neutral means, experience shows that we have not escaped our history.

Though the Civil Rights Movement challenged many of the most racist practices and structures that subjugated the African American community, it was not followed by a commitment to truth and reconciliation.

For that reason, the legacy of racial inequality has persisted, leaving the nation vulnerable to a range of problems that continue to generate division, racial disparities, and injustice.

By passing H.R. 40, Congress can start a movement toward the national reckoning that we need to bridge racial divides.

Reparations are ultimately about respect and reconciliation—and the hope that one day, all Americans can walk together toward a more just future.

In his famous Second Inaugural Address, President Lincoln spoke of the profound moral debt owed for ''all the wealth piled by the bondsman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil.'' He asserted that the Civil War was the judgment of the Lord, which was ''true and righteous altogether.''

That debt remains to be paid, which is why African Americans always peacefully petitioned the government for the redress of grievances.

As the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King said at the 1963 March on Washington:

''In a sense, we have come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir.

''This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the inalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

''It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check, a check which has come back marked 'insufficient funds.' But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. So, we have come to cash this check—a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice.''

Official slavery ended with the Civil War and the ratification of the Thirteenth Amendment.

But unofficial slavery continued by: (a) newly instituted share-crop farming; (b) a criminal justice system that pressed convicts into work that was once done by slaves; and (c) labor policies that dictated income for work done based upon skin color.

This, of course, was reinforced by the systematic disenfranchisement of black Americans, the ''discrete and insular minority'' excluded from ''those political processes ordinarily to be relied upon to protect'' them, to quote Chief Justice Hughes' famous Footnote 4 in United States v. Carolene Products Company, 304 U.S. 144 (1938).

These are just some of the many reasons that the history of the U.S. is intertwined with the history of enslaved Africans in the Americas.

But to reach redemption and reconciliation, we must have the complete truth and lay our history bare. It is the light that sheds the way to the more perfect union all Americans desire.

The Commission that would be created and empowered by H.R. 40 is a vital first step in the effort to attain truth and reconciliation about the Original Sin of American Slavery that is necessary to light the way to the beloved community we all seek.

We witnessed nightly peaceful civil disobedience in the streets of America in solidarity with countless victims of injustice and cruelty. Young African American men and women no longer with us in body but forever with us in memory.

We demanded justice and equity that starts with policing reform yet extends far beyond. It's not just about police conduct toward us. It starts with the predisposition of police about us, before interaction occurs. Police biases, implicit and explicit, can forecast a propensity for violence toward us and the denial of our civil rights.

In addition to criminal justice reform, we demanded the full eradication of structural and systemic institutionalized racism. Since then, confederate statues were removed, newly developed factual curriculum has begun to educate all students about the actual truth of Black history, and millions of Americans learned about the Juneteenth holiday.

Once again, I would like to thank Chairwoman BEATTY for giving me and my CBC colleagues the opportunity to shine a light on all our accomplishments this Congress.

I am so proud to be a part of such a dedicated and hardworking group of people. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you on legislation that will make America a more equal and just place.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD an ABC News article entitled: ''Congress passes legislation to make Juneteenth a federal holiday.''

[From ABC News, June 16, 2021]

CONGRESS PASSES LEGISLATION TO MAKE JUNETEENTH A FEDERAL HOLIDAY

(By Libby Cathey)

For the first time in nearly 40 years, Congress has moved to establish a new national holiday, this time for Juneteenth, and just in time for Saturday's 156th anniversary of the day that marks the last African American slaves being freed in Texas in the wake of the Civil War.

The House voted Wednesday night to pass the legislation. It heads next to President Joe Biden's desk for a signature. When Biden signs it, as he's expected to at 3:30 p.m. ET Thursday, according to the White House, Juneteenth will officially become a federal holiday—the first since Martin Luther King Jr. Day was signed into law in 1983.

Democratic Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee of Texas, a fierce advocate for the Black community who sponsored the legislation in the House, proudly announced from the podium the ''bill is passed'' before bringing the gavel down.

One Republican, Rep. Matt Rosendale of Montana, said in a charged statement ahead of the evening vote that he opposed the legislation that was ''an effort by the Left to create a day out of whole cloth to celebrate identity politics.'' Sen. John Cornyn, R–Texas, a lead sponsor of the Senate bill, called the statement ''kooky'' in a tweet.

Other House Republicans who voted no on the legislation include Reps. Thomas Massie, Scott DesJarlais, Mo Brooks, Andy Biggs, Tom Tiffany, Doug LaMalfa, Tom McClintock, Mike Rogers, Andrew Clyde, Ralph Norman, Chip Roy, Paul Gosar and Ronny Jackson of Texas.

The House vote came after the Senate—in a surprise move Tuesday—passed the measure by unanimous consent following a single Republican senator dropping his opposition.

Republican Sen. Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, who opposed the legislation last year, said in a statement that he would no longer raise his objections on the floor, though, as of last week, the bill already had the support of 60 cosponsors to overcome a filibuster.

''Although I strongly support celebrating Emancipation, I objected to the cost and lack of debate,'' Johnson said, referring to his previous stance. ''While it still seems strange that having taxpayers provide federal employees paid time off is now required to celebrate the end of slavery, it is clear that there is no appetite in Congress to further discuss the matter.''

Biden will be accompanied for the signing by Vice President Kamala Harris, who was one of the Democrats to introduce the legislation in the Senate last year alongside Cornyn.

Steve Williams, the president of the National Juneteenth Observance Foundation, thanked lawmakers in a press conference on Capitol Hill earlier for, he said, ''put(ting) that exclamation mark on the fabulous work.''

''The Juneteenth nation is ecstatic,'' he said.

What is Juneteenth?

Juneteenth—also known as Freedom Day, Liberation Day and Emancipation Day—marks the day when federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, to ensure that African Americans still enslaved were freed following both the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation and end of the Civil War.

The advance by Union Army Gen. Gordon Granger came 30 months and 19 days after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863, which had declared, ''all persons held as slaves within any States, or designated part of the State, the people whereof shall be in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free.''

But with the seven Confederate states operating under their own president, slaves in the South weren't exactly free to go. It would take another two months after Robert E. Lee surrendered at Appomattox Court House in April 1865 that troops would arrive in Galveston to free the final 250,000 people enslaved there. Most left the area despite a message from Union troops that they could stay and work for their owners as employees.

A few months later, in December 1865, the 13th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified and abolished slavery.

Where is it celebrated?

Like most holidays, Juneteenth is recognized in gatherings across the country, predominantly in the Black community. With the help of social media to spread awareness on a holiday not always taught in school, it has become more mainstream in recent years.

Celebrations can include reflections, parades, food and drink, music—and even advocacy.

For instance, in 2016, Opal Lee of Texas, a now 94-year-old activist, walked from her home in Fort Worth to the nation's capital in an effort to get Juneteenth named a national holiday.

It was in 1979 that Texas became the first state to officially establish Juneteenth as an official holiday. Now, 49 states and the district separately recognize the day, with South Dakota as the only outlier, despite legislative attempts earlier this year.

What's next?

The legislation has passed just in time for the holiday Saturday. Biden is scheduled to sign the bill into law Thursday afternoon.

Despite the bipartisan victory, advocates said they are still far from repairing the wounds from American slavery.

Some point to HR 40, which specifically calls for the creation of a commission to study ''and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.''

A version has been introduced in every legislative session since 1989, but passed out of a House committee for the first time this year.

''We're giving America the opportunity for redemption, for repair, for restoration, for also understanding the new America, which is so multicultural,'' said lead sponsor, Jackson Lee, in April after it passed.

That legislation is still awaiting a full House vote and is expected to face an uphill battle in the Senate.

Massachusetts Sen. Ed Markey, another lead Democrat to sponsor the legislation making Juneteenth a federal holiday also highlighted in a tweet Wednesday that even with its passage, Republicans still attack critical race theory which would allow students to study the roots of events, such as Juneteenth, in school.

''Even today, as conservatives try to erase history with their attacks on critical race theory and understanding the impacts of systemic racism, we stand here acknowledging the truth. We will make #Juneteenth a federal holiday,'' Markey said in the tweet.

Speaking at a press conference earlier Wednesday in front of the Capitol, a group of lawmakers including Jackson Lee and other Democrats supportive of the Juneteenth legislation said there is still work to be done.

''Of course today is not enough, there's so much more work left to be done, but this is an important day because it is a piece of pavement on that path towards justice,'' said Sen. Tina Smith, D-Minn. ''This is not a moment for complacency, this is a moment to rededicate ourselves to that work.''

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

□ 2015

FISCAL CRISIS FACING AMERICA

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

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solidarity with the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SMUCKER), my good friend, to raise an important issue that my constituents, my friend from Pennsylvania and his constituents, and, frankly, constituents all over this country care about, and that is the state of the fiscal crisis facing our country right now.

This is really not a Republican issue or a Democrat issue. All hardworking American taxpayers of all political persuasions should be concerned about the state of the fiscal mess that we face in our country: a $31 trillion national debt that is literally burying our children and our grandchildren in a mountain of debt. This is mortgaging our future, and we need to get our fiscal house in order.

The American taxpayer works hard for their income, and they deserve a government that lives within its means. That is why I am proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with my colleague Mr. SMUCKER, who will later highlight this issue of fiscal recklessness and the need to tighten our belts and to live within our means so that we do not continue to put this burden on our children and our grandchildren. We need to stop the spending spree and live within our means.

Just to highlight how serious this problem is, Madam Speaker, it is not a lack of tax revenue. The issue is not that we don't tax the American people enough from Washington, D.C. The issue is that we are overspending.

In fact, this year, the Federal Government has raised more revenue from taxes than in any period in history, and it is actually over a trillion dollars when you consider inflation, a trillion dollars more in tax revenue in inflation-adjusted terms.

The problem with our debt and deficit is not that we are taxing the American people too little. The problem is that we are living beyond our means, spending well beyond our means, and it is not only threatening the future fiscal solvency of our country. This overspending, this addiction to deficit spending, has delivered a historic 40-year high inflation crisis. It has created excess demand. When combined with the constraints that this administration has put on energy production, it is a classic supply-demand mismatch, overspending creating excess demand, combined with constraining energy, a war on domestic energy production constraining the supply. That supply-demand mismatch has pushed up prices.

What is the result of that, Madam Speaker? It means the Federal Reserve must engage in a precipitous quantitative tightening process. It must raise interest rates fast. It must engage in tightening monetary policy. What does that mean? Higher interest rates. And higher interest rates mean higher debt service costs. We have to pay higher interest on the national debt, which compounds the problem.

The solution, Madam Speaker, for the fiscal policy policymakers, those of us in the Congress and the White House and the executive branch, is to start living within our means. Then and only then can we get our inflation crisis under control and the Federal Reserve can start lowering interest rates once again.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania for his leadership in advocating for fiscal sanity in Washington and the restoration of fiscal responsibility. We need to exercise fiscal discipline and get this ship turned around.

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

AMERICA MUST RESTORE FISCAL SANITY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SMUCKER) is recognized for the remainder of the hour as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend from Kentucky, who truly is an expert on fiscal policy and truly understands the situation that we are in, in our country.

We just simply cannot afford to continue down this path and expect that there will not be consequences: consequences for us and, if not for us, certainly for future generations. At the least, we are mortgaging the future of our kids and our grandkids, and it is completely irresponsible.

We just came back, all of us, to our districts. I can tell you, I spent most of the weekend out talking to people across the district, and they are very

concerned about the impact of this President's policies and the policies of this Congress on their daily lives. I have constituents who are choosing each week whether they can buy groceries or whether they can buy gas for the car.

I spoke just recently to one constituent who had been out of the workforce for about 10 years. This individual, by the way, had 13 kids, which I thought was amazing, but he had been out of the workforce for 13 years and just took a job because he can no longer make ends meet because of the policies of this President and the rising prices that have been created by the policies of this administration.

They are angry that the President had a White House party to celebrate the passage of the so-called Inflation Reduction Act. This celebration, of course, just recently was broadcast amid a backdrop of the plummeting stock market and upon the news just that morning of another month of record-high inflation.

No matter how the President wants to talk about it, no matter how Democrats want to talk about it, Madam Speaker, he says that inflation has leveled off, but we are still at 8.5 percent above what prices were just 12 months ago. That is something we haven't seen in our country for about 40 years. This was after Democrats and the President were saying this would be transitory inflation.

You would think if we are in a hole, at some point, we would stop digging. Instead, the President and congressional Democrats, while they are patting themselves on the back, continue to spend taxpayer dollars.

Just last night, President Biden was on ''60 Minutes,'' arguing that he deserves some credit, again, for his fiscal policies while inflation is at another 40-year high.

The President speaks fiscal responsibility, yet every action that he takes only balloons our debt and balloons our deficits. It is far past time for his wasteful inflationary spending agenda to come to an end. The American people, the constituents in my district, can no longer afford the policies of this administration.

Tonight, for the next 45, 50 minutes or so, I am proud to welcome some of my Republican colleagues, including fellow members of the House Budget Committee and others who share the deep concerns that were just outlined by Congressman BARR. You will be hearing from others their concerns about the fiscal state of our Nation and the trajectory that we are on.

Over the next hour, we are going to take stock of this administration's reckless budget agenda and some of the drastic consequences that we are hearing about from our constituents.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. JOYCE), who is a great member of the Energy and Commerce Committee. We won't argue tonight about which committee is the best committee. I serve on the Ways and Means Committee. But John is a dear friend of mine, a wonderful Member of Congress, and I am very, very proud to serve with him. I am proud to count him as a friend. He is doing a fabulous job as a member of that committee and Member of Congress.

I look forward to his insights on how the Biden administration's policies have resulted in this record-high inflation. I would like to hear what his constituents are facing in the 13th District of Pennsylvania, which is directly adjacent to mine. I thank Dr. Joyce for joining us this evening.

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for holding this important Special Order tonight on an issue that truly affects all Pennsylvanians and all Americans.

I thank Representative SMUCKER, my colleague, who is a true leader and a fiscal conservative, for bringing this discussion to the United States Congress.

Yesterday afternoon, I conducted a survey in my weekly newsletter, asking respondents if, during the past year, the rising costs of gas and groceries had cut into their savings, a relatively simple question. Eighty-nine percent of the responders said yes.

Unfortunately, this is a sad reality. It is a sad reality in the American economy that has been decimated by President Biden's failed tax-and-spend policies that put far-left gimmicks ahead of the needs of the American people.

During the Biden administration, at a time when small businesses across our country were begging for workers, we saw legislation that paid workers to remain at home. We saw the government mandates that had no basis in science, policies that did not account for natural immunity, policies that forced highly skilled workers to leave their jobs, which, unfortunately, again, helped to cripple our supply chains.

During the Biden administration, we saw the so-called infrastructure bill that spent more money bailing out windmills and solar farms and did nothing on fixing roads and bridges. We saw the poorly named Inflation Reduction Act, which the Congressional Budget Office says will increase our national deficit over the next few years.

This is no time to throw a party celebrating these priorities as inflation continues to rise. This is no party situation.

Time after time, we have witnessed an administration that cowers to the radical left and fails to consider that their own runaway spending has led to these soaring prices at the gas pump and at the grocery store.

When I was seeing patients as a physician, one of the issues that I would stress to parents is how important it was for them to provide milk, whole milk, for their children's growth, whole milk that supplies the necessary vitamins for bone development, brain development, and muscle development. In the past year, the cost of milk has soared 17 percent.

□ 2030

That kind of price hike is unsustainable, and no administration can take the health and well-being of Americans seriously while deliberately creating policies that make healthy choices, like whole milk, more expensive for American families, more expensive for the parents who need to supply that for their growing children.

The cost of eggs is up nearly 40 percent, and the cost of food overall has risen more in the past year than at any time since 1979 when Jimmy Carter was President.

To make matters even worse, real wages have gone down, and inflation has outpaced wage growth for the 17 months that Joe Biden has been in the White House.

The economic situation the American people find themselves in right now is unsustainable. In the second quarter of this year, household wealth in the United States fell by $6.1 trillion—a record drop that has left families unable to pay for the everyday expenses that they face.

As I traveled through my district in August—like my colleague, Mr. SMUCKER, spoke about—I talked to a mother who told me that she was making difficult decisions, decisions on whether to buy the necessary groceries for her family, for her children's lunches or put gasoline in the family car. No American should be making those decisions.

The record inflation that has put parents and families in this position is the result of failed policies that have wasted taxpayer dollars and flooded our economy with too much cash while simultaneously killing the supply chain and causing shortages throughout the market.

When we look at the liberal partisan legislation passed this past year, we see laws that choose winners and losers.

So let's take stock.

By handing out tax breaks for purchasing an electric vehicle and by offering money to companies who put up solar farms that fail to produce baseload power, the Biden administration has sent a clear signal to Pennsylvania's energy producers that they are not valued by Washington liberals.

By canceling the Keystone XL pipeline and putting a halt on new drilling leases, Joe Biden has made one thing clear: He has no interest in lowering gas prices. He has no interest in lowering energy prices.

Instead of pivoting to failed technologies like wind and solar that cannot be stored and that can only be used during peak hours, we need to return to the energy sources that are under the feet of my constituents in Pennsylvania: the coal, the natural gas, the oil, the Marcellus shale that can help

to return our Nation to a position of energy dominance.

After dismantling nuclear energy, Europe is facing the worst energy crisis in a generation. By signing pro-Green New Deal legislation, President Biden seems intent on making the same mistake—the same mistake right here in the United States.

Digging out of that hole that President Biden and the far-left Members of Congress created will take some hard work, and it is time for Congress to stop the runaway spending on failed and untested programs.

We need to stop giving taxpayer dollars to Green New Deal priorities that only serve to hurt American families.

Right now, our communities are counting on us. The schools in our district are counting on us to get inflation under control. The families in our district are counting on us to get this runaway inflation back under control.

As President Biden creates crisis after crisis in our economy, one thing is very clear: We cannot spend our way out of the problems that the Biden administration has orchestrated.

We need to return to fiscal conservatism and pass legislation that supports Pennsylvania families, American families, instead of burdening them with crushing inflation.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for holding this Special Order.

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his words. It is clear that he is in touch regularly with his constituents and is hearing some of the same things that I have heard.

The gentleman mentioned the real wage drop about $3,500 per family due to the policies of this administration. It is as if someone is taking a month's worth of salary, and families have to do without that month of salary.

By the way, that comes on the heels of policies under the previous administration that led to—after decades of stagnation—a $6,000 average household increase in income. Which is more compassionate? The gentleman is exactly right. We know the impact of these policies. We must stop. We must implement policies that work for the American people. That is why I was so frustrated.

By the way, I have a news flash: Naming a bill something doesn't mean it is so. Just recently, the Biden administration and Democrats in Congress passed the Inflation Reduction Act. Studies now are saying it will not impact inflation, it will most likely increase inflation.

Let's just dig in on some of the policies that are included. $745 billion in new spending, over half of which is for the Green New Deal agenda. That includes $3 billion for, ''environmental and climate justice warriors,'' and $245 billion in Department of Energy loans for other friends of the left.

As gas prices increased 50 percent over the course of last year, President Biden's solution was to raise taxes on American oil and gas producers. So we know that this will continue to affect constituents. They will continue to pay the higher price of gasoline at the pump.

At this time, President Biden and congressional Democrats thought it would be a good idea to combat inflation by offering tax credits for high-end electric vehicles.

Now, interestingly enough, and maybe unsurprisingly, a lot of those electric vehicle manufacturers that were set to benefit from those new tax credits, immediately turned around and raised the prices of their vehicles, essentially wiping out the value of the credit.

Another way they thought that apparently would help inflation was to raise taxes on the middle class, including $53 billion in new taxes on Main Street and $10 billion in taxes on those making less than $200,000 a year. Then, adding salt to the wound, the bill spends $80 billion for the IRS to hire 87,000 new agents.

By the way, any of us in our congressional districts know that the IRS has a problem? I have talked to constituents in my district, who are still waiting for refunds from 2019.

So, I get that the IRS may need some additional funding to help to serve the American people better, but do you know there is 14 times as much money in this bill spent on increasing audits on everyday Americans, rather than improving—than the money that is in it for improving customer service there at the IRS?

There is a CBO analysis. The Congressional Budget Office that we all rely upon confirmed that those new agents will focus on extracting as many dollars as possible doing audits on the middle class, and despite the President's claims, half of those audits will be on those making less than $400,000 a year.

We could go on about this bill, and if we have a little more time maybe we will, but I am very pleased to yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER), who is a fellow member of the Budget Committee, passionate about fiscal issues here in our country. I always appreciate his fervor about these issues, and I am pleased to count him as a friend.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank him for hosting this because this is extremely important. I hope people are paying attention to this.

As I say, what we are doing right now is intergenerational theft—$31 trillion in debt. That is intergenerational theft. In fact, Madam Speaker, by the time I am done speaking tonight just my part, the Federal debt will have grown by more than $13,000. That is right. I suspect I will take about 3 minutes, maybe 4, but during that time, the Federal debt will have grown by $13,000.

We learned last week that August's annual inflation rate was a staggering 8.3 percent. By ''we,'' of course, I mean everyone except Joe Biden, who boasted on 60 Minutes last night that inflation has not spiked. If the worst inflation numbers in 40 years isn't a spike, I don't know what is.

Unfortunately for Mr. Biden, the numbers don't lie. That 8.3 percent inflation is costing families well over $4,000 this year alone, essentially wiping out one month's paycheck. I don't know a single family that can afford that kind of sacrifice.

Worse, real wages have fallen every single month since President Biden's $1.9 trillion stimulus passed last year.

But it is not just today's taxpayers that will feel these impacts. Generations from now, people will still be feeling the sting of Biden's inflation crisis. Over the next decade, decisions made in Biden's first 2 years will add $4.8 trillion to our Federal deficit—$4.8 trillion.

Decades of lower interest rates have spared the Federal Government from facing the true costs of borrowing at such high levels, but today's inflation has forced the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates. We are quickly approaching a point where the interest alone on our Federal debt will overwhelm our Federal budget resulting in dire economic effects.

One percentage, one percentage of higher interest rates would cost the Federal Government $400 billion every year starting next year. Just 1 percent rise in the interest rate costs the Federal Government $400 billion in extra interest. That is on top of what we are paying already. That is money we could spend on national defense, healthcare, and other of the many priorities our Nation faces.

But instead, we are paying interest on our debt. Interest payments will pass defense spending by the end of the decade. They will pass Medicare by 2046 and Social Security by the midpoint of the century.

As the Federal Reserve continues to raise interest rates to combat inflation, which will likely happen again this week, this only gets worse. This, again, is intergenerational theft.

Every year we add more than four times the entire U.S. population to our national debt. The time to act is now. We are stealing from our children and our grandchildren and deferring a crisis for them to fix. We must act.

Each year that goes by without increased deficits digs ours hole deeper and deeper. It is time to put down the shovel.

One of the first thing I learned when I became a member of the Georgia State legislature was when you are in a hole, quit digging. We are in a hole. We are stealing from our children and our grandchildren and deferring a crisis for them to fix, and we must act.

As a medical professional by training, I am well acquainted with the Hippocratic oath, which famously says: ''First, do no harm.''

Congress must take a similar approach when it comes to our budget.

Congress doesn't control interest rates, but we can control how much money is added to our national debt. Responsible fiscal policy that balances our budget is the first step to walking away from the fiscal cliff over which our children's children are already dangling.

President Biden's budget calls for $1 trillion in deficit spending every year going forward. Again, that is money we do not have and cannot continue pretending like we do.

Republicans must insist on reining in this spending. That means no more trillion-dollar packages that pour fuel on the fire of inflation. That means eliminating our deficit so we can pay off our outsized debt. That means returning the budget process to regular order.

You know, Washington Democrats recently passed the Inflation Reduction Act, or as I like to call it, the inflation acceleration act. Because this bill did not go through regular order, there was a grave oversight that threatens a $5.5 billion electric vehicle plant that is set for construction in my district. It has put it in jeopardy. This highlights just how important it is that bills go through regular order. If we had had a committee markup on this, we could have caught it. If we had vetted it—one of my favorite sayings is that none of us are as smart as all of us. That is why all of us should be involved in this.

The same logic applies to budgeting. If we don't give our Members the ability to read, debate, and amend legislation, we end up with policies and proposals and budgets that hurt the same people they purport to help.

When we miss budget deadlines, we are breaking the law. In what world does it make sense for a legislative body to routinely break Federal law, the laws we wrote and passed?

□ 2045

Small business owners and families have to make a budget and they have to stick to it. It is time to restore fiscal discipline in Washington, D.C. It is time to balance our budget.

Again, I thank the gentleman for yielding to me, and I thank him for hosting this. This is important. I don't know what it is going to take to get people's attention short of a catastrophe, but I do know this: we cannot continue. We cannot continue on the route in which we are right now. This is intergenerational theft. We cannot leave this to our children and our grandchildren.

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Georgia for his comments. He has identified the problem and has some real solutions on how we can address this and how we can save the future for our kids and our grandkids. One of the saddest things about this is that the idea of the American Dream is that every generation can do better than their parents and their parents before them, and we have seen that for centuries here in the United States. That is at risk because of the fiscal policies that are in place here today.

I look forward to working with my friend, and we hope that the next Congress will be the Congress when we can begin to put this country on the right path.

Madam Speaker, I welcome our next speaker tonight, the next participant is my friend and fellow Pennsylvanian, FRED KELLER, from the 12th District in Pennsylvania.

Mr. KELLER plays an important role in oversight of the Biden administration as a member of the Education and Labor Committee as well as the Oversight and Reform Committee. I count him as a great friend and look forward to his thoughts tonight on what we are talking about, the administration's flawed understanding or lack of understanding of the impact of inflation on Pennsylvanians. We see it every day. He will discuss budget principles that can help us right our fiscal ship.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER).

Mr. KELLER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania, my friend and colleague. Our history goes back a little farther than before we knew each other, and that is to Lancaster County. I worked for a business headquartered in Lancaster County that taught me a lot of things. It taught me how to budget, it taught me how to look out for the future and plan, and it taught me how to listen. I think that is the thing that we do best when we are representing the people who sent us here to do their work.

During President Biden's interview with 60 Minutes, that marked the first on-air, sit-down interview between the President and an American journalist in 7 months. It is abundantly clear why his handlers have been keeping him away from the cameras. He is completely out of touch with the American people. He can tell us stories about when he was in Scranton. That was back in the seventies. I was 8 years old when he came to Washington, D.C. So he can tell us stories from before I was 8 years old.

But he has been here for 50 years. He ought to remember that the last time we had this kind of inflation, President Reagan was leading our great Nation out of the disaster of the Carter years. It looks like President Biden has failed to learn from that history because those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it. Unfortunately, the President is forcing all of us to repeat that history of runaway inflation.

During his interview, President Biden pushed back when pressed about inflation soaring to record highs arguing that the month-to-month inflation rate has remained steady at 8.3 percent compared to 1 year ago. I guess we are supposed to say thank you. But thank you doesn't put gas in the car, thank you doesn't put food on the table, and thank you doesn't make sure that families can save for their children's education.

Keep in mind, Madam Speaker, this is the same President who told the American people inflation was transitory. So I don't know if he means it is going to come back worse than it is now or what he is thinking. But now he is spiking the football and taking credit for persistent inflation not getting worse. That is interesting. It is not getting worse. It is almost like somebody who lights one house on fire and then takes credit for the house next door not catching on fire.

I just can't understand it. The President can try and spin the narrative on inflation all he wants. But last night Americans watched the President speak, and they got a glimpse into the future of our country if Washington Democrats remain in control.

The reality is that inflation is at a record high. American families are making tough decisions about their budgets, decisions that President Biden hasn't had to make since 1973 when he started collecting his check from the taxpayers. But the people for whom he works are having to make those decisions.

Hardworking Americans deserve real answers on how their government plans to reduce inflation, not just maintain historically high levels of it. Washington Democrats can't give the American people straight answers because it is their policies that have put us in economic turmoil.

Republicans have a plan, and my colleagues so very well laid it out here before me: regular order and making sure that every person's Representative and every State senator has input on the legislation.

The Republican Study Committee produced a budget that would balance in 7 years. Think about that: a balanced budget. That is what all the families have to do who are living through these disastrous policies of President Biden and the Democrats that have caused them to lose 1 month's income.

Think about that, Madam Speaker, 8.3 percent inflation. It is not a hard equation. I can write it on a chalkboard for the President. One divided by 12 is 8.3. So you have 1 year, there are 12 months in the year, that is 8.3. It is not a hard equation, although they don't have a problem spending money.

President Reagan used to say that you can't accuse them of spending like a drunken sailor because at least the sailor is spending his own money.

What they are spending is not their money. They are spending our children's money. They are robbing the future from our children. Talk about taxation without representation, regular order needs to be restored.

When we talk about the plan we have for balancing the budget, we are talking about elimination of waste and to stop leaving a financial disaster for the next generation. Those are the issues that really matter to the American people whom we all come here to represent, the hardworking men and women who have worked their entire

life and those who get up and go to work every day to earn a living to support their family.

I am committed to fighting for what they believe is important, not what the Democrats and the President inside the Beltway think is important. His policies are creating an issue with people being able to take care of their family and realizing the American Dream.

Madam Speaker, when you look at the energy policy, when you look at the massive spending, and when you look at the President standing in Independence Hall telling us that half the American people aren't good, that is not how you lead a nation. That is not how you be responsive.

Quite frankly, how we be responsible is we listen, and we include the people in the solutions and in the discussions, and we work to make sure that America is strong and safe and that our children have a bright future. That is our job, and I am committed to making sure that I help all my colleagues here in Congress achieve that goal.

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his wonderful comments.

One of the things that is most frustrating about this is not only, as the gentleman just mentioned, the administration doesn't seem to understand the impact of their policies that have led to these rising prices and the pain that he is causing for people in our districts.

Mr. KELLER. Excuse me. If I may jump back in.

I don't think he could do this by accident. Even to get things this bad, I don't know that you can do it by accident, quite frankly. It is an assault on American energy, and it is an assault on American jobs. I just wonder what is going to happen when somebody has an electric vehicle, they get home from a long day's work, they are told they can't charge their vehicle, and their child needs to be rushed to the doctor or the hospital.

When my son was 3 years old, he had an accident. We got him to the hospital, and they life flighted him to the trauma center. If we had run out of gas, he would have died.

So do you know what, Madam Speaker, I think maybe they need to think about Americans and Americans' priorities which is their family and what it means to have the American Dream. I have benefited from living the American Dream. A kid as poor as I was would have been labeled disadvantaged or at risk, but we didn't let our government label us or anyone else. We worked hard, and we realized the American Dream. I just want that to be alive and well for future generations.

So I will stop pontificating. I really appreciate the opportunity to be here this evening.

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for being here.

We talked about what they have referred to as the Inflation Reduction Act. I think a better title for it is the Expensive Attempt to Distract Voters Act. We know the bill will not cut the deficit, and we know CBO has said that the bill will have a tiny effect on inflation. Penn Wharton Institute in my State estimates that the bill would increase inflation this year and next.

So how can you call a bill Inflation Reduction Act if it doesn't actually decrease inflation?

Then shortly after that, in fact, just 8 days later, you would think at some point, Madam Speaker, the President would stop the spending spree and that at some point there would be a connection made with all of the spending, the rising deficits and debt, and the rising prices.

But what did the President do just 8 days later?

He unilaterally—we think unconstitutionally—but unilaterally spent more than half a trillion dollars on blanket student loan forgiveness, much of which went to high-income earners. Madam Speaker, $500 billion, that is half a trillion dollars. One constituent in my district went out and talked to some workers in a foundry, and you should have heard what they said about this bill, Madam Speaker.

One of them said: Why should I or why should a plumber need to pay the tuition and the debt for a medical student, maybe a graduate medical student?

They are angry that they are being asked. They are working hard every day trying to deal with the rising prices, trying to make ends meet, going back to work out of retirement, and then the President comes along and says: We are going to ask you to pay for the 16 percent of Americans who have student debt.

It makes absolutely no sense to them and makes no sense when you are trying to implement fiscal policies that will tackle the rising prices and help the American people.

Madam Speaker, I welcome my next friend and colleague who is a fellow member of the House Budget Committee, Mr. JAY OBERNOLTE of California. Mr. OBERNOLTE also serves on the Natural Resources and Science, Space, and Technology Committees.

We spent some time earlier this year down at the border, which is another catastrophe I don't think we are going to be talking about tonight, but he has been a wonderful Member of Congress.

It has been great getting to know my friend, and I appreciate his being here this evening.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE).

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Madam Speaker, I thank the Member for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I stand deeply concerned today about the state of our economy. Last week, the Department of Labor released the latest statistics for inflation in the United States. It shows that inflation continues to occur here at a rate above 8 percent, a 40-year high.

Even more alarmingly, the Department of Labor says that core inflation has increased in August over the month of July and that real wages have declined 3.4 percent on an annualized basis.

What that means is that my constituents cannot buy the same quantity of the things that they need this year as they could last year, even if they got a raise for the labor that they produced.

Madam Speaker, every single day I hear of constituents who are desperate because of the results of this inflation. Imagine my embarrassment when I have to tell them that inflation was caused by actions of their own Federal Government. Economists already answered why we are experiencing this inflation. It is a combination of several things.

□ 2100

As our economy emerges from the pandemic, there has been an increased demand for goods and services, and a constrained supply chain which restricts our ability to respond to that increased demand. An economist will say that will make prices go up.

The other thing that has occurred is that this Federal Government has dumped almost $5 trillion of excess government spending into our economy over the last 18 months—$5 trillion. To give you an idea of how big that number is in context, normally our Federal Government only spends about $5 trillion in a given year. So we are increasing government spending by a rate of almost double that of the normal rate. Madam Speaker, when that occurs, you put even more pressure on goods and services, and that causes prices to increase further.

Earlier this year, the San Francisco branch of the Federal Reserve Bank wondered why inflation was so much worse here in the United States than that experienced by other countries, particularly in Europe. They did a study and several months ago they released the results of this study, and their findings were stark. They said that deficit government spending is at the root cause of why inflation is so much worse here in the United States than it is in other countries.

Madam Speaker, when the actions of government result in people paying more—that is called a tax. Inflation in the United States represents an unseen tax paid by every single American family. Unfortunately, this is a tax that is borne disproportionately by those who can least afford to pay it—the impoverished and the working poor in this country.

I have an even deeper concern this evening, Madam Speaker. Several weeks ago the Congressional Budget Office released their long-term fiscal forecast in which they analyze the finances of the United States over the next 30 years. They do this every year, and Congress, frankly, never pays attention. Madam Speaker, Congress and

the American people need to start paying attention to what the CBO has to say.

The CBO says that our current national debt stands at over $30 trillion. If you do the math, that is over $90,000 for every single American man, woman, and child—over $90,000 each—and that is today.

The CBO says that right now our Federal Government runs a deficit of about 30 percent of all Federal spending. That represents about 4 percent of our gross domestic product. At the end of the forecast period, the CBO says that our deficit will nearly triple to 11 percent of our GDP.

At that time, just paying interest on the national debt will eclipse all of our Federal spending on Social Security. It will eclipse all of our Federal spending on Medicare. In fact, it will become the single largest expenditure of Federal Government, requiring over half of all Federal tax revenue to pay—over half. That is under the current fiscal conditions.

Ironically, the Federal Reserve Bank is being forced to raise interest rates as a result of the inflation that this Federal Government has caused. Every time the Fed takes the action that they are likely to take this week in raising the discount rate by three-quarters of a point, it increases the cost of our interest payments on our national debt by $180 billion a year, which makes the problem even worse.

In fact, the CBO says that if the Federal Reserve is forced to raise interest rates by 3 percentage points—and we know that they have already gotten to about halfway there—that by the end of their forecast period, just paying interest on the national debt will consume over 100 percent of Federal tax revenues.

In other words, Madam Speaker, we won't even have enough money to pay the interest on the debt that we have rung up. That is unacceptable. This should be something that everyone in this Chamber is talking about because what the CBO says is that sometime in the next 30 years there will come a day of reckoning. The sooner it comes, the less painful it will be. It will be painful no matter what we do, but if we wait it will be extremely painful.

Madam Speaker, we must get our fiscal house in order. The only way to solve this problem is to reduce our habit of deficit spending. Now, I know my colleagues on the other side of the aisle like to say this is an easily solved problem. The problem is that we don't tax Americans enough. Well, the CBO had an answer to that, too.

They said that over the next 30 years, in their forecast period, average Federal tax revenues will be over 18 percent. That is a substantial increase over the current Federal tax revenue over the last 50 years. In other words, Madam Speaker, what we have is not a revenue problem, we have a spending problem. The only way we can get this problem under control is to reduce our Federal spending and control our deficit.

Madam Speaker, almost every year in this Chamber multiple bills are introduced attempting to impose a balanced budget requirement—sometimes within our House rules, sometimes within our Federal Constitution. I, myself, introduced a balance budget amendment last year in this Chamber.

We try to do it in a responsible way that won't disrupt the economy. We do it over a 5-year phase-in period. We allow for periods of fiscal emergency to be declared in which the President, with the concurrence of Congress, can override the requirement that the Federal budget be balanced in times of warfare and times of economic crisis.

Madam Speaker, we must pay attention to this problem. We must balance our Federal budget. If we do not, not only us but our children will pay the terrible consequence.

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his wonderful comments outlining the problem that we are faced with here. It sounds like we are up here criticizing the administration—and certainly we are—but it is far beyond that. I think to address a problem, whether it seems like an abstract problem or something that will happen in the future—to address the problem we must first understand it and recognize that the problem exists. The policies of this administration do not seem to understand that there is a real crisis up ahead if we don't take steps now to change the trajectory.

Madam Speaker, I have a chart here beside me—and a few of the other speakers have mentioned this tonight—the amount of spending that this administration has incurred above the $4 to $5 trillion that we spend in the Federal Government every year—this is an outline of the major policies, starting with the American Rescue Plan and on and on. Student debt is the most recent. $4.8 trillion in less than 2 years in office—$4.8 trillion.

It seems like the response of this administration to every problem is just to throw money at it, and it is money we don't have. The response is to print money and to take money to spend the money of our future generations. He did this with the American Rescue Plan—$1.9 trillion.

At that time, Democrat economist Larry Summers said that was the worst macroeconomic policy and a mistake that would end in double-digit inflation. He ended up being exactly right on that.

His response to helping veterans recovering from burn pits, which was once a strong bipartisan policy that I was proud to support—but his response was to throw $667 billion in new mandatory spending at the problem, ignoring bipartisan alternatives that were responsibly paid for and doubling the fiscal impact of the VA in the process—$4.8 trillion in less than 2 years in office.

So why are we talking about this tonight? Why are some—more and more—a growing number of Members in Congress concerned about this? Is there any hope? I would say that despite the current fiscal challenges that we face, hope is not lost. We can ensure that America's best days still lie ahead. I am optimistic that we can do that in Congress.

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Is there any hope? I would say that, despite the current fiscal challenges that we face, hope is not lost. We can ensure that America's best days still lie ahead. I am optimistic that we can do that in Congress.

Wouldn't that be great if we look back 20 years from now and were able to say that that was the Congress that began to change America and that saved the future of America? We can do it if we decide that is what we will do.

We simply cannot afford the continued spending policies of this administration. We can't afford to continue on this destructive, wasteful path. We can't afford to delay and to kick the can down the road.

We need to begin to seriously recommit to fiscal responsibility by meaningfully reducing spending and reducing deficits while investing in policies that ensure growth. We need to reject any increases to mandatory spending.

Several other speakers mentioned this tonight, but we have budget rules in Congress that have simply been ignored for decades. We need to enforce our own budget rules that this body set for itself and set for the Federal Government and not simply look the other way as we routinely pass bills increasing spending, increasing mandatory spending, by billions of dollars.

There is a measure of our total debt that I think is worth looking at. Compare it to our total economic output as a Nation or the gross domestic product. Currently, we are at about 130 percent. Our debt is 130 percent of GDP.

That is projected to increase, as far as we can project at this point, about a trillion—we are 30 trillion now—increase over a trillion per year under the policies of this administration and previous administrations. That debt will eclipse 185 percent of GDP by 2052 on the current path.

We know how it ends. Every country in history that has spent more money than it had, that has overtaxed and overspent, has failed. It doesn't end well.

While we may think this is a problem far in the future that future generations can take care of, at some point, we will see the devastating impact if we don't change the trajectory.

If we don't reverse course, we risk the full faith and credit of the United States, which would put us under threat of a sovereign debt crisis and economic fallout that we have seen elsewhere in nations across the world.

It will take discipline. It will take reducing our spending. It will take investing in progrowth policies similar to those that we implemented just a few

years ago that created the booming economy that we had at that time.

I appreciate the comments of a number of my colleagues here. I appreciate the interest in this crisis. It truly is a crisis.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to put forward a sustainable, forward-thinking budget next Congress that reduces Federal spending, implements those progrowth policies, and puts our country back to a sustainable fiscal future.

We can do it, and we must do it for future generations.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 1 of House Resolution 1230, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 9 o'clock and 15 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF PAYGO LEGISLATION

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, the attached estimate of the costs of H.R. 1456, the Peace Corps Reauthorization Act of 2022, as amended, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ESTIMATE OF PAY-AS-YOU-GO EFFECTS FOR H.R. 1456

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—												
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	022–2027	022–2032
Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Impact	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	6	

Components may not sum to totals because of rounding

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 4009, the Enslaved Voyages Memorial Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 6353, the National Service Animals Memorial Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 6734, the Keep America's Refuges Operational Act of 2022, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

Pursuant to the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (PAYGO), Mr. YARMUTH hereby submits, prior to the vote on passage, for printing in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, that H.R. 8453, the Upholding the Dayton Peace Agreement Through Sanctions Act, as amended, would have no significant effect on the deficit, and therefore, the budgetary effects of such bill are estimated as zero.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC–5230. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Pesticides; Certification of Pesticide Applicators; Further Extension to Expiration Date of Certification Plans [EPA-HQ-OPP-2021-0831; FRL-9134.1-04-OCSPP] (RIN: 2070-AL01) received August 17, 2022, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

EC–5231. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's direct final rule — Air Plans; Arizona; Revised Format for Materials Incorporated by Reference; Correcting Amendment [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0230; FRL-9602-02-R9] received August 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–5232. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Finding of Failure To Submit Regional Haze State Implementation Plans for the Second Planning Period [EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0320; FRL-9731-01-OAR] received August 23, 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–5233. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Program: Alternative RIN Retirement Schedule for Small Refineries [EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0434; FRL-9821-02-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AV72) received August 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–5234. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; California; Ventura County; 8-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area Requirements; Correction Due to Vacatur [EPA-R09-OAR-2018-0146; FRL-9681-01-R9] received August 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–5235. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; New Hampshire; Boston-Manchester-Portsmouth Area Second 10-Year Limited Maintenance Plan for 1997 Ozone NAAQS [EPA-R01-OAR-2021-0672; FRL-9558-02-R1] received August 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–5236. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Approval; Nevada; Clark County Department of Environment and Sustainability [EPA-R09-OAR-2022-0173; FRL-9702-02-R9] received August 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–5237. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Expedited Approval of Alternative Test Procedures for the Analysis of Contaminants Under the Safe Drinking Water Act; Analysis and Sampling Procedures [EPA-HQ-OW-2022-0407; FRL-9834-01-OW] received August 17, 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–5238. A letter from the Associate Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Air Plan Partial Disapproval; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Reasonably Available Control Technology Regulations for the 1997 and 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R03-OAR-2017-0290; FRL-10115-02-R3] received August 17, 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–5239. A letter from the Chief, Regulatory Coordination Division, Department of

Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals [CIS No.: 2691-21; DHS Docket No.: USCIS-2021-0006] (RIN: 1615-AC64) received September 6, 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–5240. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-368; King Salmon, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0819; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AAL-37] (RIN: 2120-AA66) August 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–5241. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of United States Area Navigation (RNAV) Route T-267; Nome, AK [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0812; Airspace Docket No.: 19-AAL-71] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received August 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–5242. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D Airspace and Class E Airspace, and Revocation of Class E Airspace; Poughkeepsie, NY [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0524; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AEA-8] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received August 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–5243. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Raleigh, NC [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0525; Airspace Docket No.: 22-ASO-7] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received August 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–5244. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E Airspace; Sturgeon Bay, WI [Docket No.: FAA-2022-1005; Airspace Docket No.: 22-AGL-29] (RIN: 2120-AA66] received August 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–5245. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Airbus Canada Limited Partnership (Type Certificate Previously Held by C Series Aircraft Limited Partnership (CSALP); Bombardier, Inc.) Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0990; Project Identifier MCAI-2022-00372-T; Amendment 39-22137; AD 2022-16-08] (RIN: 2120-AA64) August 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–5246. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-1177; Project Identifier AD-2021-00570-T; Amendment 39-22096; AD 2022-13-10] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 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–5247. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-1005; Project Identifier AD-2021-00842-T; Amendment 39-22127; AD 2022-15-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received, 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–5248. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0462; Project Identifier MCAI-2021-00647-T; Amendment 39-22104; AD 2022-13-18] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 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–5249. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2021-0958; Project Identifier 2019-CE-010-AD; Amendment 39-22133; AD 2022-16-04] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 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–5250. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0880; Project Identifier AD-2022-00620-T; Amendment 39-22126; AD 2022-15-06] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 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–5251. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2022-0884; Project Identifier AD-2022-00749-T; Amendment 39-22129; AD 2022-15-09] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received August 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–5252. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31441; Amdt. No.: 4020] received August 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–5253. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31440; Amdt. No.: 4019] received August 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–5254. A letter from the Management and Program Analyst, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — IFR Altitudes; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31444; Amdt. No.: 567] received August 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.

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. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4009. A bill to authorize the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117–467). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6353. A bill to authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purpose (Rept. 117–468). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6734. A bill to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer services, community partnership, and refuge education programs of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and for other purposes (Rept. 117–469). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 7618. A bill to designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a national memorial (Rept. 117–470). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 820. A bill to establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 117–471). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GRIJALVA: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4358. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Little Manatee River as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117–472). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. House Resolution 1328. Resolution requesting the President, and directing the Secretary of Homeland Security, to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of all documents in their possession referring or relating to certain aspects of border policies of the United States; adversely (Rept. 117–473). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi: Committee on Homeland Security. House Resolution 1236. Resolution of inquiry directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to the Disinformation Governance Board; adversely (Rept. 117–474). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 7566. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the punishment for human trafficking in a school zone,

and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117–475). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 3034. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Western District of Washington, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117–476). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. NADLER: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 7181. A bill to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to direct the Secretary of Transportation to seek to provide for the posting of contact information of the national human trafficking hotline in the restrooms of each aircraft, airport, over-the-road bus, bus station, passenger train, and passenger railroad station operating within the United States, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 117–477, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. PERLMUTTER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1361. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (S. 1098) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize borrowers to separate joint consolidation loans; and for other purposes (Rept. 117–478). Referred to the House Calendar.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure discharged from further consideration. H.R. 7181. Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. LOFGREN (for herself and Ms. CHENEY):

H.R. 8873. A bill to amend title 3, United States Code, to reform the process for the counting of electoral votes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committee on Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. GOODEN of Texas):

H.R. 8874. A bill to amend the Electronic Fund Transfer Act to require the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve system to prescribe regulations relating to network competition in credit card transactions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. RYAN of New York:

H.R. 8875. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility of members of the National Guard for housing loans guaranteed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. NEAL, Mr. BRADY, Mr. PALLONE, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. GUTHRIE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. BUCHANAN, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. KIND, Mr. SMITH of Missouri, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, Mr. DUNN, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. PENCE, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mr. LAHOOD, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. FERGUSON, Ms. DELBENE, Mr. ESTES, Ms. CHU, Mr. SMUCKER, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mr. BEYER, Mr. EVANS, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. PANETTA, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. GOMEZ, Mr. HORSFORD, and Ms. PLASKETT):

H.R. 8876. A bill to reauthorize the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS (for herself, Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina, Ms. BARRAGÁN, and Ms. KUSTER):

H.R. 8877. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to evaluate the extent to which the substitution of interchangeable biological products may be impeded by differences between the system for determining a biological product to be interchangeable and the system for assigning therapeutic equivalence ratings to drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mr. PASCRELL, and Mr. SMITH of Nebraska):

H.R. 8878. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure adequate coverage of outpatient mental health services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. EVANS (for himself and Mr. ARRINGTON):

H.R. 8879. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for improvements to the Medicare prospective payment system for psychiatric hospitals and psychiatric units; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas (for herself and Mr. GREEN of Texas):

H.R. 8880. A bill to require the Financial Literacy and Education Commission to carry out a study on the impact of language barriers to financial health, to require the website and toll-free telephone number of the Commission to be provided in the most commonly spoken languages in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HORSFORD (for himself and Mr. BUCHANAN):

H.R. 8881. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to disclose the percentage of in-network participation for certain provider types, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JACOBS of New York:

H.R. 8882. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to require a license to acquire or receive an assault weapon, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio (for himself, Mr. DONALDS, and Mrs. FLORES):

H.R. 8883. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the excise tax on investment income of private colleges and universities; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. HIGGINS of New York):

H.R. 8884. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide outreach and reporting on opioid use disorder treatment services furnished by opioid treatment programs under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KILDEE (for himself, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. HERN):

H.R. 8885. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide for provider directory improvements to enhance enrollee, participant, and beneficiary access to care; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself and Mr. SCHWEIKERT):

H.R. 8886. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure mental health and substance use disorder benefits are defined pursuant to external benchmarks based on nationally recognized standards; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MRVAN:

H.R. 8887. A bill to direct the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to establish an occupational research program on mental health; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mrs. PELTOLA:

H.R. 8888. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs an Office of Food Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. PLASKETT (for herself, Mr. RICE of South Carolina, and Mr. SMUCKER):

H.R. 8889. A bill to provide for improved access to group health plan and health insurance coverage summary of benefits and coverage explanation, require a joint report by the Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Treasury, and Labor relating to summaries of benefits and coverage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently

determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. RUIZ (for himself, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. BEYER, and Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina):

H.R. 8890. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish exceptions for certain physician wellness programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ (for herself, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, and Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia):

H.R. 8891. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide coverage for forensic medical exams with no cost sharing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SEWELL (for herself, Mr. LAHOOD, and Mr. KUSTOFF):

H.R. 8892. A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a public outreach campaign to inform individuals covered under a group health plan or group or individual health insurance coverage of Federal requirements relating to mental health and substance use disorder crisis services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8893. A bill to establish a pilot program on research and development of plant-based protein for the Navy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8894. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the national security strategy for national technology and industrial base to provide for the research and development of sustainable and secure food sources; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8895. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to include additional elements in the plan and report on reduction of reliance on services, supplies, or materials from covered countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8896. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress a report on congressional increases to the budget of the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8897. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to consult with the congressional defense committees in the preparation of the national defense strategy; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8898. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to assess the efforts of the Secretary of Defense with respect to the National Defense Stockpile, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8899. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to establish a preference for domestically manufactured or produced food for military working dogs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8900. A bill to amend the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, to authorize certain prizes for the development of non-PFAS-containing turnout gear, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8901. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to submit a report regarding the provision of water alternatives to communities affected by PFAS contamination, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8902. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to notify Congress before carrying out an order to use a nuclear weapon without a declaration of war by Congress; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8903. A bill to reauthorize United States-Israel cooperation to counter unmanned aerial systems; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:

H.R. 8904. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy for further collaborating with allies and partners of the United States regarding access to strategic and critical minerals, and for other purposes; 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.

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 8905. A bill to prohibit the maintenance of certain seized assets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (for herself, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, and Mr. SOTO):

H.R. 8906. A bill to provide for retroactive application of Generalized System of Preferences for the period after December 31, 2020, and before September 1, 2022; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. WATERS (for herself, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, and Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 8907. A bill to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, to reauthorize the Missing Americans Alert Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. GREENE of Georgia:

H. Res. 1362. A resolution impeaching Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States, for endangering, compromising, and undermining the energy security of the United States by selling oil from the United States' Strategic Petroleum Reserve to foreign nations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ADAMS (for herself, Mrs. HINSON, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. COHEN, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. TONKO):

H. Res. 1363. A resolution supporting the designation of September 19, 2022, as ''National Stillbirth Prevention Day'', recognizing tens of thousands of American families that have endured a stillbirth, and seizing the opportunity to keep other families from experiencing the same tragedy; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. BUSH (for herself, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. BOWMAN, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. CARSON, and Ms. OMAR):

H. Res. 1364. A resolution recognizing access to water, sanitation, electricity, heating, cooling, broadband communications, and public transportation as basic human rights and public services that must be accessible, safe, acceptable, sufficient, affordable, climate resilient, and reliable for every person; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CHU (for herself, Mr. KILDEE, Ms. MENG, and Mr. TRONE):

H. Res. 1365. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 18 through September 24, 2022, as ''Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week''; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. COSTA (for himself, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 1366. A resolution expressing support for the designation of October 8, 2022, as ''National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day''; to the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

By Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois:

H. Res. 1367. A resolution providing for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 82) to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. ESTES:

H. Res. 1368. A resolution supporting the idea of celebrating the 50th year of the Walnut Valley Festival; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. KEATING (for himself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 1369. A resolution recognizing the honorable life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as well as her leadership and commitment to the people of the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth, and the world; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. SOTO, Ms. BUSH, and Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas):

H. Res. 1370. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. WILSON of Florida (for herself, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. STAUBER):

H. Res. 1371. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of September 19 through September 25, 2022, as ''Rail Safety Week'' in the United States,

and supporting the goals and ideals of Rail Safety Week to reduce rail-related incidents, fatalities, and injuries; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

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 Ms. LOFGREN:
H.R. 8873.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article II, section 1, clause 4
First Amendment
Twelfth Amendment
Fourteenth Amendment
Article I, section 8, clause 18 (Necessary and Proper Clause)

By Mr. WELCH:
H.R. 8874.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. RYAN of New York:
H.R. 8875.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution

By Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois:
H.R. 8876.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:
H.R. 8877.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S.C.

By Ms. CHU:
H.R. 8878.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1, Section 8, Article 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. EVANS:
H.R. 8879.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Sections 7 & 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution and Amendment XVI of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. GARCIA of Texas:
H.R. 8880.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution

By Mr. HORSFORD:
H.R. 8881.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. JACOBS of New York:
H.R. 8882.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:
H.R. 8883.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania:
H.R. 8884.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3

By Mr. KILDEE:
H.R. 8885.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1 Section 8

By Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin:
H.R. 8886.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The Congress enacts this bill pursuant to Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution and Amendment XVI of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MRVAN:
H.R. 8887.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
clause 1 of section 8 of article 1 of the Constitution

By Mrs. PELTOLA:
H.R. 8888.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 and Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18

By Ms. PLASKETT:
H.R. 8889.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. RUIZ:
H.R. 8890.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.

By Ms. SÁNCHEZ:
H.R. 8891.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8

By Ms. SEWELL:
H.R. 8892.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8893.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8894.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8895.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8896.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8897.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8898.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8899.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8900.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8901.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8902.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8903.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. SLOTKIN:
H.R. 8904.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of

the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. STANTON:

H.R. 8905.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section 8

By Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ:

H.R. 8906.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Ms. WATERS:

H.R. 8907.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 25: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.R. 82: Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 336: Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 475: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 792: Ms. ADAMS.
H.R. 955: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1014: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 1016: Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1255: Mr. CURTIS.
H.R. 1282: Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. MRVAN, and Mr. GOODEN of Texas.
H.R. 1309: Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. FLETCHER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. NEAL.
H.R. 1330: Mr. NORMAN.
H.R. 1551: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1696: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 1774: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 1829: Mrs. CAMMACK and Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 1946: Ms. TENNEY.
H.R. 1948: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. CRAIG, Mrs. DEMINGS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mrs. LEE of Nevada, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 2030: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 2126: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 2325: Ms. BARRAGÁN.
H.R. 2351: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 2460: Ms. TITUS, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, and Mr. HIGGINS of New York.
H.R. 2730: Mr. EVANS and Ms. DEGETTE.
H.R. 2825: Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 2840: Mr. CAREY.
H.R. 2864: Mr. JEFFRIES.
H.R. 2965: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 3085: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 3150: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 3172: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 3258: Mrs. CAMMACK.
H.R. 3281: Mr. MEUSER.
H.R. 3332: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 3614: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 3733: Mr. KHANNA, Mr. CRAWFORD, and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 3783: Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 3946: Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 3988: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 4006: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 4079: Ms. STANSBURY.
H.R. 4141: Mr. FITZPATRICK and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4146: Mr. SABLAN, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 4341: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 4358: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 4379: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 4387: Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 4421: Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHI.
H.R. 4766: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 4938: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 5019: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 5035: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 5141: Mrs. STEEL.
H.R. 5189: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 5302: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 5441: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mr. CAREY.
H.R. 5444: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 5508: Ms. LOFGREN and Mr. LEVIN of California.
H.R. 5606: Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN.
H.R. 5624: Mr. PETERS.
H.R. 5727: Ms. CASTOR of Florida.
H.R. 5801: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 5808: Mrs. HINSON.
H.R. 5987: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 6096: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 6111: Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. KEATING, Mr. JONES, and Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 6265: Mr. MOULTON and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 6307: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 6394: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 6644: Mr. GOOD of Virginia.
H.R. 6715: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 6852: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 6860: Ms. KAPTUR.
H.R. 6941: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H.R. 6970: Mr. LAMALFA and Mr. GROTHMAN.
H.R. 6985: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 7079: Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 7122: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 7181: Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia and Mrs. TORRES of California.
H.R. 7213: Mr. CICILLINE and Mrs. AXNE.
H.R. 7240: Mr. CASTEN and Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia.
H.R. 7249: Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. LYNCH, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 7365: Ms. STEFANIK.
H.R. 7382: Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 7394: Ms. PRESSLEY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, and Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 7415: Mr. STEUBE.
H.R. 7589: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 7618: Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 7627: Ms. JAYAPAL and Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 7630: Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, Mr. CROW, Mr. GOODEN of Texas, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 7669: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 7698: Ms. CONWAY.
H.R. 7739: Mr. CÁRDENAS.
H.R. 7773: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 7775: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 7892: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida.
H.R. 7918: Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. LYNCH, Ms. DELBENE, and Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN.
H.R. 7925: Mr. PANETTA, Mr. LIEU, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. ISSA, Mr. VALADAO, and Ms. SÁNCHEZ.
H.R. 7944: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 7946: Mr. BOWMAN.
H.R. 7961: Mr. TIMMONS, Mr. DUNN, and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 7974: Ms. SHERRILL.
H.R. 7988: Mrs. STEEL.
H.R. 8033: Mr. CASTEN.
H.R. 8040: Mr. LEVIN of Michigan.
H.R. 8058: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 8081: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 8105: Mr. KEATING and Ms. BUSH.
H.R. 8107: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H.R. 8109: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 8111: Mr. STANTON and Mrs. LURIA.
H.R. 8181: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 8187: Mr. BOST and Mr. WESTERMAN.
H.R. 8188: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER and Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 8195: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 8336: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 8352: Ms. MATSUI and Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 8387: Mr. COLE and Mr. JOYCE of Ohio.
H.R. 8502: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 8518: Mr. BABIN.
H.R. 8551: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 8568: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 8573: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 8580: Mr. BACON.
H.R. 8581: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. GIBBS, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 8585: Mr. O'HALLERAN, Ms. WILD, and Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 8586: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 8600: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 8614: Mr. BAIRD and Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 8622: Mr. MCCARTHY and Ms. PELOSI.
H.R. 8637: Mr. COLE and Mr. LIEU.
H.R. 8642: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 8659: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 8681: Mr. CARTER of Georgia.
H.R. 8703: Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 8707: Mr. EVANS.
H.R. 8718: Ms. WILD.
H.R. 8725: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 8729: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H.R. 8731: Mr. MANN, Mr. RESCHENTHALER, and Mr. COMER.
H.R. 8736: Mr. CONNOLLY, Mrs. AXNE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. SAN NICOLAS, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 8750: Mr. MRVAN.
H.R. 8753: Mr. LAMALFA.
H.R. 8762: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mr. CLOUD.
H.R. 8770: Ms. SCANLON.
H.R. 8772: Mr. FITZPATRICK.
H.R. 8773: Mr. MCCLINTOCK.
H.R. 8782: Mr. MEIJER.
H.R. 8814: Mr. GOODEN of Texas and Mrs. BOEBERT.
H.R. 8820: Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, Mr. KELLER, and Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 8821: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.
H.R. 8826: Mr. MANN.
H.R. 8829: Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Mr. NADLER.
H.R. 8835: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 8839: Mr. BENTZ, Mrs. HINSON, Mr. CLYDE, Mr. STEUBE, Mr. MANN, and Mr. MOOLENAAR.
H.R. 8845: Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 8861: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.J. Res. 1: Mr. SCHIFF.
H.J. Res. 46: Mr. DUNN.
H.J. Res. 61: Mr. PERRY.
H. Res. 29: Mr. POCAN.
H. Res. 404: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H. Res. 448: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H. Res. 558: Mr. FULCHER, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mrs. CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK.
H. Res. 744: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida, and Mr. EMMER.
H. Res. 832: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Ms. OMAR.
H. Res. 1030: Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 1095: Mrs. FLETCHER.
H. Res. 1113: Mr. LEVIN of California.
H. Res. 1156: Mrs. HARTZLER.
H. Res. 1185: Ms. JAYAPAL.
H. Res. 1266: Mr. MURPHY of North Carolina.
H. Res. 1306: Ms. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. CORREA, and Ms. JAYAPAL.
H. Res. 1320: Ms. STEFANIK.
H. Res. 1346: Mr. LYNCH.
H. Res. 1351: Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. TONKO, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. COSTA, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. SÁNCHEZ, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.

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PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 117th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

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Senate

The Senate met at 3:01 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO, a Senator from the State of Hawaii.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O, God, our provider, we come to You in our weakness, seeking Your mercy and help.

Lord, give us this day the mercy and grace of Your love that we may become all You desire us to be. Empower our lawmakers to cherish Your precepts and obey Your Word.

Lord, keep them walking in the way everlasting. Strengthen them so to run that they may reach the destination You have chosen for their lives. Enable them so to strive that they may win the victor's crown. Prepare them so to keep the faith that they may persevere to the very end.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

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

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 19, 2022.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MAZIE K. HIRONO, a Senator from the State of Hawaii, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Ms. HIRONO 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 legislative clerk read the nomination of Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

INFLATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Last week, the American people received yet another absolutely crushing—crushing—inflation report. More than a year after Washington Democrats' policies set off the worst overall inflation in 40 years, the prices of some of the most essential items for working families are skyrocketing at their fastest rates in a generation.

Electricity costs are rising faster than they have since 1981, and grocery inflation has eclipsed a high from 1979. Parents trying to put food on the table are now contending with annual price hikes of 16.2 percent for a loaf of bread, 17 percent for a gallon of milk, and 40 percent more for a dozen eggs.

Now, the very same day this painful news broke, just a few hours later, Washington Democrats threw a party for themselves on the White House lawn, celebrating their economic policies.

You really can't make this stuff up.

The official numbers had just confirmed that American families have seen the single worst year for both food and electricity inflation since the fallout from Jimmy Carter. And the Democrats' response was to throw themselves a party—a party—for spending hundreds of billions of dollars more, raising taxes, and making working-class Americans pay off the loans of doctors and lawyers.

You might think the Biden administration couldn't possibly get any more out of touch. You would think that kind of display would have to take the cake. But alas, last night, on ''60 Minutes,'' President Biden gave an almost comically out-of-touch interview on the inflation crisis.

The President argued—with a straight face—that the American people ought to be grateful for last month's terrible inflation report because it could have been even worse. Here was a quote:

Guess where we are? We're in a position where, in the last several months, [inflation] hasn't spiked.

Struggling Americans are supposed to be grateful that we have plateaued at a steady ongoing inflation rate of more than 8 percent? The President wants a round of applause for steadily clocking month after month after month of the worst inflation in 40 years?

The inflation rate plateauing does not mean that prices themselves have leveled off. It means that prices are

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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still steadily climbing all the time, at a historically fast pace, the worst in a generation.

Month after month after month, Democrats' policy failures are continuing to add inflation on top of inflation. The inflation rate plateauing above 8 percent does not mean that families are catching a break. It means exactly the opposite. It means that families are continuing to see prices go up and up and up all the time.

Simply surviving, just getting by, in Washington Democrats' economy costs 8.3 percent more than it did a year ago, but remember, the 12-month numbers now dramatically understate the damage the Democrats have done because it only looks back 1 year, when Democrats' inflation spiral was already up and running.

Here is the number that really matters. Since the day that President Biden was sworn in, since the day that this one-party Democratic government took power, our country's inflation rate has been—listen to this—13.2 percent. And according to President Biden, if you are angry about that, if parents are upset, if workers are frustrated, they just aren't putting things in proper perspective.

Considering the American people give President Biden a 38-percent approval rating on his handling of the economy, I would say it is the White House that needs to get some perspective, not the working people of this country.

And get this: When President Biden was asked how we can avoid a recession, since Democrats' policies have forced the Fed to raise their rates sharply, the President doubled down on his fantasyland. He suggested:

> [W]e're growing the economy . . . it's growing in . . . a way that it hasn't in years and years.

But, of course, that is complete nonsense. You measure real GDP growth after inflation. From early 2017 until the beginning of the COVID pandemic, Republican policies had the economy humming along with robust growth, low unemployment, and low inflation—a great trifecta for the American people.

But now, with President Biden's policies in place, we have seen two consecutive quarters of real GDP actually falling. Once you account for the inflation that Democrats have caused, our economy is not growing at all. It is, in fact, shrinking.

Families talk about the term ''shrinkflation'' at the grocery store or the big-box store. That means not only have prices gone up, but the size of the package has gone down so you are both paying more and getting less. Like the size of a bag of chips or a box of cookies or the number of sheets in a roll of toilet paper or the weight of a bag of fertilizer—higher prices, smaller quantities.

And this is basically what President Biden and Democrats have done to the entire U.S. economy. Everything costs more, even as the GDP is shrinking in real terms. Just like American families have seen their real wages plummet after inflation, the same thing has happened to the country as a whole for two quarters and counting.

So the President might want to talk to a couple of working Americans who are trying to survive under his policies before he sits down for his next TV interview.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. 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.

The Senator from Illinois.

MARK FRERICHS

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, 2½ years ago, a native of my home State of Illinois and a veteran of the U.S. Navy, Mark Frerichs, was abducted by the Taliban or one of its affiliates in Afghanistan.

He was working there as a contractor, and his disappearance was devastating to his family back in Lombard, IL.

Senator DUCKWORTH and I have spent countless hours and staff hours working with his family trying to find out what happened to Mark. We spoke to his sister Charlene and repeatedly raised his case with both the Trump and Biden administrations. We wanted to let them know we cared, and we joined the family on that course.

Well, today, the family's prayers have been answered. The news was released that Mark is coming home. I want to commend President Biden, Secretary of State Blinken, and their teams for never giving up on Mark and ultimately securing his freedom.

His sister Charlene said upon news of her brother's release that ''[w]e never gave up hope that he would survive and come home safely to us.'' She was right. And Mark was so fortunate to have her as his steadfast champion.

Welcome home, Mark Frerichs.

INFLATION REDUCTION ACT OF 2022

Madam President, I listened to the comments that were just made by the Republican leader about events in Washington, the state of the economy, and it was interesting, the perspective he took. He was critical of President Biden for calling a meeting of several thousand supporters last week on the White House lawn from all over the United States to celebrate the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act here in the U.S. Senate and House. You know and I know there wasn't a single Republican vote in favor of the Inflation Reduction Act. Some 6 weeks ago, we did some things that, frankly, many of us had been hoping for for a long time without a single Republican vote supporting it.

The Senator from Kentucky wondered what we were celebrating. Well, let me tell him a few of the things we are celebrating.

After years of candidates going out on the campaign trail and telling America that the cost of prescription drugs were too high, we finally did something about it—finally. After years of negotiating the price for drugs in the Veterans' Administration so we could afford to give our veterans the very best, we applied the same standard to Medicare. What does it mean? It means that the most popular and most expensive drugs that are sold through Medicare to recipients over the age of 65, we are now going to negotiate the prices to come up with a reasonable amount to charge taxpayers for those drugs.

Well, if you wondered whether or not the pharmaceutical industry can handle that kind of truth, I might remind people what they already know. Exactly the same drugs in the same boxes are for sale in Canada at a fraction of the price that we pay in the United States. The same thing is true in Europe. And we said, once and for all, we are going to do something about it. I think that is something to celebrate.

Let me tell you something else that is part of it too. We said that, from this point forward, when this bill takes effect, no recipient on Medicare will ever pay more than $2,000 a year for prescription drugs—upper limit, ceiling, 2,000 bucks. Do you know what these same people were faced with when it came to cancer drugs and other therapies? Thousands and thousands of dollars. And we brought it home to a level—which I wish we could have done more, but it is very important as well—and that is when it comes to diabetes. Millions of Americans suffer from diabetes or someone in their family does, and we said that if you are on Medicare, you won't have to pay more than $35 for a dose of insulin—$35. That is a relief to a lot of people with diabetes in their family. Some of those people couldn't afford insulin, couldn't afford the doses they need, and they endangered their life in the process.

In addition to all of that, we, in this bill, did, in fact, address the Tax Code. The Senator from Kentucky said earlier that we raised taxes. We did. Let me tell you who is going to pay more in taxes. If you own a corporation that over the last 3 years has had a net profit, an average net profit, of $1 billion a year—1 billion—I am not asking for a show of hands—but if you had a net profit that averaged over $1 billion over the last 3 years, you have to pay a minimum corporate tax of—get ready—15 percent. Fifteen percent.

Most Americans pay their taxes believing that is what the law requires, and many believe, as I do, that is the price of admission in America for a great nation. Fifteen percent—we would all welcome that rate. There are very few people at that rate. But to say that a corporation with a net profit on average of $1 billion a year over the last 3 years finally has to pay taxes instead of escaping all tax liability—

guilty as charged. The Senator from Kentucky is right. We did that. Do you know the net result of it? The net result of it, it is going to reduce the deficit this year by $1.3 trillion.

All this talk about the big spenders in Congress, the bill we put together for inflation reduction zeroed in on those two issues: capping the cost of prescription drugs for Medicare and making certain that corporations, profitable corporations, pay their fair share of taxes just like every American family. Those two elements were not mentioned by the Senator from Kentucky. It is understandable. But what I want to make clear is, we didn't have a single Republican vote in support of what I have just given you.

There is an additional section there that is controversial, but I feel strongly about it. I think we are facing in this world today obvious evidence of extreme weather and changes that should alarm us. Yes, it is climate change. It is global warming. And what we did in this bill was to create incentives for American families and corporations to start taking steps toward responsible conduct. It is coming. It wasn't a Federal mandate that required all the car companies to build electric vehicles. They see the writing on the wall. They realize we have to change the way that we energize transportation in America, and they want to be in front of the parade, not behind it. So do we. That was part of this bill as well. I support it. Not a single Republican voted for it. That is the reality.

Incidentally, inflation is a burden on American families and individuals. There is no doubt about it, and I am not going to sugarcoat it. We have seen some progress. For example, the price of gasoline stares us right in the face every time we drive right down the road. Well, I did some driving over the weekend, probably put 600 to 700 miles on the car in Illinois, driving around to various events, and I kept an eye out for the cost of gasoline. I don't know what it is in Hawaii or in any home State, but I will tell you that in Missouri, gasoline was selling for $3.13 a gallon; in Illinois, closer to $3.50 a gallon. High? Yes. But not $5, which we faced just a few months ago. We have made some progress, and we need to continue to focus on reducing the cost of goods for families that they face every week. That is part of our mission as well.

IMMIGRATION

The last point I want to make is this. Madam President, there was a decision made by the Governor of Texas, Governor Abbott, several weeks ago to start transporting people who were legally in the United States but had just arrived from foreign countries on buses to various places around the country. Thousands of them were brought to Washington; thousands were brought to New York; and hundreds were brought to my city of Chicago that I represent.

These were people who came to our borders and asked if they could be admitted as legal immigrants to the United States, and they passed the threshold test. But let me quickly add, it is a threshold test as to whether they have credible fear for their own personal safety. They still have to face an adjudication, and the majority of them are not likely to win that adjudication. The problem we face is very obvious: It is a long time before that adjudication takes place. What are these families supposed to do when they are here waiting?

I went over to the Salvation Army rescue shelter on the West Side of Chicago to meet with some of these families and individuals who had been bused to Chicago by the Governor of Texas. I met one man, Carlos, and his family—his wife, his 5-year-old daughter, and his 8-month-old daughter as well. Through the translators, they told me their story. They are from Venezuela.

Venezuela is in a disaster situation. It is so dangerous that the United States warns travelers not to go to Venezuela, and the economy is so weak that the cost of living has gone up dramatically. Inflation there is even dramatically larger than the United States.

Carlos reached a point that, even working as hard as he could, he couldn't feed his family. So on May 15, he and his wife decided to pick up their children and try to make it to the border of the United States to try to find work. It took them 5 months, and they went through everything you can imagine; much of it on foot, and what travel they could find, they took advantage of. They were robbed, beaten up. They were pushed into a jungle situation in Panama where Carlos said, ''I didn't think we were going to live through the night.'' It was that dangerous. They did survive, and they finally made it, and now they are here in Chicago.

I asked him what he wanted. He said, ''I just want to go to work. I will take any job.''

What we are finding—and the front page story in the New York Times confirmed it—is that many of these people are needed. Yes, we have unemployment of 5 million in America, but we have 11 million jobs that need to be filled. Many of them are entry-level jobs, and it is hard to get anyone to take them.

Last week, as well, I had the Illinois Farm Bureau come and see me. They started talking about their need for immigrant labor on the farms of America.

Madam President, you probably know this from your own home State, but currently half of the agricultural workers in America who are working on the dairy farms, picking crops, doing things that are pretty hard work, half of them are undocumented. We don't think twice about eating the fruits and vegetables that are the bounty of their work, but that is the reality.

Our immigration system, at this point in time, is badly broken. We need to have legal immigration into the United States—controlled legal immigration into the United States for work purposes. Many of these people who are arriving are desperately needed for jobs that Americans won't fill. They don't want to work picking crops, for example, or on a dairy farm. A friend of mine who is a restaurateur in Chicago told me, if you removed all of the undocumented workers from the restaurants of Chicago, you would just start closing them right and left. Behind that screen door in your favorite restaurant are people working hard every single day who are undocumented.

We have to reach the point where we sit down in a bipartisan basis and do something about it. It was 8 years ago when we put together a comprehensive immigration reform bill. Democrats, DURBIN, SCHUMER—and I want to salute MICHAEL BENNET, who time and again has been able to come up with a good bipartisan approach to ag workers—and BOB MENENDEZ of New Jersey, we were on the Democratic part of the team of 8. On the Republican part, we had Senator McCain, Senator GRAHAM, Senator RUBIO, and then Senator Flake.

We worked for months, put together a comprehensive bill, brought it to the floor of the Senate, and passed it with 14 Republicans joining us. There were 68 votes on the floor of the U.S. Senate for a bill that would have addressed the very issues we are facing today. The bill was then sent over, after it passed the Senate, to the House of Representatives, and the Republican leader refused to take up it or even call it.

We had a chance, and we have to create that chance again—comprehensive immigration reform. We shouldn't do it at the expense of a poor family like Carlos's family who came from Venezuela. I would say what the Governors of Arizona and Texas and Florida are doing now is to jeopardize the safety and the health of these families. That is not fair to them. It is not American. Putting them on buses and promising them, at the end of the journey, that there are going to be jobs waiting for them, for example, is just to mislead them.

In addition, if these Governors were transporting these people in good faith to Chicago or New York or Washington, they would have the decency to tell us who is coming and when. They don't. They put the buses on the road, and they stop at a train station and turn them all loose. Many of these people know no one in those cities. We found recent evidence that some of them are in a position where they are taken away from where they are supposed to report—legally report—in this country and sent hundreds and thousands of miles away by these Governors for political reasons I can't explain. That is not who we are.

I do want to commend the Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, many of the charities in our area.

WBEZ is our public radio station in Chicago. This was on their website:

Chicago agencies and local groups tell migrants ''We are so glad you are here.''

They are getting an American welcome. They are being treated decently. They are being treated with respect.

Now, as we debate the politics of why they are here and whether they can stay, we shouldn't do it at the expense of demonstrating clear American values of humanity and caring. That is who we are. We are not going to allow these kids to reach a situation like they have before and be the victims of our political debate. We don't want kids in cages. We don't want kids forcibly removed from their parents. We don't want them to suffer on these bus rides, not knowing where they are going to end up and what is going to happen to them next. We are better than that as Americans, and we are better than that as a nation of immigrants.

I have said it on the floor many times, and I am proud to say it again: I am the son of an immigrant to this country. My mother came here at the age of 2 from Lithuania, brought with her the good luck that I could live my life and be part of the U.S. Senate and the governance of this Nation. We shouldn't look beyond that.

I will say the Presiding Officer holds a special place in the history of the Senate with her immigration status as well.

If you look in any direction, you are going to find immigrants, sons and daughters of immigrants, who really have made America what it is today. Let's get this right on a bipartisan basis. Let's not waste any time.

In the meantime, let us treat these people who are coming to our country and are now legally in the country with dignity and respect.

I yield the floor.

SOLID START ACT OF 2021

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. As if in legislative session and under the previous order, the Senate, having received from the House the returned papers with respect to S. 1198, the actions of the Senate on September 8, 2022, are vitiated; the committee-reported substitute is withdrawn; the Tester amendment at the desk, No. 5505, is agreed to; the bill, as amended, is considered read a third time and passed; and the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table.

Thereupon, the Senate proceeded to consider (S. 1198) a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The committee-reported amendment in the nature of a substitute is withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 5505) in the nature of a substitute is agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Solid Start Act of 2022''.

SEC. 2. SOLID START PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 63 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subchapter:

''SUBCHAPTER II—OTHER OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

''§ 6320. Solid Start program

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program, to be known as the 'Solid Start program', under which the Secretary shall—

''(1) build the capacity of the Department to efficiently and effectively respond to the queries and needs of veterans who have recently separated from the Armed Forces; and

''(2) systemically integrate and coordinate efforts to assist veterans, including efforts—

''(A) to proactively reach out to newly separated veterans to inform them of their eligibility for programs of and benefits provided by the Department; and

''(B) to connect veterans in crisis to resources that address their immediate needs.

''(b) ACTIVITIES OF THE SOLID START PROGRAM.—(1) The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall carry out the Solid Start program of the Department by—

''(A) collecting up-to-date contact information during transition classes or separation counseling for all members of the Armed Forces who are separating from the Armed Forces, while explaining the existence and purpose of the Solid Start program;

''(B) calling each veteran, regardless of separation type or characterization of service, three times within the first year after separation of the veteran from the Armed Forces;

''(C) providing information about the Solid Start program on the website of the Department and in materials of the Department, especially transition booklets and other resources;

''(D) ensuring calls are truly tailored to the needs of each veteran's unique situation by conducting quality assurance tests;

''(E) prioritizing outreach to veterans who have accessed mental health resources prior to separation from the Armed Forces;

''(F) providing women veterans with information that is tailored to their specific health care and benefit needs;

''(G) as feasible, providing information on access to State and local resources, including Vet Centers and veterans service organizations; and

''(H) gathering and analyzing data assessing the effectiveness of the Solid Start program.

''(2) The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, may carry out the Solid Start program by—

''(A) encouraging members of the Armed Forces who are transitioning to civilian life to authorize alternate points of contact who can be reached should the member be unavailable during the first year following the separation of the member from the Armed Forces; and

''(B) following up missed phone calls with tailored mailings to ensure the veteran still receives similar information.

''(3) In this subsection:

''(A) The term 'Vet Center' has the meaning given that term in section 1712A(h) of this title.

''(B) The term 'veterans service organization' means an organization recognized by the Secretary for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of this title.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 63 of such title, as amended by subsection (a), is further amended—

(1) by inserting before section 6301 the following:

''Subchapter I—Outreach Services Program'';

and

(2) in sections 6301, 6303, 6304, 6305, 6306, and 6307, by striking ''this chapter'' each place it appears and inserting ''this subchapter''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 63 of such title is amended—

(1) by inserting before the item relating to section 6301 the following new item:

''SUBCHAPTER I—OUTREACH SERVICES PROGRAM'';

and

(2) by adding at the end the following new items:

''SUBCHAPTER II—OTHER OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

''6320. Solid Start program.''.

The bill (S. 1198), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

PUERTO RICO

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, today, my thoughts are with all our fellow Americans in Puerto Rico—and all communities across the Caribbean—battered by the destruction of Hurricane Fiona. As of this morning, well over a million residents on the island remain without power, and two-thirds remain without running water.

In a short while, I will get on the phone with the FEMA Administrator and urge that they be ready to approve temporary 100 percent Federal cost share for all emergency protective services that Puerto Rico conducts in the coming days. That means covering the island's costs for distributing food and water, disaster operations, and emergency medical care. Right now, the FEMA Disaster Relief Fund has about $15 billion as of late last week—a fund we Democrats fought extremely hard to secure.

I will also join with my colleagues in the New York delegation to send FEMA a letter calling on them to be ready to support Puerto Rico on any upcoming request for aid.

Five years—almost exactly 5 years to the day—after Puerto Rico was devastated by Hurricane Maria, the Federal Government has a responsibility to make sure we don't repeat the mistakes of the previous administration. The Federal response should be swift, robust, and continued for as long as the island needs.

JUDICIAL NOMINATIONS

Madam President, now on judges, as we begin the third week of the work period, the Senate presses ahead to confirm more of President Biden's impressive lineup of judicial nominees.

This week, we will aim to confirm our sixth—yes, sixth—circuit court nominee of the month, and this one is especially important. It is to move forward on Judge Florence Pan to serve as a lifetime appointment to the U.S. Circuit Court for the District of Columbia.

After the Supreme Court, the DC Court of Appeals is the most important Federal court in the country, with jurisdiction over cases involving Congress and executive branch Agencies. It goes without saying that those nominated to serve as jurists on this court must be individuals of the highest caliber, of impeccable credentials, and must show deep fidelity to the Constitution.

The President couldn't have done better than Judge Pan: a brilliant, accomplished, and truly bipartisan nominee. The Senate confirmed her to the DC district court with an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 68 to 30. Since then, her conduct on the bench has vindicated that margin. So I hope we can see similar bipartisan support this week.

The daughter of Taiwanese immigrants, Judge Pan graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and earned her law degree from Stanford, where she wrote on the Law Review.

As a judge for both the DC Superior Court and DC district court, she has seen practically every kind of legal dispute under the Sun: criminal law, family law, administrative law, consumer protection, immigration, employment law, and more. In short, she is a remarkably qualified and experienced jurist.

So I urge my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of advancing this nominee. A seat on the DC Circuit deserves to be filled by a high-caliber and impartial jurist, and, thankfully, we have that in Judge Pan.

TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 117–1

Madam President, now on the Kigali treaty, besides working on judicial nominations, the Senate will also vote this week to advance a pair of critically important measures on the floor.

First, we will vote tomorrow to proceed to the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, an agreement from the 1980s that united much of the world in reducing the use of industrial chemicals harmful to our ozone layer. Three decades later, this agreement has been an unqualified success. The Kigali Amendment is a golden opportunity to strengthen U.S. businesses and secure an edge against China in the emerging industry of next-generation refrigerants.

Let me explain. It sounds a little complicated, but it is important. The Kigali Amendment, which has been negotiated by both Democratic and Republican administrations, would build on the Montreal Protocols by affirming the U.S. commitment to phase out the use of a particularly dangerous chemical known as hydrofluorocarbons, abbreviated commonly as HFCs. Though used only in small amounts in household appliances like refrigerators and air conditioners, they wreak havoc on our atmosphere. Many on both sides have long agreed we should transition away from their use.

By ratifying the Kigali Amendment, businesses that specialize in the next generation of refrigerant technologies would see new markets open for them. In fact, one study suggests U.S. net exports could increase by $6 billion annually—$6 billion. So this is a projobs bill.

Combined with previous measures to reduce HFCs, this step could help create 150,000 new jobs here in the United States. All the while, we would get a much needed leg up on Chinese businesses that still lag behind—for now—in developing viable HFC alternatives. Failure to ratify the Kigali Amendment would mean squandering billions in economic activity and potentially over 100,000 good-paying American jobs.

The good news: This measure has broad support from the business community, including the Chamber of Commerce, the American Chemistry Council, the Semiconductor Industry Association, and many others. The same support should manifest itself here in the Senate.

The first vote on cloture will require 60 Senators to move forward. And because this is a treaty, we will then need the support of two-thirds of the Chamber to ratify.

For the sake of U.S. businesses, U.S. innovators, and the sake of our climate and American dominance in emerging markets, I urge my colleagues from both sides to vote in favor of advancing and ratifying the Kigali Amendment.

DISCLOSE ACT

Madam President, finally on the DISCLOSE Act, today, I am announcing the Senate will vote this week to take up a measure critical to fighting the cancer of dark money in our elections: the DISCLOSE Act.

I have long promised to bring this bill to the floor, and I want to thank all my colleagues and in particular Senator WHITEHOUSE. He has done an amazing job documenting and pressing forward on trying to eliminate the evil scourge of dark money. He has been an amazing leader in championing this legislation.

The DISCLOSE Act is premised on a simple idea: Americans deserve to know who is trying to influence their elections. Sadly, most Americans today are largely in the dark, thanks to the abominable decision in Citizens United handed down by the Supreme Court's conservative majority. Their ruling has paved the way for billions in unlimited campaign contributions by Super PACs and other dark money groups over the last decade. Ordinary citizens, meanwhile, have had their voices drowned out by elites who have millions to spare for political donations.

And the worst part? Much of this spending happens entirely in secret. That is not like a democracy. It is a veil cast over our democracy that must be ripped away once and for all.

The DISCLOSE Act is simple. It would require Super PACs and other dark money groups to report anyone contributing $10,000 or more during an election. It would likewise require groups spending money on judicial nominees to disclose their donors too. There is no justification under Heaven for keeping such massive contributions hidden from the public.

This week, Republicans are going to have to take a stand on whether they want to fight the power of dark money or allow this cancer to grow even worse. Limiting the power of dark money shouldn't be a Democratic or Republican view; it should be bipartisan through and through.

I hope Republicans will join us, because Americans intuitively understand that right now, there is a stench taking over our campaign finance law. After all, when was the last time any of us heard voters cheer on the spread of dark money? When was the last time any of us heard voters say it is better for billionaires and special interests to buy elections in secret rather than be held accountable to the public? Of course, they don't think that unless they themselves are the ones cutting the multimillion-dollar checks.

So this week, all of us will go on record on whether or not we think Americans deserve to know who is spending billions to sway our democracy. It will be our chance to put into practice the famous saying by Judge Louis D. Brandeis that ''sunlight is said to be the best disinfectant.''

I once again commend Senator WHITEHOUSE for his years of leadership in fighting this wave of dark money, and I urge all my colleagues to support this measure this week.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, when Attorney General Garland went through the confirmation process for his current job as Attorney General of the United States, he made a solemn pledge to keep politics out of the Justice Department. I, for one, was encouraged by his statement, having seen the disastrous politicization of the Justice Department under former Attorneys General Eric Holder and Loretta Lynch.

Attorney General Garland said this. He said:

> I will never make a decision in the Department based on politics or partisanship.

I took him at his word. I hoped we wouldn't see a return to the days when people saw double standards play out in the Justice Department based on who happened to be in office, who happened to be investigated. But, clearly, under Attorney General Garland's leadership, the Department of Justice has pointed its arrows toward concerned parents, for example, who are exercising their First Amendment rights to

speak up about their children's education. Attorney General Garland has sued the State of Georgia and the State of Texas, for example, claiming that ballot integrity measures that are within the prerogative of the States to pass were somehow suppressing the public's right to vote.

We are going to start voting in about 50 days from now. That is the main election date. In Texas, we will start voting a full 2 weeks before that date, where, without any reason whatsoever, you can show up and vote in person, 2 full weeks before the general election. Yet Attorney General Garland spins the false narrative that somehow the State of Texas is suppressing people's right to vote.

And then Attorney General Garland I think shocked everybody by authorizing an unprecedented search warrant on a former President and a current political rival when less intrusive means and methods would have produced the same documents that they claimed to be after.

Time and time again, the Department of Justice under Merrick Garland has taken aggressive actions that are viewed by the Biden administration as politically advantageous. For everybody else, though, it is a different story, that double standard. When Supreme Court Justices are receiving death threats, including the interdiction of a deranged man who was out to kill Justice Kavanaugh here in the Nation's Capital, the Attorney General did not respond by taking appropriate steps to prevent that violence. In fact, he fanned the flames. Instead of protecting the Justices, he chose to criticize them and encouraged what amounts to irresponsible conduct on the part of people on the left.

And now I am concerned about the Department's double standard in the handling of the Hunter Biden investigation. The public reports are that the President's son has been under investigation by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Delaware for a long time now. There is a lot, of course, we don't know, but reported leaks and evidence seem to show that Hunter Biden may have committed various felonies, including tax fraud, money laundering, and foreign lobbying violations. Despite the severity of these concerns, recent news reports have painted an alarming picture of the Department of Justice's handling of this investigation: silencing whistleblowers, downplaying or discrediting inculpatory information, prohibiting the Department of Justice and FBI employees from communicating with Members of Congress. This does not look, sound, or smell like an impartial investigation guided only by the facts and the rule of law.

Just across the street from here sits the Supreme Court of the United States. On the front of that Court is the inscription ''Equal Justice Under Law.'' There is no footnote. There is no asterisk. There is no exception for relatives of the President of the United States. Every American is entitled to fair and equal treatment and equal justice under the laws. The Attorney General must guarantee that Hunter Biden receives the same treatment as any other American who is under criminal investigation—not better, not worse, but the same.

Today, 32 of my colleagues and I have sent a letter to Attorney General Garland urging him to provide special counsel authorities and protections to U.S. Attorney David Weiss, who is leading the investigation into Hunter Biden. This is a critical step that the Attorney General can and should take to restore faith in this investigation and avoid even the appearance of impropriety. So I hope he will honor our request, do what he pledged to do when he was confirmed, and keep politics out of this investigation and, in the process, restore public confidence in our Nation's most revered institutions.

IMMIGRATION

Madam President, on another matter, the migration surge at the southern border has been at a crisis level for a year and a half now. Coming from a border State with 1,200 miles of common border with Mexico, we have experienced a disproportionate impact of that humanitarian surge, as well as the drugs that have found their way into the United States as a result.

This, after all, is part of a business model or plan by the cartels, which get rich smuggling people and drugs into the United States. But just in terms of the volume of migrants coming across, we have logged more than 150,000 border crossings every month for each of the last 17 consecutive months. That is unprecedented and shocking.

Alarm bells used to sound when illegal border crossings topped 100,000 a month, but we haven't dipped below that level since President Biden took office. In the last year, Customs and Border Protection has logged nearly 2.3 million—2.3 million—border crossings across the southern border.

Now, these records come with serious consequences for everyone involved. Our Democratic colleagues and members of the news media focus their attention on how this surge impacts the migrants themselves, and there is no question that migrants endure a brutal journey to reach our country. They typically pay thousands of dollars to travel with human traffickers—or coyotes, as they are sometimes called—who are known to rape, rob, abuse, and abandon for dead their customers.

Those who survive the perilous journey to our border still face serious dangers. These are people who come not through our legal immigration process but who want to jump ahead of the line of the people who are waiting, even though we naturalize about a million people a year in the United States.

In June of this year, 53 migrants, including 3 children, passed away after being locked in a tractor-trailer rig on a 100-degree day in Texas—a horrible way to die. The Washington Post described it as the ''deadliest smuggling incident of its kind in U.S. history.'' Last month, two children died attempting to cross the Rio Grande and drowned in that river attempting to make their way into the United States. One was a 5-year-old girl from Guatemala who was swept from her mother's arms into the river. And just 2 weeks ago, Customs and Border Protection confirmed that another nine migrants had died trying to cross the Rio Grande.

Since last October, more than 750,000 migrants have died at our border. That does not include the ones we have not yet discovered but will eventually discover as a rancher comes across the bleached bones of a migrant who has been left behind by the heartless coyotes.

Migrants are suffering every day, and we can't lose sight of the humanitarian crisis, but the migrants aren't the only victims of the border crisis. They have chosen to try to enter the United States irregularly, other than through legal means, and turn their lives over to people who care nothing for them but care only about them as a human commodity and how much money they can make smuggling them into the United States.

But migration surges have a devastating impact on border communities like the border communities in my State and Arizona, New Mexico, and California. Over the last year and a half, I have visited our border communities several times and repeatedly have heard of the strain of this crisis. Nonprofits that try to assist, in a humanitarian way, the migrants lack the space or resources to care for the thousands of people entering our country every day. Local businesses try to stay afloat amid safety concerns and significant financial losses. Morgues have reached capacity due to the influx of deceased migrants. As we have discussed during a Judiciary Committee hearing last week, local health systems and emergency response services are stretched to the breaking.

Last year alone, in a small town called Del Rio, TX, 15,000 Haitian migrants showed up under a bridge. Can you imagine a town of 35,000 people having to deal with trying to address the needs and treat these migrants in a humane way? Well, during the 2019 surge, Customs and Border Protection reported that it was on track to refer more than 31,000 migrants for medical treatment, compared with only 12,000 the previous year.

Of course, the surge in 2019 pales in comparison to what is happening now as a result of President Biden's failed border policies. The number of migrants needing medical care today is much, much higher. The strain this places on local hospitals and public health systems not only impacts the migrants but also the American citizens who live and work in these border communities.

We all remember the strain on our healthcare systems during the height of the pandemic. Hospitals inundated with COVID cases made it more difficult to get care in the event you were experiencing some other health emergency. As Brooks County Sheriff Martinez wrote in his testimony in the hearing we had last week, ambulances that ordinarily would respond to emergency calls from local citizens are now diverted to answer calls in remote areas to answer the needs of the migrants who are experiencing a health emergency, reducing the medical services available for the local residents who actually pay the taxes that support those services.

The impact of this crisis on border communities in Texas is not a consideration for the Biden administration. They simply don't care—or, frankly, most of my Democratic colleagues here in the Senate. We heard from the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the senior Senator from Illinois, complaining about the terrible state of our broken immigration system and what is happening now as migrants are being bused to places all across the country, including Chicago. But he is the only one who can convene a markup of legislation.

Our Democratic colleagues have a Democrat in the White House, a Democratic Speaker, and a Democratic majority leader in the U.S. Senate, yet we have not seen a single piece of legislation offered or passed to try to deal with the crisis. It is always somebody else's problem or it is just a political issue that you flail in the runup to the coming election.

Migrants are arriving in someone else's backyard—what do you care?—inundating someone else's public health system along the U.S.-Texas border and filling up somebody else's morgue. Apparently, the Biden administration doesn't care.

And I haven't mentioned the 108,000 Americans who have died of drug overdoses last year alone. Virtually all of those drugs, including for the 71,000 Americans who died from synthetic opioid or fentanyl overdoses, come from the southern border.

The precursors come from China. They come to Mexico, where the cartels get rich shipping their poison into the United States. And then it is distributed by criminal street gangs, like the same gangs that are responsible for the dozens and dozens of shootings that seem to occur in a lot of our major cities on a weekly basis, including places like Chicago.

These gangs that distribute the drugs that kill Americans fight for market share. They fight for territory. Yet our Senate Democratic colleagues who have been in the majority now—who control both the Senate, the House, and the White House—have not offered a single piece of legislation or a single response.

In Texas, because of our proximity to the border, we don't have the luxury of ignoring this problem. Our communities are somehow expected to absorb and care for this vast humanitarian crisis, even though they don't have the resources to do so, even though it is the Federal Government's responsibility. International borders and immigration enforcement is a Federal responsibility. Yet the State of Texas and taxpayers in the State have spent billions of dollars to do the job that the Federal Government simply refuses to do and even then are overwhelmed.

It simply is unacceptable for our Senate colleagues or our Members of the House who haven't lifted a finger to deal with these problems to say this isn't our problem because it is not happening to us. Well, that is why maybe—just maybe—the fact that migrants who are showing up in Washington, DC, in New York, and Chicago seem to be getting the attention of others who previously have not lifted a finger or expressed any concerns whatsoever.

By the way, the Biden administration has been shipping and flying migrants into the interior of the United States for the last year and a half. I mean, you haven't heard a single peep. But when they start showing up in relatively small numbers compared to what is coming across the border, the Mayor of Washington, DC, declares a crisis. She asked for the activation of the National Guard.

Since April, roughly 9,400 migrants have arrived in Washington, DC. I mentioned 2.3 million have showed up at the border. But now, when 9,400 migrants arrive in Washington, DC—a self-described sanctuary city—the Mayor cries out for help from the Federal Government. She declared a public health emergency.

Well, I mentioned the total number, but an average of 6,000 migrants cross the southern border every day. And yet the Mayor of Washington, DC—a self-described sanctuary city—is in a panic when 9,400 come to her city.

The Border Patrol's Rio Grande Valley Sector alone sees almost an average of almost 1,400 migrants a day. Over the last 5 months, DC has absorbed the same number of migrants that the Rio Grande Valley Sector sees in a single week, and the city is crying out for help.

The way the Mayor really could help is to pick up the phone and call her friends in the Biden administration and say: We need to do something about what is happening at the border.

That would be a constructive thing to do. We are more than happy to work with our Democratic colleagues to come up with some solutions like the Bipartisan Border Solutions Act that I introduced last year with a Democrat, a border State Senator, Senator SINEMA; TONY GONZALES, a Republican from the 23rd Congressional District; and HENRY CUELLAR, a Democrat from Laredo, TX.

We offered this bill as a bipartisan, bicameral beginning to come up with a solution. Yet we have not heard a single peep out of the Biden administration. You would think with the President's poll numbers plummeting as a result of his failure to deal with this border crisis, they would be looking for some way out, somewhere to land that plane. But they have not reached out at all. They have not responded. And Democratic leadership in the White House, House, and the Senate have taken zero action.

I would just like my Democratic colleagues to pause for a moment and think about the communities in my State that have been operating at crisis levels since President Biden took office more than a year and a half ago. We are the ones and they are the ones picking up the Federal Government's slack and managing a crisis—or trying to—that our Democratic colleagues refuse to even acknowledge.

My constituents and border communities in Texas and beyond are exhausting resources paid for by their tax dollars to serve their own communities—spending them on the Federal Government's responsibility. And it shouldn't be any surprise if they are exhausted; they are overwhelmed; and they are desperate for the Biden administration and the Democratic leadership in the House and Senate to do something.

Maybe, just maybe, now that this crisis has caught the attention of the Mayors of Washington, DC, and New York, and Chicago—maybe the administration will pay attention to those Mayors when they have ignored this problem so far.

Maybe, just maybe, they will see that what is happening along our border every day is dangerous, unsustainable, and a problem that we need to work on together to address.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. DUCKWORTH). 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 PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED BY CASTING LIGHT ON SPENDING IN ELECTIONS ACT OF 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to consider Calendar No. 484, S. 4822.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4822) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The 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 proceed to Calendar No. 484, S. 4822, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Sheldon Whitehouse, Mazie K. Hirono, Martin Heinrich, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Margaret Wood Hassan, Patty Murray, Michael F. Bennet, Jacky Rosen, Alex Padilla, Brian Schatz, Christopher Murphy, Chris Van Hollen, Edward J. Markey, Angus S. King, Jr., Tim Kaine.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call for the cloture motion filed today, September 19, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1055.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Amanda Bennett, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1055, Amanda Bennett, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher Murphy, Ben Ray Luján, Chris Van Hollen, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jeff Merkley, Jack Reed, Jeanne Shaheen, Elizabeth Warren, Tammy Baldwin, Christopher A. Coons, Tina Smith, Michael F. Bennet, Jacky Rosen, Edward J. Markey, Angus S. King, Jr.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 1097.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Arati Prabhakar, of California, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1097, Arati Prabhakar, of California, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Charles E. Schumer, Cory A. Booker, Tim Kaine, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Gary C. Peters, Jack Reed, Chris Van Hollen, Alex Padilla, Debbie Stabenow, Ben Ray Luján, Christopher Murphy, Richard Blumenthal, Christopher A. Coons, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Baldwin, Edward J. Markey, Raphael G. Warnock.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, September 19, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESTORING LAW AND ORDER ACT

Mrs. BLACKBURN. As I have talked on this floor through the past few years, I have talked about visiting each of the 95 counties in our great State of Tennessee every year. And when I am there, I spend much of the time talking with local leaders, small business owners, families, citizens who call Tennessee home. And I have seen firsthand what the Biden agenda has done to them over these past 2 years.

The out-of-control spending that started almost immediately after Democrats took power and the inflation it caused has made life too expensive to afford for many individuals. The open border policy that did indeed start on day 1 of this administration overwhelmed Border Patrol and turned every Tennessee town, just like towns all across this country, into a border town.

The Democrats' obsession with environmental radicalism and the Green New Deal destroyed thousands of jobs, and as a bonus, this has sent gas and energy prices soaring.

They ignored our broken-down supply chains, and now economic development in rural and depressed areas has stalled out. I wish I could chalk all this up to gross incompetence, but after 2 years, I know and Tennesseans know there is a lot more to that story. Joe Biden and the Democrats know what they are doing. They know it is wrong, and they are doing it anyway.

One of the most frightening consequences of Joe Biden's reckless abuse of power is the rise in violent crime. The left's ''defund the police'' movement gained traction before Biden and his Democratic allies took power here in Washington, DC, but it was their decision to let it fester and undermine local law enforcement.

Instead of abiding by their duty to keep Americans safe, they have made heroes out of criminals and turned police officers into villains.

The results have been disastrous. Compared to mid-2019, America's largest cities have seen a 50-percent increase in homicides and a 36-percent increase in aggravated assaults.

Cities that caved to the radical left's demands to gut the police department have seen crime rates rise even higher.

The people of Memphis have had a front-row seat to this violence. I would implore my colleagues to listen to them, rather than to the anti-police activists making their phones ring, because they—they—are the ones who are paying the price for this little experiment.

Ask them how they felt as they watched a shooting spree play out live on social media. I won't use the perpetrator's name here on the floor of the Senate, but he is accused of murdering three people, wounding three others, and committing not one but two carjackings.

Ask them how they felt when they found out what happened to the wife,

mother, and teacher who never came back from her morning run. A monster with a long criminal record—again, whose name I will not use here—is charged with her brutal abduction and murder. And then ask them how they would feel about living in a world without law enforcement officers.

There are thousands of examples, unfortunately, that I could list, but the point is that the Democrats and their reckless anti-cop, anti-law enforcement agenda destroyed the concept of law and order in this country to service a narrative about how evil America is, but in the end, all they did was to empower the real evildoers.

Joe Biden and the Democrats have squandered their time in power, wasting our money and throwing cops under the bus, and now, just as they have with every other disastrous choice they have made, they are determined to, unfortunately, ignore the consequences.

The Democrats did not take power with a mandate to defund the police, but if they listened to the American people, they would have known we do have a mandate to undo the damage that caused and support ''Back the Blue'' and make our communities safe again.

Last week, Senator HAGERTY and I introduced the Restoring Law and Order Act, and I am hopeful that my Democratic colleagues will see reason and help us move this through Congress and to the President's desk as soon as possible.

The bill addresses two key priorities we should all share: One, hiring more police officers with experience handling violent crime and, two, cutting down the processing time that it is taking for processing rape kits.

Sheriffs in Tennessee have confirmed for me, time and again, that manpower is, indeed, a problem. They don't have enough people to keep up with the crimewave that we are seeing. We need to change that.

We are also going to give them the resources they need to target drug crime, clean all that cartel fentanyl off the streets, and keep criminals locked up behind bars.

I want to devote the time I have left to the issue of the rape kit backlog because this is something that we have talked about for years but haven't been able to get to the bottom of, even with the help of hundreds of millions of dollars.

Simply throwing money at the problem is no longer enough. I want to use one program as an example of why we know this is the case. Between 2015 and 2021, $266 million in grants has flowed out the door to 40 States and the District of Columbia as part of the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative.

These jurisdictions have identified about 136,000 unsubmitted kits and tested more than 81,000 of them. Let that number sink in. As I said, they have identified 136,000 kits. They have tested more than 81,000 of them.

This has led to 13,000 CODIS hits, 189 convictions, and 795 guilty pleas. Good results but not good enough. Those grantees still have 50,000 kits gathering dust on the shelves of their evidence lockers—50,000—50,000 kits, aggravated assaults, rapes, incidences reported, but they have not been processed even yet.

So what is going on here? That is a question that is truly in need of an answer, and this administration, the Democrats, all of us in this Chamber, owe it to the women in this country to help local law enforcement officers get an answer.

Why are these kits not being processed in a timely manner? As I said, we have put hundreds of millions of dollars into this. We have made certain kits are there. We have money that has been put forward to push these through the system, but they are languishing. We are not getting those results in a timely manner in order to lock up violent criminals.

The Restoring Law and Order Act will direct some funds to State and local agencies to specifically address the backlog. It also will require the GAO to study the availability of and deficiencies in processing rape kits.

Congress has let this go on long enough. When I speak to women at home in Tennessee, they are terrified about how far this has been willing to let go. This President's anti-justice agenda has destroyed trust in our system.

It is astonishing to me that in 2022, we are still having to debate the merits—the merits—of maintaining law and order, especially considering we can see the consequences of undermining it live and on camera every single night.

Turn on the local news here in DC, you will get a taste of what it looks like when local leadership turns their backs on victims and empowers criminals.

The Restoring Law and Order Act is an important bill that the Senate should pass as soon as possible, but that is just one step. If you listen to the outcry from Memphis or L.A. or New York and other cities around the country and especially on the border, it is so clear this President and the Democrats have a mandate from the American people to fight crime, to empower law enforcement, and to seek justice for victims of violence.

This means embracing a simple mantra: If you do the crime, you have to pay the time. It also means hiring and electing tough prosecutors and district attorneys and eliminating soft-on-crime policies that allow violent offenders to roam free.

If the powers that be had been a little tougher on the violent criminal who live-streamed his shooting spree, the streets of Memphis would have been a little bit safer. He only served 11 months of a previous 3-year sentence for aggravated assault. But they let him out early, and now three individuals have lost their lives. If they had really taken their time with the other criminal I mentioned just a few moments ago, who had a past record of rape and aggravated assault, they may not have let him out of prison before his 24-year sentence was up. If the crime lab had secured the resources to clear their rape kit backlog, they may have discovered the year-old kit containing his DNA and stopped his release. The monster would still be in jail; a wife and mother would still be alive; and one less family would be in mourning.

The time for politicizing this has come to an end. Tennesseans aren't worried about the midterms. They are not worried about a legislative timeline. What matters to them is restoring law and order.

I would venture to guess that this President's administration and my Democratic colleagues probably know this, and if they block this bill, if they stand between victims of violent crime and the justice they deserve, they do so with the knowledge that more people will die; more violent offenders will walk free; and more families will suffer.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that we start the vote now.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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 legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 1067, Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Charles E. Schumer, Christopher Murphy, Tammy Baldwin, Tina Smith, Christopher A. Coons, Elizabeth Warren, Jeanne Shaheen, Jeff Merkley, Alex Padilla, Richard J. Durbin, Jack Reed, Gary C. Peters, Edward J. Markey, Sherrod Brown, Tim Kaine, Ben Ray Luján, Mazie K. Hirono.

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 Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, 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 Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 52, nays 38, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 339 Ex.]

YEAS—52

Bennet	Hickenlooper	Portman
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reed
Booker	Kaine	Rosen
Brown	Kelly	Rounds
Cantwell	King	Sanders
Cardin	Klobuchar	Schatz
Carper	Leahy	Schumer
Casey	Luján	Shaheen
Collins	Manchin	Sinema
Coons	Markey	Smith
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Stabenow
Duckworth	Merkley	Tester
Durbin	Murkowski	Van Hollen
Feinstein	Murphy	Warner
Gillibrand	Murray	Warren
Grassley	Ossoff	Whitehouse
Hassan	Padilla	
Heinrich	Peters	

NAYS—38

Blackburn	Fischer	Romney
Blunt	Hagerty	Rubio
Boozman	Hawley	Sasse
Braun	Hoeven	Scott (FL)
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Scott (SC)
Capito	Inhofe	Shelby
Cassidy	Johnson	Sullivan
Cornyn	Lankford	Thune
Cotton	Lee	Tillis
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Wicker
Daines	McConnell	Young
Ernst	Paul	

NOT VOTING—10

Baldwin	Kennedy	Warnock
Barrasso	Moran	Wyden
Cramer	Risch	
Graham	Toomey	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HEINRICH). On this vote, the yeas are 52, the nays are 38.

The motion is agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, throughout the past five decades, the Senate has recognized the important role of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences—USUHS—in maintaining the health and readiness of our Nation's uniformed services. Today, I am proud to congratulate this fine institution, located in Bethesda, in my State of Maryland, on its 50th anniversary.

Public Law 92–426 established USUHS in 1972 to ensure continuity and leadership for uniformed medicine. USUHS is our country's only Federal graduate and undergraduate degree-granting health sciences university in support of the Department of Defense—DOD—and the Nation. Since its founding, USUHS has graduated more than 11,000 military health professionals.

USUHS has met every goal and mission envisioned by the founders of this remarkable institution. It is the only institute of higher learning to provide a unique military curriculum that educates and trains leaders in healthcare relevant to the military mission. USUHS provides its students a rigorous healthcare education combined with equally demanding training in leadership, military medicine, and public health. Students learn in a variety of settings, including modern classrooms and laboratories, a renowned simulation center, major military hospitals and clinics, summer operational experiences with military units, and progressively challenging field exercises. Students leave USUHS prepared to care in any setting, from a modern tertiary care hospital or primary care clinic, to the sickbay of a warship, the cargo bay of a critical care air transport flight, an operating room in a combat support hospital, or a treatment tent in a refugee camp.

The USUHS Hebert School of Medicine, compared with any other U.S. medical school, contributes the highest number of physician accessions to the military services. USUHS alumni comprise 25 percent of the Military Health System physician force. An independent analysis of USUHS conducted by the Institute for Defense Analysis found that, on a value basis that factors in retention, USUHS may offer the highest return on physician education and training investments. They concluded that USUHS graduates deployed more than 250 percent longer than other accession sources—an average of 731 days compared to 266—have higher proportions of officers in the mid- and senior-rank levels compared to other accession sources, have higher representation in special operation units compared to other accession sources, and attain a higher percentage of specialty board certification compared to other accession sources. The school's graduate education programs in biomedical sciences, public health, clinical psychology, health professions education, and health policy have granted more than 1,000 graduate degrees. Many of these alumni are now serving as key leaders in the Federal Government, academia, research foundations and laboratories, and in public health. Throughout the COVID–19 pandemic, USUHS School of Medicine alumni supported under-resourced communities, as well as national and global preparedness and response efforts, and were involved in evaluating new COVID–19 test methods, including those that received emergency use authorization approvals. The USUHS Daniel K. Inouye Graduate School of Nursing educates advanced practice nurses for the Federal Nursing Chiefs to provide the Nation with the highest quality graduate nurse clinicians, scientists, scholars, and leaders dedicated to Federal service, health readiness, and global engagement. Its nurse anesthesia program is consistently ranked among the top four in the country by U.S. News & World Report's Best Graduate School rankings, which also ranks the school's doctor of nursing practice degree program in the top 13 percent in the country. The USUHS Graduate School of Nursing has received multiple national recognitions and was acknowledged by the National League for nursing twice, as a Center of Excellence for enhanced student learning and faculty development. The USUHS postgraduate dental college's 19 postgraduate dental specialties and 26 postgraduate year-1 programs ensure that military dentists attain advanced skill sets beyond those acquired upon graduation from dental school. These advanced dental skills are essential to meeting the needs of warfighters before, during, and after military operations. The university's college of allied health sciences awards undergraduate college credit and degrees to enlisted medical professionals and trainees and has graduated more than 3,500 students from its 23 programs since its inception.

Over the past five decades, USUHS has played a critical role in national defense, in times of war and peace. USUHS graduates continue to be integral to combat deployments, humanitarian missions, disaster response, and public health crisis response throughout the world. USUHS provides its expertise to DOD and the Nation in global health, TBI, PTSD, disaster medicine, neuroscience, and human performance. During the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Military Health System achieved the highest rate of survival from battlefield injury in the history of the world. USUHS graduates and faculty have not only made important contributions to clinical practice in combat environments around the world, but to medical science and research, benefiting both the military and the public at large.

The value of the university's science is increasingly recognized by the National Institutes of Health—NIH—and other funders; USUHS is ranked 80 of

900 U.S. institutions of higher learning, putting it in the top 10th percentile in total research and development expenditures by the National Science Foundation. USUHS researchers generate high-impact military-relevant discoveries and products to protect the health of our forces and assure the national health security of the United States. Since its founding, USUHS has filed more than 2,273 patents for research discoveries and technology inventions. Its faculty have been the recipient of eight consecutive Federal Laboratory Consortium Technology Transfer Awards for their groundbreaking work.

USUHS's centers focus on advancing research, education, and public health. Its National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health has been at the forefront of the national Stop the Bleed and First Aid for Severe Trauma campaigns to encourage bystanders and high school students. USUHS was designated as the Nation's first National Stop the Bleed Campus in 2019. The USUHS Center for Biotechnology—4DBio3—uses 3D printers to produce military-relevant medical products in extreme austere environments for the benefit of our warfighters. It has also developed technology to generate red blood cells which would allow for whole blood transfusion and could become the answer to blood shortages on the battlefield, other remote locations, and in hospitals. The Surgical Critical Care Initiative at USUHS created an application to accurately predict whether a patient, who has just been admitted to the emergency room, would need a massive blood transfusion. USUHS researchers and trauma surgeons have also led the development of knowledge, skills, and abilities metrics that are being used to inform changes to patient workflow, increasing surgical workloads, and, ultimately, enhancing readiness within the Military Health System. These KSA metrics have proven vital to measuring military surgeons' individual clinical skills readiness, while also providing data to leadership, increasing clinical readiness-generating workload within the MHS.

USUHS has long met and exceeded the original intent of its founders to educate a career cadre of physicians to support our Nation's military. Over the past 50 years, USUHS has contributed immeasurably to the health and future of our Nation, through its stellar education and training programs, its innovative research, and its development of the next generation of military medical leaders and scientists. I am delighted to recognize and congratulate the remarkable students, faculty, and staff of USUHS for their outstanding work and commitment to serving our country, and my best wishes for a happy golden anniversary to our Nation's Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO KATHRYN BERG

• Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, today, I rise to honor the enduring legacy of an outstanding Utahn. As the autumn sun sunk below the mountains surrounding Southern Utah University's sprawling athletic fields, the men's teams had finished their practice for the day. Only under the night sky could one group of young, ambitious, and dedicated women finally take to the empty field, dressed in worn, plain PE uniforms with hand-stitched numbers. In the collegiate sporting era of the 1970s, these female athletes had no access to new equipment or team budgets, let alone scholarships or institutional support. But they did have a leader. Kathryn Berg, of Heber City, UT, proudly led this group of woman athletes as their coach, mentor, friend, and lifelong advocate for gender equality across all sports at the university and the State of Utah. Today, a return visit to SUU must rekindle mixed emotions for Kathryn, both for the enormous strides made for gender equality by virtue for her accomplishments as its associate athletic director and the work still required in pursuit of that goal. The field bears her name.

Despite her decorated career, measured in both awards and the boundless admiration of others, Kathryn Berg would be embarrassed to have the spotlight shone on her life and achievements. That is because she spent her over 33-year career elevating others into such a position. The athletes, families, and individuals who know Kathryn describe her as a humble servant to others, who worked overtime to provide opportunities for girls and women to participate in sports. To accomplish this, she educated herself in sports she knew little about by becoming an expert in the rules and regulations of each sport, took classes, and earned certifications at her own expense. She even became a certified gymnastics judge so she could be a better gymnastics coach. This enabled her athletes to reach their peak athletic and academic performances. An athlete herself, Kathryn played basketball and tennis at Wasatch High School before earning a B.A. and M.A. from Brigham Young University, followed by a doctorate from the University of Utah. She taught and coached at Richfield High School, Lincoln Junior High, and Orem Junior High, respectively, before arriving for a new challenge at Southern Utah University.

At SUU, she served as administrator for all women's sports, including softball, basketball, gymnastics, track and field, volleyball, cheerleading, and synchronized swimming. In Cedar City, she continued to face down the perennial obstacles halting progress for female athletic programs. With no available budget, Kathryn and her athletes had to fundraise for their right to take to the fields and courts. Kathryn stitched together uniforms, spent her own money, and drove the team bus herself. With few female coaching mentors around, she instead learned as she went despite hearing ''no'' to most every request. As a direct result of her relentless advocacy for gender equality in collegiate athletics, countless student-athletes had a chance to compete, to succeed, and to dream.

A giver, a selfless servant, and always present for her friends and family. These attributes accurately describe who Kathryn is as a person and what she means to those who love her, reinforced by abundant examples of humility over the decades. One such example transcends careers or athletics and speaks to the true nature of Kathryn's heart. In 2001, she retired from her successful administrative career in order to care for her younger sister, Charlotte, who suffered from cerebral palsy. She needed full-time care after their parents died, and Kathryn made sure that she was able to live life to the fullest until her passing in 2014.

Kathryn Berg is a founding pioneer of gender equality in collegiate athletics in Utah. Her indelible legacy includes helping oversee SUU's ascension into NCAA Division I, helping establish the Utah Summer Games, and leading the creation of the Thunderbirds' enduring women's intercollegiate athletic program. She is aptly recognized in several athletic halls of fame and received an honorary doctorate degree from SUU. Kathryn is still active in the community, especially as the chair of the Daughters of Utah Pioneer Museum. She provides a scholarship to a senior at Wasatch High School each year and is the No. 1 fan of her family's extracurricular events.

Thank you, Kathryn, for your lifetime of achievement and inspiration for student-athletes everywhere. Your unwavering work will continue to benefit untold generations of female athletes and their families.•

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Swann, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13224 OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2001, WITH RESPECT TO PERSONS WHO COMMIT, THREATEN TO COMMIT, OR SUPPORT TERRORISM—PM 38

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, as amended, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2022.

The crisis constituted by the grave acts of terrorism and threats of terrorism committed by foreign terrorists, including the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, in New York and Pennsylvania and against the Pentagon, and the continuing and immediate threat of further attacks on United States nationals or the United States that led to the declaration of a national emergency on September 23, 2001, has not been resolved. This crisis continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224, as amended, with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *September 19, 2022*.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 302. An act to impose limits on excepting competitive service positions from the competitive service, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2988. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify and enhance protections for Federal Government whistleblowers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8326. An act to amend title 13, United States Code, to improve the operations of the Bureau of the Census, and for other purposes.

At 3:57 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Clerk of the House be directed to return to the Senate the bill (S. 1198) to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, in compliance with a request of the Senate for the return thereof.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 302. An act to impose limits on excepting competitive service positions from the competitive service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 884. An act to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national aviation preparedness plan for communicable disease outbreaks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2988. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to modify and enhance protections for Federal Government whistleblowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 8326. An act to amend title 13, United States Code, to improve the operations of the Bureau of the Census, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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–5020. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5021. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy, Installations, and Environment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Cleanup: Schedule, Status, and Cost Estimates; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5022. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of sixteen (16) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5023. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14064 with respect to certain property of Da Afghanistan Bank; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5024. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13848 with respect to the threat of foreign interference in or undermining public confidence in United States elections; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5025. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14014 with respect to the situation in and in relation to Burma; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5026. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 14046 with respect to Ethiopia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5027. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13224 with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5028. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13566 with respect to Libya; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5029. A communication from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2020 Annual Report of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC); to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5030. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Whistleblower Program Rules'' (RIN3235–AN03) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5031. A communication from the Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Pay Versus Performance'' (RIN3235–AL00) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5032. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Ceiling Fans'' (RIN1904–AC11) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–5033. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines; New Source Performance Standards for Stationary Internal Combustion Engines; Court Vacatur'' ((RIN2060–AV76) (FRL No. 5300.3–01–OAR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5034. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Oklahoma; Updates to the General SIP and Incorporation by Reference Provisions'' (FRL No. 9085–02–R6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5035. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Florida; Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Landfills'' (FRL No. 9092–02–R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5036. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Maintenance Plan and Redesignation Request; Nogales PM2.5 Planning Area; Arizona'' (FRL No. 9503–02–R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5037. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Indiana, Michigan and Minnesota; Revised Startup, Shutdown, and Malfunction Provisions'' (FRL No. 9649–02–R5) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5038. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Kentucky; Removal of Excess Emissions Provisions'' (FRL No. 9912–02–R4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5039. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) Program: Alternative RIN Retirement Schedule for Small Refineries'' ((RIN2060–AV72) (FRL No. 9821–02–OAR)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5040. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plans; Arizona; Revised Format for Materials Incorporated by Reference; Correcting Amendment'' (FRL No. 9602–02–R9) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5041. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Finding of Failure to Submit Regional Haze State Implementation Plans for the Second Planning Period'' (FRL No. 9731–01–OAR) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5042. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; OR; Oakridge PM2.5 Redesignation to Attainment and Maintenance Plan'' (FRL No. 9488–02–R10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5043. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; OR; Oakridge PM10 Redesignation to Attainment and Maintenance Plan'' (FRL No. 9489–02–R10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5044. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Partial Disapproval and Partial Approval; Pennsylvania; Attainment Plan for the Indiana, Pennsylvania Nonattainment Area for the 2010 Sulfur Dioxide Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard'' (FRL No. 9607–02–R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5045. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Missouri; Construction Permit Exemptions'' (FRL No. 9838–02–R7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5046. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Partial Disapproval; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Reasonably Available Control Technology Regulations for the 1997 and 2008 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards'' (FRL No. 10115–02–R3) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5047. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Expedited Approval of Alternative Test Procedures for the analysis of Contaminants under the Safe Drinking Water Act; Analysis and Sampling Procedures'' (FRL No. 9834–01–OW) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5048. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Air Plan Approval; Missouri; General Conformity Rescission'' (FRL No. 9906–02–R7) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 16, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5049. A communication from the Wildlife Biologist, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Migratory Bird Subsistence Harvest in Alaska; Harvest Regulations for Migratory Birds in Alaska During the 2022 Season'' (RIN1018–BF65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5050. A communication from the Branch of Administrative Support Services, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Removing Adiantum vivesii From the Federal List of Endangered and Threatened Plants'' (RIN1018–BE41) received during adjournment of the Senate in the office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5051. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.82 Rev 5, 'Water Sources for Long-Term Recirculation Cooling Following a Loss-of-Coolant Accident'' received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 9, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5052. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulatory Guide (RG) 8.34 Rev 1, 'Monitoring Criteria and Methods to Calculate Occupational Radiation Doses'' received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 31, 2022; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5053. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Technical Cybersecurity Support Plan for Public Water Systems''; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5054. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) Report to Congress - Study on Intractable Public Water Systems Serving Fewer Than 1,000 People: Compliance with National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, Barriers, and Case Studies''; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5055. A communication from the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) Fifth Report to Congress: Highlights of the DERA Program''; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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. PADILLA:

S. 4879. A bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to permit credit unions to serve certain underserved areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 4880. A bill to amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act to require hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula by security screening personnel of the Transportation Security Administration and personnel of private security companies providing security screening, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. 4881. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to include requirements relating to graduates of career and technical education programs or programs of study for small business development centers and women's business centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 4882. A bill to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to authorize appropriations for the United States Fire Administration and firefighter assistance grant programs; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4883. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to partner and collaborate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4884. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, to establish a joint natural infrastructure science program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 4885. A bill to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, to reauthorize the Missing Americans Alert Program; 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. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KING, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 771. A resolution supporting the designation of September 19, 2022, as ''National Stillbirth Prevention Day'' , recognizing tens of thousands of American families that have endured a stillbirth, and seizing the opportunity to keep other families from experiencing the same tragedy; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. SMITH):

S. Res. 772. A resolution recognizing the seriousness of myotonic dystrophy and expressing support for the designation of September 15, 2022 , as ''International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day'' ; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 773. A resolution commemorating the second anniversary of the signing of the Abraham Accords Declaration; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. Res. 774. A resolution designating September 2022 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 344

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 344, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for concurrent receipt of veterans' disability compensation and retirement pay for disability retirees with fewer than 20 years of service and a combat-related disability, and for other purposes.

S. 424

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 424, a bill to establish in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State a Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTQI Peoples, and for other purposes.

S. 634

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 634, a bill to support and expand civic engagement and political leadership of adolescent girls around the world, and other purposes.

S. 1451

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1451, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to implement policies to end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths globally.

S. 2952

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2952, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow manufacturers and sponsors of a drug to use alternative testing methods to animal testing to investigate the safety and effectiveness of a drug, and for other purposes.

S. 2981

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2981, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to establish a mortgage insurance program for first responders, and for other purposes.

S. 2982

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2982, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to establish or expand programs to implement evidence-aligned practices in health care settings for the purpose of reducing the suicide rates of covered individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 3295

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3295, a bill to increase access to pre-exposure prophylaxis to reduce the transmission of HIV.

S. 3381

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3381, a bill to require the Bureau of Indian Affairs to process and complete all mortgage packages associated with residential and business mortgages on Indian land by certain deadlines, and for other purposes.

S. 3621

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3621, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a National Climate Adaptation Science Center and Regional Climate Adaptation Science Centers to respond to the effects of extreme weather events and climate trends, and for other purposes.

S. 3806

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3806, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, to establish a grant program to demonstrate the performance and reliability of heavy-duty fuel cell vehicles that use hydrogen as a fuel source, and for other purposes.

S. 4120

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4120, a bill to maximize discovery, and accelerate development and availability, of promising childhood cancer treatments, and for other purposes.

S. 4240

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4240, a bill to amend section 2441 of title 18, United States Code, to broaden the scope of individuals subject to prosecution for war crimes.

S. 4293

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4293, a bill to prevent unfair and deceptive acts or practices and the dissemination of false information related to pharmacy benefit management services for prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 4541

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4541, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to furnish tailored information to expecting mothers, and for other purposes.

S. 4580

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4580, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require a lactation space in each medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

S. 4605

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4605, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure stability in payments to home health agencies under the Medicare program.

S. 4693

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4693, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to include national discovery trails and designate the American Discovery Trail, and for other purposes.

S. 4741

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4741, a bill to encourage increased trade and investment between the United States and the countries in the Western Balkans, and for other purposes.

S. 4742

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4742, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to create a Department of Defense Military Housing Readiness Council to enhance oversight and accountability for deficiencies in military housing, and accountability for deficiencies in military housing, and for other purposes.

S. 4818

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4818, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal and local funds to impose or enforce a COVID–19 vaccine mandate in District of Columbia schools, and to repeal the Coronavirus Immunization of School Students and Early Childhood Workers Regulation Amendment Act of 2021 enacted by the District of Columbia Council.

S. 4851

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4851, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national project to prevent and cure Parkinson's, to be known as the National Parkinson's Project, and for other purposes.

S. 4856

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4856, a bill to require the denial of admission to the United States for individuals subject to sanctions pursuant to Executive Order 13876, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 60

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 60, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to ''Final Priorities, Requirements, Definitions, and Selection Criteria-Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program (CSP)-Grants to State Entities (State Entity Grants); Grants to Charter Management Organizations for the Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools (CMO Grants); and Grants to Charter School Developers for the Opening of New Charter Schools and for the Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools (Developer Grants).

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 4879. A bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to permit credit unions to serve certain underserved areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Expanding Financial Access for Underserved Communities Act, which I introduced today.

Over the past decade, affordable banking services have become more difficult for many Americans to access due to the closure of physical bank branches. Addressing banking deserts is an important element to promoting equity across our entire economy.

I believe that credit unions can play a significant role in improving access to affordable banking services in underserved communities throughout our Nation.

That is why I am proud to introduce this legislation to allow all federally chartered credit unions to expand their field of membership to underserved areas. The bill would exempt business loans made to borrowers located in underserved areas from the credit union member business lending cap.

I am proud to join Chairwoman MAXINE WATERS in this effort. I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill to promote economic opportunity in low-income communities and communities of color.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4883. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to partner and collaborate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill, the Continued Rapid Ohia Death Response Act of 2022. This bill requires the Secretary of the Interior to continue partnering and collaborating with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, ROD. ROD is a fungus, Ceratocystis, that was first found in Hawaii in 2014 and has since killed over a million native Ohia trees. Since then, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service has partnered with the State of Hawaii and the U.S. Department of the Interior in efforts to detect and respond to the spread of ROD. Sustained efforts, such as those supported by this bill, are necessary to protect Ohia trees, which comprise 80 percent of Hawaii's native forests.

Over the past 8 years, ROD has been detected on Hawaii Island, Kauai, Maui, and Oahu. Efforts are currently underway to educate the public to reduce the spread, research transmission vectors of ROD such as humans, beetles, ungulates, and weather events, and test ROD resistant varieties of Ohia. This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the U.S. Geological Survey, to continue providing resources for the purposes of researching ROD vectors and transmission. It also requires the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to work with the State of Hawaii and other local stakeholders on ungulate management in control areas on Federal, State, and private land. Finally, the bill requires the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, to continue providing resources to prevent the spread of ROD and restore the native forests in Hawaii and to also continue to provide financial and staff resources to the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, IPIF, located in Hilo, to continue research on ROD.

The bill authorizes $5 million in appropriations for each fiscal year from 2023 through 2033 for both the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to carry out these actions, which are necessary to protect and restore Hawaii's most abundant native tree—Ohia—for future generations.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4884. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, to establish a joint natural infrastructure science program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill, the Natural Infrastructure Act of 2022. This bill requires the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, to establish a Joint Natural Infrastructure Science Program. This program, which would be a joint effort by the U.S. Forest Service FS and the U.S. Geological Survey USGS, would

seek to further research on the use of natural solutions to address evolving infrastructure needs across the country. The bill also requires the Secretary of the Interior to assess the costs and effectiveness of select natural infrastructure projects on an annual basis.

The bill defines natural infrastructure as constructed landscape features and systems that employ nature-based solutions that promote, use, restore, or emulate natural ecological processes. These features, when compared to grey infrastructure solutions, are often more cost-effective, increase community resilience to climate change impacts, and attract community support. The American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that our country's need for infrastructure repairs through 2025 totals over $4 trillion. In order to meet our country's short- and long-term infrastructure needs, research is needed to inform the decisions being made by the people charged with addressing these infrastructure needs—civil engineers, local governments, developers, and the construction industry. The Joint Natural Infrastructure Science Program established by this bill directs USGS and FS to work with colleges and universities to advance ongoing natural infrastructure research efforts to inform future infrastructure projects. The bill also establishes a stakeholder advisory group to inform the Secretary of the Interior on appropriate research topics to be assessed by the Joint Natural Infrastructure Science Program.

The bill authorizes $4 million in appropriations for each fiscal year from 2023 through 2033 for both the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to implement the Joint Natural Infrastructure Program. Additionally, the bill requires the Secretary of the Interior to publish an annual report on no fewer than 30 natural infrastructure projects across the country to assess the cost and effectiveness of the projects as well as provide recommendations on ways to improve future natural infrastructure projects in terms of construction, costs, and effectiveness. The selected projects should be diverse in terms of both geographic location as well as project type. These reports, coupled with the research generated by the Joint Natural Infrastructure Science Program, will help inform future infrastructure projects as we seek out cost-effective solutions all across the country that maximize human and environmental benefits in the face of evolving challenges, including the increasing impacts of climate change.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 771—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2022, AS ''NATIONAL STILLBIRTH PREVENTION DAY'', RECOGNIZING TENS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN FAMILIES THAT HAVE ENDURED A STILLBIRTH, AND SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP OTHER FAMILIES FROM EXPERIENCING THE SAME TRAGEDY

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KING, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 771

Whereas, 23,000 pregnancies in the United States end in stillbirth each year, and the COVID–19 pandemic has exacerbated the crisis;

Whereas racial disparities persist in birth outcomes, with Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous families at the greatest risk of losing a baby to stillbirth;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the annual number of stillbirths far exceeds the number of deaths among children under 15 years of age due to sudden infant death syndrome, car accidents, drowning, guns, fire, poison, and flu combined;

Whereas, in the last 2 decades, the stillbirth rate in the United States declined by a negligible 0.4 percent, and in a report published by the World Health Organization comparing progress in improving stillbirth rates, the United States ranked 183 out of 195 countries;

Whereas stillbirths are devastating and have a profound and lifelong impact on the families who endure them;

Whereas stillbirth is linked to an increased risk of maternal mortality;

Whereas, with increased awareness and better data collection, the United States will be able to better understand why stillbirths in the United States are happening at an alarming rate and identify what can be done to combat this crisis;

Whereas proven stillbirth prevention efforts have the power to save a minimum of 7,500 babies every year from preventable stillbirth in the United States, and innovations in stillbirth prevention could save thousands of additional families in the United States from the heartache of losing a baby each year;

Whereas recognizing ''National Stillbirth Prevention Day'' is an opportunity to increase awareness, support evidence-based prevention efforts, promote research, encourage improved data collection and greater understanding, and provide community to those who have experienced stillbirth; and

Whereas ''National Stillbirth Prevention Day'' calls on the President and all other Federal officials to use their authorities to reduce stillbirths in the United States by at least 33 percent and ensure every expectant family is educated on how to reduce the risk of losing a baby to stillbirth: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of ''National Stillbirth Prevention Day'';

(2) understands the importance of advancing evidence-based prevention efforts; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe National Stillbirth Prevention Day with appropriate awareness programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 772—RECOGNIZING THE SERIOUSNESS OF MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2022, AS ''INTERNATIONAL MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY AWARENESS DAY''

Mr. KAINE (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 772

Whereas myotonic dystrophy is a rare, multi-systemic, inherited disease that affects approximately 1 in 2,100 individuals and more than 150,000 individuals in the United States;

Whereas 1 in 8,000 individuals are living with myotonic dystrophy globally, yet thousands of individuals do not know they have the disease and are in need of care;

Whereas myotonic dystrophy is the most common form of adult-onset muscular dystrophy, and the symptoms of the disease become more severe with each generation;

Whereas the disease is caused by a mutation in the DMPK gene, resulting in myotonic dystrophy type 1, or the CNBP gene, resulting in myotonic dystrophy type 2;

Whereas those mutations prevent those genes from functioning properly, impacting multiple body systems;

Whereas those mutations are autosomal dominant mutations, in which one copy of the altered gene is sufficient to cause the disorder, and affected individuals have a 50 percent chance of passing on the mutated gene to their children;

Whereas, through this inherited genetic anomaly, individuals with myotonic dystrophy experience varied and complex symptoms, ranging from skeletal muscle problems, early cataracts, and excessive daytime sleepiness to heart, breathing, digestive, hormonal, speech, swallowing, diabetic, immune, vision, and cognitive difficulties;

Whereas myotonic dystrophy is a highly variable and complicated disorder, and the younger an individual is when symptoms first appear, the more severe symptoms are likely to be;

Whereas misdiagnoses have persisted for decades, and delays in diagnosing myotonic dystrophy are common;

Whereas there are currently no treatments approved by the Food and Drug Administration for myotonic dystrophy;

Whereas the Myotonic Dystrophy Foundation was founded in 2007 with a mission to enhance the quality of life of individuals living with myotonic dystrophy and accelerate research focused on finding treatments and a cure;

Whereas, in 2014, Congress enacted the Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research and Education Amendments of 2014 (Public Law 113–166; 128 Stat. 1879), which advanced muscular dystrophy research and public health surveillance activities, including for myotonic dystrophy;

Whereas, in September 2017, recognizing the seriousness of the disease and the especially disabling impact of myotonic dystrophy on individuals with congenital

myotonic dystrophy, the Social Security Administration added congenital myotonic dystrophy to the Compassionate Allowance Program, which allows individuals to quickly qualify for disability benefits, including health insurance coverage;

Whereas, in 2018, Congress added myotonic dystrophy to the list of eligible conditions for research funding under the Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program of the Department of Defense, which resulted in more than $6,000,000 in new research awards; and

Whereas a more robust scientific investment in myotonic dystrophy research will improve health outcomes, reduce disability, and increase life expectancy for individuals living with myotonic dystrophy, and holds great promise for helping individuals with similar genetic diseases: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of September 15, 2022, as ''International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day'';

(2) recognizes the seriousness of myotonic dystrophy; and

(3) supports the goals and ideals of International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day, which include—

(A) committing to promoting and advancing the health, well-being, and inherent dignity of all children and adults with myotonic dystrophy;

(B) supporting the advancement of scientific and medical myotonic dystrophy research;

(C) fostering biopharmaceutical innovation that will lead to Food and Drug Administration-approved treatments and eventually a cure for myotonic dystrophy;

(D) advancing programs and policies that assist individuals living with myotonic dystrophy and the caregivers of such individuals; and

(E) encouraging awareness and education of myotonic dystrophy for patients, caregivers, clinicians, and researchers.

SENATE RESOLUTION 773—COMMEMORATING THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS DECLARATION

Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. ERNST, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 773

Whereas, on September 15, 2020, the United States, Israel, United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain signed the historic Abraham Accords;

Whereas, on December 22, 2020, Morocco signed the Abraham Accords;

Whereas, on January 6, 2021, Sudan signed the Abraham Accords;

Whereas the Abraham Accords created formal diplomatic ties between Israel and the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco increasing the number of Arab states with formal diplomatic ties with Israel to six;

Whereas the Abraham Accords marked the first instance of normalized relations between Israel and Arab countries in more than two decades;

Whereas the leadership and success of prior normalization agreements between Israel and Egypt in 1979 and between Israel and Jordan in 1994 paved the way for creating formal diplomatic ties with other Arab and Muslim-majority countries;

Whereas the Abraham Accords have reduced the likelihood of armed conflict, improved ties between Israel and neighboring countries, and advanced the cause of achieving lasting peace in the Middle East, including through a negotiated solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that ensures mutual recognition and guarantees that Israelis and Palestinians live side-by-side with freedom, security, and prosperity;

Whereas the Abraham Accords provide an opportunity to make tangible improvements in the lives of Palestinians, including increased multilateral investment in the Palestinian economy among signatory countries of the Abraham Accords;

Whereas continued political, economic, and security cooperation between the United States, Israel, and Arab states remains vital to the prosperity and security of the Middle East;

Whereas the relationship between the United States and Israel is rooted in shared values and interests;

Whereas the Abraham Accords demonstrably have advanced religious freedom in the Middle East, including through interfaith and intercultural dialogue between Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain;

Whereas new opportunities for multilateral cooperation generated by the Abraham Accords may improve the ability of the United States to meet nascent threats and emerging challenges;

Whereas the Embassy of Israel in Abu Dhabi was opened on January 24, 2021, and the United Arab Emirates became the first Gulf country to open an embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel, on May 30, 2021;

Whereas Israel opened a resident embassy in Manama, Bahrain, in September 2021, and the first ambassador to Israel from Bahrain assumed his post in August 2021;

Whereas the Foreign Ministers of Israel, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco, and the United States convened at the Negev Summit in Sde Boker, Israel, resulting in the establishment of the Negev Forum and six working groups tasked with furthering multilateral cooperation in the areas of energy, education and coexistence, food and water security, health, regional security, and tourism;

Whereas the Abraham Accords have catalyzed increases in trade, tourism, and investment in the Middle East, benefitting the people of those countries;

Whereas, at the 2022 World Economic Forum, the Minister of State for Foreign Trade of the United Arab Emirates indicated that bilateral trade with Israel has surpassed $2,500,000,000 since the signing of the Abraham Accords;

Whereas, on May 31, 2022, Israel and the United Arab Emirates signed a comprehensive free-trade agreement to cover 96 percent of bilateral trade, amounting to approximately $1,000,000,000;

Whereas trade between the United Arab Emirates and Israel is expected to surpass $10,000,000,000 within 5 years, economic conditions that were made possible by the Abraham Accords;

Whereas trade between Israel and Bahrain increased to $1,200,000 in May 2022, up from $0 in May 2021;

Whereas trade between Israel and Morocco increased to $3,100,000 in May 2022, an increase of 94 percent since May 2021;

Whereas the Abraham Accords have facilitated direct commercial airline flights, improving people-to-people ties in spite of obstacles created by the COVID–19 pandemic;

Whereas, on July 14, 2022, the United States and Israel signed the Jerusalem U.S.-Israel Strategic Partnership Joint Declaration, which calls for a deepening and broadening of the Abraham Accords; and

Whereas destabilizing developments in the Middle East continue to demonstrate the importance of the Abraham Accords: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the second anniversary of the signing of the Abraham Accords;

(2) reaffirms the enduring and ironclad alliance between the United States and Israel;

(3) believes that the United States should—

(A) prioritize the expansion and strengthening of the Abraham Accords to encourage other countries to normalize relations with Israel and ensure that existing agreements reap tangible security and economic benefits for the citizens of those countries;

(B) with other signatory countries of the Abraham Accords, promote and develop new areas of regional collaboration including maritime security, defense cooperation, clean energy initiatives, water security initiatives, and direct flights; and

(C) build on the Abraham Accords to help advance prospects for peace between Israel and the Palestinians, make tangible improvements in the lives of the Palestinian people, and make progress toward a negotiated solution that ensures mutual recognition;

(4) supports efforts to increase security and prosperity in the Middle East and North Africa via continued security and defense cooperation in furtherance of the Abraham Accords;

(5) encourages the expansion of the Abraham Accords to include countries that do not have diplomatic relations with Israel, and urges the President to take the necessary steps to secure comparable agreements with other Arab and Muslim-majority countries; and

(6) supports opportunities to expand economic ties between the United States, Israel, and Arab states through comprehensive economic partnerships and other trade initiatives.

SENATE RESOLUTION 774—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2022 AS NATIONAL DEMOCRACY MONTH AS A TIME TO REFLECT ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO A MORE FREE AND STABLE WORLD

Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 774

Whereas, 2,000 years after the ancient Greeks laid the groundwork for democracy, the founders of the United States built an even greater system of government, a democratic republic, propelling the United States to become the most advanced nation in human history;

Whereas the model of government of the United States has been reproduced around the world;

Whereas Presidents Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln described democracy, respectively, as the ''light that led us out of gothic darkness'' and the ''last best hope'' of humankind;

Whereas, according to Freedom House, more than 1 in 3 people in the world do not live in states considered free;

Whereas the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights, including the addition of the Reconstruction Era amendments, enshrine the rights and civil liberties of citizens of the United States, including the right to vote in free and fair elections;

Whereas the perpetuation of the ideals of democracy does not happen on its own and can be stalled or reversed;

Whereas surveys show that citizens of the United States are losing faith in the democratic system;

Whereas former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said, ''The practice of democracy is not passed down through the gene pool. It must be taught and learned anew by each generation of citizens.'';

Whereas President John F. Kennedy said, ''Democracy is never a final achievement. It is a call to untiring effort, to continual sacrifice and to the willingness, if necessary, to die in its defense.'';

Whereas President Ronald Reagan said, ''Democracy is worth dying for, because it's the most deeply honorable form of government ever devised by man.'';

Whereas Congressman John R. Lewis said, in his final words to the United States, ''Democracy is not a state. It is an act, and each generation must do its part to help build what we called the Beloved Community, a nation and world society at peace with itself.'';

Whereas World War II demonstrated the fragility of democracy and the civilized life that accompanies democracy;

Whereas British Prime Minister Winston Churchill observed that, ''Indeed it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time. . ..'';

Whereas President George Washington said the United States must recognize the immense value of the national Union and work towards preservation of that Union with ''jealous anxiety'' and wrote that the security of a free Constitution may be accomplished by ''teaching the people themselves to know and to value their own rights'';

Whereas President Thomas Jefferson wrote, ''Educate and inform the whole mass of the people. . . . They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty.''; and

Whereas the Government of the United States must teach and educate the people by taking appropriate actions to highlight and emphasize the importance of democratic principles and the essential role of democratic principles in the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by the people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2022 as ''National Democracy Month'';

(2) encourages States and local governments to designate September 2022 as ''National Democracy Month'';

(3) recognizes the celebration of ''National Democracy Month'' as a time to reflect on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe ''National Democracy Month'' with appropriate ceremonies and activities that—

(A) provide appreciation for the system of government of the United States; and

(B) demonstrate that the people of the United States shall never forget the sacrifices made by past generations of people of the United States to preserve the freedoms and principles of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5500. Ms. LUMMIS (for Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Ms. Lummis to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, 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''); which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5501. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5502. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COTTON, and Ms. LUMMIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5503. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5504. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5505. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. TESTER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1198, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

SA 5506. Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 5499 submitted by Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 7900, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2023 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5500. Ms. LUMMIS (for Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Ms. LUMMIS to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, 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''); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1, in the section heading, insert ''**AND A CONDITION**'' after ''**DECLARATION**''.

In section 1, insert ''and the condition of section 3'' after ''declaration of section 2''.

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. CONDITION.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following condition: The Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer shall amend their Decision I/12E, ''Clarification of terms and definitions: developing countries,'' made at the First Meeting of the Parties to remove the People's Republic of China.

SA 5501. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, 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''); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1, in the section heading, strike ''**DECLARATION**'' and insert ''**DECLARATIONS**''.

In section 1, insert ''declaration of section 2'' and insert ''declarations of section 2''.

In section 2, in the section heading, strike ''**DECLARATION**'' and insert ''**DECLARATIONS**''.

In section 2, strike ''following declaration'' and all that follows through the period at the end and insert the following: ''following declarations:

(1) The Kigali amendment is not self-executing.

(2) The People's Republic of China is not a developing country, and the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations should not treat the People's Republic of China as such.

SA 5502. Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. COTTON, and Ms. LUMMIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resoltion of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, 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''); which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 1, in the section heading, insert ''**AND A CONDITION**'' after ''**DECLARATION**''.

In section 1, insert ''and the condition of section 3'' after ''declaration of section 2''.

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. CONDITION.

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following condition: Prior to November 6, 2022, the Secretary of State shall transmit to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change a proposal to amend the list in Annex I to the Convention by adding the name of the People's Republic of China.

SA 5503. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Subsstances 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''); which was ordered to the lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This resolution of ratification shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after ratification.

SA 5504. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the resolution of ratification to Treaty Doc. 117–1, 0; 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''); which was was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This resolution of ratification shall take effect on the date that is 2 days after ratification.

SA 5505. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. TESTER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1198, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Solid Start Act of 2022''.

SEC. 2. SOLID START PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 63 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subchapter:

''SUBCHAPTER II—OTHER OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

''§ 6320. Solid Start program

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program, to be known as the 'Solid Start program', under which the Secretary shall—

''(1) build the capacity of the Department to efficiently and effectively respond to the queries and needs of veterans who have recently separated from the Armed Forces; and

''(2) systemically integrate and coordinate efforts to assist veterans, including efforts—

''(A) to proactively reach out to newly separated veterans to inform them of their eligibility for programs of and benefits provided by the Department; and

''(B) to connect veterans in crisis to resources that address their immediate needs.

''(b) ACTIVITIES OF THE SOLID START PROGRAM.—(1) The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, shall carry out the Solid Start program of the Department by—

''(A) collecting up-to-date contact information during transition classes or separation counseling for all members of the Armed Forces who are separating from the Armed Forces, while explaining the existence and purpose of the Solid Start program;

''(B) calling each veteran, regardless of separation type or characterization of service, three times within the first year after separation of the veteran from the Armed Forces;

''(C) providing information about the Solid Start program on the website of the Department and in materials of the Department, especially transition booklets and other resources;

''(D) ensuring calls are truly tailored to the needs of each veteran's unique situation by conducting quality assurance tests;

''(E) prioritizing outreach to veterans who have accessed mental health resources prior to separation from the Armed Forces;

''(F) providing women veterans with information that is tailored to their specific health care and benefit needs;

''(G) as feasible, providing information on access to State and local resources, including Vet Centers and veterans service organizations; and

''(H) gathering and analyzing data assessing the effectiveness of the Solid Start program.

''(2) The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, may carry out the Solid Start program by—

''(A) encouraging members of the Armed Forces who are transitioning to civilian life to authorize alternate points of contact who can be reached should the member be unavailable during the first year following the separation of the member from the Armed Forces; and

''(B) following up missed phone calls with tailored mailings to ensure the veteran still receives similar information.

''(3) In this subsection:

''(A) The term 'Vet Center' has the meaning given that term in section 1712A(h) of this title.

''(B) The term 'veterans service organization' means an organization recognized by the Secretary for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of this title.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Chapter 63 of such title, as amended by subsection (a), is further amended—

(1) by inserting before section 6301 the following:

''Subchapter I—Outreach Services Program'';

and

(2) in sections 6301, 6303, 6304, 6305, 6306, and 6307, by striking ''this chapter'' each place it appears and inserting ''this subchapter''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 63 of such title is amended—

(1) by inserting before the item relating to section 6301 the following new item:

''SUBCHAPTER I—OUTREACH SERVICES PROGRAM'';

and

(2) by adding at the end the following new items:

''SUBCHAPTER II—OTHER OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

''6320. Solid Start program.''.

SA 5506. Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 5499 submitted by Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 7900, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2023 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. PRIDE IN PATENT OWNERSHIP.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 35.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title 35, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in chapter 11, by adding at the end the following:

''§ 124. Government funding of patent applications and maintenance fees

''(a) GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF PATENT APPLICATIONS.—For any application for patent, if any governmental entity, including a foreign governmental entity, provides funding specifically for the purpose of paying fees to the Office under section 41, or specifically for the purpose of paying an attorney or patent agent for prosecution of the application, the application shall include, or be amended to include, a statement that names the entity providing that funding.

''(b) GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF MAINTENANCE FEES.—For any patent, if any governmental entity, including a foreign governmental entity, provides funding specifically for the purpose of paying maintenance fees to the Office under section 41, or specifically for the purpose of paying an attorney or patent agent for submitting those maintenance fees, the patent owner shall file a separate statement that names the entity providing that funding.''; and

(B) in section 261—

(i) by striking the first undesignated paragraph and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—

''(1) ATTRIBUTES OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.—Subject to the provisions of this title, patents shall have the attributes of personal property.

''(2) REGISTER OF INTERESTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Patent and Trademark Office shall maintain a register of interests in patents and applications for patents and shall record any document related thereto upon request, and may require a fee therefor.

''(B) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Office shall make the information described in subparagraph (A) publicly accessible, to the extent permitted by law.

''(3) REQUIREMENT TO RECORD CERTAIN ASSIGNMENTS AND OTHER INTERESTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever a patent issues, or certain rights or interests in a patent (as defined by the Director) are assigned, granted, or conveyed to another person, including a governmental or legal entity—

''(i) the patent owner shall submit, or cause to be submitted, a request described in paragraph (2), unless such a request was submitted before the issuance of the patent;

''(ii) the Office shall, not later than 60 days after the date on which the Office receives a request submitted under clause (i)—

''(I) notify the patent owner regarding any error in the request, consistent with the requirements under clauses (iii) and (iv), as applicable; or

''(II) record the interest in the register described in paragraph (2);

''(iii) with respect to a request submitted under clause (i) that the Office identifies as containing an error that can be corrected without having to change the date of submission of the original request, as determined by the Office, the Office shall allow the submitting party to file a corrected request not later than 60 days after the date on which the Office notifies the submitting party regarding the error; and

''(iv) in the case of a submitting party that receives an error notice from the Office, as described in clause (ii)(I), and fails to file a corrected request during the 60-day period described in clause (iii), the date on which the submitting party ultimately files the corrected request shall be deemed to be the date of submission of the original request.

''(B) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO COMPLY.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (iii), if the conditions described in subclause (I) of clause (ii) apply with respect to a patent, no party may recover, for infringement of the patent in any action, increased monetary damages under section 284 during the period beginning on the date that is 121 days after the effective date of the issuance, assignment, grant, or conveyance with respect to the patent, as applicable, and ending on the date on which the ownership, assignment, grant, or conveyance of the patent is properly requested to be recorded under paragraph (2).

''(ii) CONDITIONS.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—The conditions described in this subclause with respect to a patent are as follows:

''(aa) A party asserts the patent against an alleged infringer through a civil complaint, demand letter, or otherwise.

''(bb) Any of the following:

''(AA) The patent owner fails to comply with subparagraph (A)(i) with an intent to deceive a member of the public.

''(BB) The alleged infringer has reasonably relied in the course of business on a failure

by the patent owner to comply with subparagraph (A)(i).

''(CC) The party asserting the patent does not substantially match the entity with a recorded right to assert the patent and the alleged infringer suffers prejudice as a result of that discrepancy.

''(DD) The failure of the patent owner to comply with subparagraph (A)(i) conceals a separate legal or regulatory error, such as an improper Federal tax payment or the misapplication of section 337(a)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1337(a)(2)).

''(II) AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE.—A person that, in any action, is alleged to have infringed a patent may plead, as an affirmative defense in that action, that the conditions described in subclause (I) are applicable with respect to the alleged infringement of the patent.

''(iii) EXCEPTION.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—This subparagraph shall not apply if—

''(aa) the applicable patent owner, as of the date that the application for the patent was submitted, was an entity to which section 41(h)(1) applies;

''(bb) the party asserting the patent would qualify as an entity to which section 41(h)(1) applies, as of the date on which the entity asserts the patent, if that party were to file a patent application; and

''(cc) the party asserting the patent has been the owner, assignee, or exclusive licensee of not more than 20 patents, as of the date on which the party asserts the patent.

''(II) BURDEN.—A patent owner shall have the burden of establishing in an action that the elements described in subclause (I) apply.'';

(ii) in the first undesignated paragraph following subsection (a), as so designated by clause (i) of this subparagraph, by striking ''Applications'' and inserting the following:

''(b) APPLICATIONS AND PATENTS ASSIGNABLE.—Applications'';

(iii) in the first undesignated paragraph following subsection (b), as so designated by clause (ii) of this subparagraph, by striking ''A certificate'' and inserting the following:

''(c) CERTIFICATE OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—A certificate''; and

(iv) in the undesignated paragraph following subsection (c), as so designated by clause (iii) of this subparagraph, by striking ''An interest'' and inserting the following:

''(d) EFFECT OF ASSIGNMENT.—An interest''.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 11 of title 35, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''124. Government funding of patent applications and maintenance fees.''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATES; APPLICABILITY.—

(A) AMENDMENTS REGARDING GOVERNMENT FUNDING OF PATENT APPLICATIONS AND MAINTENANCE FEES; TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The amendments made by paragraphs (1)(A) and (2) shall take effect on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) AMENDMENTS REGARDING OWNERSHIP AND ASSIGNMENT.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the amendments made by paragraph (1)(B) shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(ii) REQUIREMENT TO RECORD ASSIGNMENTS AND CERTAIN OTHER INTERESTS.—Paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of section 261 of title 35, United States Code, as so designated by paragraph (1)(B)(i) of this subsection, shall—

(I) take effect on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(II) apply with respect to any patent issuance, assignment, grant, or conveyance that occurs on or after the effective date described in subclause (I).

(b) RULES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (referred to in this section as the ''Director'') shall issue rules that accomplish the following:

(1)(A) Define the term ''certain rights or interests in a patent'' for the purposes of subsection (a)(3) of section 261 of title 35, United States Code, as so designated by subsection (a)(1) of this section, which shall include examples of types of rights or interests that—

(i) are required to be recorded under such subsection (a)(3), such as patent assignments and exclusive licenses; and

(ii) are not required to be recorded under such subsection (a)(3), such as ownership of less than 10 percent of a patent.

(B) For the purposes of subparagraph (A), the Director may review rules defining the term ''beneficial owner'' issued by other Federal entities and agencies, including the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, the Department of the Treasury, and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

(2) Establish procedures for the proper recording of interests in patents that—

(A) provide for—

(i) notice of any error in a request submitted under subsection (a)(2) of section 261 of title 35, United States Code, as so designated by subsection (a)(1) of this section; and

(ii) an opportunity to correct an error described in clause (i);

(B) describe—

(i) which types of errors described in subparagraph (A)(i) are eligible for correction without having to change the date of submission of the original request, if the amended request is filed not later than 60 days after the date on which the Director notifies the submitting party regarding the error; and

(ii) which types of errors described in subparagraph (A)(i) must result in a new request with a new submission date; and

(C) require the recording of any parent corporation when an interest in a patent is recorded.

(3) Implement section 124 of title 35, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1) of this section.

(4) Otherwise implement the amendments made by subsection (a)(1).

(c) REGISTER.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall, with respect to the register described in subsection (a)(2) of section 261 of title 35, United States Code, as so designated by subsection (a)(1) of this section, create a publicly accessible database that is digitally searchable with fields based on patent number, assignee, assignor, assignment date, and other criteria determined by the Director.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, September 20; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Pan nomination, postcloture; further, all postcloture time on the Pan nomination be considered expired at 11:30 a.m. and, following the disposition of the Pan nomination, the Senate recess until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings; further, at 2:30 p.m., the Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the resolution of ratification with respect to Treaty document No. 117–1; finally, if any nominations are confirmed during Tuesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:39 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

B. BIX ALIU, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO MONTENEGRO.

MARTINA ANNA TKADLEC STRONG, OF TEXAS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.

INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD

KATHLEEN CUNNINGHAM MATTHEWS, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 1, 2023. (NEW POSITION)

JEFFREY GEDMIN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING ADVISORY BOARD FOR A TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 1, 2025. (NEW POSITION)

UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

JOSEPH LEE FALK, OF FLORIDA, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE GEORGE E. MOOSE, TERM EXPIRED.

ROGER ISRAEL ZAKHEIM, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS, VICE JEREMY A. RABKIN, TERM EXPIRED.

THE JUDICIARY

LINDSAY C. JENKINS, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS, VICE JOHN Z. LEE, ELEVATED.

CHARNELLE BJELKENGREN, OF WASHINGTON, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON, VICE SALVADOR MENDOZA, JR., ELEVATED.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF JERICHO

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my warmest congratulations to The Bureau for Exceptional Children and Adults (JERICHO) on celebrating their 50th anniversary. This milestone achievement deserves the highest praise for the hard work and dedication of the organization's board, staff, and everyone who has contributed to JERICHO's success.

Founded in the late 1960s by Father Robert F. Wagner and Sr. Joan Magnani, JERICHO was created to address the need for religious education classes and services for people with special needs in western Massachusetts. Through their work, they have brought new awareness and previously unavailable support to those families and individuals who are often ignored.

For 50 years, JERICHO has striven to fulfill its mission of bringing dignity, respect, and wholeness into the lives of people with disabilities and their families. In that time, thousands of families have benefitted from the programs, support, and the many other services provided by JERICHO throughout the western Massachusetts community. The past few years, in particular, have highlighted the need for the support and connection gained through organizations such as JERICHO.

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate JERICHO again on celebrating their 50th anniversary and thank them for continuing to provide the means to meet life's spiritual, moral, and social challenges. JERICHO is a cherished member of Massachusetts' First District, and I wish them many more years of success and prosperity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, on September 15, 2022, I missed one roll call vote. Had I been present I would have voted YES on Roll Call No. 437, on passage of H.R. 2988.

CELEBRATING DR. WARREN H. STEWART, SR.

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr. on 45 years of preaching at the First Institutional Baptist Church of Phoenix, Arizona. Dr. Stewart's leadership, faith, and advocacy have inspired generations of Arizonans, and I want to express my gratitude for his service to our community.

Dr. Stewart is the Senior Pastor at First Institutional, where he has served since 1977. Since moving to Phoenix, Dr. Stewart has tirelessly worked to help Arizona's most vulnerable populations and fought to bring justice to all in the state. He was instrumental in the passage of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday in Arizona and founded FIBCO Family Services, Inc. in 1986. Through the values of service, respect, integrity, empowerment, and diversity and inclusion, FIBCO Family Services works to, ''provide people with knowledge, skills and support to transform and empower their lives.'' The services they provide include food and clothing distribution, affordable housing, immigrant and refugee support, and health care.

Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Stewart has had numerous academic achievements, won awards and accolades, and published several books. He has served as a beacon of hope and integrity. I'd like to again congratulate Dr. Stewart on 45 years of preaching at First Institutional and thank him for over four decades of service and leadership to the Phoenix community.

RECOGNIZING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (PFC) EDMUND F. LEWIS

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Private First Class (PFC) Edmund F. Lewis, of Port Charlotte, Florida. On October 1, 2022, PFC Lewis will be awarded the Legion d'honneur, France's highest honor for acts of valor and integrity. PFC Lewis was drafted into service in 1943 and deployed to France in January of 1945 with the 65th Infantry Division. During his time in combat, PFC Lewis helped reestablish freedom for France from its hostile occupation by Nazi Germany. As an Infantryman, he found himself fighting on the front lines, advancing from town to town to free the occupied territory. Often under the presence of heavy enemy resistance, PFC Lewis and the allied forces pushed their way west into Germany and beyond, with the goal of bringing an end to the war. After months of fighting, PFC Lewis and his brothers in arms were able to secure the surrender of Nazi Germany on May 8, 1945. Following the surrender, PFC Lewis aided in the liberation of one of the most infamous Concentration Camps, Mauthausen, and freed thousands of prisoners who were held captive there. I thank PFC Lewis for his years of dedicated service to our Nation and congratulate him on receiving the Legion d'honneur.

RECOGNIZING MR. CRAIG PEDERSEN

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible career of Mr. Craig Pedersen and to congratulate him on his retirement.

Mr. Pedersen has spent most of his life in Kings County. Born in Reno, Nevada, his family moved to Lemoore in 1962 to return to their family farm. While he didn't know it at the time, this would begin a lifelong career in the agricultural industry for Mr. Pedersen. After graduating from Hanford High School, Mr. Pedersen began working full time with the family farm in 1982 and would eventually become business partners with his father, Robert. Together, they formed Pedersen Farms in 1987.

After many years of learning the agriculture business on his family farm, Mr. Pedersen began to take on leadership positions in the local agricultural community. He has served as the Chairman of the California Cotton Growers Association, the California Wheat Commission, and the Kings County Farm Bureau. In 1992, Mr. Pedersen accepted a multi-year fellowship with the California Agriculture Leadership Program, which allowed him to travel across North and South America to obtain an even better understanding of the agriculture industry. Following his fellowship, former California Governor Pete Wilson appointed Mr. Pedersen to serve a four-year term on the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. In 2015, Mr. Pedersen was elected to the Kings County Board of Supervisors, where he has continued his lifelong commitment to the Central Valley agricultural community.

Mr. Pedersen has been an essential part of the Central Valley community for over thirty years. His work has been widely recognized throughout Kings County, where he has received both the California Agriculture Leadership Profile in Leadership Award in 2000 and the Kings County Agriculturalist of the Year award in 2002. I cannot think of a man more deserving of these recognitions than Mr. Pedersen, who has dedicated his entire adult life to supporting agriculture in the Central Valley.

I ask all my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the lifelong work and achievements of Mr. Craig Pedersen and congratulate him on a well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLENN THOMPSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast my votes on

April 27, 2022, and September 14, 2022. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 428, YEA on Roll Call No. 429, and YEA on Roll Call No. 127.

RECOGNIZING RON HALBER

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to observe the remarkable tenure of Ron Halber, who is recognizing his 25th year of service to the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington. Ron has served as the JCRC's Executive Director since 2001, and his passionate work in that role reflects his dedication to the DC-area Jewish community.

Ron has transformed the JCRC of Greater Washington, turning it into one of the nation's most robust Jewish community relations organizations. Under his leadership, the JCRC has advocated for numerous pieces of beneficial state and local legislation and has been able to vastly increase its programming in support of the organization's mission.

Ron is the deserving recipient of the 2006 Ted B. Farber Professional Excellence Award and the 2001 Professional of the Year Award from the Association of Community Government Affairs Directors. However, his career outside of JCRC has been just as remarkable as his career inside. He has long been involved in his community, serving as the political coordinator for the Montgomery County Democratic Party and, long before, as the community liaison for New York State Senator Martin Solomon.

Ron Halber's tenure has been beneficial for the State of Maryland, and I know that he will continue to serve the state as Executive Director of the JCRC. His dedication to Maryland's Jewish community and the greater Maryland community serves as an example for us all of what it means to be an American, committed to both pluralism and the common good. I hope that the House will join me in celebrating Mr. Halber's contributions.

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PORT OF HARLINGEN, TX

HON. MAYRA FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mrs. FLORES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Port of Harlingen, Texas, as it celebrated its 70th anniversary this year.

On February 27, 1952, John Fullbright, the President of the Intracoastal Canal Association of Louisiana and Texas, stood in front of a crowd and said, ''Port Harlingen is now open for business!'' For 70 years, the Port has served a major role in the growth and development of those in the Rio Grande Valley and throughout the country.

In 1926, Mr. Lon C. Hill, the first Mayor of Harlingen, envisioned that the newly formed city would be a vital port for the Arroyo Colorado River. He was right. Soon after, he and several other colleagues began the process of creating the Port. From 1926 to 1941, the commissioners worked to secure the funding for the Port of Harlingen and in 1938, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers approved the building of the channel. Not long after, construction began. For the next nine years, construction workers tirelessly worked to build the Port. Finally, the Port of Harlingen was finalized. On February 27, 1952, the Port was officially opened as it discharged its first cargo shipment of steel pipes.

Initially, the Port was responsible for transporting steel, fuel, a variety of seafoods, and gasoline. Later, it quickly began to be a transporter of fertilizer and liquid bulk. This meant that the Port could serve as a means of transporting the goods local farmers produced as well as means of receiving the needed assistance to increase their production. The Port of Harlingen continued to expand. In 1979, the construction of the Administration Building began, and in 1983, it officially changed its name to ''The Port of Harlingen Authority''.

It also serves as the starting point of the Gulf-Intracoastal Waterway and has become a critical port for the South Texas as well as the rest of the country. The RGV would not be the area like we know it without the Port of Harlingen. It is an essential part for the people of the Valley as it employs just over 4,600 jobs for individuals directly and indirectly.

It is for these reasons and our history that I congratulate the Port on its 70th anniversary and look to the future as it will continue to impact the RGV.

RECOGNIZING THE KOREAN AND VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. BENTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Korean and Vietnam War Veterans from Oregon's Second Congressional District who are visiting their memorials on the National Mall through the efforts of Honor Flight of Oregon. When I have the opportunity to meet these heroes, I am reminded of the enduring words of General George S. Patton, who said, ''Wars may be fought with weapons, but they are won by men. It is the spirit of men who follow and of the man who leads that gains that victory.'' The words he spoke then, Madam Speaker, still ring true today. Those who value liberty are indebted to these heroes, for each one of them chose to defend freedom through acts of service, incredible sacrifice, and bravery on behalf of our country. It is my privilege to include in the Record their names.

The Veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are as follows: Robert Altvatter, Army; Dennis Allen, Marine Corps; Kenneth Anderson, Navy; Fred Barber, Marine Corps; Keith Becker, Marine Corps; Robin Brown, Coast Guard; Ricky Davis, Air Force; James DeSully, Army; George Endicott, Army; Robert Fincham, Navy; James Gabriel, Navy; Vernon Gurney, Army; James Lindgen, Navy; Thomas Mabalot, Navy; Thomas McCann, Navy; James Mills, Navy; George Oldham, Army; Joseph Petrelli, Navy; Thomas Queener, Navy; Wade Reece, Army; John Richardson, Marine Corps; Ronald Robbel, Army; Harold Schneider, Navy; Gerald Smith, Army; Spencer Stewart, Marine Corps; Allan Tobiason, Army; Jay Turnage, Navy; Mark Wirges, Marine Corps, Jimmie Young, Marine Corps; and James Zupancic; Air Force.

These heroes join over 240,000 Veterans who have been honored through the Honor Flight Network of volunteers nationwide since 2005. I would also like to recognize volunteer Dr. Jana Frazier for her years of dedicated service to our Veterans and the Central Oregon Honor Flight.

Madam Speaker, Ronald Reagan affirmed that, ''We owe this freedom of choice and action to those men and women in uniform who have served this Nation and its interests in time of need. In particular, we are forever indebted to those who have given their lives that we might be free.'' As a nation, we must never take for granted the liberties we enjoy today, recognizing that these freedoms have been hard-won by the honor, commitment, and sacrifice of our Veterans. Each Member in this chamber and citizen in these United States should be humbled by the courage of the brave Veterans who voluntarily underwent dangers and successes in order to preserve our country and way of life. Colleagues, please join me in thanking these Veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their remarkable service and devotion to our great country.

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF CIRCLE THE CITY

HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. GALLEGO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Circle the City. By recognizing health care as the first step to empowerment and independence, Circle the City is an invaluable community partner in addressing homelessness in Phoenix.

Founded by Sister Adele O'Sullivan, CSJ, MD, Circle the City opened the first medical respite center for people facing homelessness in Phoenix in 2012. Today, Circle the City operates two medical respite centers, two outpatient health care clinics, and four mobile medical units. The COVID–19 pandemic increased homelessness in Phoenix dramatically and made providing health care to underserved populations more important than ever. Circle the City rose to the challenge, providing vaccinations to the hardest to reach individuals. As climate change continues to worsen extreme heat in Phoenix, Circle the City has been working to help people experiencing homelessness prevent and heal from heat exhaustion and dehydration.

I would like to offer my deepest thanks to Circle the City for their work providing health care to a population that is too often overlooked. I congratulate them on a decade of service and look forward to helping them achieve another 10 years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM O'HALLERAN

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. O'HALLERAN. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on September 15, 2022, I was unable to vote for H.R. 302, the Preventing a Patronage System Act. I would have voted in favor of H.R. 302. I was also unable to vote on Agreeing to the Amendment by Mr. HICE on H.R. 302. I would have voted against the Amendment.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHUCK FUENTES

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a very heavy heart to honor the life of Chuck Fuentes, my dear friend and confidant, who passed away on September 13 at the age of 70.

Born March 16, 1952 in Whittier, CA to Robert H. and Theresa M. Fuentes, Charles Patrick ''Chuck'' Fuentes was raised in the City of Norwalk, CA. He attended St. John of God Catholic School, St. John Bosco High School, Cerritos Community College, and the University of California-Berkeley.

Chuck was raised a proud Democrat by his father, Robert H. ''Bob'' Fuentes, a politico of some note. Chuck ran countless campaigns and ran for office himself. He was a shrewd strategist with a keen sense of timing, and he had a knack for connecting a candidate's vision to voters' concerns.

Chuck was a ubiquitous presence in city, county, state, and national politics, causes, and committees, and was elected the youngest member of the Cerritos Community College Board of Trustees. He served for 26 years on the Democratic State Central Committee, was elected Vice Chair of the California Democratic Patty in 1989, and was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention.

Working at all levels of government, Chuck was at one time my right hand, serving as my advisor on the Norwalk City Council and my Chief of Staff in the State Assembly and the United States Congress. My gratitude for all his years of service knows no bounds. He was instrumental in helping guide me as a public servant but was so much more than an employee. Chuck was family, and his loss is immeasurable.

Chuck was also campaign manager for James K. Hahn in his final successful campaign for City Controller and his later successful campaigns for City Attorney and for Mayor of Los Angeles. He served as Chief Administrative Officer for the Los Angeles City Controller's Office and later as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Los Angeles City Attorney. Chuck was City Manager of Pico Rivera and was General Manager at the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

A devout Roman Catholic and member of the Knights of Columbus, Norwalk Council 3678, Chuck was an active member of numerous church communities and served as a parish bereavement minister.

Chuck is survived by his spouse, Linda L. Unruh; siblings Christine M. Fuentes, Roberta T. ''Bobbi'' Buescher, Andrea Kunkel (Robert), Cecilia C. Fuentes, Robert H. Fuentes III, Christopher Fuentes (Paul), and Joseph A. Fuentes (Amy); and godchildren Ryan A. Kunkel, Jonathan Palomares, Robert H. Fuentes IV, and Ray Morones.

I extend my deepest sympathies to the family, colleagues, and friends of Chuck Fuentes, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing his distinguished life and public service. Although he is deeply missed, he will forever remain in our hearts.

RECOGNIZING MRS. DIANE MESSER DODDS

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Diane Messer Dodds, for receiving the Bench and Bar Award, Kern County Bar Association's most prestigious award.

A graduate of Yale Law School, Mrs. Dodds was sworn into the California State Bar in 1975 and began her lifelong commitment to provide outstanding legal services to those in need. She started her legal career working with the Legal Aid Office in Long Beach, California. After a year there, she began clerking for U.S. District Judge Harry Pregerson. Following her clerkship, she would go on to work at the Western Center on Law and Poverty in Los Angeles.

After her time with Western Center, Mrs. Dodds moved to Kernville after marrying her husband, Patrick. For 12 years, she would provide important legal services to the elderly throughout her community as she and Patrick raised their young children. This work led to her meeting Pat Jennison, an attorney in Bakersfield, who has been a dear friend and important legal partner. The two would go on to open the law office of Jennison and Dodds in 2007.

For decades, Mrs. Dodds has provided vital legal services to clients throughout the Valley. Mrs. Dodd's pro bono work has earned her special recognition from the California State Bar, as a recipient of the Wiley M. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Services. Mrs. Dodds has dedicated thousands of hours to legal clinics for self-represented litigants through the Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance and the Kern County Law Library—even teaching a monthly class at the library for self-represented litigants for the past 15 years.

Mrs. Dodds has rightfully received the praise of fellow attorneys, Judges, Bar Associations throughout California, and most importantly—her clients. She has accomplished all of this while being a dedicated wife and loving mother to three children, and I cannot think of a more deserving recipient of this prestigious award than Mrs. Dodds.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the incredible work of Mrs. Diane Messer Dodds for her accomplishment of receiving the Kern County Bar Association Bench and Bar Award.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS FOR 2022

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three schools in the Illinois 11th Congressional district that have been named National Blue Ribbon Schools for 2022: Eisenhower Academy, Elmwood Elementary School, and Highlands Elementary School. These schools are recognized for their overall academic excellence on their progress in closing achievement gaps among student groups, demonstrating that all students can achieve at high levels.

Throughout its 40-year history, the National Blue-Ribbon Schools Program has affirmed the hard work of students, educators, families, and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging content. The award flag gracing a school's building has been widely recognized by everyone—from parents to policymakers—as a symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the faculty, staff, administrators, parents, and students at these three schools for their great accomplishment.

RECOGNIZING THELMA CASTILLO AND THE BLUE WATER AREA CHAMBER

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thelma Castillo and The Blue Water Area Chamber in Port Huron, Michigan for supporting, celebrating, and growing small businesses in Michigan.

The Blue Water Area Chamber is hosting a MI New Favorite Snack competition this fall. The competition gives businesses with 10 or fewer employees a chance at a generous cash prize. This opportunity allows up and coming businesses the chance to show off their products and promote them in an exciting new way. Participants look forward to the marketing benefits as well as a chance at winning the cash prize to invest in the growth of their business.

Small businesses are a critical part of our economy and community. We must continue to help them grow by supporting them in any way we can. I applaud the work of Thelma Castillo and The Blue Water Area Chamber for recognizing small businesses in Michigan.

RECOGNIZING PASTORS RANDY AND AMY BEZET

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Pastors Randy and Amy Bezet

on 20 years of faithful service leading Bayside Community Church. In 2002, Randy and Amy left their home state of Louisiana, moved to Florida, and founded Bayside Community Church. What started as a small congregation that met inside an elementary school has grown into a church spreading the Gospel to thousands of members across Southwest Florida. Randy and Amy have been blessed to witness God's work in the ministries they have launched over the past 20 years. They continue to expand their vision to reach people for Christ, raise them to become followers of the Lord, and release them to live their God-given purpose. Their heart for people has cultivated an authentic experience at Bayside Community Church and has changed many people's lives. I thank them for their dedicated service to those who live in our community and for their commitment to share the Gospel.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, on September 14, 2022, I missed one roll call vote. Had I been present I would have voted YES on Roll Call No. 424, On Ordering the Previous Question.

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP CHURCH

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. As the only Parish that serves the Old First Ward of Buffalo, this congregation has been a cornerstone of Buffalo for well over a century. In honor of this milestone, I wish to recognize all that the church has done to enrich countless Buffalo residents.

Established on March 25, 1897, during the ''Feast of Annunciation,'' Bishop James E. Quigley led its creation. Carving out portions of the St. Brigid and St. Stephen parishes, the Bishop began recruiting families to his own congregation. Along with Father O'Connell, who was chosen to be the first leader of the parish, Our Lady of Perpetual Help succeeded in incorporating over 800 families to the new congregation.

Father O'Connell spearheaded the effort to develop the church, obtaining the land where the rectory and church now stand using funds donated to him by the JJ Glenny Estate. In collaboration with the Lansing and Beiri firm to design the church, Father O'Connell brought gothic styles popular during the Middle Ages to his parish with vertically pointed arches, ribbed vaulting, and floral design that can still be seen today.

The parish celebrated its first Mass on July 11, 1897, under the leadership of Father O'Connell. A few months later, the church opened its doors to students for Sunday school with a class size of 46 boys and 41 girls. In 1909, the church acquired a three-story brick schoolhouse in honor of Father O'Connell who had passed a few years prior. The street the parish now stands on was also later renamed after him in honor of all he had done for his congregation. The school closed its doors in 1971 after over 2,900 students received an education.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help is currently led by Father Paul Seil who continues to be a beloved public figure. Since joining the parish, Father Seil has led numerous restoration efforts at the churches as well as increasing the Church's social media presence to allow for congregation members to stay connected. With a large hall, four meeting rooms, a stage, and a kitchen in the building's basement, Our Lady hosts a myriad of activities to strengthen community ties. The Church also encourages youth organizations by sponsoring Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops .

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor the contributions Our Lady of Perpetual Help has made to our community for the past 125 years.

HONORING AN ARIZONA LEGEND, DR. WARREN H. STEWART, SR.

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor an Arizona legend, Dr. Warren H. Stewart, Sr., and congratulate him for reaching the milestone of 45 years of service as the senior pastor of First Institutional Baptist Church of Phoenix. Our community is so fortunate that Pastor Stewart has devoted his life to meaningful service that has made a difference in the lives of many, and I am personally grateful to call this civil rights leader, humanitarian, scholar and author a friend.

Pastor Stewart answered the call early in life and preached his first sermon when he was just 17 years old. Several years later he became the pastor at First Institutional Baptist, the youngest—and eventually longest serving—in the church's history.

During his tenure, he has led his congregation through transformative growth and his impact stretches far beyond his spirited sermons from the pulpit. He created a family resource center, the Samaritan House for homeless families, a home for teenage mothers and expanded the church's education and outreach services. Each of these have changed the trajectory of people's lives for the better.

Through many challenging moments in our community's recent history, Pastor Stewart has offered a voice of moral clarity. He's stood up to the darkest forces in our state and prevailed. When the extremists first stopped Arizona from recognizing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, it was Pastor Stewart who organized, mobilized and energized the campaign to make that day a reality in our state.

It's not just Arizona where his legacy lives. He's preached throughout the United States and in more than 50 countries. While overseas, Pastor Stewart helped build a new church edifice and parsonage in the Republic of South Africa.

Arizona is fortunate to have experienced 45 years of Pastor Stewart's leadership, and we are hopeful for many more.

I thank Pastor Stewart for his friendship and service, and extend congratulations to him on this significant milestone.

HONORING THE TOWN OF GLEN ELLEN AND THE GLEN ELLEN POST OFFICE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th year milestone of Glen Ellen and the Glen Ellen Post Office in Sonoma County, California.

Originating on July 19, 1872, Glen Ellen was named after Ellen Mary Stuart, the wife of Colonel Charles Stuart. Glen Ellen is located in the canyon between the Mayacamas Mountain Range and Sonoma Mountain. The beautiful Calabasas and Sonoma creeks run through downtown Glen Ellen further adding to the immaculate scenery.

Glen Ellen, part of the historic Valley of the Moon, is home to many Sonoma County wineries and culinary gems. It is home to nearly 800 people but also serves as a getaway for many California residents due to the various hiking trails and its close proximity to Sonoma Valley Regional Park.

The Glen Ellen Post Office holds historical value in the community it serves. It was created at the same time as the town and has been led by a distinguished list of postmasters, such as Charles Justi, John Gibson, and Charles Crofoot. The post office is located in historic Jack London country, surrounded by vineyards.

One of the most notable attractions of Glen Ellen is the Jack London State Historic Park. Created in 1960 and named after author and owner Jack London, the park spans fourteen hundred acres and contains a winery dating back to the 19th century, as well as a variety of orchards and historic structures. Celebrations commemorating Glen Ellen and its post office have been held here, signifying the importance of the park and the historical significance it has to the community.

Glen Ellen is a place for Californians to seek quiet and relaxation. The variety of attractions, including wineries, restaurants, hiking trails, historic landmarks, such as the Mill, all contribute to the town and its community. Along with the historic Glen Ellen Post Office, these attractions are an important part of what make Glen Ellen a special place to live.

Madam Speaker, it is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge Glen Ellen's 150th milestone and wish them another 150 years of success.

IN RECOGNITION OF SCHREIBER FOODS GUINNESS WORLD RECORD

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Schreiber Foods on achieving the Guinness World Records title for the largest macaroni and cheese.

The company's achievement was part of the 50th anniversary celebration of their production plant in Logan, Utah. It took the Schreiber Foods team 3 hours and 26 minutes to cook the recipe, finishing with a super-sized macaroni and cheese weighing in at 2,151 kg. They invited the public to eat the thousands of servings of the mac 'n cheese and partnered with a local food pantry to donate the remaining food. For over 30 years, Schreiber Foods has shared their delicious dairy products with consumers across the globe. Founded in 1945, Schreiber foods began as a small cheese production plant, located in an old brewery building in Green Bay, WI. Since its founding, they have grown to become one of the largest privately held dairy production companies in the world, with more than 30 locations spread across North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. Through their expansion, Schreiber Foods has also become one of the leading suppliers of cheese to fast-food restaurant chains, supplying cheese slices to 17 of the top 20 hamburger chains.

Although Schreiber Foods has come a long way from its modest beginnings, their commitment to integrity and quality products hasn't been left behind. From day one, the company followed the ''16 ounces to the pound'' philosophy, stating that one pound of cheese would weigh no more, and no less than 16 oz. Today, Schreiber still uses ''16 ounces to the pound'' as a basis for two characteristics of their company: unquestionable integrity and an ongoing commitment to quality. I commend Schreiber Foods for their commitment to customer satisfaction that has led to their continued success for over 30 years.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate Schreiber Foods on achieving the Guinness World Records title for the largest macaroni and cheese and for their ongoing commitment to quality and customer satisfaction.

HYDROCEPHALUS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, patients, caregivers, and other advocates across the country come together every September to raise awareness of this condition. As Co-chair—with Representative LLOYD DOGGETT—of the Congressional Pediatric and Adult Hydrocephalus Caucus I want to express my support for Hydrocephalus Awareness Month and urge my colleagues to join our caucus and cosponsor H. Res. 20, the National Hydrocephalus Awareness Month Resolution.

The mission of our caucus is to raise awareness and inspire members of Congress to consider policy options that assist the hydrocephalus community. Hydrocephalus affects over one million Americans—infants, children, adults, and especially our seniors—with a prevalence in our elderly (175/100,000) equal to more than twice as that for infants and children (88/100,000).

We need members of Congress and their staff to understand that anyone can acquire hydrocephalus at any time.

Hydrocephalus—a build-up of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain—is colloquially known as ''water on the brain.'' Everyone, from babies to the elderly, can develop it. While some cases are congenital, it can also be caused by a traumatic brain injury, an infection, or even just develop as part of the aging process.

Brain surgery is the only treatment—many patients endure dozens of surgeries in their lifetime. There is no cure—yet—but Congress can play a role in moving the ball forward.

In addition to impacting people across the country, I've seen the success of treating people faced with hydrocephalus in my own district. The pediatric division of New Neurons Neurosurgery Institute (NNNI) in New Jersey, for example, plays a critical role in addressing the needs of thousands of children with hydrocephalus in New Jersey and around the country. With the expertise in the kinds of brain surgeries essential for survival, dedicated medical professionals such as Dr. Lawrence Daniels and his colleagues at NNNI save lives every day.

NNNI with Carly Weisman, who organizes the annual Jersey Shore WALK to End Hydrocephalus, are advocating and fighting hard in my district to bring greater awareness and help find a cure.

Nationwide, over 400,000 babies a year are born with hydrocephalus. Yet, the United States is not alone in this struggle—it is a worldwide problem—which is why I have introduced the Global Brain Health Act. This Act authorizes hydrocephalus funding from the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961. This approach would ensure more robust foreign assistance for treating people in developing countries with hydrocephalus and other brain health-related conditions.

It is essential for members of Congress to better understand this condition and its profound impact on the people we represent, and the hydrocephalus caucus is a great way to help achieve that goal.

I urge my colleagues to mark Hydrocephalus Awareness Month by joining the bipartisan Congressional Adult and Pediatric Hydrocephalus Caucus and by cosponsoring H. Res. 20. As a member you will not only help raise awareness but may also play a role in creating public policies that lead to better treatments and possibly even a cure.

HONORING DANIEL BORYTA

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Daniel Albert Boryta, an exemplary North Carolinian who worked as a chemist for Cypress Foot Mineral Kings Mountain, North Carolina.

Daniel is remembered by many not only for his bright smile and friendly demeanor, but also for his innumerable contributions to the field of chemistry.

His bailiwick was producing innovative compounds that involved lithium.

From creating solutions to extract lithium from salt brines in Chile to his patented lithium hydroxide compound that's still used in space exploration by NASA, Daniel's accomplishments are second to none. The impact of his work has made a profound impact upon society.

Madam Speaker, I'm confident that generations of Americans to come will look upon Daniel's work, and the vibrant legacy that he has left behind, in pure admiration.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE KC SHEPHERD'S CENTER 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 19, 2022

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the KC Shepherd's Center on their 50th anniversary and their 5th annual 70 Over 70 Awards. These are outstanding achievements. The efforts of the KC Shepherd's Center to support, celebrate, and empower the older residents of the Greater Kansas City area by fostering independence and connection are truly commendable. As the Nation's first Shepherd's Center, the Kansas City location serves as a model for the 56 Shepherd's Centers across the country working to create a better world for senior citizens. As we look back on the previous five decades, let us take a moment to reflect on all of the invaluable services the KC Shepherd's Center has provided to the aging populations of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

By reducing isolation and loneliness, increasing social connection and activity, and creating opportunities for purposeful living, the KC Shepherd's Center makes a profound impact on the overall health of the seniors the organization serves. Moreover, by providing Meals on Wheels to over 1,000 elderly adults each week, the KC Shepherd's Center has made significant progress toward reducing food insecurity among older generations. Together, these efforts ensure that the Greater Kansas City area is a fine place to live for aging populations.

Founded in 1972 by Dr. Elbert Cole, then Pastor at Central United Methodist Church, the KC Shepherd's Center has faithfully lived up to its ''of seniors, by seniors, for seniors'' model. Believing firmly in the importance of listening to the voices and wisdom of older adults, the KC Shepherd's Center has built its programs around the needs expressed by senior citizens in our local communities. In doing so, the KC Shepherd's Center has helped thousands of seniors over the last five decades stay active, receive the care they need, and remain in their own homes as long as possible, leading meaningful, independent lives.

Each year, the KC Shepherd's Center provides services to more than 2,800 older adults in the Kansas City region. Guided by their understanding that social engagement is not a luxury but a basic human need, the volunteers and staff at the Shepherd's Center help reduce the devastating physical, emotional, and mental impacts of isolation and loneliness. To fully understand the impact that the KC Shepherd's Center has on the local senior population, however, one must look not only at numbers and figures, but to the ''Shepherd'' of the 23rd Psalm, from which this organization takes its name. Indeed, the volunteers and staff at the KC Shepherd's Center are ''thy rod

and thy staff'' for the thousands of senior citizens they faithfully serve. In other words, they are truly doing God's work.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, I want to congratulate everyone at KC Shepherd's Center on their 50th year anniversary as well as their 5th annual 70 Over 70 Awards. The Shepherd Center's contributions to Kansas City's older population cannot be overstated, and it is a true honor to serve as their Congressman.

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 Tuesday, September 20, 2022 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine the VA's electronic health record modernization, focusing on rollout, cost, and schedule.
SD–124

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine putting the Bipartisan Infrastructure law to work, focusing on state and local perspectives.
SD–406

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Colleen Joy Shogan, of Pennsylvania, to be Archivist of the United States, Vijay Shanker, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and Laura E. Crane, Leslie A. Meek, and Veronica M. Sanchez, each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.
SD–342

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Margaret R. Guzman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Araceli Martinez-Olguin, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Jamar K. Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Jamal N. Whitehead, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington.
SD–226

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on National Parks
To hold hearings to examine S. 305, to establish the Springfield Race Riot National Monument in the State of Illinois, S. 1211, to establish the Cahokia Mounds Mississippian Culture National Historic Park in Collinsville, Illinois, Monroe, Madison, and St. Clair Counties, Illinois, and St. Louis City County, Missouri, S. 3447, to authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, S. 3579, to authorize the Embassy of France in Washington, DC, to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor the extraordinary contributions of Jean Monnet to restoring peace between European nations and establishing the European Union, S. 3873, to designate the outdoor amphitheater at the Blue Ridge Music Center in Galax, Virginia, as the ''Rock Boucher Amphitheater'', S. 4122, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Housatonic River in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 4168, to amend title 54, United States Code, to reauthorize the National Park Foundation, S. 4222, to esablish the St. Croix National Heritage Area, S. 4371, to establish the Cesar E. Chavez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park in the States of California and Arizona, S. 4377 and H.R. 4380, bills to designate the El Paso Community Healing Garden National Memorial, S. 4464 and H.R. 1908, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Ka'ena Point National Heritage Area, S. 4693, to amend the National Trails System Act to include national discovery trails and designate the American Discovery Trail, S. 4784, to modify the boundary of the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument in the State of Maine, to improve public access to the National Monument, and S.J. Res. 57, redesignating the Robert E. Lee Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery as the ''Arlington House National Historic Site''.
SD–366

2:15 p.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine women leaders countering authoritarianism.
SD–419

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine promoting and supporting tribal access to spectrum and related benefits in Native communities.
SD–628

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the SBA's State Trade Expansion Program.
SR–428A

Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold hearings to examine protecting American innovation, focusing on industry, academia, and the National Counterintelligence and Security Center.
SH–216

3 p.m.
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine ensuring veterans' timely access to care in VA and the community.
SR–418

3:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Personnel
To hold hearings to examine the status of military recruiting and retention efforts across the Department of Defense.
SR–222

SEPTEMBER 22

9 a.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider S. 673, to provide a temporary safe harbor for publishers of online content to collectively negotiate with dominant online platforms regarding the terms on which content may be distributed, and the nominations of Cindy K. Chung, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Kelley Brisbon Hodge, John Frank Murphy, Mia Roberts Perez, and Kai N. Scott, each to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and Thomas E. Brown, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Georgia, and Kirk M. Taylor, to be United States Marshal for the District of Colorado, both of the Department of Justice.
SD–106

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the nation's largest banks.
SH–216

10 a.m.
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jose Emilio Esteban, of California, to be Under Secretary for Food Safety, and Alexis Taylor, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, both of the Department of Agriculture, and Vincent Garfield Logan, of New York, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration.
SD–215

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine opportunities and challenges in deploying innovative battery and non-battery technologies for energy storage.
SD–366

Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine stopping senior scams, focusing on empowering communities to fight fraud.
SD–562

SEPTEMBER 28

Time to be announced
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Karla Ann Gilbride, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Jessica Looman, of Minnesota, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, Moshe Z. Marvit, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, and other pending calendar business.
TBA

10 a.m.
Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine stakeholder views on the Brownfields Program reauthorization.
SD–406

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine keeping the pressure on Russia and its enablers, focusing on the reach of and next steps for U.S. sanctions.
SD–419

SEPTEMBER 29

10 a.m.
Committee on Environment and Public Works
Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water
To hold a joint hearing to examine S. 3571, to promote remediation of abandoned hardrock mines.
SD–406

OCTOBER 12

10 a.m.
Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine putting the Bipartisan Infrastructure law to work, focusing on the private sector perspective.
SD–406

POSTPONEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.
Committee on Environment and Public Works
Business meeting to consider the nominations of L. Michelle Moore, of Georgia, Robert P. Klein, and Beth Pritchard Geer, both of Tennessee, William J. Renick, of Mississippi, Adam Wade White, of Kentucky, and Joe H. Ritch, of Alabama, each to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority, Joseph Goffman, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and 5 GSA resolutions.
SD–406

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4809–S4828

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 4879–4885, and S. Res. 771–774. **Pages S4821–22**

Measures Passed:

Solid Start Act: Senate passed S. 1198, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve and expand the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, after withdrawing the committee reported amendment, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto, pursuant to the order of September 15, 2022, previous actions vitiated:

Page S4812

Schumer (for Tester) Amendment No. 5505, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S4812**

Measures Considered:

Disclose Act—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 4822, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities. **Pages S4815–16**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the 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 a resolution of advice and consent to ratification with 1 declaration. **Page S4816**

Prior to the consideration of this measure, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session to consider the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S4815**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001, with respect to who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (PM–38) **Page S4820**

Pan Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Pages S4809–15, S4817–18

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 38 nays (Vote No. EX. 339), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Pages S4817–18**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Tuesday, September 20, 2022; that all post-cloture time on the nomination be considered expired at 11:30 a.m.; and that at 2:30 p.m., Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture on 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 a resolution of advice and consent to ratification with 1 declaration. **Page S4828**

Bennett Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Amanda Bennett, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media.

Page S4816

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of S. 4822, to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide for additional disclosure requirements for corporations, labor organizations, Super PACs and other entities. **Page S4816**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S4816

Prabhakar Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Arati Prabhakar, of California, to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. Pages S4816–17

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur upon disposition of the nomination of nomination of Amanda Bennett, of the District of Columbia, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media. Page S4816

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. Page S4816

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. Page S4816

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

B. Bix Aliu, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Montenegro.

Martina Anna Tkadlec Strong, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates.

Kathleen Cunningham Matthews, of Maryland, to be a Member of the International Broadcasting Advisory Board for a term expiring January 1, 2023.

Jeffrey Gedmin, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the International Broadcasting Advisory Board for a term expiring January 1, 2025.

Joseph Lee Falk, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term of four years.

Roger Israel Zakheim, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the United States Institute of Peace for a term of four years.

Lindsay C. Jenkins, of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Charnelle Bjelkengren, of Washington, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington. Page S4828

Messages from the House: Page S4820

Measures Referred: Page S4820

Executive Communications: Pages S4820–21

Additional Cosponsors: Pages S4822–23

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S4823–26

Additional Statements: Page S4819

Amendments Submitted: Pages S4826–28

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—339) Page S4818

Adjournment: Senate convened at 3:01 p.m. and adjourned at 6:39 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4828.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 35 public bills, H.R. 8873–8907; and 10 resolutions, H. Res. 1362–1371 were introduced. Pages H7964–66

Additional Cosponsors: Page H7967

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 4009, to authorize the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–467);

H.R. 6353, to authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–468);

H.R. 6734, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer services, community partnership, and refuge education programs of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–469);

H.R. 7618, to designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a national memorial (H. Rept. 117–470);

H.R. 820, to establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a

unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes, with amendments (H. Rept. 117–471);

H.R. 4358, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Little Manatee River as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–472);

H. Res. 1328, requesting the President, and directing the Secretary of Homeland Security, to transmit to the House of Representatives copies of all documents in their possession referring or relating to certain aspects of border policies of the United States; adversely (H. Rept. 117–473);

H. Res. 1236, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to the Disinformation Governance Board; adversely (H. Rept. 117–474);

H.R. 7566, to amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the punishment for human trafficking in a school zone, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–475);

H.R. 3034, to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Western District of Washington, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–476);

H.R. 7181, to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to direct the Secretary of Transportation to seek to provide for the posting of contact information of the national human trafficking hotline in the restrooms of each aircraft, airport, over-the-road bus, bus station, passenger train, and passenger railroad station operating within the United States, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 117–477, Part 1); and

H. Res. 1361, providing for consideration of the bill (S. 1098) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to authorize borrowers to separate joint consolidation loans; and for other purposes (H. Rept. 117–478). **Pages H7963–64**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Gallego to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7885**

Recess: The House recessed at 12 p.m. and reconvened at 2 p.m. **Page H7885**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Peace Corps Reauthorization Act: H.R. 1456, amended, to amend the Peace Corps Act to reauthorize the Peace Corps, better support current and returned volunteers, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 290 yeas to 125 nays, Roll No. 440;

Pages H7886–93, H7946–47

United States Commission on International Religious Freedom Reauthorization Act: S. 3895, to extend and authorize annual appropriations for the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom through fiscal year 2024, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 402 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 438;

Pages H7898–99, H7944–45

Bridging the Gap for New Americans Act: S. 3157, to require the Secretary of Labor to conduct a study of the factors affecting employment opportunities for immigrants and refugees with professional credentials obtained in foreign countries, by a ⅔ yea-and-nay vote of 363 yeas to 52 nays, Roll No. 439; **Pages H7912–14, H7945–46**

Stop Human Trafficking in School Zones Act: H.R. 7566, amended, to amend title 18, United States Code, to increase the punishment for human trafficking in a school zone; **Pages H7914–22**

Human Trafficking Prevention Act of 2022: H.R. 7181, amended, to amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to direct the Secretary of Transportation to seek to provide for the posting of contact information of the national human trafficking hotline in the restrooms of each aircraft, airport, over-the-road bus, bus station, passenger train, and passenger railroad station; operating within the United States; **Pages H7922–26**

Artistic Recognition for Talented Students Act: S. 169, to amend title 17, United States Code, to require the Register of Copyrights to waive fees for filing an application for registration of a copyright claim in certain circumstances; **Pages H7926–27**

Protect Reporters from Exploitative State Spying Act: H.R. 4330, amended, to maintain the free flow of information to the public by establishing appropriate limits on the federally compelled disclosure of information obtained as part of engaging in journalism; **Pages H7927–30**

Amending title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Western District of Washington: H.R. 3034, to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Western District of Washington; **Pages H7930–31**

National Service Animals Memorial Act: H.R. 6353, amended, to authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs; **Pages H7932–33**

Keep America's Refuges Operational Act of 2022: H.R. 6734, amended, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize the volunteer

services, community partnership, and refuge education programs of the National Wildlife Refuge System; **Pages H7933–34**

Designating the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a national memorial: H.R. 7618, to designate the Kol Israel Foundation Holocaust Memorial in Bedford Heights, Ohio, as a national memorial; **Pages H7934–36**

New Philadelphia National Historical Park Act: H.R. 820, amended, to establish the New Philadelphia National Historical Park in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System; **Pages H7937–39**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "To establish the New Philadelphia National Historic Site in the State of Illinois as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes."; **Page H7939**

Designating the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Ventura, California, as the "Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner Outpatient Clinic": H.R. 7698, to designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Ventura, California, as the "Captain Rosemary Bryant Mariner Outpatient Clinic"; and **Pages H7940–42**

Designating the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in San Angelo, Texas, as the "Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic": S. 2771, to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in San Angelo, Texas, as the "Colonel Charles and JoAnne Powell Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic". **Pages H7942–44**

Suspensions-Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed.

Upholding the Dayton Peace Agreement Through Sanctions Act: H.R. 8453, amended, to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to foreign persons undermining the Dayton Peace Agreement or threatening the security of Bosnia and Herzegovina; **Pages H7893–95**

Corruption, Overthrowing Rule of Law, and Ruining Ukraine: Putin's Trifecta Act: H.R. 6846, amended, to require a review of sanctions with respect to Russian kleptocrats and human rights abusers; **Pages H7895–98**

READ Act Reauthorization Act of 2022: H.R. 7240, amended, to reauthorize the READ Act; **Pages H7899–H7900**

Securing Global Telecommunications Act: H.R. 8503, amended, to require the development of a strategy to promote the use of secure telecommunications infrastructure worldwide; **Pages H7900–02**

Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act: H.R. 8520, amended, to establish certain reporting and other requirements relating to telecommunications equipment and services produced or provided by certain entities; **Pages H7902–04**

Russia Cryptocurrency Transparency Act: H.R. 7338, amended, to require congressional notification prior to payments of Department of State rewards using cryptocurrencies, authorize the appointment of a Director of Digital Currency Security in the Office of Economic Sanctions Policy and Implementation of the Department of State; **Pages H7904–06**

Countering Assad's Proliferation Trafficking And Garnering of Narcotics Act: H.R. 6265, to require a strategy by the United States Government to disrupt and dismantle the Captagon trade and narcotics networks of Bashar al-Assad in Syria; **Pages H7906–08**

Urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization: H. Res. 558, amended, urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization; **Pages H7908–11**

Helen Keller National Center Reauthorization Act: H.R. 1433, amended, to reauthorize the Helen Keller National Center for Youths and Adults Who Are Deaf-Blind; **Pages H7911–12**

Georgetown Waterfront Enslaved Voyages Memorial Act: H.R. 4009, amended, to authorize the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project and Tour to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs; **Pages H7931–32**

Blackwell School National Historic Site Act: S. 2490, to establish the Blackwell School National Historic Site in Marfa, Texas; and **Pages H7936–37**

Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act: H.R. 4358, amended, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Little Manatee River as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System. **Pages H7939–40**

Presidential Message: Read a message from the President wherein he notified Congress that the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13224 of September 23, 2001 with respect to persons who commit, threaten to commit, or support terrorism, is to continue in effect beyond September 23, 2022—referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed (H. Doc. 117–145). **Page H7947**

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H7885.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7944–45, H7945–46, and H7946–47.

Adjournment: The House met at 12 p.m. and adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Committee Meetings

PROJECT FEDERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: MAKE IT WORK

Committee on Oversight and Reform: On September 16, 2022, Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled ''Project Federal Information Technology: Make IT Work''. Testimony was heard from Clare Martorana, Federal Chief Information Officer, Office of Management and Budget.

JOINT CONSOLIDATION LOAN SEPARATION ACT

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on S. 1098, the ''Joint Consolidation Loan Separation Act''. The Committee granted, by record vote of 7–3, a closed rule providing for consideration of S. 1098, the ''Joint Consolidation Loan Separation Act''. The rule provides one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and Labor or their designees. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the 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 at any time through the legislative day of September 22, 2022, the Speaker may entertain motions offered by the Majority Leader or a designee that the House suspend the rules with respect to multiple measures that were the object of motions to suspend the rules on the legislative day of September 19, September 20, September 21, or September 22, on which the yeas and nays were ordered and further proceedings postponed. The Chair shall put the question on any such motion without debate or intervening motion, and the ordering of the yeas and nays on postponed motions to suspend the rules with respect to such measures is vacated. Testimony was heard from Chairman Scott of Virginia and Representative Foxx.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D934)*

H.R. 5754, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the ability of veterans to electronically submit complaints about the delivery of health care services by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Signed on September 16, 2022. (Public Law 117–175)

S. 3103, to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate the statute of limitations for the filing of a civil claim for any person who, while a minor, was a victim of a violation of section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c), 2242, 2243, 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260, 2421, 2422, or 2423 of such title. Signed on September 16, 2022. (Public Law 117–176)

S. 4785, to extend by 19 days the authorization for the special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund. Signed on September 16, 2022. (Public Law 117–177)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine United States nuclear strategy and policy, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine tightening the screws on Russia, focusing on smart sanctions, economic statecraft and next steps, 9 a.m., SD–538.

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Agriculture's rural housing service, focusing on stakeholder perspectives, 2:30 p.m., SD–538.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine uncounted deaths in America's prisons and jails, focusing on how the Department of Justice failed to implement the Death in Custody Reporting Act, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

Committee on Judiciary: Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold an oversight hearing to examine Federal enforcement of the antitrust laws, 3 p.m., SD–226.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

House

Committee on Agriculture, Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry, hearing entitled ''A 2022 Review of the Farm Bill: Stakeholder Perspectives on Title II Conservation Programs'', 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit, hearing entitled ''Assessing Crypto as a Tool for Financial Inclusion'', 2 p.m., 1300 Longworth and Zoom.

Committee on Education and Labor, Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education, hearing entitled ''Back to School: Meeting Students' Academic, Social, and Emotional Needs'', 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on National Security, International Development, and Monetary Policy, hearing entitled ''Under the Radar: Alternative Payment Systems and the National Security Impacts of Their Growth'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion, hearing entitled ''A Review of Diversity and Inclusion at America's Largest Insurance Companies'', 2 p.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples of the United States, hearing entitled ''Examining Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta: The Implications of the Supreme Court's Ruling on Tribal Sovereignty'', 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on H.R. 8802, the ''Public Lands and Waters Climate Leadership Act of 2022'', 11 a.m., 1334 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, Full Committee, markup on S. 1941, the ''Metropolitan Areas Protection and Standardization (MAPS) Act''; S. 3510, the ''Disaster Resiliency Planning Act''; H.R. 8466, the ''Chai Suthammanont Healthy Federal Workplaces Act of 2022''; H.R. 8665, the ''National Archives and Records Administration Modernization Act''; H. Res. 1243, of inquiry requesting the President transmit certain documents in his possession to the House of Representatives relating to the Biden family's international business schemes and related information; H.R. 8861, the ''District of Columbia Home Rule Expansion Act''; H.R. 6630, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1400 N Kraemer Blvd. in Placentia, California, as the ''PFC Jang Ho Kim Post Office Building''; H.R. 6631, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4770 Eureka Ave in Yorba Linda, California, as the ''Cottle Centanni Post Office Building''; H.R. 7082, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2200 North George Mason Drive in Arlington, Virginia, as the ''Jesus Antonio Collazos Post Office Building''; H.R. 7832, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 396 California Avenue in West Covina, California, as the ''Esteban E. Torres Post Office Building''; H.R. 7873, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 400 Southern Avenue Southeast in Washington, District of Columbia, as the ''District of Columbia Servicemembers and Veterans Post Office''; H.R. 7988, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 79125 Corporate Centre Drive in La Quinta, California, as the ''Corporal Hunter Lopez Memorial Post Office Building''; H.R. 8025, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 South 1st Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the ''Martin Olav Sabo Post Office''; H.R. 8026, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 825 West 65th Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the ''Charles W. Lindberg Post Office''; H.R. 8217, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 430 South Knowles Avenue in New Richmond, Wisconsin, as the ''Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Pierson Post Office Building''; H.R. 8218, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 619 Hewett Street in Neillsville, Wisconsin, as the ''Corporal Mitchel Red Cloud, Jr. Post Office''; H.R. 8226, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 236 Concord Exchange North in South Saint Paul, Minnesota, as the ''Officer Leo Pavlak Post Office Building''; H.R. 8248, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 609 Portsmouth Avenue in Greenland, New Hampshire, as the ''Chief Michael Maloney Post Office Building''; H.R. 8370, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 415 High Street in Freeport, Pennsylvania, as the ''Corporal Joseph Rodney Chapman Post Office''; H.R. 8630, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 400 North Main Street in Belen, New Mexico, as the ''U.S. Senator Dennis Chávez Post Office'', 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Rules, Full Committee, hearing on H.R. 8873, the ''Presidential Election Reform Act'', 2 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Amplifying the Arctic: Strengthening Science to Respond to a Rapidly Changing Arctic'', 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Small Business, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''SBA Management Review: Office of International Trade'', 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled ''The Clean Water Act at Fifty: Highlights and Lessons Learned from a Half Century of Transformative Legislation'', 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigation; and Subcommittee on Technology Modernization, joint hearing entitled ''VA Major Acquisitions Failures: In Search of Solutions'', 10 a.m., HVC–210 and Zoom.

Committee on Ways and Means, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 82, the ''Social Security Fairness Act of 2021''; H. Res. 1269, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Treasury to provide certain documents in the Secretary's possession to the House of Representatives relating to the impact of the OECD Pillar One agreement on the United States Treasury; H. Res. 1285, requesting the President to transmit certain information to the House of Representatives relating to a waiver of intellectual property commitments under the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights; H. Res. 1262, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide to the

House of Representatives certain documents in the Secretary's possession regarding the reinterpretation of sections 36B(c)(2)(C)(i)(II) and 5000A(e)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, commonly known as the "fix to the family glitch"; H. Res. 1283, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Treasury to provide to the House of Representatives a copy of the Internal Revenue Service Small Business/Self Employed Division Decision Memorandum regarding the decision to destroy approximately 30,000,000 paper information returns around the time of March 2021, and any other memorandum related to the decision to destroy those information returns; H. Res. 1288, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Labor to provide to the House of Representatives certain documents in the Secretary's possession relating to Unemployment Insurance fraud during the COVID–19 pandemic; and H. Res. 1246, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Treasury to provide certain documents in the Secretary's possession to the House of Representatives relating to recovery rebates under section 6428B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of September 20 through September 23, 2022

Senate Chamber

On *Tuesday*, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Amendment to Montreal Protocol ("Kigali Amendment") at 2:30 p.m.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: September 22, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Jose Emilio Esteban, of California, to be Under Secretary for Food Safety, and Alexis Taylor, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs, both of the Department of Agriculture, and Vincent Garfield Logan, of New York, to be a Member of the Farm Credit Administration Board, Farm Credit Administration, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Appropriations: September 21, Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine the VA's electronic health record modernization, focusing on rollout, cost, and schedule, 10 a.m., SD–124.

Committee on Armed Services: September 20, to hold hearings to examine United States nuclear strategy and policy, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

September 21, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine the status of military recruiting and retention efforts across the Department of Defense, 3:30 p.m., SR–222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: September 20, to hold hearings to examine tightening the screws on Russia, focusing on smart sanctions, economic statecraft and next steps, 9 a.m., SD–538.

September 20, Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development, to hold hearings to examine the Department of Agriculture's rural housing service, focusing on stakeholder perspectives, 2:30 p.m., SD–538.

September 22, Full Committee, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the nation's largest banks, 9:30 a.m., SH–216.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: September 21, Subcommittee on National Parks, to hold hearings to examine S. 305, to establish the Springfield Race Riot National Monument in the State of Illinois, S. 1211, to establish the Cahokia Mounds Mississippian Culture National Historic Park in Collinsville, Illinois, Monroe, Madison, and St. Clair Counties, Illinois, and St. Louis City County, Missouri, S. 3447, to authorize the National Service Animals Monument Corporation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, S. 3579, to authorize the Embassy of France in Washington, DC, to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs to honor the extraordinary contributions of Jean Monnet to restoring peace between European nations and establishing the European Union, S. 3873, to designate the outdoor amphitheater at the Blue Ridge Music Center in Galax, Virginia, as the "Rock Boucher Amphitheater", S. 4122, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Housatonic River in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 4168, to amend title 54, United States Code, to reauthorize the National Park Foundation, S. 4222, to esablish the St. Croix National Heritage Area, S. 4371, to establish the Cesar E. Chavez and the Farmworker Movement National Historical Park in the States of California and Arizona, S. 4377 and H.R. 4380, bills to designate the El Paso Community Healing Garden National Memorial, S. 4464 and H.R. 1908, bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Ka'ena Point National Heritage Area, S. 4693, to amend the National Trails System Act to include national discovery trails and designate the American Discovery Trail, S. 4784, to modify the boundary of the Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument in the State of Maine, to improve public access to the National Monument, and S.J. Res. 57, redesignating the Robert E. Lee Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery as the "Arlington House National Historic Site", 10:30 a.m., SD–366.

September 22, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine opportunities and challenges in deploying innovative battery and non-battery technologies for energy storage, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: September 21, to hold hearings to examine putting the Bipartisan Infrastructure law to work, focusing on state and local perspectives, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Foreign Relations: September 21, to hold hearings to examine women leaders countering authoritarianism, 2:15 p.m., SD–419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: September 20, Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine uncounted deaths in America's prisons and jails, focusing on how the Department of Justice failed to implement the Death in Custody Reporting Act, 2:30 p.m., SD–342.

September 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Colleen Joy Shogan, of Pennsylvania, to be Archivist of the United States, Vijay Shanker, to be an Associate Judge of the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, and Laura E. Crane, Leslie A. Meek, and Veronica M. Sanchez, each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Committee on Indian Affairs: September 21, to hold hearings to examine promoting and supporting tribal access to spectrum and related benefits in Native communities, 2:30 p.m., SD–628.

Committee on Judiciary: September 20, Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights, to hold an oversight hearing to examine Federal enforcement of the antitrust laws, 3 p.m., SD–226.

September 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Maria Araujo Kahn, of Connecticut, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, Julie Rikelman, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Margaret R. Guzman, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Araceli Martinez-Olguin, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of California, Jamar K. Walker, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, and Jamal N. Whitehead, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Washington, 10 a.m., SD–226.

September 22, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 673, to provide a temporary safe harbor for publishers of online content to collectively negotiate with dominant online platforms regarding the terms on which content may be distributed, and the nominations of Cindy K. Chung, of Pennsylvania, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Tamika R. Montgomery-Reeves, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Third Circuit, Kelley Brisbon Hodge, John Frank Murphy, Mia Roberts Perez, and Kai N. Scott, each to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and Thomas E. Brown, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Georgia, and Kirk M. Taylor, to be United States Marshal for the District of Colorado, both of the Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SD–106.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: September 21, to hold an oversight hearing to examine the SBA's State Trade Expansion Program, 2:30 p.m., SR–428A.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: September 21, to hold hearings to examine ensuring veterans' timely access to care in VA and the community, 3 p.m., SR–418.

Select Committee on Intelligence: September 20, to receive a closed briefing to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SVC–217.

September 21, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine protecting American innovation, focusing on industry, academia, and the National Counterintelligence and Security Center, 2:30 p.m., SH–216.

Special Committee on Aging: September 22, to hold hearings to examine stopping senior scams, focusing on empowering communities to fight fraud, 10 a.m., SD–562.

House Committees

Committee on Armed Services, September 21, Subcommittee on Military Personnel, hearing entitled "Update on the Implementation of Recommendations of the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military and the Establishment of the Office of Special Trial Counsels", 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Education and Labor, September 21, Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions, hearing entitled "Examining the Administration of the Unemployment Insurance System", 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, September 21, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 3655, the "Vaccine Injury Compensation Modernization Act of 2021"; H.R. 5141, the "Maximizing Outcomes through Better Investments in Lifesaving Equipment for (MOBILE) Health Care Act"; H.R. 8163, the "Improving Trauma Systems and Emergency Care Act"; H.R. 6737, the "Flint Registry Reauthorization Act"; H.R. 6965, the "Visit America Act"; H.R. 5441, the "Prevent All Soring Tactics Act of 2021"; H. Res. 1355, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to ivermectin; H. Res. 1244, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to any COVID–19 vaccine; H. Res. 1258, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide certain documentation to the House of Representatives relating to the calculation of certain expenditure limitations applicable to Federal funding of the Medicaid program in Puerto Rico; H. Res. 1263, of inquiry directing the President to provide certain documents in the President's possession to the House of Representatives relating to COVID–19 funding; H. Res. 1267, of inquiry directing the President to provide certain documents in the President's possession to the House of Representatives relating to the oversight of the Wuhan Institute of Virology laboratory by the Director of the National Institutes of Health; H. Res. 1268, of inquiry directing the President to provide certain documents in the President's possession to the House of Representatives relating to actions taken by the Secretary of Health and Human Services related to the COVID–19 pandemic response; H. Res. 1274, of inquiry directing the President

to provide certain documents in the President's possession to the House of Representatives relating to communications by or among any of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of National Drug Control Policy, the White House, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Department of Justice related to the executive branch's recommendations for a long-term, consensus approach to reduce the supply and availability of illicitly manufactured fentanyl-related substances in the United States; H. Res. 1275, of inquiry directing the President to provide certain documents in the President's possession to the House of Representatives relating to communications by staff of the White House regarding the implications of revoking the public health orders commonly referred to as ''title 42''; H. Res. 1284, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide certain documentation to the House of Representatives relating to the negotiation of prices for prescription drugs under the Medicare prescription drug program; H. Res. 1287, of inquiry directing the President to provide certain documents in the President's possession to the House of Representatives relating to the recall of infant formula manufactured by Abbott Laboratories and potential impacts on the infant formula supply chain; H. Res. 1265, of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to plans to exploit the energy crisis to pursue a radical climate agenda; H. Res. 1272, of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to plans to declare a ''climate emergency'' in order to invoke emergency authorities to impose regulations on industrial activity, or the supply and delivery of energy or electric power, in the United States; H. Res. 1260, of inquiry requesting the President, and directing the Secretary of Energy, to transmit to the House of Representatives certain information relating to plans to draw down and sell petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and plans to refill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve; H. Res. 1326, of inquiry requesting the President, and directing the Secretary of Energy, to transmit to the House of Representatives certain information relating to plans to protect baseload bulk power system generation and transmission to maintain bulk power system reliability; H. Res. 1264, of inquiry requesting the President to transmit to the House of Representatives certain documents relating to misinformation and the preservation of free speech; H. Res. 1271, of inquiry requesting the President transmit to the House of Representatives certain documents relating to activities of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration relating to broadband service; H. Res. 1237, of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to online censorship of political speech; and H. Res. 1261, of inquiry requesting the President to provide certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to communications and directives with the Federal Trade Commission, 10:15 a.m., 2123 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Financial Services, September 21, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Holding Megabanks Accountable: Oversight of America's Largest Consumer Facing Banks'', 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

September 22, Subcommittee on Housing, Community Development, and Insurance, hearing entitled ''State of Emergency: Examining the Impact of Growing Wildfire Risk on the Insurance Market'', 9 a.m., 2128 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, September 21, Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism, hearing entitled ''Examining the U.S. Interest in Regional Security Cooperation in the Middle East and North Africa: Opportunities, Obstacles, and Objectives'', 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

September 21, Subcommittee on Europe, Energy, the Environment, and Cyber, hearing entitled ''Accountability for Atrocity Crimes Committed by Russia in Ukraine'', 2 p.m., 2172 Rayburn and Webex.

Committee on Homeland Security, September 21, Full Committee, hearing entitled ''Critical Infrastructure Preparedness and Resilience: A Focus on Water'', 10 a.m., 310 Cannon and Webex.

September 22, Subcommittee on Oversight, Management, and Accountability, hearing entitled ''Federal Building Security: Examining the Risk Assessment Process'', 10 a.m., 310 Cannon and Webex.

Committee on the Judiciary, September 21, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5455, the ''Terry Technical Correction Act''; H.R. 2864, the ''Clean Slate Act of 2021''; H.R. 5651, the ''Fresh Start Act of 2021''; H.R. 8770, the ''Expanding the VOTE Act''; H. Res. 1343, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Homeland Security to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to unaccompanied alien children; H. Res. 1356, of inquiry requesting the President and directing the Attorney General to transmit, respectively, certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to Ray Epps, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Natural Resources, September 21, Full Committee, continue markup on H. Res. 1247, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the 2023–2028 five-year program for offshore oil and gas leasing; H. Res. 1248, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the compliance with the obligations of the Mineral Leasing Act; H. Res. 1251, of inquiry directing the Secretary of Agriculture to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the mineral withdrawal within the Superior National Forest; H. Res. 1252, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the mineral withdrawal within the Superior National Forest; and H. Res. 1253, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Interior to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the actions of the Department of the Interior's Departmental Ethics Office; and H.R. 4690, the ''Sustaining America's Fisheries for the

Future Act of 2021", 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth and Webex.

Committee on Oversight and Reform, September 21, Subcommittee on National Security, hearing entitled "Putin's Proxies: Examining Russia's Use of Private Military Companies", 9:30 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

September 21, Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis, hearing entitled "Examining Long-Term Care in America: The Impact of the Coronavirus in Nursing Homes", 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

September 22, Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy, hearing entitled "Power and Profiteering: How Certain Industries Hiked Prices, Fleeced Consumers, and Drove Inflation", 9 a.m., 2154 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Rules, September 21, Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process, hearing entitled "Right to Repair: Legislative and Budgetary Solutions to Unfair Restrictions on Repair" [Original Jurisdiction Hearing], 10 a.m., H–313 Capito].

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, September 21, Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics; and Subcommittee on Environment, joint hearing entitled "Looking Back to Predict the Future: The Next Generation of Weather Satellites", 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Small Business, September 21, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 1298, of inquiry directing the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the role of the Department of the Treasury in the Paycheck Protection Program of the Small Business Administration; and H.R. 8844, the "STEP Improvement Act of 2022", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn and Zoom.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, September 21, Full Committee, business meeting on legislation on VA Facility Naming Bills; and markup on H.R. 6273, the "VA Zero Suicide Demonstration Project Act of 2021"; H.R. 3793, the "Support Families of the Fallen Act"; legislation on the Food Security for All Veterans Act; H.R. 8852, the "End Veteran Hunger Act of 2022"; legislation on the Expanding Home Loans for Guard and Reservists Act; H.R. 2800, the "WINGMAN Act"; H.R. 8510, the "Strengthening Whistleblower Protections at the Department of Veterans Affairs Act"; H.R. 5918, to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members of towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance; H.R. 1957, the "Veterans Infertility Treatment Act of 2021"; H.R. 4601, the "Commitment to Veteran Support and Outreach Act"; H.R. 3304, the "CARS for Vets Act"; H.R. 2521, the "DOULA for VA Act of 2021"; and H.R. 7589, the "REMOVE Copays Act", 10 a.m., HVC–210 and Zoom.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Tuesday, September 20

Senate Chamber

Program for Tuesday: After the transaction of any morning business, Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Florence Y. Pan, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation thereon at 11:30 a.m.

Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Amendment to Montreal Protocol (''Kigali Amendment'') at 2:30 p.m.

(Senate will recess following the vote on confirmation of the nomination of Florence Y. Pan, until 2:15 p.m. for their respective party conferences.)

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Tuesday, September 20

House Chamber

Program for Tuesday: Consideration of measures under suspension of the Rules.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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